

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8553

**Please reply to:**  
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29 February 2024

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Cancelled Cancer operations.

*You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.*

*1. How many cancer operations have been cancelled by your NHS Trust in each of the past four financial years:*

- a. 2022/23*
- b. 2021/22*
- c. 2020/21*
- d. 2019/20*

*2. The highest number of times a patient's operation has been cancelled at your NHS Trust since the start of 2022.*

*3. Please could you provide a breakdown for the reasons these operations were cancelled e.g. lack of staff, lack of beds, or equipment issues.*

- a. 2022/23*
- b. 2021/22*
- c. 2020/21*
- d. 2019/20*

Trust response:

Because of the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality due to the nature of the questions in the request which can lead to further interrogation of other available information that may prove to identify those persons involved, the Trust has decided that further more detailed information be refused using the limitations available under Section 40(2) of the Act.

There are 35 patients that were cancelled on the day for the following non-clinical reasons since April 2019. The Trust cannot say categorically that these operations were specifically cancer operations, however, these patients had been diagnosed with cancer fairly close to their procedure.

1.

Number per year:

2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
4	5	10	16	35

2. Of the 35 potential cancer patients cancelled, they were all, except 1, cancelled just the once, 1 patient was cancelled twice.

3.

Cancellation Reason
Bed Availability (Inc; bed/room being cleaned)
Cancelled COVID19 / Theatre Closures
Emergency Added/Interrupting/Delaying List
Hosp Canc Pre Adm Date - Administrative Error
Hosp Canc Pre Adm Date - Emergencies/Trauma
Hosp Canc Pre Adm Date - No HDU/ITU Bed Available
Hosp Canc Pre Adm Date - No Surg/Cons Available
Hosp Canc Pre Adm Date - No Thea Staff Available
HospCanc-management decision(see comments field)
Lack of Time - Hosp Canc
No Anaesthetist
No Surgeon
No Theatre/Recovery Staff / No Radiographer
Patient Not Ready
Patient/s not self-isolated