

## Title Operations Cancelled / Delayed

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Reference Number: RDF1247-23  
Date of Response: 03/03/2023

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services). The responses below represent a combined picture of two Trust's.

- The number of people who have had an operation cancelled or delayed at your trust for non-clinical reasons, in each of the past five calendar years (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018).

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
East Service & Northern Service joint response	1,211	1,151	1,289	1,456	2,345

- For each of these years, please could you provide figures broken down by the reason behind the cancellation or delay, e.g. lack of staff, lack of bed capacity, or lack of equipment.

Please see Trust response below – please note: - <5

In accordance with Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are unable to provide figures where the number of patients/staff is less than or equal to five and could risk the identification of those patients and breach Caldicott principles.

In these cases, ≤5 is used to indicate that a figure between 1 and 5 is being suppressed.

East Service Answer: Q2 Cancellation Reason	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Anaesthesia - Anaesthetist Unavailable	<5	16	7	5	54
Escalation/ICU			60	39	<5
No ITU/HDU Bed Available	10	18	7	48	23
No Recovery Bed Available			16	17	21
- No Ward Bed Available	91	161	189	134	180
Unplanned Staff Absence (Other)				93	142
- Unplanned Staff Absence (Sickness)				119	244
Cancellation - COVID-19			244	391	439
Industrial action (any staff group)					65
Surgeon - Surgeon/Main Operator Unavailable	55	112	49	30	48

Theatre Management - Equipment Not Available			<5	8	11
Theatre Management - List Interrupted for a More Urgent Case	33	102	25	98	111
Theatre Management - List Overran - Long Case/Too Many Cases	65	109	53	97	103
Theatre Management - List Start Delayed			<5	7	7
Theatre Management - Procedure Performed in Alternative Theatre			<5	13	11
Theatre Management - Theatre Staff Unavailable			13	19	24
More Urgent Case			29		
No Theatre Time	18	20	<5		
No Transport	<5	<5	<5		
Nursing shortage			17		
Other	26	8	12		
Adverse Weather	85				
Equip/Resource	67	55	36		
More Urgent Case	22	26	6		
Nursing Shortage	8	8			
Already done		11			
BEC / Bowel scope		12			
REASON UNCONFIRMED			28		

North Service Answer: Q2 Cancellation Reason	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Adverse Weather - Hospital	36			<5	65
Anaesthetist Unavailable	<5				
Cancelled to accommodate urgent/emergency patients (Hospital)				39	18
Clinician Late for briefing		<5	<5	<5	<V5
Clinician Unavailable	55	68	27	16	32
Clinician unavailable (Hospital)				14	43
Documentation Incomplete	5	7	5	<5	<5
Emergencies/Urgent	88	84	74	58	25
Equip/docs/investigations incomplete (Hospital)				16	8
Equipment Unavailable/Failure	21	35	20	40	<5
First patient cancelled	7	11	4	8	<5
HDU/ICU Beds Unavailable	<5	<5	9	<5	<5
cancelled - Pandemic			172	32	16
Lack of Trained Staff in Theatre	<5	10	9	11	
List Changes	150				
List Completed	<5	5	<5	<5	<5
List order changed at briefing	9	26	57	25	6
List Over Run due to previous list	48	15	7	6	<5

List Overbooked	37	42	21	28	17
List under booked	<5	<5		<5	<5
Morning List Over Run	<5				
No Consent		<5	<5	<5	
Operation Abandoned	<5	7	5	<5	
Surgeon Unavailable	15				
Theatre Staff Late for Briefing			<5		
Ward Beds Unavailable	233	162	59	19	88
Ward Delay	<5	9	5	8	<5
X-Ray Unavailable		<5	<5	<5	
Anaesthesia - Anaesthetist Unavailable					7
- Escalation/ICU					<5
No ITU/HDU Bed Available					<5
No Recovery Bed Available					31
No Ward Bed Available					178
Other Reason for Cancellation - Please Specify					158
Unplanned Staff Absence (Other)					10
Unplanned Staff Absence (Sickness)					12
Cancellation - COVID-19					<5
Surgeon - Surgeon/Main Operator Unavailable					10
Theatre Management - Equipment Not Available					5
Theatre Management - List Interrupted for a More Urgent Case					11
Theatre Management - List Overran - Long Case/Too Many Cases					79
Theatre Management - List Start Delayed					7
Theatre Management - Theatre Staff Unavailable					17

3. Please could you provide figures on the five longest waits for an operation currently faced by under-18s at your trust, e.g. 110 days, 98 days, 200 days. For each of these waits, please could you provide a summary of the surgical procedure in question, e.g. heart surgery.

Please see Combined Trust totals below:

Days	Procedure
1280	Other specified other operations on perianal region
1234	Excision of overgrowth of bone
1200	Therapeutic sacral epidural injection
1179	Removal of internal fixation from bone NEC
1177	Unspecified primary decompression operations on Lumbar Spine