

## Cancelled elective operations

Reference Number: RDF1050-22

Date of Response: 25/11/2022

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

How many elective operations were cancelled for a non-clinical reason at the Trust in 2021/22, broken down by reason for cancellation?

1.

Answer: Please see table below. Please note – Booking /admin error - \*Figure likely to include some internal rescheduling carried out prior to surgery date. This would have been communicated to the patient.

<i>Reason for cancellation</i>	<i>Eastern</i>	<i>Northern</i>
<i>Lack of beds</i>	211	76
<i>Operating theatre capacity / list over-ran</i>	34	24
<i>Staffing issues</i>	754	61
<i>Equipment failures</i>	6	36
<i>Emergency case took priority</i>	76	48
<i>Adverse weather</i>	0	3
<i>Booking / admin error</i>	*150	17
<i>Case note unavailable</i>	0	2
<i>Other reasons</i>	0*	32

\*Figure for Other reasons in Eastern could not be provided as unreliable due to the fact that cancellation code can be used for various clinical or non-clinical reasons. It would require someone going through the records (over 1800 in total) to filter through which ones were non clinical and if underlying reason can be reassigned to any of the categories in the question. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

2. Of the total elective operations cancelled for a non-clinical reason at the Trust in 2021/22, how many were:

Division	East	North
Urgent surgery	315	97
Paediatric surgery	0	21
Surgical oncology	88	0