



Freedom of Information Team
De La Court House
Queen Alexandra Hospital
Southwick Hill Road
Portsmouth
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PO6 3LY

Name:
Email:
Date: 03/07/2023
Ref: 23-24 166

Dear

RE: Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by the Trust on 15/06/2023. Please see responses to your requests below.

Please can you provide figures on the total number of patients who have had their operation cancelled for a second time. I would like these figures broken down by year for each of the past five years: 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018.

Please see below table.

Cancellation Reason	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
Lack of staff	389	314	313	272	468	1756
Appointment inconvenience to patient	1257	1177	632	764	888	4718
Consent issues	0	0	0	0	<5	<5
Covid-19 Cancelled by Hospital	0	0	6931	283	0	974
Equipment unavailable /failure	55	68	49	30	67	269
List overrun	91	104	89	53	82	419
Major Incident	137	7	15	0	40	199
Military deployed	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	10
Lack of Bed capacity	141	123	179	120	91	654
No Data	29	34	28	22	40	153
No Notes/results	31	13	23	19	16	102
Operation declined	455	603	470	516	410	2454
Patient DNA	187	176	151	179	263	956
Urgent patient added to list	634	570	401	286	415	2306
Grand total	3408	3191	3042	2548	2784	-

We are unable to provide precise figures when these are five or less due to the risk that individuals will be identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the Data Protection Act.

In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure.

In addition, please can you provide the largest number of times that a single patient has had their operation cancelled for non-clinical reasons, over the past five years. Please could you name the operation in question (e.g. hip replacement), and the year that the last cancellation took place (e.g. 2022).

The largest number of times a single patient had their operation cancelled for non-clinical reasons over the past 5 years, was 13. The operation in question was a head and neck surgery. The last cancellation took place in 2019. We cannot provide specific surgery due to the risk of patient being identifiable.

Please accept this letter as completion of your request. Please note that copies of this request will be held on file for three years before being confidentially destroyed.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, please contact our Head of Information Governance on Information.Governance@porthosp.nhs.uk or write to the above address and we will conduct an internal review. Upon review, if you are still dissatisfied, you may appeal our decision by contacting the Information Commissioner's Office; for more information, please visit the [ICO's website](#).

Please be aware, if we do not receive an appeal within 30 days of you receiving this letter, we will assume that you are satisfied with our response. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team