

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9
Buckingham Row
Brick Kiln Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10444

Date Received: 20th January 2025

Response Due: 17th February 2025

Date: 17th February 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 20th January 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- In the financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, how many surgeries and operations were cancelled in your trust?**

Reasoning	22/23	23/24	24/25
ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR	602	865	740
ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS	<5	10	15
ANAESTHETIST UNAVAILABLE	28	38	53
BANK HOLIDAY	57	<5	<5
BED SHORTAGE	158	30	11
CANCELLED BY G.P. BEFORE DAY	<5	<5	<5
CONSULTANT / SURGEON UNAVAILABLE	657	1042	784
CRITICAL INCIDENT	335	23	27
CRITICAL INCIDENT PATIENT CANC	141	26	7
DNA PRE-OP CLINIC (Hosp Canc)	152	174	90
EMERGENCY / URGENT CASE TOOK PRIORITY	885	1333	887
EQUIPMENT UNAVAILABLE / FAILURE	204	202	137
HC-INTERPRETER SERVICE UNAVAIL	33	42	18
HOSPITAL CANCELLATION BY CONSULTANT	887	1228	745
INDUSTRIAL ACTION	277	674	8
MANAGEMENT INSTRUCTIONS	130	252	137

MEDICAL STAFF SHORTAGE	74	75	73
MISSING CASENOTES	0	0	<5
NO CRITICAL CARE / ICU BEDS	22	8	<5
NO OPERATING TIME LEFT / THEATRE NUMBERS EXCEEDED	30	38	47
No Reason Given	1527	1839	1721
NOT RECEIVED LETTER	20	39	34
NURSING SHORTAGE	28	6	5
OPERATION BROUGHT FORWARD	575	928	914
OPERATION NOT NEEDED / NECESSARY	420	465	442
PATIENT ALREADY INPATIENT	178	219	192
PATIENT CANCELLED - HOLIDAY PERIOD	620	652	635
PATIENT CANCELLED - PERSONAL REASONS	2866	3303	2836
PATIENT CANCELLED - WORK COMMITMENTS	224	208	207
PATIENT DIED	60	69	44
PATIENT DNA NO REASON GIVEN	1844	1841	1438
PATIENT GOING PRIVATE	35	25	8
PATIENT NOT SUITABLE (Hosp Canc)	270	225	205
PATIENT ON ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES	0	<5	<5
PATIENT UNFIT (HOSPITAL CANCELLATION)	796	651	614
PATIENT UNFIT (PATIENT CANCELLATION)	1681	1633	1490
PT GOING BACK TO OUTPATIENTS	45	58	26
PT NOT CONFIRMED OFFER OF ADMISSION (Hosp Canc)	72	62	51
THEATRE CLOSED / SESSION CANCELLED	114	233	134
THEATRE STAFF UNAVAILABLE	28	24	80
TREATMENT / PROCEDURE ABANDONED	10	12	11
Grand Total	16092	18557	14881

The Trust has a standard procedure of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

2. Please provide a breakdown by financial year In the financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, how many of these cancellations were owing to problems relating to faults in equipment and infrastructure?

2022/23 = 204
2023/24 = 202
2024/25 = 137

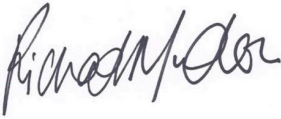
*where "Charter Cancellation Description" = "Equipment unavailable/failure".

Specifically, we are looking at the following reasons for cancellation: Equipment being unavailable due to damage, the operating room was deemed unsuitable (due to factors such as temperature, mould or concerns about its structural integrity e.g. RAAC).

Please provide a breakdown by year and by reason for cancellation (Equipment, Infrastructure concerns and other).

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Mundon
Deputy Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111