



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-192

Date: 22nd November 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 8th July 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Cancelled elective procedures.

The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.

We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.

The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.

On 8th July 2022 we contacted you via email as we required the following clarification:
When you say how many did we cancel are you asking for patients that breached the 28 day standard or all cancellations?

On the same day you replied with:

'The questions relate to all cancellations, not just 28 day breaches.'

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 How many booked elective invasive procedures (this includes but is not limited to procedures being performed in operating theatres, interventional radiology or other radiology suites, cardiac catheter labs, endoscopy and any other site not mentioned



involving an invasive procedure, whether under local anaesthetic, general anaesthetic, spinal or epidural anaesthetic, peripheral nerve block, or sedation) did your trust cancel in the calendar years:

- a. 2017
- b. 2018
- c. 2019
- d. 2020
- e. 2021

A1 See below: note information is for ALL cancellations as per your clarification above; some of these the patients wouldn't even have been made aware of the booking or cancellation, so will have just been a movement on the system, and in no way give a true reflection

Year	All cancellations	Total Elective Activity
2017	31612	128179
2018	37005	136545
2019	39284	143241
2020	29142	100849
2021	26324	109326

Note: **Most will be patient initiated but we will have reused the slot**

Q2 How many booked elective invasive procedures (this includes but is not limited to procedures being performed in operating theatres, interventional radiology or other radiology suites, cardiac catheter labs, endoscopy and any other site not mentioned involving an invasive procedure, whether under local anaesthetic, general anaesthetic, spinal or epidural anaesthetic, peripheral nerve block, or sedation) did your trust cancel at the date of this request in this calendar year?

A2 See below: note information is for ALL cancellations as per your clarification above; some of these the patients wouldn't even have been made aware of the booking or cancellation, so will have just been a movement on the system, and in no way give a true reflection

Year	All cancellations	Total Elective Activity
2022 (up to 7th July)	19137	65057

Note: **Most will be patient initiated but we will have reused the slot**

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle
Head of Data, Security & Protection/ Data Protection Officer