

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request Ref: NGFOI 19/20: 207

Thank you for your request for information received at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) on 16/07/2019.

I am pleased to be able to provide you with the following information:

The total number of operations cancelled for non-clinical reasons, broken down by the cause of the cancellation, for example due to lack of beds, operating theatre capacity, staffing issues, and equipment failures. Please provide this information for each of the past three financial years (2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19). In the total number of operations, broken down by cancellation reason, please include:

- Elective operations cancelled at the last minute. For the purposes of this request, last minute means on the day the patient was due to arrive, after the patient has arrived in hospital or on the day of the operation or surgery.*
- Cancelled urgent operations.*

For ease, please use the table below for responses.

Reason for Cancellation	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
<i>Lack of beds</i>			
<i>Operating theatre capacity / list over-ran</i>			
<i>Staffing issues</i>			
<i>Equipment failures</i>			
<i>Emergency case took priority</i>			
<i>Adverse weather</i>			
<i>Booking / admin error</i>			
<i>Case note unavailable</i>			
<i>Other reasons</i>			
TOTAL			

Elective Operations Cancelled Last Minute

Reason for Cancellation	2016	2017	2018
<i>Adverse weather</i>	*	5	0
<i>Booking / admin error</i>	72	81	51
<i>Case note unavailable</i>	15	14	7
<i>Emergency case took priority</i>	54	98	117
<i>Equipment failures</i>	*	*	33
<i>Lack of beds</i>	225	157	68
<i>Operating theatre capacity / list over-ran</i>	242	258	230
<i>Other</i>	758	730	668
<i>Staffing issues</i>	98	86	84

Urgent Operations Cancelled Last Minute

<i>Reason for Cancellation</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
<i>Adverse weather</i>	0	0	0
<i>Booking / admin error</i>	22	29	30
<i>Case note unavailable</i>	0	0	*
<i>Emergency case took priority</i>	0	*	*
<i>Equipment failures</i>	0	0	0
<i>Lack of beds</i>	0	*	0
<i>Operating theatre capacity / list over-ran</i>	*	*	*
<i>Other</i>	123	176	223
<i>Staffing issues</i>	0	*	*

Please note that in 2018 the operation types 'Urgent' and 'Immediate' were replaced with 'Emergency'. Therefore, all 3 operation types (i.e. urgent, immediate, emergency) have been included in the 'Urgent' figures to cover the reporting period.

*** Due to the low numbers involved the exact figures have been withheld under the Freedom of Information Act, Exemption Section 40. This is to protect the identity of the individuals concerned and to preserve their rights under the Data Protection Act.**