

Freedom of Information request 014259

8 August 2018

Kindly note a child is anyone up to the age of 18.

The main reporting of the trust's cancelled operations is submitted to NHS England via the quarterly QMCO returns. These include elective operations cancelled at the last minute for hospital non-clinical reasons. Postponements, where a cancelled operation is rescheduled for the following day, are excluded. As these returns are validated we have used them as the basis of these FOI figures.

Also, we do not necessarily record the specific illness that the cancelled operation was intended to treat. Diagnoses would be coded for where there has been an admission, however not all cases of last minute cancellation would be during admission. Therefore we have provided the treating specialty of the cancelled operation as a broad indication of the type of illness.

I write under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information

1. How many children's operations have been cancelled each month since 1st April 2017? Please give additional details as to what the main reasons for the cancellations were, how many were urgent operations or elective operations and what type of illness did they involve, e.g. cancer, breathing problems, broken limbs etc.

Due to the low numbers and to avoid harm or distress in patients possibly being identified, the Trust has not split by month but has grouped together the response/numbers for question 1.

From April 17 to March 18 total number of operations cancelled is 18

Reasons for cancellation include, inadequate surgical preparation, out of theatre time, no ward bed, surgeon ill, no radiographer available

Specialties include, general surgery, ENT, plastics and oral surgery

2. How many children's operations have been cancelled over the past eight financial years (2010/11 through to, and including, 2017/18) and in Year to Date 2018/19? Please break the data down by financial year.

Financial Year	Total number of cancelled children's operations		

2010/11	60		
2011/12	32		
2012/13	29		
2013/14	66		
2014/15	26		
2015/16	15		
2016/17	24		
2017/18	18		
2018/19 (YTD)	<i>Due to the very low numbers from 1 April until June 30th the Trust has not released the total</i>		