

Freedom of Information request 51-22

Request

Please provide a breakdown of the type of planned operations which were cancelled due to non-clinical/capacity reasons over a. 2019 b. 2020 and c. 2021.

If clinical codes are provided with the breakdown, please also provide definitions of these codes.

Response

Please see the tables below for the type of planned operations cancelled in 2019, 2020 and 2021 due to non-clinical/capacity reasons. Please note "type" is defined as type of speciality of planned operations:

2019:

Cancellation reason	Number of cancellations
Session Cancelled by Surgeon - Planned Leave	<5
Staff Sickness	23
Cancelled by Surgeon / Anaesthetist - Not Available	43
Nursing Staff - Skill Mix	<5
Emergency Took Priority	29
Equipment Failure/Unavailable	9
Inappropriately Listed	<5
List Overscheduled	<5
No High Dependency Unit/ITU Beds	17
No Ward Beds	<5
Out Of Time	18
Transferred To Another Day	<5
Transferred To Another Hospital	<5

2020:

Cancellation reason	Number of cancellations
Session Cancelled by Surgeon - Planned Leave (Coronavirus Preparation)	11
Staff Sickness	5
Cancelled by Surgeon / Anaesthetist - Not Available	11
Nursing Staff - Not Available	5
Emergency Took Priority	<5
Equipment Failure/Unavailable	<5
Inappropriately Listed	<5
List Overscheduled	<5
Maintenance	<5
No High Dependency Unit/ITU Beds	<5
Out Of Time	10
Transferred To Another Day	<5

2021:

Cancellation reason	Number of cancellations
Cancelled by Surgeon / Anaesthetist - Not Available	7
Staff Sickness	9
Nursing Staff - Not Available	37
Emergency Took Priority	17
Equipment Failure/Unavailable	<5
Inappropriately Listed	<5
No High Dependency Unit/ITU Beds	15
No Ward Beds	16
Out Of Time	<5

Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board and the number of patients is very small, to provide further details could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics that any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **51-22** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.