

## Freedom of Information request 498-22

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### Request

I am looking for information regarding the number of cancelled operations due to equipment shortages, due to equipment failures, shortages of sterile instruments or a lack of specialist equipment.

As such, can I request the following for the following financial years 2019/20, 2020/21 2021/22, 2022/23, with a breakdown by hospital:

1. The number of operations cancelled due to equipment shortages?
2. The number of operations cancelled due to equipment failures?
3. The number of operations cancelled due to a shortage of sterile instruments?
4. The number of operations cancelled due to a lack of specialist equipment?

### Response

Questions 1. – 4. – Response for NHS Borders:

Reason for Operation Cancellation	Financial Years	Total
EQUIPMENT FAILURE/UNAVAILABLE	2019/20	4
EQUIPMENT FAILURE/UNAVAILABLE	2020/21	8
EQUIPMENT FAILURE/UNAVAILABLE	2021/22	41
EQUIPMENT FAILURE/UNAVAILABLE	2022/23*	5

\* to date

Please note, the electronic system used by NHS Borders to log this information does not distinguish between equipment failure/shortage, shortage of sterile instruments and lack of specialist equipment, Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

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](mailto: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 **498-22** 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.