

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 08.17.47

Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

22 September 2017

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 31 August 2017 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding elective operations: last minute cancellations. Specifically you asked for:

Please could you provide me with the following information under the Freedom of Information Act?

- 1. The number of elective operations carried out by the Trust in the following financial years:***

2012/13

2013/14

2014/15

2015/16

2016/17

- 2. The number of elective operations cancelled at the last minute* due to non-clinical reasons, in the following financial years:***

2012/13

2013/14

2014/15

2015/16

2016/17

NOTE: Please use NHS England's standard definition of last minute cancellations, "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.” See:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/cancelled-elective-operations/>

3. The number of elective operations cancelled at the last minute due to non-clinical reasons per financial year (2012/13 to 2016/17 inclusive), split into the following categories:

- **Staff unavailable or sick (either anaesthetist, surgeon, theatre staff or other)**
- **Lack of available bed (either general or HDU, critical, or intensive care)**
- **Theatre list over-ran or no space on it (e.g. due to emergency case(s) coming in)**
- **Equipment missing / failure**
- **Any other reason**

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

YEAR	Elective operations carried out	Last-minute cancellations	Reason for last-minute cancellation				
			Staff unavailable / sick	Lack of available bed	Theatre list over-ran / no space on it	Equipment missing / failure	Any other reason
2012/13	33015	380	50	55	181	23	71
2013/14	33369	573	42	106	220	41	164
2014/15	35702	499	32	118	217	34	98
2015/16	35379	583	59	139	247	23	115
2016/17	32980	551	33	109	231	57	121

In line with the Information Commissioner’s directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road

Darlington
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer