

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: 01.20.62

Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

18 February 2020

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for your request for information received on 30 January 2020 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 cancelled operations. Specifically you requested information as follows:

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

***The total number of children's 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 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20). In the total number of operations, broken down by cancellation reason, please include:***

- 1. Elective children's 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.***

Answer: See below for 0-18yr old patient's Cancelled Operations. 2019-20 period shows cancelled ops from Apr to Dec 2019 only:

Reason Description	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Emergencies/Trauma Priority	2	12	3
Equipment Failure/Unavailable			1
List Over run	1	1	1
Theatre Staff/Surgeon/Anaesthetist Unavailable	3	1	2
Other hospital non-clinical (includes no notes, theatre unavailable)	16	7	5
Grand Total	22	21	12

**2. Cancelled urgent children's operations.**

Answer: There were zero urgent children's operations cancelled to report.

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](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
Freedom of Information Officer