

FOI REF: 25/059

28th February 2025

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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Tel: 0300 131 4500

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I am writing with a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, I am hoping to ask the following:

- 1. In the financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, how many surgeries and operations were cancelled in your trust? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.**

Clarification was sought asking you to clarify on whether you required Operations cancelled by the Trust as per the Quarterly NHS Return QMCO – ‘The number of last-minute cancellations by the hospital for non-clinical reasons’, and confirmation was received that you require the following:

All cancellations please!

Please see the attached document – ‘FOI - 25-059 - Operations Cancelled by Trust – Summary’.

- 2. In the financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, how many of these cancellations were owing to problems relating to faults in equipment and infrastructure? Specifically, we are looking at the following reasons for cancellation: Equipment being unavailable due to damage, the operating room was deemed unsuitable (due to factors such as temperature, mould or concerns about its structural integrity e.g. RAAC). Please provide a breakdown by year and by reason for cancellation (Equipment, Infrastructure concerns and other).**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not record whether an operation was cancelled due to the operating room being closed or deemed unsuitable, therefore we do not hold this information.

However, we have provided the number of cancellations that were due to equipment failure, in the attached document - ‘FOI - 25-059 - Operations Cancelled by Trust – Summary’.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

FOI 25/059 Operations Cancelled in the Trust - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

1. In the financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, how many surgeries and operations were cancelled in your trust? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.

	2022/2023			Total
	Clinical	Non Clinical	Patient	
No of Cancellations	3438	2659	2256	8353

	2023/2024			Total
	Clinical	Non Clinical	Patient	
No of Cancellations	2850	1385	1871	6106

	2024/2025			Total
	Clinical	Non Clinical	Patient	
No of Cancellations	3617	1644	2604	7865

Cancellations - Procedure Cancellations Only (excludes diagnostics and Therapeutic Cancellation - On the Day or before TCI)

Clinical Cancellations - Unfit for Surgery, Unfit due to Acute Illness, Pre OP Guidance not followed, Unsuitable for Day Surgery, Pre existing Medical Condition etc

Non-Clinical Cancellations - Emergency/Trauma, No Surg/Cons available, Theatre List overrun, No Ward Bed Available, No Theatre Staff available etc

Patient Cancellations - TCI Inconvenient, Unfit for Surgery (Pat's/Carer's Opinion Only), OP No longer required, Agree Date now now convenient etc

2. In the financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, how many of these cancellations were owing to problems relating to faults in equipment and infrastructure? Specifically, we are looking at the following reasons for cancellation: Equipment being unavailable due to damage, the operating room was deemed unsuitable (due to factors such as temperature, mould or concerns about its structural integrity e.g. RAAC). Please provide a breakdown by year and by reason for cancellation (Equipment, Infrastructure concerns and other).

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
No of cancellation due to Equipment	202	92	152

Reason - Patients Admitted - Treatment Deferred - Equipment Dailure/Unavailable, Hospital Cancelled before TCI - Equipment Failure/Unavailable, Hospital Cancelled on Day of TCI - Equipment/Unavailable

