

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004

Date received	15/12/22	Subject	Cancelled Operations	
Date passed	15/12/22	Respond by	11/01/23	
Passed to	Information Services		FOI number	2022-584
Category of information requested	H&SC Delivery - Patient / Clinical Management			

Question/s to be answered

I would like to ask the following questions:

1. Since September 2021, the total number of scheduled elective cancellations in theatre systems, broken down by procedure. E.g heart transplant, hip replacement etc

Procedure Class	Number of cancellations	Of which subsequently rescheduled
A: Nervous System	6	4
C: Eye	14	6
E: Respiratory Tract	4	1
F: Mouth	22	8
G: Upper Digestive Tract	14	4
H: Lower Digestive Tract	23	15
J: Other Abdominal Organs - Principally Digestive	1	1
M: Urinary	16	12
N: Male Genital Organs	7	4
P: Lower Female Genital Tract	1	0
Q: Upper Female Genital Tract	13	8
S: Skin	5	0
T: Soft Tissue	6	4
U: Diagnostic Imaging, Testing and Rehabilitation	7	2
V: Bones and Joints of Skull and Spine	3	0
W: Other Bones and Joints	14	8
X: Miscellaneous Operations	6	1
Grand Total	162	78

In NHS Shetland we classify theatre procedures according to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys using version 4 of their catalogue; so-called OPCS-4. That

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classification contains numerous procedure descriptions, so we have summarised according to the chapter heading in the classification.

To break down to the exact procedure would identify particular patients and detailed aspects of their medical record. Therefore with regards to this data, in accordance with FOISA s 16(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it holds the information requested but that it is exempt from disclosure under FOISA s 38(1)(b) as read with s (38)(2A) as the information constitutes personal data and disclosure would breach the confidentiality of the data subjects.

78 of these have been rescheduled with all of these rescheduled dates having already passed as of 29/12/22. It is however possible that the rescheduled dates were also cancelled.

To provide some context a significant number of these cancellations were patient initiated with the following table showing the split between patient cancelled and other cancellation reasons:

Cancellation Reason	Count of Cancellation Reasons
Patient Cancelled	71
Other Cancellation Reason	91

2. Of these cancellations, how many have successfully rescheduled and completed?

See response to Q1.