

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PAEDIATRIC SURGERY

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Paediatric surgery.

Question:

1. Based on your latest figures, please tell us how many children (under 18s) have been waiting over 52 weeks for surgery*? (*Paediatric surgery and other surgery on children and young people under 18)

Answer:

The table below shows the number of patients currently on the Inpatient waiting list for a Speciality of Paediatric Surgery or other Surgery specialties who were under 18 when added to the waiting list

Number of Patients under 18 waiting over 52 weeks (364 days)	455
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Question:

2. Please tell us the number of children's operations* that were cancelled by the health board for any reason in the calendar year 2022. (*Children's operations means paediatric surgery and surgery on children and young people under 18 years.)
3. Please tell us the number of children's operations* that were cancelled by the health board for any reason in the calendar year 2023. (*Children's operations means paediatric surgery and surgery on children and young people under 18 years.)

Answer:

The table below shows the number of cancelled Inpatient appointments for Paediatric Surgery or Surgery Specialties belonging to patients who were under the age of 18 when they were added to the waiting list

Year of Cancellation	Number of Hospital Cancellations
2022	621
2023	554

Notes

- Q1. Based on your latest figures, please tell us how many children (under 18s) have been waiting over 52 weeks for surgery*
 - Patients with an age under 18 when added to the Inpatient waiting list
 - Specialty of Paediatric Surgery or Specialty Grouping of Surgery
 - Excluding planned repeats
 - Appointment Status of Appointment Booked, Booked, Initial, Unavailable and OT Booking
- Q2/3 Please tell us the number of children's operations* that were cancelled by the health board for any reason in the calendar year 2022 and 2023
 - Patients with an age under 18 when added to the Inpatient Waiting List
 - Specialty of Paediatric Surgery or Specialty Grouping of Surgery
 - Cancellation date between 01/01/2022 and 31/12/2023
 - Excluding planned repeats
 - Cancellation Initiator is Hospital
 - Excluding Cancellation Reason of Booked in Error and Theatre - Cancelled by Hospital: Administrative Error

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing, Midwifery and AHPs



Cc: Chief Executive