

**Reference Number:** FOIAH2425/142  
**From:** Commercial  
**Date:** 05 June 2024  
**Subject:** Reasons for late starts

Q1 The number of elective theatre sessions in 2023-24 that were the first session of the day (ie morning session).

A1 5354 sessions

Q2 Of those first sessions in 2023-24, the number that started late (ie, where the trust has recorded a late start, or where the start time exceeded the scheduled start time by >15 minutes)

A2 304 sessions more than 15 minutes late

Q3 Please provide a breakdown of the reasons for the late starts detailed above, and the frequency of each reason. For example, if there were 100 late starts, please provide a breakdown of reasons and how often they occurred, so that they sum to that 100.

A3 Data from April 2023 - Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data. The Trust started to collate this information from May 2023, we therefore have no data recorded for 01-30 April 2023.

Please note for our late start reasons we are unable to differentiate between a less than 15 minute late start and a more than 15 minutes late start.

Delay Reason	Total
Awaiting Test Results	33
Clinical Documentation – Imaging not available	1
Clinical Documentation – Notes not available	11
Clinical Documentation – Pre-Op Checklist not completed	2
Complex case needed further discussion	4
Consent issues	22
Delayed Huddle	47
Equipment Issues - Anaesthetics	26
Equipment Issues - Radiology	5
Equipment Issues - Surgical	86
Estates / Environmental Issues	10
Fire alarm	8
Interpreter required	7
Late addition to List	10
List order changed on the day of surgery	67

No Bed - HDU	7
No Bed - PICU	2
No Bed - Ward	7
No blood products available	11
Operation not needed	1
Patient arrived late	23
Patient DNA	12
Patient not ready- ward delay	92
Patient not sent for	15
Patient not starved	1
Porter not available	1
Pre-med - Delay in administering	42
Pre-med - Delay in prescribing	10
Pre-med - refused	9
Pre-med - required extended pre med	40
Staff not available / delayed - Anaesthetist	61
Staff not available / delayed - ODP	6
Staff not available / delayed - Radiographer	9
Staff not available / delayed - Scrub Circulator	18
Staff not available / delayed - Scrub Practitioner	26
Staff not available / delayed - Surgeon	169
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>901</b>