



London North West  
University Healthcare  
NHS Trust

# Impact of industrial action on elective waiting list

Harrow Health and Wellbeing Board

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# Prioritising of capacity

Throughout the various instances of industrial actions, there has been a necessity to decrease overall activity.

The determination of which activities should proceed was guided by the following factors:

1. Clinical urgency
2. Patients on a cancer treatment pathway
3. Patients who had surpassed a 52-week waiting period on a referral-to-treatment (RTT) pathway
4. Activities that could be sustained without adversely affecting the workforce required to provide secure care within hospital wards.

# Impact of industrial action on planned activity

## To date across the strikes, the following activity has been impacted

- 6,607 outpatient cancellations
- 968 elective ordinary operations (cases requiring an overnight admission post operation)
- 993 elective day case procedures (cases where the patient is discharged on the day of the procedure)

## Percentage of elective activity (operations) impacted

- During the initial strike, day case activity was reduced by 28% and elective ordinary cases by 43%
- The second strike had the largest impact as this was scheduled during the Easter Bank Holiday week, which doubled the cancellations
- The next set of junior doctor strikes had a lower impact as more doctors remained on the rota

## Percentage of outpatient activity impacted

- During the initial strike in June, outpatient appointments were impacted by 25%
- The second strike had the largest impact as this was scheduled during the Easter Bank Holiday week, increased the impact to 43%
- The next set of junior doctor strikes had a much lower impact as more doctors remained on the rota, where only 11% of appointments were impacted

# Impact of industrial action on planned waiting lists

## **The impact on the post-covid elective waiting list recovery**

- 77.4% of the cancellations been waiting for less than 52 weeks
- 5.3% of the cancellations been waiting for more than 52ww
- 1.5% of the cancellations been waiting for more than 65ww
- 0.2% of the cancellations been waiting for more than78ww

## **The impact on the elective waiting list was as follows:**

- 15.6% of the cancellations were on an urgent two week wait pathway

# Impact on waiting list size

The strikes have had an impact on wait times for our patients however the Trust has ensured it prioritises patients based on clinical urgency, cancer and those patients who have waited a long time, had cancellations previously and managed to keep the PTL stable and continue to reduce the longest waiting patients over 78 weeks.

