

10th September 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

I am writing to request monthly cellular pathology (histology) activity, turnaround-time and service-improvement information for the three financial years 2023/24 to 2025/26.

ITEM	YOUR RESPONSE
Name of pathology network	Sussex Pathology Network (note this is a collaborative network, and legal entity is East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust)
Name of laboratory completing your histology work	East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
Is your histology performed by another trust / network hub laboratory? (Yes/No — if Yes, which)	No.
Level of pathology network maturity	Developing.

Q1. Monthly activity and turnaround times:

MONTH	TOTAL CASES REPORTED	CASES REPORTED ≤10 CALENDAR DAYS	TOTAL SLIDES PRODUCED	TOTAL BLOCKS PRODUCED	COMMENTS
Financial year 2023/24					
Apr 2023	2173	1069	11522	4187	None
May 2023	2673	1361	14351	5217	None
Jun 2023	2790	1527	16568	5418	None
Jul 2023	2463	1520	14147	4959	None
Aug 2023	2805	1112	16156	4823	None
Sep 2023	2610	1239	15009	5664	None
Oct 2023	2797	1357	16193	4758	None
Nov 2023	3055	1606	17642	5476	None

MONTH	TOTAL CASES REPORTED	CASES REPORTED ≤10 CALENDAR DAYS	TOTAL SLIDES PRODUCED	TOTAL BLOCKS PRODUCED	COMMENTS
Dec 2023	2280	1055	12958	4906	None
Jan 2024	2764	1643	17768	5149	None
Feb 2024	2666	1407	17238	5689	None
Mar 2024	2714	1320	16609	3996	None
Financial year 2024/25					
Apr 2024	2750	1828	16827	5312	None
May 2024	2871	1380	17066	5536	None
Jun 2024	2694	1733	15106	5119	None
Jul 2024	2884	1940	16047	5510	None
Aug 2024	2836	1643	15352	5360	None
Sep 2024	2746	1459	15019	5076	None
Oct 2024	3057	1545	16188	5802	None
Nov 2024	2866	1576	15378	5352	None
Dec 2024	2699	883	14364	5029	None
Jan 2025	2810	1208	16756	5452	None
Feb 2025	2531	1212	14649	4924	None
Mar 2025	2825	1068	16946	5562	None
Financial year 2025/26					
Apr 2025	2575	809	15322	5321	None
May 2025	2708	1048	15608	5382	None
Jun 2025	2852	1211	15758	5546	None
Jul 2025	3014	1466	16725	5931	None
Aug 2025	2639	1249	15253	5247	None
Sep 2025	2824	1190	16083	5866	None
Oct 2025	3038	1510	17051	5906	None
Nov 2025	2542	1250	14889	4954	None
Dec 2025	2588	1380	15464	5204	None
Jan 2026	2549	1640	16875	5006	None
Feb 2026	2569	1699	15149	5043	None
Mar 2026	2843	1916	15405	4533	None

Q2. Monthly service-improvement measures (%)

Percentage of work each month; enter 0 (or 'not in use') where the technology / role was not yet in use.

MONTH	% CASES DISSECTED BY BMS	% CASES REPORTED BY BMS	% BLOCKS AUTO- EMBEDDED	% BLOCKS AUTO- SECTIONED	% CASES REPORTED DIGITALLY	% CASES REPORTED WITH AI	COMMENTS
Financial year 2023/24							
Apr 2023	71.2	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
May 2023	70.4	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Jun 2023	70.0	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Jul 2023	89.7	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Aug 2023	82.4	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Sep 2023	87.4	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Oct 2023	92.3	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Nov 2023	90.1	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Dec 2023	89.2	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Jan 2024	90.9	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Feb 2024	90.9	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Mar 2024	90.9	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Apr 2024	91.6	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
May 2024	90.8	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Jun 2024	90.0	0	0	0	Not in use	0	None
Jul 2024	89.9	0	0	0	28.6	0	None
Aug 2024	87.0	0	0	0	52	0	None
Sep 2024	90.3	0	0	0	53	0	None
Oct 2024	87.3	0	0	0	56	0	None
Nov 2024	90.8	0	0	0	68	0	None

MONTH	% CASES DISSECTED BY BMS	% CASES REPORTED BY BMS	% BLOCKS AUTO- EMBEDDED	% BLOCKS AUTO- SECTIONED	% CASES REPORTED DIGITALLY	% CASES REPORTED WITH AI	COMMENTS
Dec 2024	74.8	0	0	0	57	0	None
Jan 2025	87.7	0	0	0	65	0	None
Feb 2025	68.2	0	0	0	65	0	None
Mar 2025	68.6	0	0	0	50	0	None
Apr 2025	66.0	0	0	0	51	0	None
May 2025	63.2	0	0	0	74.5	0	None
Jun 2025	69.5	0	0	0	70	0	None
Jul 2025	63.6	0	0	0	72	0	None
Aug 2025	69.3	0	0	0	67	0	None
Sep 2025	69.6	0	0	0	82	0	None
Oct 2025	74.8	0	0	0	80	0	None
Nov 2025	81.2	0	0	0	83	0	None
Dec 2025	93.4	0	0	0	86	0	None
Jan 2026	91.8	0	0	0	80	0	None
Feb 2026	90.7	0	0	0	81	0	None
Mar 2026	92.5	0	0	0	83	0	None

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at esh-tr.foi@nhs.net quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
0300 131 4716
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm