

31 October 2023

Cervical Cancer Screening

Can you provide details on how many women are waiting on the results from Cervical Smears throughout the Belfast Trust

Approximately 13,000

Can you provide details on how many staff are working within the Belfast Trust who are working on providing results of Cervical Smear Tests

21 staff are currently working on providing results of cervical smear tests. This includes staff in a variety of roles. Many of these staff also have other duties outside cervical screening

Can you provide details on how many staff shortages there are within the Belfast Trust that work within Diagnostics and Pathology, including those who have a responsibility to provide the results of Cervical Smear Tests.

We have approximately 9 posts (various roles within the laboratory) that are not permanently filled.

Can you provide details on what the average time is for completing a Cervical Smear Test within the Belfast Trust.

Approximately 13 weeks. Higher risk and clinically urgent samples are prioritised so that they can be reported faster.

Can you provide details including dates, of when any quality assurance from the Public Health Agency was conducted within Diagnostics and Pathology services within the Belfast Trust.

In 2023 the PHA carried out cervical screening quality assurance meetings with us in March and June.