

County Council Meeting – 14th March 2024**Question to Councillor Mark Sutton, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People****Councillor Mike Wilcox, Cabinet Member for Health and Care****By Councillor Charlotte Atkins**

Question

How many adults and children in Staffordshire are waiting for their social care needs to be assessed or for a review of their care plan?

What is the average waiting time for that assessment? How do these figures for 2024 compare to those in 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019?

Reply**Adults:**

The Council completes around 1200 Care Act assessments monthly. Our target is to complete 80% of these within 28 days. This has consistently been achieved with performance is reported to Cabinet quarterly as part of the Integrated Performance Report. The average time for a Care Act assessment to be completed is 24 days (12-month average). There have been no significant changes in performance over the last three years. The number of people with a Care Act pending completion is monitored in real time. Where these exceed 28 days managers check that this is due to legitimate reasons such as complex circumstances or individual wishes.

Around 10,000 people are receiving Council funded care. Our target is that 80% of them have been reviewed within the previous 12 months. This has consistently been achieved with performance is reported to Cabinet quarterly as part of the Integrated Performance Report. There have been no significant changes in performance over the last three years. More than 95% of people have been reviewed in the last 15 months.

[Integrated Performance Quarter 3 2023-24 Cabinet Report](#)

Children:

There is no one 'waiting' as our process is to allocate on referral and the assessment is launched at this point. An assessment is required to be concluded within 45 working days.

The number of first assessments that are in progress is 556.

There are 189 reviews out of timescale out of a total of 1284. The reason for the out of timescale can be the review having been done but not yet recorded on the system or parents/ carers or key people being unable to attend the review within the required timescale.

