

**COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

**Question to Cllr McMahon  
Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing**

**By Cllr Woodward**

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**Question**

I am grateful to Cllr McMahon and the Director for Health and Care for following up my question on self-isolation payments at the last Council meeting (page 16 of today's agenda). It appears that the applicant success rate in Staffordshire reflects the national rate of around 30% nationally with 70% of applicants therefore being refused. What impact does the Cabinet Member think this may have had on the willingness of those who are Covid positive to self-isolate and therefore on the transmission rates in our communities?

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**Reply**

There is no data about whether having a self-isolation payment application declined influences people's willingness to isolate. The data we do have about isolation demonstrates that compliance with isolation is on the whole good. We call confirmed cases and their close contacts to verify isolation and the vast majority of these are isolating in line with legal requirements.

A small number of people (around 50 weekly) are referred to the Police because there are reasons to doubt that they are isolating. The Police visit these individuals at home and generally find that they are in fact isolating. A small number of fixed penalty notices have been issued where the legal requirements have been breached.