

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/ 521677

We refer to [the Guidance on National Standard Eligibility Criteria and Waiting Time for Free Personal and Nursing Care for Older People](#), and section 1 of, and Schedule 1 to, the [Community Care and Health \(Scotland\) Act 2002](#). In particular, we refer to paras. 9.1-9.8 of the Guidance which relate to waiting times for delivery of social care services to those older people assessed at critical or substantial risk, and to a maximum waiting period of six weeks.

With these in mind, we submit the following requests for information in terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

1. What was the (a) average, and (b) longest, period of time which older people (aged 65 and over) had to wait for a care assessment after requesting one from the council during the financial year of 2017-18, and 2018-2019 (to the nearest available date)?

2017-18 21.38 days average; longest 70 days.

2018-19 not available

For new clients only.

2. How many older people during the financial year of 2017-18, and 2018-19, have been assessed as having care needs at 'critical' or 'substantial' risk level for which the council is responsible for?

2017-18 144 (for final quarter of 2017-18)

2018-19 not available

For new clients only.

3. How many of the people identified in question 2 received the service (such as the council providing their care directly, paying them the prescribed weekly free personal care and/or free nursing care payments) within the period of six weeks?

2017-18 101 (for final quarter of 2017-18)

2018-19 not available

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4. What was the (a) average, and (b) longest, period of time during the financial year of 2017-18, and 2018-19 that the people identified in question 2 had to wait between the completion of their assessment and receiving the service?

2017-18 20 days average; 35 days longest

2018-19 not available

For new clients only.

5. What were the reasons recorded for delays in providing the service?

Main reason is the client being admitted to hospital after completion of the assessment but before the service starts hence the delay.