



Please provide the following information regarding the Council's handling of Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessments between 1 January 2024 and the present date.

1. Assessment Timeliness

- a. The total number of EHC needs assessments completed within the statutory 20-week timeframe. 1.a. 385
- b. The number completed after the 20-week deadline. 1.b. 865
- c. The average number of weeks taken to complete an assessment. 1.c. 26.5

2. Reasons for Delay

- a. A breakdown (if held) of the main reasons cited for assessments exceeding 20 weeks (e.g. delay in obtaining professional advice, staffing shortage, awaiting medical or EP reports, etc.).
- b. Whether the Council records which service or professional area (e.g. Educational Psychology, Paediatrics, SaLT, OT) caused each delay.

Information not held

3. Requests, Refusals and Outcomes by Origin

- a. The total number of EHC needs assessment requests received, with a breakdown showing how many were initiated by schools/settings and how many by parents/carers. 3.a. Total = 1892
Schools/settings = 1121
Parents/Carers = 758
- b. For each of these categories (school-initiated and parent-initiated):
 - i. How many requests were agreed to assess. 3.b.i. Schools/settings = 1014
Parents/Carers = 379
 - ii. How many were refused at the 'request for assessment' stage. 3.b.ii. Schools/settings = 107
Parents/Carers = 379
 - iii. Of those refusals, how many were later overturned following:
 - a. Mediation
 - b. SEND Tribunal, and
 - c. Concession before a full Tribunal hearing (where the Council agreed to assess before the hearing concluded).3.b.iii.a. Schools/settings = 28
Parents/Carers = 53
3.b.iii.b. Schools/settings = 0
Parents/Carers = 0
3.b.iii.c. Schools/settings = 3
Parents/Carers = 25