

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
Wednesday 8 June 2022

1. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR CONNETT

Re: Data for Children and young People Living in the Council Area

How many children and young people aged 0-17 live in the Devon County Council area?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR LEADBETTER

The latest data we hold for the number of children aged 0-17 living in Devon is based on the ONS mid-year population estimates and for 2021 was 148,076.

2. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR CONNETT

Re: Children and Young People Registered with an NHS Dentist

How many children and young people up to the age 17 are registered with an NHS dentist?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR LEADBETTER

The Council does not hold this data.

There is however a twice yearly NHS dental statistics publication which goes down to local authority level and covers the number of adults and children seen in the previous 12 months:

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdigital.nhs.uk%2Fdata-and-information%2Fpublications%2Fstatistical%2Fnhs-dental-statistics&data=05%7C01%7Ckaren.strahan%40devon.gov.uk%7Cab041576d1194d31430208da43141dc9%7C8da13783cb68443fbb4b997f77fd5bfb%7C0%7C0%7C637896050919920125%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3r3IM%2F3esRxBscuSZ%2FAe9ZznbIQEyz8vA17rEe6l40%3D&reserved=0>

NHS England were asked for the information requested and they have advised that this is held by the Business Services Authority. Information can be requested but it will take longer than the timescale had prior to the meeting.

3. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR CONNETT

Re: Number of Dental Practices Registered for NHS patients.

How many dental practices are there in Devon registered for NHS patients?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR MCINNES

The Council does not hold this data. NHS England were contacted and have advised there are currently 140 practices in Devon contracted to provide NHS dental services.

4. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR CONNETT

Re: Dental Practices Accepting new NHS Patients

How many dental practices in Devon were actually accepting new NHS patients as at 31 May 2022

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR MCINNES

The Council does not hold this data.

NHS England have been contacted and they have advised that they also do not hold this information as each dental practice is an individual business organisation.

NHS dental practices should keep the nhs.net website updated where they are taking on new patients. Individuals can access services at a dental practice located in any area if the practice is accepting new patients.

There is published information on the web at <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/dentists/how-to-find-an-nhs-dentist/>

5. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR CONNETT

Re: How Residents find a Practice that accepts them and Children

How can residents who need an NHS dentist in Devon, find a practice which will accept them and it their children.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR MCINNES

The NHS have advised that Practices are working with the Dental Helpline to ensure that as NHS places become available, they are made available to those patients who have contacted the helpline and are seeking NHS dental care. The team can help individual patients secure the best care for them

according to their location and ability to travel, and continuously review where and when places are becoming available and ensure patients are allocated to a practice as quickly as possible when places become available. The helpline can be contacted on 03330 063 300 or by emailing accessdentalhelpline@nhs.net

6. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR CONNETT
Re: Children in Care and Registration with a Dentist

How many children and young people are in the care of Devon County Council and how many of them are registered with a dentist.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR LEADBETTER

We have put a request into NHS England for the information requested. This will be shared as soon as it is received.