



The Corporation of the City of Stratford
Social Services Sub-committee
Open Session
AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2025
Time: 4:30 P.M.
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall
Sub-committee Present: Councillor Henderson - Chair Presiding, Councillor Briscoe - Vice Chair, Councillor Biehn, Councillor Nijjar, Councillor Wordofa
Staff Present: Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, Alex Burgess - Manager of Ontario Works, Jeff Wilson - Manager of Housing, Audrey Pascual - Deputy Clerk, Miranda Franken - Council Clerk Secretary

To watch the Sub-committee meeting live, please click the following link:

<https://video.isilive.ca/stratford/live.html>

A video recording of the meeting will also be available through a link on the City's website

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings> following the meeting.

Pages

1. Call to Order

The Chair to call the Meeting to Order.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

Respectful Workplace Policy Statement

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a

member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Department Update

3 - 6

The following Department Update Infographics of January, 2025 have been provided for the information of Sub-committee:

- Monthly Children's Services Report
- Monthly Homelessness Report
- Monthly Housing Report
- Monthly Ontario Works Report

5. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Social Services Sub-committee meeting is April 15, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

6. Adjournment

Meeting Start Time:

Meeting End Time:

Motion by

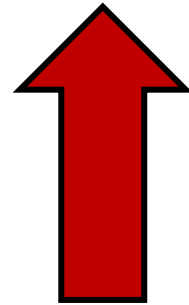
Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Social Services Sub-committee meeting adjourn.

SOCIAL SERVICES MONTHLY CHILDREN'S SERVICES REPORT

Stratford, Perth County, & St. Marys

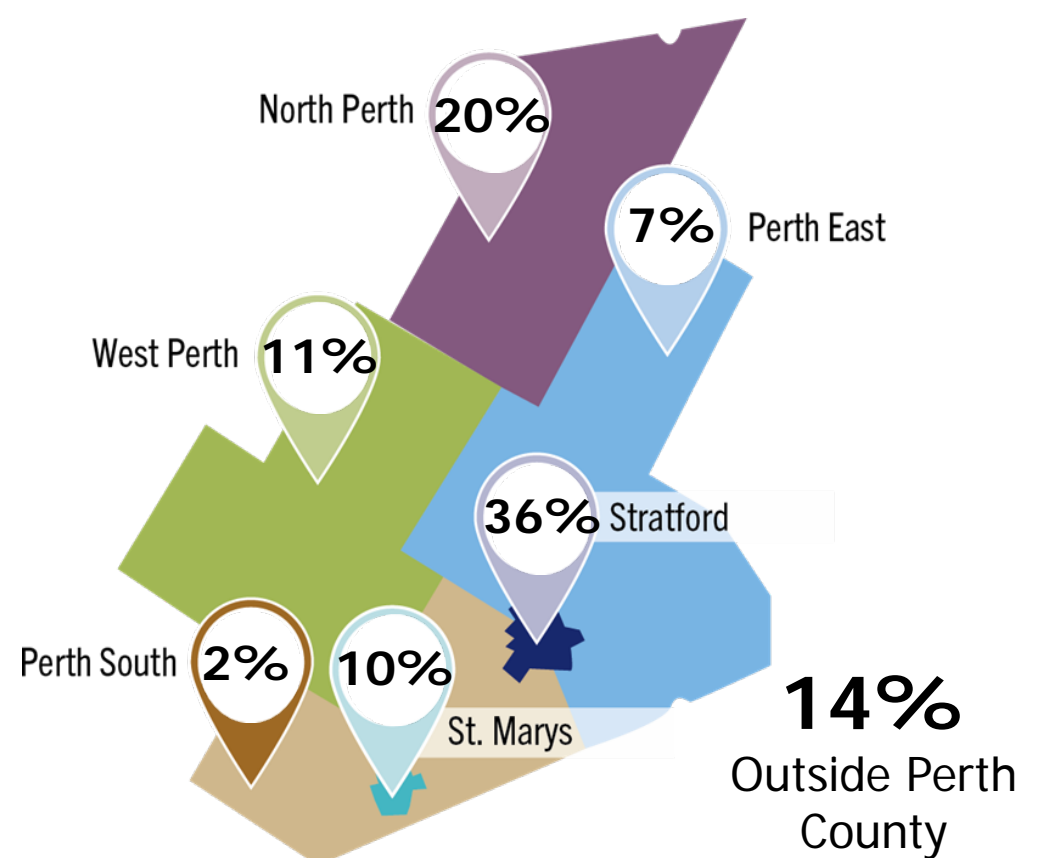
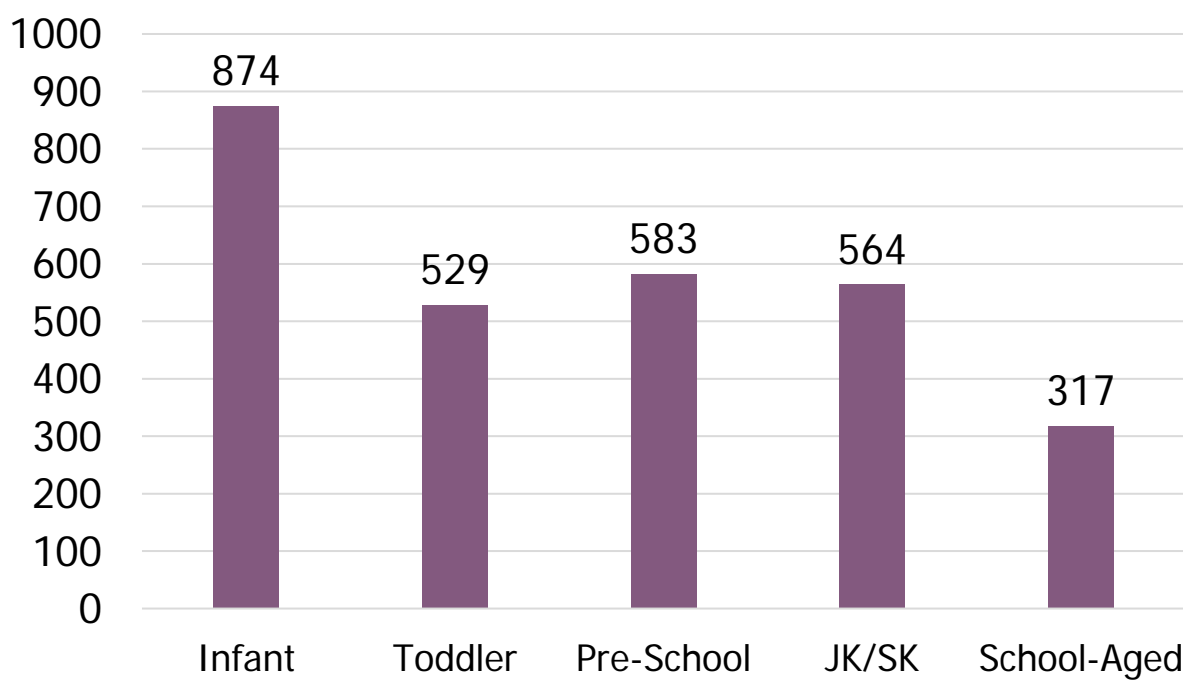
2,867

Total number of children on the child care waitlist



This is an increase from December 2024, when there were **2,766** children on the child care waitlist

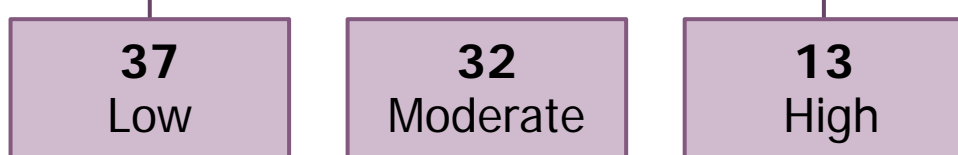
Age Category on the waitlist



Resource Consulting

82 Total children supported by the Program

Level of Support



EarlyON

583 Unique children (0-6 years) served

439 Unique parents/caregivers served

1,585 Visits by children (0-6 years)

1,195 Visits by parents/caregivers

i Information Bulletin

The Children's Services Division is the manager for child care in Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County. In partnership with the community, the Children's Services Division promotes fair and equal access to high quality care for children, and support to their families and caregivers.

For more information about Children's Services and supports please visit: <https://www.stratford.ca/en/inside-city-hall/childcare.aspx>



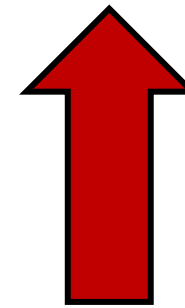
SOCIAL SERVICES MONTHLY HOMELESSNESS REPORT

Stratford, Perth County, & St. Marys



144

Total number of households experiencing homelessness



This is an increase from December 2024, when there were **138** households experiencing homelessness



14

New households entering into homelessness



7

Households returned to service area or reconnected with services



2

Households who lost their housing



7

Households who became housed



10

Households who left the service area or had no contact with service provider

Population Specific Information

112 Single Adults

9 Youth (16-24)

23 Families

122 Chronic

28 Unsheltered

20 Identify as Indigenous

Information Bulletin

A variety of different factors can contribute to an individual's experience of homelessness. Often, people experience homelessness when all other options have been exhausted, and/or they are dealing with circumstances that make it difficult to maintain housing. Some of these obstacles that may lead people to their experiences of homelessness include:

- Eviction
- The affordable housing crisis
- Coping with mental illnesses or addictions, which makes it difficult to maintain independent housing

Source: The Canadian Observatory on Homelessness - The Homelessness Hub

For more information about housing and homelessness services and supports please visit: <https://www.stratford.ca/en/inside-city-hall/Homelessness.aspx>

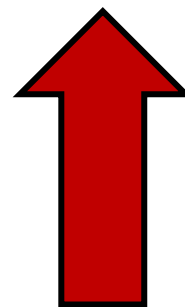


SOCIAL SERVICES MONTHLY SOCIAL HOUSING REPORT

Stratford, Perth County, & St. Marys

594

Total number of Households on the centralized waitlist



This is an increase from December 2024, when there were **590** households on the centralized waitlist

Unit Size

1 Bedroom	61%
2 Bedroom	15%
3 Bedroom	12%
4+ Bedroom	12%

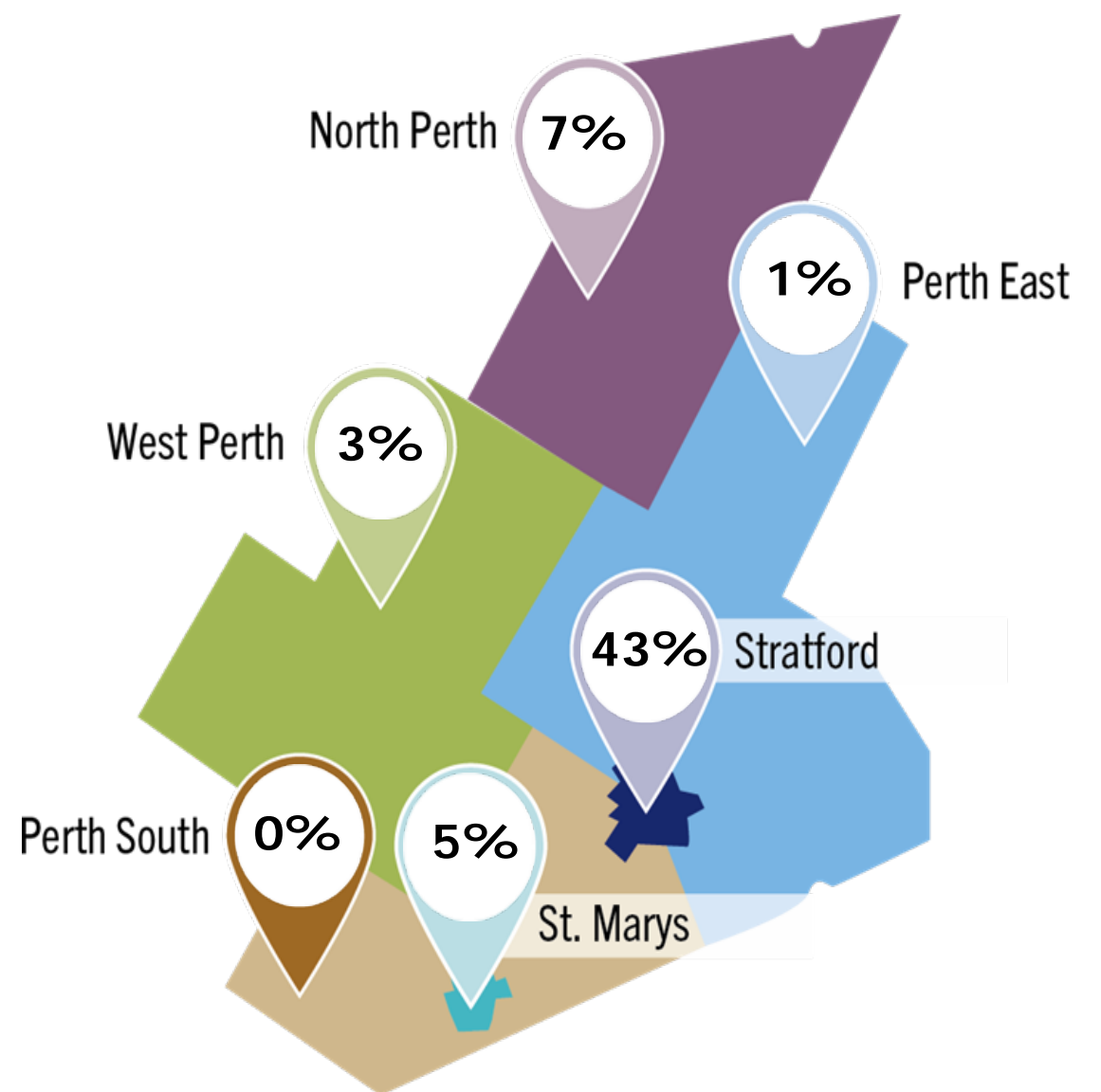
Applicant Type

Single/Couple	53%
Family	36%
Senior	11%

Priority Status

Chronological Order	87%
Homeless	8%
Special Provincial Priority (SPP)*	5%

*SPP: Survivor of domestic abuse or trafficking



Unknown: **6%**

Outside Perth County: **35%**

*Current applicant address

Move ins & Move outs

8 Total number of move outs

4 Total number of move ins

Maintenance



315

Number of Work orders requested

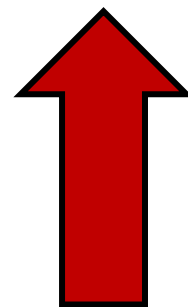
For more information about housing services and supports please visit: <https://www.stratford.ca/en/inside-city-hall/housing.aspx>



SOCIAL SERVICES MONTHLY ONTARIO WORKS REPORT

Stratford, Perth County, & St. Marys

852 Total number of active caseloads



This is an increase from December 2024, when there were **813** active cases

57 Total number of active temporary care cases*

*If you are an adult and you are temporarily responsible for the care of a child who is in financial need, you may be eligible for temporary care assistance on their behalf.



18%

Percentage of caseload terminations exiting to employment



5%

Percentage of Caseload terminated



84

New applications received



12%

Percentage of caseloads with employment earnings



\$877

Average monthly employment earnings

Population Specific Information



69%

Singles without dependents



26%

Lone parent families



5%

Couples with or without dependents

**2.3
Years**

Average time on Assistance

\$733

The maximum amount a Single on Ontario works receives per month



Information Bulletin

Ontario Works provides income and employment supports to people in temporary financial need. If you qualify, Ontario Works can provide you with:

- Financial assistance to help you cover the costs of your basic needs (example: food and housing costs)
- Employment assistance to help you prepare for and find a job.

You may also be eligible for health benefits for yourself and your family, including drug and dental coverage.

For more information about Ontario Works and Social Assistance please visit: <https://www.stratford.ca/en/inside-city-hall/ontarioworks.aspx#How-to-Apply-for-Financial-Assistance>

