



12 June 2025

Dear Applicant

Our Ref: FOI 781

Your request for information received on 22 May 2025 has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Request

Would I be able to get a freedom of information on the housing allocations for young single men please?

Clarification

I would like the information of allocations to young single men 16 - 25 years old in the last 5 years in the Ardglass, Downpatrick, Killough, Ballyhornan/Dunsford areas please and the average points they need to get accommodation offers.

Our response

The table below provides data on the number of housing allocations to applicants on the Social Housing Waiting List in the following Common Landlord Areas (CLAs):

- Downpatrick
- Ardglass/Ballyhornan/Dunsford
- Killough

The data provided is only for allocations to household types:

- "Single male 16-18 years old"
- "Single male 18-25 years old"

The figures provided are the Mean & Median Waiting Time (in months) and Mean & Median Points at the point of allocation over the 5-year period from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2025.

The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Allocations 01/04/2020 - 31/03/2025 to applicants on the waiting list in selected CLAs by Mean & Median Waiting Time (in months) and Mean & Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation					
NIHE Common Landlord Area (CLA) / Geography	No. of allocations to single male applicants 16-25 years old (based on the recorded household type)	Mean Waiting Time (in months) at the point of allocation	Median Waiting Time (in months) at the point of allocation	Mean Points at the point of allocation	Median Points at the point of allocation
Downpatrick	12	31.6	28.5	174.2	156.0
Ardglass/Ballyhorman/Dunsford	0	-	-	-	-
Killough	0	-	-	-	-
N. Ireland Total	1,744	30.7	23.0	153.5	142.0

Notes

- This response is based on the most recently published data (allocations up to 31/03/2025)
- Allocations are aggregated over a 5-year period from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2025 and include allocations to both Housing Executive and housing association properties.
- Household Composition/Type is recorded on our systems at the point of application and may not reflect the composition of the household at the point of allocation.
- When a question of “average waiting times” or “average points” is asked, MEAN and MEDIAN averages are provided.

Reasons for this include:

The MEAN (arithmetic average) is useful for understanding overall trends but can be heavily skewed by outliers (unusually high or low values) – for example, applicants who have been on the waiting list for a number of years or who have just joined the waiting list.

The MEDIAN (middle value, a measure of central tendency) is less affected by outliers and represents a “typical” case better when the data is skewed.

By presenting both, we ensure that the analysis captures both central tendency and the potential impact of unusually high or low values.

We also note that when the number of applicants is small, statistical indicators become less reliable and have a much lower predictive value regarding the “typical” experience. In such cases, the figures may be more indicative of the specific circumstances of the individual applicant households rather than a broader trend. Caution must be exercised when interpreting the results.

This concludes our response.