

27 June 2024

Our Ref: FOI 452

Request

We received your request on 21 June 2024 for the following information:

How long was the average (and median) wait for a 2 bedroom house for someone with Ardoyne as their selected area who had 160+ points.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Our response

The table below provides data on the number of housing allocations to applicants on the Waiting List with 160+ points in Ardoyne Common Landlord Area, narrowed down to 2-bedroom houses and 2-bedroom bungalows only, by Mean and Median Waiting Time (in months) at the point of allocation for a 1-year period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024. The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Allocations 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024 to applicants on the waiting list with 160+ points in Ardoyne CLA by Mean & Median Waiting Time (in months) on the Waiting List at the point of allocation			
NIHE CLA / Geography	No. of allocations (2-bedroom houses and 2-bedroom bungalows only)	Mean Months at the point of allocation	Median Months at the point of allocation
Ardoyne CLA	20	36.7	28.0
N. Ireland Total	659	33.2	22.0

Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data at the point of the request (allocations up to 31/03/2024)*

- *Allocations are aggregated over a 1-year period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024 and include allocations to both Housing Executive and housing association properties.*
- *When a question of “average waiting times” or “average points” is asked MEAN and MEDIAN averages are provided.*

Reasons for this include:

The MEAN is the arithmetic average and as a statistic can often be unreliable, having been skewed by significant outliers i.e. applicants who have been on the waiting list for a number of years.

This degree of skewing makes the arithmetic average, the MEAN, unreliable. Therefore, following expert advice on this matter a methodology that utilises the MEDIAN (a measure of central tendency) as a more reliable indicator in relation to Waiting Lists and Allocations is also provided.

This concludes our response.