

14 November 2023

**Our Ref: FOI 194**

## Request

We received your request on 19 October 2023 for the following information:

*Could you provide the data for average housing points for 2 bedroom houses or apartments for Belfast and crumlin Could you also add in Newtownabbey too*

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

## Our response

Table 1 below provides the mean and median points for 2 bed properties at the point of allocation in Newtownabbey 1 & 2, North Belfast, Shankill, South & East Belfast and West Belfast Housing Executive Local Offices from 01/10/18 to 30/10/23. Table 2 provides the mean and median points for 2 bed properties at the point of allocation in the Crumlin Common Landlord Area. Please note Crumlin CLA sits within the Antrim Local Office area. Both tables should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

<b>Table 1: Allocations to Applicant Households 01/10/18 - 30/09/23 to 2 Bed Properties at Newtownabbey 1 &amp; 2, North Belfast, Shankill, South &amp; East Belfast &amp; West Belfast Housing Executive Local Offices and N. Ireland Level by Mean &amp; Median Points on the Waiting List (WL) at the Point of Allocation.</b>			
<b>Housing Executive Local Office</b>	<b>No. of Allocations</b>	<b>Mean Points on the WL at the Point of Allocation</b>	<b>Median Points on the WL at the Point of Allocation</b>
Newtownabbey 1	409	141.3	140.0
Newtownabbey 2	402	147.0	140.0
North Belfast	1277	149.1	150.0
Shankill	606	128.6	130.0
South & East Belfast	1675	142.4	140.0
West Belfast	534	185.4	186.0
<b>N. Ireland</b>	<b>14655</b>	<b>148.9</b>	<b>146.0</b>

Table 2: Allocations to Applicant Households 01/10/18 - 30/09/23 to 2 Bed Properties at Crumlin Common Landlord Area (CLA) and N. Ireland Level by Mean & Median Points on the Waiting List (WL) at the Point of Allocation.			
CLA	No. of Allocations	Mean Points on the WL at the Point of Allocation	Median Points on the WL at the Point of Allocation
Crumlin	24	180.1	176.0
N. Ireland	14655	148.9	146.0

**Notes:**

- 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.
- Allocations data includes allocations to both Housing Executive and Housing Association properties.
- In order to give a better understanding of allocations over time allocations data is aggregated over a 5 year period from the 01/10/18 - 30/09/23.

This concludes our response.