

11 October 2024

**Our Ref: FOI 529**

## **Request**

We received your request on 25 September 2024 for the following information:

*The average (mean and median) points required for one and two bedroom properties for the following areas from January 2024 to as recent as possible.*

- Bloomfield/Ravenscroft
- Downshire Park
- Cromac
- Inverary
- Ardcar
- Ashmount
- Finaghy
- Lisburn Road
- Cherryvalley
- Braniel
- Belvoir
- Lower Ormeau
- Short Strand
- Sunderland
- Upper Ormeau
- Cregagh Castlereagh
- Downshire Park
- Summerhill
- Willowfield Upper Castlereagh
- Alliance
- Ardavon
- Ardoyne
- Carlisle/New Lodge
- Carrick Hill
- Fairhill/Waverley

- Cavehill
- Cliftonville
- Lower Oldpark
- Gainsborough/Mountcollyer
- Wheatfield
- White City
- Torrens
- Sunningdale
- Skegoneill/Fortwilliam
- Lower Ligoniel/Glenbank
- Westland
- Newtownards Road
- Woodstock Ravenhill
- Mid Shankill
- Brown Square
- Florence/Hopewell/Lower Shankill
- Dover
- Carryduff
- Lambeg
- Hilden
- Lower Suffolk

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

## Our response

The table below provides data on the number of 1- and 2-bedroom property allocations for a 6-month period from 01/01/2024 to 30/06/2024 and Mean & Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation in the following Common Landlord Areas (CLAs):

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

Number of 1- and 2-bedroom property allocations from 01/01/2024 to 30/06/2024 in the requested CLAs (Common Landlord Areas) by Mean & Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation			
Common Landlord Area (CLA) of choice	No. of allocations (1- and 2-bedroom properties only)	Mean Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation	Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation
Bloomfield/Ravenscroft	<10	146.8	150.0
Downshire Park	0	-	-
Cromac	<10		
Inverary	<10	122.7	128.0
Ardcarn	<10		
Ashmount	0	-	-

Number of 1- and 2-bedroom property allocations from 01/01/2024 to 30/06/2024 in the requested CLAs (Common Landlord Areas) by Mean & Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation			
Common Landlord Area (CLA) of choice	No. of allocations (1- and 2-bedroom properties only)	Mean Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation	Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation
Finaghy	11	159.3	150.0
Lisburn Road	18	183.3	154.0
Cherryvalley	0	-	-
Braniel	10	130.0	133.0
Belvoir	<10	126.0	130.0
Lower Ormeau	<10		
Short Strand	<10	159.3	153.0
Sunderland	<10	123.0	123.0
Upper Ormeau	<10	156.8	165.0
Cregagh Castlereagh	10	158.0	142.0
Downshire Park	0	-	-
Summerhill	0	-	-
Willowfield/Upper Castlereagh Road	11	147.1	140.0
Alliance	<10		
Ardavon	0	-	-
Ardoyne	13	160.9	170.0
Carlisle/New Lodge	14	128.0	140.0
Carrick Hill	0	-	-
Fairhill/Waverley/Downview	<10		
Cavehill	<10	158.3	146.0
Cliftonville	28	158.1	156.0
Lower Oldpark	<10	118.8	128.0
Gainsborough/Mountcollyer	<10	168.8	130.0
Wheatfield	<10	142.0	130.0
White City	<10		
Torrens	<10		
Sunningdale	0	-	-
Skegoneill/Ashfield/Fortwilliam	<10	143.5	147.0
Lower Ligoniel/Glenbank	<10		
Westland	<10		
Newtownards Road	30	173.5	150.0
Woodstock/Ravenhill	15	158.8	154.0
Mid Shankill	15	99.9	120.0
Brown Square	<10	125.0	125.0
Florence/Hopewell/Lwr Shankill	<10		
Dover	<10	123.6	130.0
Carryduff	<10		
Lambeg	<10	137.3	138.5
Hilden	11	185.3	166.0
Lower Suffolk	0	-	-
<b>N. Ireland Total</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>148.0</b>	<b>146.0</b>

#### Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data at the point of the request (allocations up to 30/06/2024)

- Allocations data includes 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.

- UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 - It is important to note the GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018 regarding the potential risk of identifying individuals and individual households. Guidance from NISRA suggests that equality monitoring information should not be disclosed in sensitive cases where individuals or individual households could be identified. Also, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) 'Anonymisation: Managing Data Protection Risk' Code of Practice states 'where less than 10 responses have been given to an answer that identifies something factual, all variables relating to that question have been suppressed'. However, 'it should be noted that attitudinal questions are not bound by this rule, in addition to responses of 'Don't know', 'Refused', 'Other' or similar'. As the information provided is considered sensitive, some statistical disclosure controls may have been placed on the tables with the omission of data in cases where there are less than ten Applicants.
- <10 are cases where numbers are less than 10.
- Further in the interests of Data Protection we have had to remove the points for some categories where there was less than 10 allocations and where the points were substantially different (we used a deviation of 20%) from the overall N. Ireland mean average points.

Please be advised that the Housing Executive normally provides Mean and Median waiting times over a longer period of at least 1 year and up to 5 years. Providing data over a longer period increases the number of data points upon which the Mean and Median is based and can improve accuracy, it can also reduce the need for the use of anonymization.

This concludes our response.