



29 May 2025

Dear Applicant

Our Ref: FOI 770

Your request for information received on 09 May 2025 has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Request

I would like to request the information concerning how many housing allocations were made, points needed and time spent on list for 3 bed properties within the Lagmore area Bt17 West Belfast between May 2024 and May 2025.

Our response

Further to your clarifications of 9th May in which you confirmed that you would accept the requested data based on the Twinbrook/Poleglass Common Landlord Area (CLA) for a one year period 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025, the table below provides data on the number of housing allocations to applicants on the Social Housing Waiting List in that CLA narrowed down to 3-bedroom properties (houses, bungalows, maisonettes and flats), by Mean & Median Waiting Time (in months) and Mean & Median Points at the point of allocation. The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Allocations 01/04/2024 - 31/03/2025 to applicants on the waiting list in Twinbrook-Poleglass CLA 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 (3-bedroom properties only)	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
Twinbrook-Poleglass CLA	<10	57.1	54.0	220.9	224.0
N. Ireland Total	1,124	37.7	24.0	174.6	172.0

Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data (allocations up to 31/03/2025)

- Allocations are aggregated over a 1-year period from 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025 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 (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.

- Where the number of allocations is less than 10 it has been anonymised in accordance with Data Protection requirements.

This concludes our response.