



16 April 2025

Our Ref: FOI 727**Request**

We received your request on 25 March 2025 for the following information:

In each housing district for the last five years, please outline the number of Dispersed Intensively Managed Emergency Accommodation (DIME) units, their occupancy numbers and the cost of providing each placement and the cost for each set of units each year

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

Our response

Table A below details the number of DIME units from the Supporting People contract commencement date 01/04/20 to 31/05/25. This table includes additional units added at various points during the contract shown in brackets. Please be advised that all of these units are located in Belfast.

Table A: DIME Units

Start	End	No Days	of	No Units	of
01/04/2020	31/03/2025	1826		77	
01/04/2020	31/03/2025	1826		(+15)	92
01/07/2020	31/03/2025	1735		(+10)	102
01/12/2020	31/03/2025	1582		(+5)	107
01/08/2021	31/03/2025	1339		(+5)	112
01/02/2022	31/03/2025	1155		(+6)	118
				118	

Table B below details occupancy figures. Please be advised that we do not have occupancy figures for 2021/22 as during this period figures were not required to be submitted by the provider due to Covid-19.

Table B: DIME Occupancy

Year	Occupancy (%)
2019/20	97.60
2020/21	99.06
2021/22	*Break in provider returns due to Covid-19
2022/23	99.58
2023/24	99.74

Regarding your query relating to the cost of providing each placement and the annual cost for each set of units the Housing Executive holds further information falling within the scope of this request but considers this to be exempt from disclosure on the basis of FOIA Section 43 (2) as complying with the request would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of NIHE and the accommodation providers.

This is a 'qualified' exemption and therefore we have considered the public interest test and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Public interest factors in favour of disclosure include openness, transparency and accountability about how public funds are spent and decisions are made. Public interest factors in favour of maintaining the exemption include avoiding unwarranted prejudice to the commercial interests of NIHE and the accommodation providers.

This concludes our response.