

19 April 2024

**Our Ref: FOI 369**

## **Request**

We received your request on 10 April 2024 for the following information:

Can you please tell me if there are any plans to update, renovate, restore, or adapt the tower block "Fianna House" before its eventual demolition and when these changes would be put in place.

Could you also please tell me, do the housing executive have any plans to update tower block heating systems, specifically Fianna house, from outdated Economy 7 heating to a more update heating system? If so, when are these changes likely to take place.

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

## **Our response**

The Housing Executive is currently implementing an Action Plan for its tower blocks that was approved in 2019. In the Action Plan Fianna House is categorised as a 'Medium Term' block, meaning that in 2019 the block was considered to have a 6-10 year lifespan. We are currently in Year 5 (2024/25) of the Action Plan. As such, there are no plans at this stage to update, renovate, restore or adapt the block before its eventual demolition. However, the Action Plan allows for holding investment to be undertaken in the Medium Term blocks such as necessary health and safety works and repair or replacement of internal components (e.g. kitchens and bathrooms) as necessary. Consequently, works to replace kitchens and bathrooms were carried out to a significant number of flats in Fianna House in 2022.

The upgrade of heating systems is being considered as part of comprehensive improvement proposals for our Long Term blocks i.e. those that have a lifespan beyond 10 years. Such an approach will consider a range of heating system types alongside thermal improvement works in the form of increased insulation and/or cladding system(s). These investment proposals require approval from our Board and the Department for Communities and we currently anticipate taking forward business cases for the Long Term blocks throughout Years 6-10 of the Action Plan. Given that Fianna House is a Medium Term block there are no current plans in place to replace its heating systems. However, we will continue to repair existing systems as necessary.

This concludes our response.