

28 February 2024

Our Ref: FOI 276

Request

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

- 1. How many people, not households, are currently on the Social Housing Waiting List?*
- 2. How many people, not households, are deemed to be in housing stress?*
- 3. How many people, not households, had FDA status on 31 December 2023?*
- 4. How many people, not households, were being accommodated in non-standard accommodation on 31 December 2023?*
- 5. What was the total cost spent on non-standard accommodation from 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023?*

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

Our response

- 1. How many people, not households, are currently on the Social Housing Waiting List?**

The Housing Executive reports on Waiting List statistics quarterly. The latest available statistics are therefore as at 31st December 2023. As at 31st December 2023 there were 46,461 households on the waiting list which equates to 86,239 people.

In the 12 months to 31st December 2023, 5,691 allocations were made to households, which equates to 10,502 people.

- 2. How many people, not households, are deemed to be in housing stress?**

As at 31st December 2023 there were 34,651 households who were deemed to be in housing stress on the waiting list. This equates to 65,246 people.

- 3. How many people, not households, had FDA status on 31 December 2023?**

As at 31st December 2023 of the 46,461 households on the waiting list, 28,614 households have been awarded FDA status and this equates to 55,589 people.

In respect of the response to parts 1 to 3 of your request, please observe the following caveats:

- The figures are based on applicant households only, in line with normal reporting of applicant households on the waiting list. Transfer applicants are already housed and are not included.
 - FDA refers to Full Duty Applicants – these are applicants accepted as being homeless, to whom the Housing Executive owes a duty under the Homelessness legislation, Article 10(2) of the Housing (NI) Order, 1988 to “secure that accommodation becomes available for his/her occupation”.
 - Household make up / grouping is recorded at point of application and may not reflect the current composition of the household. Note that applications are assessed on the circumstances of the head of household.
- 4. How many people, not households, were being accommodated in non-standard accommodation on 31 December 2023?**

The Housing Executive records temporary accommodation placements by household size, not by individuals. On 31 December 2023, there were 391 households in non-standard temporary accommodation.

5. What was the total cost spent on non-standard accommodation from 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023?

Housing Executive expenditure is calculated on a financial year basis April-March. As such, an amount for the current year is not yet available. The latest data available is for the period April 2022-March 2023 which, for non-standard accommodation, is £7,621,285.

In interpreting this figure it is important to note that:

- The expenditure figures relate to costs incurred during each financial year and there may be cases where a placement started in the previous financial year with costs continuing into the subsequent financial year.
- Costs for placements in non-standard accommodation will be influenced by the size of the household and length of placement.

This concludes our response.