

Response to: FOI 134 September 2023 For further information contact: foi@nihe.co.uk

Request of information regarding housing allocations in Banbridge

1. **Request-** In the last 12 to 18 months, I, would like to know, the number of physically able bodied persons that have been allocated a 3 bedroom house with a downstairs toilet in Banbridge.

Response-

The Housing Executive does not hold the specific information you have requested because the Housing Selection Scheme is not designed to segregate applicants into physically able and/or disabled categories.

A housing needs assessment is designed to evaluate a person's ability to function within their existing accommodation and award points in this respect, using a Functionality Matrix. Such functionality points are awarded to recognise shortcomings in an applicant's existing accommodation, not simply the presence of any condition or disability.

2. **Request-** Also, how many people registered disabled(high rate disability and low rate disability), have been allocated a house that meets their need in Banbridge within the past 12 to 18 months

Response-

The Housing Executive does not hold the information you have requested regarding benefits entitlements. In terms of allocations generally, before making any offer of accommodation the NIHE designated officer should satisfy themselves that the accommodation is suitable for the applicant and all members of their household who reside with them, or might reasonably be expected to reside with them.