

Response to: FOI_005

May 2023

Housing Allocations by groups

Request

For each of the following full years – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 and within Northern Ireland solely, please advise and break down specifically for each respective year, how many of the following groups of individuals numbered 1 to 6 respectively, have been allocated Government granted and funded housing accommodation within NIHE Social Housing / Council Housing or within <u>ANY</u> state funded / fully paid for Housing Associations or accommodation within local state funded / supported Hotels. Please further break these following groups down by gender within your response.

- 1. 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Economic Migrants
- 2. 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Foreign Nationals
- 3. 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Refugees
- 4. 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Asylum Seekers
- 5. 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 International Protection Applicants
- 6. 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Illegal Immigrants

Response

1. Economic Migrants

The Housing Executive does not record any information on the migration reasons of eligible applicants.

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2. Foreign Nationals

Table 1: Social Housing Allocations to Applicant Households from 01/04/2017 - 31/03/2023 by Nationality at N. Ireland Level							
Nationality	Allocations 01/04/17 - 31/03/18	Allocations 01/04/18 - 31/03/19	Allocations 01/04/19 - 31/03/20	Allocations 01/04/20 - 31/03/21	Allocations 01/01/21 - 31/03/22	Allocations 01/04/22 - 31/03/23	Total Allocations 01/04/17 - 31/03/23
British	3657	3987	3675	3140	3099	2789	20347
Irish	1564	1825	1733	1524	1633	1778	10057
Northern Irish	553	531	442	416	507	492	2941
Other	345	388	359	299	313	334	2038
Unknown	1250	951	634	459	448	389	4131
Refused	7	6	13	7	10	14	57
Total	7376	7688	6856	5845	6010	5796	39571

Caveats:

- Table 1 above shows eligible applicant households who have allocated social housing from 01/04/2017 to 31/03/2023 by nationality at N. Ireland level.
- Allocations include allocations to both Housing Executive and housing association properties.

3. Refugees

This information is not centrally held and would require a manual trawl of all allocations.

The Housing Executive considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit' as defined by the FOI Act under Section 12, so it will not be possible to make this information available.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for the Housing Executive is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours in determining whether the Housing Executive holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

4. Asylum Seekers

The Housing Executive does not have any duty to Asylum Seekers.

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5. International Protection Applicants

This information is not centrally held and would require a manual trawl of all allocations.

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Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for the Housing Executive is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours in determining whether the Housing Executive holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

6. Illegal Immigrants

The Housing Executive does not have any duty to individuals or households who are not eligible under immigration law.