



14 August 2025

Dear Applicant

Our Ref: FOI 865

Your request for information received on 23 July 2025 has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Request

1. *How many local families/persons in Newry are currently waiting to be housed/on the waiting list.*
2. *How many people from outside the Newry area have been allocated houses in the Newry area within the 36 months.*
3. *How many people from outside the Newry area have been allocated these houses ahead of local residents.*
4. *Confirm if refugees have priority placement ahead of local families/persons.*
5. *A copy of the scheme rules referencing the acceptable time a person/family can be placed in emergency accommodation.*
6. *Details of any proposed new housing developments or redevelopments for the purpose of social housing, including any external contractor contracts.*

/

Clarification received:

'Local families/persons in Newry' - someone who is defined as having local connections to the area, specifically someone who has normally been resident in the area for 6 of the last 12 months. Been normally resident in the area for 3 out of the last 5 years. Employment in the area on a permanent basis. Strong family connections in the area, such as a close family member (mother, father, brother, sister or adult child) that has lived in the area for at least 5 years.

Geographically, by 'Newry' I am referring to the Newry Mourne and Down Local Government District.

I confirm that a breakdown by nationality of the waiting list and allocations is satisfactory.

Our response

1. ***How many local families/persons in Newry are currently waiting to be housed/on the waiting list.***
2. ***How many people from outside the Newry area have been allocated houses in the Newry area within the 36 months.***
3. ***How many people from outside the Newry area have been allocated these houses ahead of local residents.***

Further to your clarification of 24th July in which you further defined your use of the term “local”, I can confirm that the Housing Executive does not hold information meeting the description of your request.

As you advised in your clarification that you would accept waiting list and allocations data by nationality within the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD, table 1 below provides data on the number of applicant households on the Social Housing Waiting List as at 31/03/2025, within Newry, Mourne and Down Local Government District, by nationality. The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Table 1: No. of applicant households on the Social Housing Waiting List as at 31/03/2025 in Newry, Mourne and Down Local Government District (LGD) by Nationality		
LGD / Geography	Nationality	No. of applicant households
Newry, Mourne & Down	British/Irish/Northern Irish	3,348
	Other, incl. Mixed	285
	Refused	1
	Unknown	316
	<i>Newry, Mourne & Down Total</i>	<i>3,950</i>
N. Ireland Total	N. Ireland Total	49,083

Table 2 below provides data on the number of allocations to applicant households from the Social Housing Waiting List for a 3-year period from 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2025, narrowed down to Newry, Mourne and Down Local Government District, by nationality. The table should also be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Table 2: No. of allocations to applicant households from the Social Housing Waiting List from 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2025 in Newry, Mourne and Down Local Government District (LGD) by Nationality		
LGD / Geography	Nationality	No. of allocations
Newry, Mourne & Down	British/Irish/Northern Irish	963
	Other, incl. Mixed	53
	Refused	1
	Unknown	72
	<i>Newry, Mourne & Down Total</i>	<i>1,089</i>
N. Ireland Total	N. Ireland Total	17,557

Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data at the point of the request (allocations up to 31/03/2025 and waiting list data as at 31/03/2025)
- Waiting List data is a snapshot of the waiting list as it was on the last day of the specified quarter, in this case 31/03/2025.
- Allocations are aggregated over a 3-year period from 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2025 and include allocations to both Housing Executive and housing association properties.
- Other nationalities are nationalities other than British, Irish and Northern Irish.

4. Confirm if refugees have priority placement ahead of local families/persons.

- **temporary accommodation placements**

The Housing Executive has a statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation to homeless applicants under the Housing (NI) Order 1988. The Housing Executive will provide temporary accommodation as required to all applicants to whom the duty to accommodate is owed; priority is not given to any particular applicant/s.

- **allocation of social housing**

All allocations to social housing are made in line with the Rules of the Housing Selection Scheme, a copy of the Rules may be found here [Housing Selection Scheme Rules](#)."

5. A copy of the scheme rules referencing the acceptable time a person/family can be placed in emergency accommodation.

The Housing Executive has a statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation until such time as the homeless applicant is permanently rehoused or otherwise ceases to be owed the full housing duty.

Article 10 (2) of the Housing (NI) Order 1988 outlines:

"Where the Housing Executive is satisfied that the applicant has a priority need and is not satisfied that he became homeless intentionally, it shall secure that accommodation becomes available for his occupation."

The legislation does not stipulate a length of time regarding temporary accommodation placements.

Chapter 7 of the Homelessness Guidance Manual (attached) outlines the Housing Executive's accommodation duties including temporary accommodation. This guidance reflects the legislation and therefore also does not provide stipulations regarding length of time in temporary accommodation.

6. Details of any proposed new housing developments or redevelopments for the purpose of social housing, including any external contractor contracts.

In Newry, Mourne and Down LGD:

- There are 39 Social Housing Units Completed in 2025/26. The detail of these units is provided in Table 1 below.
- There are currently 408 social housing units under construction. The detail of these units is provided in Table 2 below.
- There are 295 social housing units programmed to start as part of the Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) 2025/26 – 2027/28. The detail of these units is provided in Table 3 below.

Please note that programmed schemes can be lost or slip to future programme years for a variety of reasons e.g. relating to delays in acquiring sites and/or failure to secure Planning Approval. Additional schemes can also be added to the SHDP 'in-year' through Competitive Land, Design & Build procurement route and/or the purchase of Existing Satisfactory / Off-the-Shelf properties.

Table 1: Total new social housing Completions in Newry, Mourne and Down 2025/26.

Housing Association	Local Government District	Scheme Name	Location	Type	Need Group	Strategic Group	Units	Onsite Year	Completion Year
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	7 Newtown Road	Camlough	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Rural	2	2022/23	2025/26
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	7 Newtown Road	Camlough	Competitive Land Design & Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	7	2022/23	2025/26
Clanmil	Newry Mourne & Down	-	Downpatrick	Existing Satisfactory Purchase	General Needs	Urban	1	2023/24	2025/26
Clanmil	Newry Mourne & Down	Merchants Quay	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	29	2022/23	2025/26

Table 2: Social housing units under construction in Newry, Mourne and Down.

Housing Association	Local Government District	Scheme Name	Location	Type	Need Group	Strategic Group	Units	Onsite Year	Completion Year
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	Parkhead Crescent	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	10	2022/23	2025/26
Apex Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Craigmore Way	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	95	2020/21	2025/26
Apex Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Craigmore Way	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	Wheelchair Standard	Urban	25	2020/21	2025/26
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Dundrum Road	Newcastle	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	14	2021/22	2025/26
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Dundrum Road	Newcastle	Competitive Land Design & Build	Wheelchair Standard	Urban	4	2021/22	2025/26
Ark	Newry Mourne & Down	35 & 39 Downshire Road	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	32	2022/23	2025/26
NB Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Bridge Street	Kilkeel	Off The Shelf	General Needs	Urban	9	2022/23	2025/26
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Fairview	Saintfield	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Rural	14	2024/25	2026/27
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Old Warrenpoint Road	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	21	2024/25	2026/27
Choice	Newry Mourne & Down	St Clares Convent	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	43	2022/23	2026/27
Choice	Newry Mourne & Down	St Clares Convent	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	Active Elderly	Urban	13	2022/23	2026/27

Housing Association	Local Government District	Scheme Name	Location	Type	Need Group	Strategic Group	Units	Onsite Year	Completion Year
Choice	Newry Mourne & Down	St Clares Convent	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	Wheelchair Standard	Urban	14	2022/23	2026/27
Clanmil	Newry Mourne & Down	Pound Lane, Downe Hospital Phase 2	Downpatrick	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	41	2020/21	2027/28
Clanmil	Newry Mourne & Down	Pound Lane, Downe Hospital Phase 2	Downpatrick	Competitive Land Design & Build	Active Elderly	Urban	20	2020/21	2027/28
Clanmil	Newry Mourne & Down	Pound Lane, Downe Hospital Phase 2	Downpatrick	Competitive Land Design & Build	Wheelchair Standard	Urban	5	2020/21	2027/28
Clanmil	Newry Mourne & Down	Carnagat Road	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	48	2024/25	2027/28

Table 3: Social housing units Programmed to Start in Newry, Mourne and Down.

Housing Association	Local Government District	Scheme Name	Location	Type	Need Group	Strategic Group	Units	Onsite Year	Completion Year
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	Lawnfield	Newcastle	New Build	General Needs	Urban	9	2025/26	2026/27
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	Lawnfield	Newcastle	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Urban	3	2025/26	2026/27
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Carran Road, Crossmaglen	Crossmaglen	New Build	General Needs	Rural	20	2025/26	2027/28
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Carran Road, Crossmaglen	Crossmaglen	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	4	2025/26	2027/28
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Bog Road	Forkhill	New Build	General Needs	Rural	16	2025/26	2026/27
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Watson's Road	Newry	New Build	General Needs	Urban	12	2025/26	2026/27
Ark	Newry Mourne & Down	Rourke's Link	Ballyhornan	New Build	General Needs	Rural	10	2025/26	2027/28
Ark	Newry Mourne & Down	Rourke's Link	Ballyhornan	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	3	2025/26	2027/28
Ark	Newry Mourne & Down	Main Street	Forkhill	New Build	General Needs	Rural	6	2025/26	2026/27
Rural	Newry Mourne & Down	Harmony Heights	Ballyholland	New Build	General Needs	Rural	13	2025/26	2027/28
Rural	Newry Mourne & Down	Harmony Heights	Ballyholland	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	1	2025/26	2027/28
Rural	Newry Mourne & Down	Lismore Park (T)	Crossmaglen	New Build	General Needs	Rural	1	2025/26	2026/27
Rural	Newry Mourne & Down	Drumree Drive (T)	Castlewellan	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	1	2025/26	2026/27
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	McCrinks Lane	Camrough	New Build	General Needs	Rural	11	2026/27	2027/28

Housing Association	Local Government District	Scheme Name	Location	Type	Need Group	Strategic Group	Units	Onsite Year	Completion Year
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	McCrinks Lane	Camlough	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	1	2026/27	2027/28
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	Ashgrove	Newry	New Build	General Needs	Urban	24	2026/27	2027/28
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Railway Avenue, Newry	Newry	Competitive Land Design & Build	General Needs	Urban	18	2026/27	2028/29
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	St Patrick Street	Downpatrick	New Build	General Needs	Urban	15	2026/27	2027/28
Ark	Newry Mourne & Down	The Mill	Bessbrook	New Build	General Needs	Rural	52	2026/27	2027/28
Ark	Newry Mourne & Down	The Mill	Bessbrook	New Build	Wheelchair Standard	Rural	4	2026/27	2027/28
Radius	Newry Mourne & Down	Replacement of Clare House (DfC Site)	Newry	New Build	General Needs	Urban	24	2026/27	2028/29
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	Shore Road	Strangford	New Build	General Needs	Rural	19	2027/28	2028/29
Alpha	Newry Mourne & Down	Newtown Road	Newtowncloghue	New Build	General Needs	Rural	14	2027/28	2028/29
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Moneydarragh Road	Annalong	New Build	General Needs	Rural	13	2027/28	2028/29
Arbour Housing	Newry Mourne & Down	Moneydarragh Road	Annalong	New Build	General Needs	Rural	1	2027/28	2028/29

This concludes our response.