

28 March 2025

**Our Ref: FOI 707**

## **Request**

We received your request on 12 March 2025 for the following information:

*North Belfast CLAs*

- 1. Mean and median points for housing allocation*
- 2. Available houses at the time of this request*

*All relevant to 3 bedroom houses (not flats) in the following CLAs;*

- Ardoyne*
- Cavehill*
- Cliftonville*
- Glandore*
- Oldpark*
- Torrens*
- Upper Ligoniel*
- Alliance*
- Skegoniel/Fortwilliam*
- Sunningdale*

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

## **Our response**

### **1. Clarification from 18/03/2025:**

*I would appreciate if this could be provided for the last 12 months.*

## Response

The table below provides data on the number of housing allocations to applicants on the waiting list in the selected Common Landlord Areas, narrowed down to 3-bedroom houses and bungalows only, by Mean and Median Points at the point of allocation for a 1-year period from 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024. The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Waiting List and allocations data is produced quarterly so the data as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 is the latest that is currently available.

<b>Allocations 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024 to applicants on the waiting list in the selected CLAs (narrowed down to 3-bedroom houses and bungalows only) by Mean &amp; Median Points on the waiting list at the point of allocation</b>			
<b>NIHE CLA / Geography</b>	<b>No. of allocations (3-bedroom houses and bungalows only)</b>	<b>Mean Points at the point of allocation</b>	<b>Median Points at the point of allocation</b>
Ardoyne CLA	<10	205.0	204.0
Cavehill CLA	0	-	-
Cliftonville CLA	<10	210.0	210.0
Glandore CLA	0	-	-
Oldpark CLA	<10	220.0	220.0
Torrens CLA	0	-	-
Upper Ligoniel CLA	0	-	-
Alliance CLA	0	-	-
Skegoneill/Ashfield/Fortwilliam CLA	<10	177.3	180.0
Sunningdale CLA	<10	150.0	150.0
<b>N. Ireland Total</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>174.3</b>	<b>172.0</b>

## Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data at the point of the request (allocations up to 31/12/2024)
- Allocations are aggregated over a 1-year period from 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024 and include allocations to both Housing Executive and housing association properties.
- When a question of “average waiting times” or “average points” is asked, MEAN and MEDIAN averages are provided.

Reasons for this include:

The MEAN (arithmetic average) is useful for understanding overall trends but can be heavily skewed by outliers (unusually high or low values) – for example, applicants who have been on the waiting list for a number of years or who have just joined the waiting list.

The MEDIAN (middle value, a measure of central tendency) is less affected by outliers and represents a “typical” case better when the data is skewed.

By presenting both, we ensure that the analysis captures both central tendency and the potential impact of unusually high or low values.

We also note that when the number of applicants is small, statistical indicators become less reliable and have a much lower predictive value regarding the “typical” experience. In such cases, the figures may be more indicative of the specific circumstances of the individual applicant households rather than a broader trend. Caution must be exercised when interpreting the results.

2. The table below shows the number of void properties showing as available for allocation on our housing management system as of 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Where there are fewer than 10 properties, this has been marked as <10 for data protection reasons.

CLA	Count of properties
Ardoyne	0
Cavehill	0
Cliftonville	0
Glandore	0
Oldpark	0
Torrens	0
Upper Ligoniel	0
Alliance	0
Skegoniel/Fortwilliam	<10
Sunningdale	0

This concludes our response.