Housing Executive

REGIONAL SERVICES
Land and Regeneration Services

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3 September 2024

Our Ref: FOI 474

Request

We received your request on 13 July 2024 for the following information:

I am currently on the housing executive homeless list awaiting on housing.

I would like to process a freedom of information request in finding out where on the housing executive list I am.

I would also like to process a freedom of information request on the number of individuals for housing within Divis area; Ross Street housing as this will help determine if I could be offered a home or whether a different area would need considered.

I would also like to process a freedom of information request on the selected area : Ross Street, Belfast, housing points required for houses provided within the last year.

Further to your clarification of 15th August 2024 in which you confirmed that you required this information in respect of 3 bed properties, your request has now been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Our response

Q1:- *I would like to process a freedom of information request in finding out where on the housing executive list I am.*

I understand that your case officer as been in contact to advise regarding your position on the Waiting List for your areas of choice. Your position on the Waiting List can be subject to change at any time. Your case officer can update you upon request.

Q2:- *I would also like to process a freedom of information request on the number of individuals for housing within Divis area; Ross Street housing as this will help determine if I could be offered a home or whether a different area would need*

considered.

As of 19th August 2024, there were 205 individuals awaiting rehousing in a 3 bedroom property in Divis Complex CLA, and 285 awaiting same in the Lower Falls Grosvenor CLA.

Q3:- I would also like to process a freedom of information request on the selected area : Ross Street, Belfast, housing points required for houses provided within the last year.

The table below provides data on the number of housing allocations to applicants on the waiting list in Divis Complex Common Landlord Area and Lower Falls Grosvenor Common Landlord Area, narrowed down to 3-bedroom houses and bungalows only, by Mean and Median Waiting Points at the point of allocation for a 1-year period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024. The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Allocations 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024 in Divis Complex CLA and Lower Falls Grosvenor CLA (Common Landlord Area), by Mean & Median Points on the Waiting List at the point of allocation			
NIHE CLA / Geography	**No. of allocations (3-bedroom houses and bungalows only)**	**Mean Points at the point of allocation**	**Median Points at the point of allocation**
Divis Complex CLA	<10	191.5	190.0
Lower Falls Grosvenor CLA	<10	195.2	192.0
N. Ireland Total	**1,077**	**169.8**	**168.0**

Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data at the point of the request (allocations up to 31/03/2024)

- Allocations are aggregated over a 1-year period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024 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 is the arithmetic average and as a statistic can often be unreliable, having been skewed by significant outliers i.e. applicants who have been on the waiting list for a number of years.

  This degree of skewing makes the arithmetic average, the MEAN, unreliable. Therefore, following expert advice on this matter a methodology that utilises the MEDIAN (a measure of central tendency) as a more reliable indicator in relation to Waiting Lists and Allocations is also provided.

- <10 are cases where numbers are less than 10.

- UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 - It is important to note the GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018 regarding the potential risk of identifying individuals and individual households. Guidance from NISRA suggests that equality monitoring information should not be disclosed in sensitive cases where individuals or individual households could be identified. Also the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) 'Anonymisation: Managing Data Protection Risk' Code of Practice states 'where less than 10 responses have been given to an answer that identifies something factual, all variables relating to that question have been suppressed'. However, 'it should be noted that attitudinal questions are not bound by this rule, in addition to responses of 'Don't know', 'Refused', 'Other' or similar. As the information provided is considered sensitive some statistical disclosure controls may have been placed on the tables with the omission of data in cases where there are less than ten Applicants.

This concludes our response.