

19 November 2025

Dear Applicant

Our Ref: FOI 946

Your request for information received on 29 September 2025 has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Request

As a result of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, how many households had to be moved from their homes by relevant authorities, broken down by local authority/council area.

- As a result of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, how many households were offered emergency assistance by the NIHE, broken down by local authority/council area.*
- As a result of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, how many households were subject to investigation under Rule 23 by the NIHE, broken down by local authority/council area.*
- How many children and young people had to be moved from their homes temporarily by relevant authorities because of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, broken down by local authority/council area.*
- How many children and young people had to be moved from their homes permanently by relevant authorities because of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, broken down by local authority/council area.*
- How many children, young people and their families have received primary social needs points because of harassment, including racial harassment, or due to a fear of actual violence in Ballymena since Jun 2025.*
- Confirmation of how NIHE is now recording information that otherwise would have been counted under 'intimidation points', since Rule 23 was removed from the Housing Selection Scheme.*
- Confirmation of how NIHE is monitoring the impact of the removal of Rule 23 from the Housing Selection Scheme on children, young people and their families who otherwise would have qualified for the awarding of points as new applicants.*
- Numbers of children and young people referred by the NIHE to the a. National Referral Mechanism and b. social services, following public disorder in 2024.*

- *Numbers of children and young people referred by the NIHE to the National Referral Mechanism and b. social services, following public disorder in 2025 (relating to Ballymena, and wider racist violence/protest)*

Our response

- 1. As a result of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, how many households had to be moved from their homes by relevant authorities, broken down by local authority/council area.**
- 2. As a result of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, how many households were offered emergency assistance by the NIHE, broken down by local authority/council area.**

Table 1 below outlines the number of households accepted as homeless between 1st - 30th June 2025 due to Hate Crime: Race, broken down by council area.

Table 2 below outlines the number of households accepted as homeless between 1st - 30th June 2025 due to Hate Crime: Race who were placed in temporary accommodation, broken down by council area.

Table 1: June 2025 Homeless Acceptances	
Council Area	Established Homeless Reason: Hate Crime: Race
Antrim & Newtownabbey	0
Ards & North Down	0
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	<5
Belfast	<5
Causeway Coast & Glens	0
Derry & Strabane	0
Lisburn & Castlereagh	0
Mid & East Antrim	5
Newry, Mourne & Down	0
Grand Total	9

Table 2: Households with Established Homeless Reason "Hate Crime: Race" provided with temporary accommodation in June 2025	
Council Area	Number of Households Placed in TA
Antrim & Newtownabbey	0
Ards & North Down	0
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	<5
Belfast	<5
Causeway Coast & Glens	0
Derry & Strabane	0
Lisburn & Castlereagh	0
Mid & East Antrim	0
Newry, Mourne & Down	0
Grand Total	<5

Tables 1 and 2 Accompanying Notes:

- The Housing Executive is unable to provide homelessness data for July 2025 to present as requested, as this forms part of the DfC Homelessness Bulletin which is yet to be published for this period. In line with the code of practice for statistics we are unable to provide these figures in advance of publication.
- The Housing Executive records homelessness acceptances by singular primary reason for homelessness. It is therefore possible that a household may have experienced racism/ racist violence as a contributing factor in their homelessness that may not be captured by their established homeless reason.
- Where there are less than 5 cases, the data has been anonymised to prevent specific cases/individuals being identified in line with current data protection best practice.
- This data was extracted from a live database and may differ from previously published figures.

3. As a result of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, how many households were subject to investigation under Rule 23 by the NIHE, broken down by local authority/council area.

No households were subject to investigation under Rule 23 since June 2025 as Rule 23 was removed from the Housing Selection Scheme with effect from 1st April 2025.

4. How many children and young people had to be moved from their homes temporarily by relevant authorities because of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, broken down by local authority/council area.

Table 3 below outlines the number of children within the households accepted as homeless between 1st- 30th June 2025 due to Hate Crime: Race who were placed in temporary accommodation, broken down by council area.

Table 3: Children in Households with Established Homeless Reason "Hate Crime: Race" provided with temporary accommodation in June 2025		
Council Area	Number of Households Placed in TA	Number of Children in Households Placed in TA
Antrim & Newtownabbey	0	0
Ards & North Down	0	0
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	<5	<5
Belfast	<5	0
Causeway Coast & Glens	0	0
Derry & Strabane	0	0
Lisburn & Castlereagh	0	0
Mid & East Antrim	0	0
Newry, Mourne & Down	0	0
Grand Total	<5	<5

Tables 3 Accompanying Notes:

- The Housing Executive is unable to provide homelessness data for July 2025 to present as requested, as this forms part of the DfC Homelessness Bulletin which is yet to be published for this period. In line with the code of practice for statistics we are unable to provide these figures in advance of publication.
- Where there are less than 5 cases, the data has been anonymised to prevent specific cases/individuals being identified in line with current data protection best practice.
- This data was extracted from a live database and may differ from previously published figures.

5. How many children and young people had to be moved from their homes permanently by relevant authorities because of racist violence or intimidation since June 2025 to present, broken down by local authority/council area.

None of the households accepted as homeless between 1st- 30th June 2025 due to Hate Crime: Race (as shown in Table 1) have since been rehoused permanently.

6. How many children, young people and their families have received primary social needs points because of harassment, including racial harassment, or due to a fear of actual violence in Ballymena since Jun 2025.

As outlined in Table 1 above, 5 households in the Mid and East Antrim area were accepted as homeless between 1st- 30th June 2025 due to Hate Crime: Race.

Of these households, <5 have been awarded primary social needs points.

As there are less than 5 cases, the data has been anonymised to prevent specific cases/individuals being identified in line with current data protection best practice.

7. Confirmation of how NIHE is now recording information that otherwise would have been counted under ‘intimidation points’, since Rule 23 was removed from the Housing Selection Scheme.

Following removal of Rule 23 from the Scheme, with effect from 1 April 2025, the Homelessness Guidance Manual regarding homelessness presenting and established reasons was updated, with Hate Crime/Incident: Sectarian/ Racial/ Sexual Orientation/ Disability/ Gender Identity replacing the previous homelessness reasons relating to Intimidation. It should be noted that these reasons are not a direct replacement for intimidation reasons and associated sub-categories but may be of assistance in identifying reasons for homelessness where sub-categories such as those outlined may point to a primary reason for homelessness being linked to factors such as Sectarian/ Racial/ Sexual Orientation/ Disability/ Gender.

8. Confirmation of how NIHE is monitoring the impact of the removal of Rule 23 from the Housing Selection Scheme on children, young people and their families who otherwise would have qualified for the awarding of points as new applicants.

As outlined above, following removal of Rule 23 from the Scheme, the Housing Executive records homelessness presenting and established reasons relating to Hate Crime/Incident: Sectarian/ Racial/ Sexual Orientation/ Disability/ Gender Identity.

9. Numbers of children and young people referred by the NIHE to the a. National Referral Mechanism and b. social services, following public disorder in 2024.
10. Numbers of children and young people referred by the NIHE to the a. National Referral Mechanism and b. social services, following public disorder in 2025 (relating to Ballymena, and wider racist violence/protest).

Regarding queries 9 and 10, the Housing Executive may hold information within the scope of your request. However, it is not captured in a way that enables us to extract it other than by undertaking a significant manual exercise to review all individual case records for the periods requested, and this would therefore go beyond the ‘appropriate limit’ as defined by the FOI Act.

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

The Housing Executive considers that it is not reasonably practicable to reduce or narrow the scope of your request to bring it under the cost limit.

This concludes our response.