

10 April 2024

Our Ref: FOI 336

Request

We received your request on 07 March 2024 for the following information:

I am looking for detailed information on social housing in Rathcoole.

Could you please provide "a complete breakdown" of the following information?

- 1. How many people are on the housing list for the Rathcoole area?*
- 2. What is the religious background of those who are on the list for the Rathcoole area?*
- 3. What is the average wait time for being allocated a house in Rathcoole?*
- 4. What is the average number of points needed for Rathcoole?*
- 5. Any other useful information would be appreciated.*

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

Our response

- 1. How many people are on the housing list for the Rathcoole area?**
- 2. What is the religious background of those who are on the list for the Rathcoole area?**

Waiting List statistics are produced quarterly. The most recent statistics currently available are as at 31st December 2023.

Table 1 below provides data on the number of applicant households in Rathcoole CLA and Northern Ireland overall broken down by all applicant households, applicant households in Housing Stress (30+ points under the Housing Selection Scheme) and applicant households with Full Duty Applicant status (A Full Duty Applicant is a person to whom the Housing Executive owes a duty under the Homelessness legislation, Article 10(2) of the Housing (NI) Order, 1988 to "secure that accommodation becomes available for his /her occupation") by Religion as at 31/12/2023.

The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Table 1: Applicant households in Rathcoole CLA and N. Ireland on the Waiting List as of 31/12/2023, by Religion						
Religion	All applicant households		Applicant households in Housing Stress		FDA households	
	Rathcoole CLA	N. Ireland	Rathcoole CLA	N. Ireland	Rathcoole CLA	N. Ireland
Catholic	<20	16,305	<20	12,730	<20	10,525
Protestant	289	10,337	218	7,321	164	5,619
Mixed	<20	373	<20	271	<20	213
None	71	4,913	52	3,460	42	2,873
Other	<20	2,369	<20	1,881	<20	1,654
Refused	0	276	0	211	0	176
Unknown	55	11,888	48	8,777	40	7,554
Total	439	46,461	333	34,651	259	28,614

3. What is the average wait time for being allocated a house in Rathcoole?

4. What is the average number of points needed for Rathcoole?

Table 2 below provides data on allocations in Rathcoole CLA and Northern Ireland overall between 01/01/2019-31/12/2023 with mean and median points at the point of allocation and mean and median waiting time in months on the Waiting List at the point of allocation.

This table should also be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Table 2: Number of allocations in Rathcoole CLA and N. Ireland, 01/01/2019-31/12/2023					
CLA/Geography	No. of Allocations	Mean Points at the Point of Allocation	Median Points at the Point of Allocation	Mean Months on the Waiting List at the Point of Allocation	Median Months on the Waiting List at the Point of Allocation
Rathcoole	426	139.6	136.0	19.8	12.0
N. Ireland	30,529	144.5	142.0	26.1	16.0

5. Any other useful information would be appreciated

If, upon review of the provided information you have any further queries or require any additional information we would be happy to take further FOI requests regarding housing need in Rathcoole.

Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data at the point of the request.

- Allocations are aggregated over a 5 year period from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2023 and will 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.

- 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.
- <20 are cases where numbers are less than 20.

This concludes our response.