

Single let accommodation information.

Request

How many single let accommodations, that have at least four bedrooms, have been allocated to housing selection scheme applicants in Belfast over the last 12 months.

Response

The Housing Executive do not allocate single let properties to applicants, but will make emergency placements to homeless applicants as part of a phased discharge of their statutory duty to provide Temporary Accommodation.

The Housing Executive have provided 63 placements to Single Let properties from 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023 to households who presented within Belfast City Council area where the bedroom requirement was 4 or more.

Request

Can the FOI response to the above question also clarify how the NIHE allocate single lets of this type, what allocation criteria is used?

Response

The Housing Executive do not allocate single let properties to applicants, but will make emergency placements as part of a phased discharge of their statutory duty to provide Temporary Accommodation.

Such placements will be made to those applicants to whom there is a full or interim duty, can be for any length of time, and will be dependent on a number of criteria which will be considered at the time an applicant contacts the Housing Executive in regard to their requirement.

The Housing Executive does acknowledge that each situation will be different and individual assessments will take place when a household presents and requires temporary accommodation. Criteria taken into consideration will include, but are not limited to; family size and accommodation requirements, access to schools, health care, support networks, as well as accommodation availability at that particular time.

Situations can arise from time to time where households with smaller accommodation needs can be placed into larger properties if no other suitable accommodation is available at the time they present to the Housing Executive. Such households are there for the shortest period of time and moved to more appropriately sized accommodation as soon as it becomes available in order to allow larger families to be placed.