

19 December 2024

**Our Ref: FOI 626**

## Request

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

*How many properties owned by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive are currently lying empty? Can you break that information down by council area?  
And of those, how many properties are empty due to racist threats or intimidation?*

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

## Our response

- 1) The table below shows the number of actionable\* and non-actionable\*\* void Housing Executive properties as of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024, broken down by Area Office. Area Office boundaries are broadly coterminous with those of local councils.

Area Office	Actionable Voids	Non-Actionable Voids
Lisburn/Castlereagh Area	35	162
North Belfast Area	24	183
South and East Belfast Area	86	419
West Belfast Area	14	24
Causeway Area	18	14
Mid and East Antrim Area	56	168
South Antrim Area	32	56
West Area	13	57
Mid Ulster Area	11	12
North Down and Ards Area	31	25
South Area	11	71
South Down Area	15	53

South West Area	23	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1256</b>

\*Actionable voids are properties which are vacant while in the process of being allocated/awaiting change of tenancy repairs. These may also include properties deemed to be difficult to let.

\*\*Non-actionable voids are properties that are not immediately available for allocation and are held vacant for operational reasons i.e. decanting purposes (where they are being used to house a tenant on a temporary basis pending works to their home), planned maintenance schemes, and properties which have been identified for sale/transfer or have approval for demolition

2) The Housing Executive does not hold this as a specific, reportable void category.

This concludes our response.