

20 September 2024

Our Ref: FOI 501

Request

We received your request on 23 August 2024 for the following information:

Could you please tell me the number of vacant NIHE properties in Newry City including temporary accommodation.

Could you also please tell me how many of these properties have gone longer than 6 months without allocation and how many are suitable for immediate let The information should be correct at the time of sending, not correct at the time of the request.

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

Our response

Could you please tell me the number of vacant NIHE properties in Newry City including temporary accommodation.

As of 29th August 2024, there were 3 actionable and 27 non-actionable void* properties in the Common Landlord Areas (CLAs) which comprise Newry Town.

**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 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.*

As of 20th September 2024 there was a total of 2 Single Let properties in Newry and Mourne District Council area which were void with neither void for a period of 6 months or longer. It should be noted that the Housing Executive will only facilitate void arrangements in Single Lets

in exceptional circumstances and therefore, any void periods will generally be for a short period of time.

The information in this response has been provided by two separate teams in the Housing Executive and therefore, while two dates have been provided, the information has been provided as per the date on which each respective team responded.

Could you also please tell me how many of these properties have gone longer than 6 months without allocation and how many are suitable for immediate let. The information should be correct at the time of sending, not correct at the time of the request.

As of 29th August 2024, 24 of the 30 properties above had been void for more than 6 months. 1 property was available for immediate let.

Owing to the frequent turnover of void properties, and the necessary administration involved in processing FOI requests, it is unavoidable that the information provided at time of response may no longer reflect the current position. Up to date void information is available from Housing Executive Area Offices.

This concludes our response.