

30th April 2019

Dublin Region Homeless Executive confirms the official Spring Rough Sleeping Count

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) confirmed today (30th April) that the official Spring count was carried out on the night of 9th April 2019 and into the morning of 10th April 2019. The purpose of enumerating individuals sleeping rough is to measure the effectiveness of homeless service provision and plan for additional accommodation and supports.

The DRHE has been responsible for the delivery of rough sleeping counts in Dublin since 2007. 128 persons are confirmed as rough sleeping in Dublin in Spring 2019. This Rough Sleeping Count shows a decrease in the number of individuals discovered sleeping rough in Dublin from 156 in Winter 2018 to 128 in Spring 2019 and represents a decrease of 28 individuals.

- 94 of the 128 individuals were discovered in the city centre (North and South) and the remaining individuals were discovered at locations outside the city centre;
- 75% were male, and 25% were female, excluding 5 people that could not be identified;
- 79% of people were Irish nationals, 21% were non-Irish nationals, excluding a total of 29 people whose nationality was not identified;
- 64% were between the ages of 31 and 50, excluding individuals whose ages were not identified.

In response, Ms. Eileen Gleeson, Director, DRHE said:

“I welcome the decrease in the numbers of people sleeping rough on the Winter Count 2018. However, the large number of people sleeping rough is still a serious area of concern and we will continue to work through the Housing First Service to engage with these people and work with them to access appropriate services. We have been working with our charity partners to increase emergency accommodation, and have increased capacity by 250 permanent beds. The essential response to address the needs of people sleeping rough is the provision of more long-term housing solutions for individuals and couples.”

Notes to the Editor

Dublin Region Homeless Executive Response

The DRHE activated the Cold Weather Strategy for 2018/19 in November 2018. The approach has been twofold, existing emergency accommodation has increased to meet demand along with a targeted response to people that are long-term rough sleeping.

Services operate throughout the year to support persons who are rough sleeping. During cold weather periods, there is an increased emphasis on the level of service provision. The Housing First Intake Team increase their staffing providing more opportunities to engage with long-term rough sleepers and hard-to-reach groups, where increased supports need to be available. In 2018 and in the first quarter 2019, Emergency Accommodation significantly expanded for singles with:-

- 250 additional permanent beds introduced on a phased basis,
- 110 temporary contingency beds have been in use across a range of existing services

The requirement to further expand emergency accommodation is under constant review and the DRHE is coordinating with the Dublin Local Authorities to implement additional capacity as current and future demand dictates.

The DRHE continues to tackle homelessness and work hard on advancing 'housing-led' solutions that effectively end the experience of homelessness. Our shared goal of ending rough sleeping and long-term homelessness in Dublin is dependent on the expansion of the Housing First Programme over the next few years. A steady supply of single person units with the necessary wraparound supports will be critical to accelerate this goal.

We are working together with the three other Dublin Local Authorities and all relevant agencies to provide sustainable solutions to homelessness, which not only includes housing but also the health supports needed to help people to exit homelessness and to sustain a pathway to recovery. Many people accessing homeless services have complex needs and require additional supports, particularly, health to assist them to exit homeless services.

For further information and figures on Rough Sleeping Counts see:-

Click [HERE](#)

<https://www.homelessdublin.ie/info/figures?type=rough-sleeper-count&year=>

Ends

For further information, please contact:

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General Information – Access to Services

If an individual / family is presenting as homeless for the first time in Dublin, their respective Local Authority will carry out a comprehensive assessment.

- **Dublin City Council** - The Central Placement Service is available during the day in Parkgate Hall, 6-9 Conyngham Road, Dublin 8 from 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday for individuals and families presenting as homeless in the Dublin City Council area. FREEPHONE: 1800 707 707 Monday to Friday 2.00pm – 4.00pm (Dublin City Council only) Email: homelesscps@dublincity.ie
- **Fingal County Council** - Homeless Section, Civic Offices, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. Open Monday-Friday: 9.30am – 12.30pm. Telephone: 01 890 5090 Monday to Friday: 9.00am – 4.30pm. Email: homeless@fingalcoco.ie
- **South Dublin County Council** Homeless Section - County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24. Open Monday-Friday: 10.00am – 12.00pm. Telephone: 01 414 9364 Monday to Friday: 9.00am – 5.00pm. Email: sdcchomeless@sdblincoco.ie
- **Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council** Homeless Section - County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire. Open Monday-Friday: 10.00am – 4.00pm. Telephone: 01 205 4804 Monday to Friday: 9.00am – 5.00pm. Email: homeless@dlrcoco.ie
- For access to emergency accommodation out of hours contact **Homeless FREEPHONE 1800 707 707**, Monday to Friday 4.30pm to 2.00am Saturday and Sunday from 10.00am to 2.00am
- Housing First Intake Service – 086 813 9015
- Tenancy Protection Service – 1800 454 454
- Dublin Placefinders Service & Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) for homeless households – 01 222 6804
- If a member of the public would like to make Dublin's Housing First Service aware of a person sleeping rough in the Dublin region, please contact us at:-

If a member of the public would like to make Dublin's Housing First Service aware of a person who may be sleeping rough in the Dublin region, who is in need of assistance, please contact us here <http://www.homelessdublin.ie/report-rough-sleeper>