

3rd December 2018

Dublin Region Homeless Executive confirms the official Winter Rough Sleeping Count

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) confirmed today (3rd December) that the official winter count was carried out on the night of 27th November 2018 and into the morning of 28th November 2018. The purpose of enumerating individuals sleeping rough is to measure the effectiveness of the regional services, plan for additional services and provide targeted help for those in need of accommodation and support services.

The breakdown for the Winter 2018 count is as follows:-

Location	Number
Dublin City Council	121
Fingal	5
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	7
South Dublin	12
Dublin Parks	11
Total	156

The DRHE has been responsible for the delivery of rough sleeping counts in Dublin since 2007. 156 persons are confirmed as rough sleeping in Dublin in Winter 2018. This is a 15% decrease in the number of individuals sleeping rough in the Dublin Region from 184 in Winter 2017 to 156 in Winter 2018.

Dublin Region Homeless Executive Response

- The DRHE continues to tackle homelessness and bring forward innovative solutions to help the more vulnerable members of the community. It is incumbent on all relevant agencies to work together 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. Specific care packages and additional step down facilities are required to relieve the pressure on homeless services.

- The DRHE is responding to the increased demand for homeless services with additional permanent emergency accommodation and contingency capacity for individuals. This extra capacity is ensuring that the nightly demand for beds is met:-
 - 203 additional permanent beds for singles / couples are becoming operational on a phased basis from October to December 2018;
 - 130 temporary contingency beds have come into use across a range of existing services for the duration of the cold weather period;
 - 67% were male, and 17% were female, the remaining 16% were unidentified;
 - 54% of people were Irish nationals, 17% were non-Irish nationals; and 29% of individuals did not have their nationality identified.
- Services operate throughout the year to support persons who are rough sleeping. However, there is an increased emphasis on the level of service provision during the cold period, which includes a targeted response to engage people who are long-term rough sleeping and who may not be in regular contact with services. In tandem with this, the new Housing First Tender published last week includes increased Housing First targets and enhanced on-street outreach services for the Dublin Region.

In response to the outcome, Ms. Eileen Gleeson, Director, DRHE said:

“I welcome the decrease in the numbers of people sleeping rough on the Winter Count 2017. 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 are currently increasing capacity by 203 permanent beds. The essential response to address the needs of people sleeping rough is the provision of more social housing solutions for individuals and couples.”

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>