

### Monthly Report to Dublin City Councillors on Homelessness

This is the twenty-seventh report/update on homelessness in the Dublin region. This report focuses on the situation in the Dublin region at the end of **May 2022**. There are 170 more households in emergency accommodation when compared to the previous month, and 232 more individuals. This reflects an increase in both family and single adult households.

*Number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation in the **Dublin Region** – from May 2021 to May 2022, as published nationally:*

Month	Families	Adults in Families	Children	Singles	Total Adults	Total Individuals	Total Households
May 2022	972	1,654	2,259	3,519	5,173	7,432	4,491
April 2022	956	1,626	2,209	3,365	4,991	7,200	4,321
Mar 2022	901	1,543	2,109	3,343	4,886	6,995	4,244
Feb 2022	851	1,455	1,996	3,256	4,711	6,707	4,107
Jan 2022	821	1,386	1,928	3,194	4,580	6,508	4,015
Dec 2021	802	1,353	1,891	3,133	4,486	6,377	3,935
Nov 2021	815	1,364	1,930	3,204	4,568	6,498	4,019
Oct 2021	799	1,347	1,903	3,085	4,432	6,335	3,884
Sep 2021	752	1,268	1,806	3,019	4,287	6,093	3,771
Aug 2021	723	1,225	1,710	2,995	4,220	5,930	3,718
July 2021	700	1,187	1,657	3,033	4,220	5,877	3,733
June 2021	702	1,025	1,684	3,024	4,069	5,753	3,726
May 2021	688	1,025	1,659	3,029	4,054	5,713	3,717

## 1. Family Homelessness

In Dublin at the end of May 2022, there were **972** families in emergency accommodation. 972 represents an increase of **16** on the April 2022 number, and an increase of **284** when compared with May 2021 when there were **688** families in emergency accommodation.

The number of children residing in emergency accommodation at the end of May was **2,259**. This is an increase of **50** when compared to the April 2022 figure and **600** more than the May 2021 figure of **1,659**.

### 1.1. Use of Commercial Hotels:

In line with the uptick in family homelessness, there has been an increase in the numbers of families using commercial hotels. By the end of May 2022, there were **177** families residing in commercial hotels. This compares with **90** in May 2021, an increase of **87** families. The highest level was in March 2017, when the number of families in commercial hotels reached **871**.

Non-contract accommodation (previously known as self-accommodation) is now booked via DRHE. We are working with the other Local Authorities to develop alternatives to hotels with exits to housing the preferred option, followed by NGO-run Supported Temporary Emergency accommodation and contracted accommodation, where there are no available housing options.

There is still space for smaller families in supported accommodation but we are often reliant on commercial accommodation for larger family sizes or in locations where there are no/limited alternatives.

### 1.2. New Family presentations – May 2022:

**64** families entered emergency accommodation for the first time in May 2022. This represents a decrease of 16 on April 2022. The table below shows family presentations for the previous 12 months.

May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022
62	78	64	78	64	66	64	40	74	80	91	80

### 1.3. New Family Presentations – Demographic information and reasons for presentation to Homeless Services

Citizenship	Irish	UK	EU/ EEA	Non EU	Total
May 2022	32 (50%)	0 (0%)	14 (22%)	18 (28%)	<b>64 (100%)</b>

Below are the presenting reasons to aid understanding of the drivers of homelessness:

Reason for Homelessness	May	% of total
NOT	31	48%

Family Breakdown	14	22%
Asked to leave friends – Sofa Surfing	6	9%
Domestic Violence	3	5%
No previous address in Ireland	2	3%
Family re-unification	2	3%
Relationship breakdown	2	3%
Other	2	3%
Victim of anti-social behaviour	1	2%
Leaving Direct Provision	1	2%

**Presented to Local Authority:** DCC- 29, DLRCC – 4, FCC – 11, SDCC – 20

#### 1.4. Prevention - Family Homelessness

In May 2022, **46 families** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through the HHAP Scheme (41) and Social Housing (5)\*. This prevention figure does not include tenancies protected by the (DRHE funded) Threshold Tenancy Protection Service or other prevention services.

*\*Additional social housing prevention are made through rehousing of tenants whose landlords are exiting the Rental Accommodation Scheme or where a purchase has been made under Tenant in Situ Scheme on the grounds of homelessness prevention.*

#### 1.5. Families – Exit to Tenancies

In May 2022, **38 families** exited emergency accommodation into new tenancies. 16 moved to HAP and 22 to Social Housing tenancies. The table below shows family exits for the previous 12 months.

May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022
78	54	45	34	42	24	48	46	35	31	41	25

For each family that left emergency accommodation to a tenancy in May, 1.7 families entered emergency accommodation.

#### 1.6. Support to Families

Residents in family hubs/Supported Temporary Accommodation receive onsite support in NGO run accommodation. Families in private operated emergency facilities (PEAs) receive in-reach housing advice/social support from Focus Ireland and DRHE teams, as well as access to services provided by the HSE and TUSLA.

## 2. Single Adult Homelessness

There were **3,519** single adults in emergency accommodation at the end of May 2022. This represents an increase on last month (154). This figure was **3,029** for May 2021.

### 2.1. New Single Adult Presentations – May 2022

The number of single adults presenting as homeless and using emergency accommodation for the first time was **181** in May 2022. This represents an increase of **16** on the previous month. The table below shows the new single adult presentations over the previous 12 months.

May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022
154	171	156	171	167	140	184	126	172	162	179	165

### 2.2. New Single Adult Presentations – Demographic Information and Reasons for Presentation to Homeless Services

35 of the new single adult presentations were related to private rented issues, 54 related to family circumstances, and 92 were for other reasons.

Citizenship	Irish	EU/ EEA	Non EU	UK	Total
May 2022	87 (48%)	51 (28%)	40 (22%)	3 (2%)	181 (100%)

There has been adequate capacity for single males but new services for single adult females and couples will be needed, as accommodation options for both cohorts are at capacity.

### 2.3. Prevention – Single Adult Homelessness

In May 2022, **50 single adults** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through HHAP (26), Social Housing (19) and LTA (5). This is additional to tenancies protected by the (DRHE funded) Threshold Tenancy Protection Service and other prevention services. In DCC, these lettings include those to Older Persons at risk of homelessness as prioritised under the changes to the adopted 2018 Allocations Policy.

### 2.4. Single Adult Homeless – Exit to Tenancies

**49 single adults** exited to tenancies in May 2022: **14** (HAP), **31** (AHB/LA), and **4** (LTA). The table below shows exits of single adults to tenancies for the previous 12 months.

May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022
105	68	75	81	66	49	46	43	47	53	55	40

For each single adult that left emergency accommodation to a tenancy in May, 3.7 single adults entered emergency accommodation.

### 2.5. Housing Support Officers and Other Supports to Private operated facilities (PEA)

Housing Support Officers visit private emergency accommodation facilities to give housing support. In-reach health and addiction services are provided for by the HSE. In partnership with the DRHE, the HSE has commenced a training programme for staff in Private Emergency Accommodation.

### 3. Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP):

The Homeless HAP Scheme continues to be a key response to homelessness. DRHE Housing Support Officers and Place-Finders, as well as NGO staff, assist households to move out of emergency accommodation or prevent them from entering in the first place. 97 new Homeless HAP tenancies were sourced in May 2022.

#### ***Breakdown of family type and previous accommodation of those accessing HHAP in May:***

- 5 Family leaving hotels - Private Emergency Accommodation
- 11 Family leaving supported emergency accommodation
- 41 Families who did not use emergency accommodation (Prevention)
- 5 Singles/Couples leaving Private Emergency Accommodation
- 8 Singles/Couples leaving supported emergency accommodation
- 1 Singles/Couples leaving Own Front Door (OFD) Accommodation
- 26 Singles/Couples who did not use emergency accommodation (Prevention)

### 4. Duration accessing emergency accommodation:

#### *4.1. Families – Detailed Analysis of Duration in Services*

<b>Duration in EA – May 2022 (as at **/05/2022)</b>	<b>Total Families</b>	<b>%</b>
24+ months	145	15%
18-24months	73	8%
12-18 months	79	8%
6-12 months	240	25%
6 months or less	420	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>957*</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* This figure differs to the 972 figure for May because it is calculated using a point in time. The monthly family figure is calculated by counting all families using emergency accommodation over the final week of each month.

The percentage of families in the 0-6 and 6-12 month categories has increased compared with the same month last year, while the percentage of families in the 18-24 months and 24+ months categories has decreased slightly, reflecting a concerted effort to target families experiencing long term homelessness.

#### 4.2. Single Adults – Duration in Services

<b>Duration in EA – May 2022</b>	<b>Total Single Adults</b>	<b>%</b>
24+ months	544	16%
18-24months	197	6%
12-18 months	278	8%
6-12 months	639	19%
6 months or less	1,731	51%
<b>Total Adults (Singles)</b>	<b>3,389</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 5. Housing First

Housing First in the Dublin Region is provided by Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT) on behalf of the DRHE. As at 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022, PMVT were working with over 560 individuals across the Greater Dublin area. There were a total of 403 unique individuals in active Housing First tenancies with a retention rate of 86.8%. 8 tenancies were created in May 2022: 6 DCC; 1 FCC; and 1 SDCC.

#### 6. Rise in Homelessness

The DRHE welcomes the Minister's recent announcement in relation to HAP discretion and particularly the equalization of the 1 bedroom rate for singles and couples.

The 2022-2026 Homeless Action Plan will be going to the Councils of the 4 Dublin Local Authorities in the coming weeks for adoption following extensive review and consultation.

#### **Mary Hayes**

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**June 2022**

**Website: [www.homelessdublin.ie](http://www.homelessdublin.ie)      Twitter: [@homelessDublin](https://twitter.com/homelessDublin) and [@housingdcc](https://twitter.com/housingdcc)**

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**Homeless FREEPHONE 1800 707 707; for access to Emergency Accommodation out of hours service for the Dublin Region.**

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