

## Monthly Report to Dublin City Councillors – Covid-19 and Homelessness

This is the twenty-first report/update on homelessness in the Dublin region that we have issued since the onset of Covid-19 early last year. This report focuses on the situation in the Dublin Region at the end of **November 2021**. There are **135** more households in emergency accommodation when compared to the previous month, and **163** more individuals. This reflects an increase in both families and single adult households.

*Number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation in the **Dublin Region** – from November 2020 to November 2021, as published nationally:*

Month	Families	Adults in Families	Children	Singles	Total Adults	Total Individuals	Total Households
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
April 2021	699	1,047	1,719	3,040	4,087	5,806	3,739
Mar 2021	681	1,020	1,669	3,073	4,093	5,762	3,754
Feb 2021	716	1,083	1,760	3,046	4,129	5,889	3,762
Jan 2021	742	1,121	1,823	3,054	4,175	5,998	3,796

Dec 2020	755	1,131	1,864	3,027	4,158	6,022	3,782
Nov 2020	783	1,150	1,914	3,093	4,243	6,157	3,876

## 1. Family Homelessness

In Dublin at the end of November 2021, there were **815** families in emergency accommodation. The figure for November represents an increase of **16** on the October 2021 number, and an increase of **32** families when compared to November 2020, when there were **783** families in emergency accommodation.

The number of children residing in emergency accommodation at the end of November was **1,930**. This is an increase of **27** on the October 2021 figure; the overall trend has been downwards since September 2019, when the figure reached **2,872**. It also represents a small increase of **16** when compared to November 2020, when there were **1,914** children in emergency accommodation.

### 1.1. Reducing the Use of Commercial Hotels:

At the end of November, there were **112** families residing in commercial hotels. In November 2020, the number was **204**. This is a reduction of **92** families. The highest number was in March 2017 when the number of families in commercial hotels reached **871**. In relation to the **112** families, this is broken down between contracted hotels (26) and non-contract emergency accommodation (86).

At its highest point in 2018, there were **584** households availing of SA. At the end of November 2021, there were **86** households, which although a reduction from the start of 2021 (**110**) doubled in the latter half of the year. Families no longer self-source commercial hotels but when there is not enough capacity in contracted PEAs or hubs/STA then we arrange a bed rate with a commercial operator. Bookings are renewed monthly until we a suitable alternative opens up or the family is housed. The main reasons we retain non-contract emergency accommodation are to address a lack of alternative provision in a specific area and/or to access room configurations for larger family sizes. **12** of the **86** families are placed by DCC with the remaining **74** placed by FCC, SDCC or DLRCC.

### 1.2. New Family presentations - November 2021:

**64** families entered emergency accommodation for the first time in November 2021. The table below shows family presentations for the previous 12 months.

Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021
56	60	54	47	53	79	62	78	64	78	64	66	64

### 1.3. New Family Presentations – Nationality and reasons for homelessness

Citizenship	Irish	UK	EU/ EEA	Non EU	Total
Nov 2021	44%	0%	25%	31%	64

22 of the new family presentations related to private rented issues, 16 were related to relationship breakdowns, 11 were related to overcrowding, 7 were related to family circumstances, 7 were related to no income source and 1 related to domestic violence.

#### 1.4. Prevention - Family Homelessness

In November 2021, **80 families** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through the HHAP Scheme (66) and Social Housing tenancies (14). The prevention figure does not include tenancies protected by the (DRHE funded) Threshold Tenancy Protection Service or other prevention services.

#### 1.5. Families – Exit to Tenancies

In November 2021, **48 families** exited emergency accommodation into new tenancies. 27 moved to HAP and 21 to Social Housing.

#### 1.6. Support to Families

Residents in family hubs receive onsite support and families in private operated emergency facilities (PEAs) receive housing advice and social support from NGO/DRHE Housing teams as well as in-reach support from HSE and TUSLA. Support to Family PEAs comes from a combination of Focus Ireland's Family Hat Team and DRHE Housing Support Officers. There is also inreach by HSE and TUSLA fund Family Support Workers on the Focus Ireland team.

## 2. Single Adult Homelessness

The numbers of single adults experiencing homelessness continues to rise. There were **3,204** single adults in emergency accommodation at the end of November. This was an increase of 119 on the October figures. Some of this uptick relates to greater uptake of beds during the cold weather period but there was an uptick in new presentations also.

### 2.1. New Single Adult Presentations – November 2021

The number of single adults presenting as homeless and using emergency accommodation for the first time has remained high, the number in November was **184**. This represents an increase of **44** on the previous month and an increase of **68** on November 2020.

Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021
116	133	149	126	148	137	154	171	156	171	167	140	184

## 2.2. New Single Adult Presentations – Demographic Information and Reasons for Homelessness

Citizenship	Irish	EU/ EEA	Non EU	UK	Total singles
Nov 2021	55%	25%	20%	0%	184

40 of the new single adult presentations were related to relationship breakdowns, 48 related to private rented issues, 18 related to family circumstances, 11 related to overcrowding, 42 related to no source of income, 1 related to being the victim of anti-social behaviour, 8 related to leaving an institution and 16 were for other reasons.

We continue to manage presentations from other counties and from other countries. In cases where the person has access to better outcomes in their local authority of origin we liaise with the Local Authority, the Outreach Team and the individual to achieve the best outcome. We added additional capacity for the Winter period but the number of available beds on a given night has reduced considerably.

## 2.3. Prevention – Single Adult Homelessness

In November 2021, **80 single adults** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through HHAP (40), Social Housing (30) and LTA (10). This is additional to tenancies protected by the (DRHE funded) Threshold Tenancy Protection Service and other prevention services. In DCC these include Older Persons at risk of homelessness as prioritised for housing under the changes to the adopted 2018 Scheme of lettings priorities.

## 2.4. Single Adult Homeless – Exit to Tenancies

**46 single adults** exited to tenancies in November 2021: **16** (HAP), **27** (AHB/LA) and **3** (LTA).

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

The efforts to improve the range of supports to single adults in PEAs, either through Local Authority Housing Support Officers or visiting support teams from HSE and NGO teams continues. There has been an increased focus on health and addiction services provided on an in-reach basis. It is welcome to have floating supports more widely available across PEAs, gradually expanding the opportunities for health or housing interventions and case management.

The HSE is commencing an extensive training programme for the Private Emergency Accommodation facilities managers and staff.

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

The Homeless HAP Scheme has continued to operate successfully, with our Housing Support Officers and Place-Finders assisting households to move out of emergency accommodation. **149** new Homeless HAP tenancies were sourced in November 2021.

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

- 8 Families leaving hotels - Private Emergency Accommodation
- 19 Families leaving Supported emergency accommodation
- 66 Families who did not use emergency accommodation (Prevention)
- 2 Singles/Couples leaving Private Emergency Accommodation
- 14 Singles/Couples leaving supported emergency accommodation
- 40 Singles/Couples who did not use emergency accommodation (Prevention)

#### 4. Duration accessing emergency accommodation:

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

Duration in EA – November 2021 (as at 30/11/2021)	Total Families	Total Adults	Number Dependents
24+ months	170	325	421
18-24months	48	88	127
12-18 months	96	169	239
6-12 months	120	194	291
6 months or less	367	564	824
<b>Total</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,902</b>

\* This figure differs to the 815 figure for November 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.

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

Duration in EA – November 2021	Total Single Adults	%
24+ months	570	19
18-24months	257	8
12-18 months	310	10
6-12 months	486	16
6 months or less	1,432	47
<b>Total Adults (Singles)</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 5. Deaths in Service

There were 2 deaths reported by homeless services during the month of November. 1 died in hospital and 1 was resident in a PEA. Reporting and analysis of homeless deaths will move to the Health Research Board.

## 6. Covid-19

As of 19<sup>th</sup> November there were **412** confirmed (cumulative) cases within Dublin Homeless Services.

## 7. Rough Sleeper Count

### Key Points from October 2021 Rough Sleeper Count:

- The number of people sleeping rough in the Dublin region has reduced from 125 individuals in April 2021 to 94 in October 2021. This is a reduction of 31 (25%).
- 11 individuals in the April 2021 count were also found in the October 2021 count.
- 2 individuals rough sleeping had an existing tenancy.
- The majority of those counted were Irish, male, and aged between 26-45 years.
- 47% of those found rough sleeping in October 2021 were using tents.
- 35% of those engaged with had an open booking for emergency accommodation on the same night of their engagement. They were no-shows at their accommodation on the night.
- 84% have been assessed as homeless by one of the four local authorities within the Dublin Region.

**Mary Hayes**

**Director**

**Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE)**

**January 2021.**



**E-mail: [www.homelessdublin.ie](http://www.homelessdublin.ie) \_\_\_\_\_ Twitter: @homelessDublin and @housingdcc**

Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) – General Enquiries - 01 222 6861

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

***Play your part and let us know if you see anyone sleeping rough. Download our free Dublin Rough Sleeper Alert app from App stores***