

Monthly Report to Dublin City Councillors on Homelessness

This is the thirty-third report/update on homelessness in the Dublin region. This report focuses on the situation in the Dublin region at the end of **November 2022**. There are 82 more households in emergency accommodation when compared to the previous month, with 117 more individuals. This reflects an increase in both families and single adult households, but predominantly in single households following the introduction of extra capacity under the Cold Weather Strategy.

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

Month	Families	Adults in Families	Children	Singles	Total Adults	Total Individuals	Total Households
Nov 2022	1,134	1,914	2,549	3,741	5,655	8,204	4,875
Oct 2022	1,120	1,885	2,529	3,673	5,558	8,087	4,793
Sep 2022	1,081	1,815	2,429	3,541	5,356	7,785	4,622
Aug 2022	1,067	1,789	2,406	3,537	5,326	7,732	4,604
July 2022	1,016	1,700	2,339	3,509	5,209	7,548	4,525
June 2022	990	1,661	2,274	3,597	5,258	7,532	4,587
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

1. Family Homelessness

In Dublin at the end of November 2022, there were **1,134** families in emergency accommodation. This is an increase of **14** on the October 2022 number, and an increase of **319** when compared with November 2021 when there were **815** families in emergency accommodation. That is a 39% increase in the number of families in emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region in the past 12 months.

The number of children residing in emergency accommodation at the end of November was **2,549**. This is an increase of **20** when compared to the October 2022 figure and **619** more than the October 2021 figure of **1,930**.

1.1. Use of Commercial Hotels:

The numbers of families residing in commercial hotels has increased. By the end of November 2022, there were **259** families using commercial hotels. This represents an increase of **8** families from **251*** in October 2022 and compares with **113** in November 2021, an increase of **146** families. The highest level was in March 2017, when the number of families in commercial hotels reached **871**.

In general, commercial hotels and Bed and Breakfast placements are booked through the DRHE, once approved by the relevant local authority. We are working across all 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.

While we generally have hub spaces for smaller families, we are often reliant on commercial accommodation for larger family sizes or in locations where there are no/limited alternatives. There are difficulties in getting accommodation to meet family size or location preference that may take a number of days to resolve. The DRHE re-issued the tender for emergency accommodation to move families out of non-contracted or hotel/B&BS. The deadline for submission is 27th January 2023.

**Our previous report stated that there were 247 families using commercial hotels in October 2022. This was a typo in our internal report and has been corrected.*

1.2. New Family Presentations – November 2022:

62 families entered emergency accommodation for the first time in November 2022. This represents an increase of 4 on October 2022. The table below shows family presentations for the previous 12 months.

Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022
64	40	74	80	91	80	64	69	79	78	63	58

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

Citizenship	Irish	EU/ EEA	Non-EU	UK	Total
November 2022	31 (50%)	14 (23 %)	16 (26%)	1 (1%)	62 (100%)

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

Reason for Homelessness	Nov-22	%
NOT	16	26%
Family Breakdown	6	10%
Domestic Violence	1	2%
No previous address in Ireland	2	3%
Relationship breakdown	19	31%
Anti-social behaviour	1	1%
Insufficient funds/Affordability	5	8%
Overcrowding	12	19%
Total	62	100%

Presented to Local Authority: DCC – 31, DLRCC – 4, FCC – 11, SDCC – 16

1.4. Prevention – Family Homelessness:

In November 2022, **42 families** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through the HHAP Scheme (38) and Social Housing (4)*. This prevention figure does not include tenancies protected by the (DRHE funded) Threshold Tenancy Protection Service or other prevention services.

**Additional social housing prevention lettings 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 that may not be included here.*

1.5. Families – Exit to Tenancies*:

In November 2022, **31 families** exited emergency accommodation into new tenancies. 12 moved to HAP, 18* to Social Housing and 1 to LTA. The table below shows family exits for the previous 12 months.

Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022
48	46	39	31	42	25	43	37	43	28	29	18

**Additional social housing exits are completed by each Local Authority, under their respective Schemes of Lettings, to homeless families coming from long-term supported accommodation or from non-Section 10-funded accommodation that may not be included here.*

To date this year **189** families have exited emergency accommodation to social housing (Local Authority/AHB) in the four Dublin Local Authorities. A further **170** families across the 4 Dublin Local Authorities moved with the assistance of HAP.

The fall in families exiting homelessness to tenancies is concerning. The number of families moving to HAP from emergency accommodation during October (6) was the lowest in at least 5 years. The

monthly average number of families exiting emergency accommodation to tenancies in 2022 remains at **33**, compared with **57** in 2021, **94** in 2020 and **95** in 2019.

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 **3,741** single adults in emergency accommodation at the end of November 2022, which represents an increase of **68** on last month. This figure was **3,204** for November 2021.

2.1. New Single Adult Presentations – November 2022:

The number of single adults presenting as homeless and using emergency accommodation for the first time was **200** in November 2022. This represents an increase of **41** on the previous month. The table below shows the new single adult presentations over the previous 12 months.

Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022
184	126	172	162	179	165	181	180	168	176	160	159

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

Citizenship	Irish	EU/EEA	Non-EU	UK	Total
November 2022	112 (56%)	44 (22%)	41 (20.5%)	3 (1.5%)	200 (100%)

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

Singles - Reason for Homelessness	Nov-22	%
Relationship breakdown	51	25.5%
Notice of Termination	31	15.5%
Family circumstances	16	8%
Newly Arrived from Abroad	15	7.5%
Insufficient Funds	13	6.5%
Unknown (has not engaged for assessment)	13	6.5%
Overcrowding	12	6%
Hospital Discharge	8	4%
Leaving Direct Provision	8	4%
Rough sleeper	8	4%

Returned from Abroad	6	3%
Moved from outside the Dublin region	4	2%
Asked to Leave by Landlord (No Notice of Termination)	3	1.5%
Leaving care	3	1.5%
Family relocation - relationship breakdown	2	1%
Victim of Anti-social behaviour	2	1%
Substance Abuse	2	1%
Prison discharge	2	1%
Domestic Violence	1	0.5%
Total	200	100%

Presented to Local Authority: DCC – 121, DLRCC – 13, FCC – 26, SDCC – 40

The DRHE put in place new capacity for singles and couples in line with the Cold Weather Strategy, which runs from November to April each year. The new accommodation was targeted at known rough sleepers in the first instance. Sourcing sufficient capacity in a context of limited move-on possibilities for single person households is a significant challenge.

2.3. Prevention – Single Adult Homelessness:

In November 2022, **38 single adults** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through HHAP (27), Social Housing (10) and LTA (1). 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.

**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.*

2.4. Single Adult Homeless – Exit to Tenancies:

28 single adults exited to tenancies in November 2022: **16** (HAP), **11** (AHB/LA), and **1** (LTA). The table below shows exits of single adults to tenancies for the previous 12 months.

Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022
46	43	49	49	54	42	56	40	44	47	41	35

To date approximately **240** single adults have left emergency accommodation to social housing (Local Authority/AHB) in the four Dublin Local Authorities. A further **174** across the 4 Dublin Local Authorities moved with the assistance of HAP.

**Additional social housing exits are completed by each Local authority, under their respective Schemes of Lettings, to homeless single households coming from long-term supported accommodation or from non-Section 10-funded accommodation, that are not included here.*

The monthly average number of singles exiting emergency accommodation to tenancies in 2022 is **44**, compared with **81** in 2021, **84** in 2020 and **48** in 2020.

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 by the HSE and an integrated Care and Case Management Team is now providing case management and clinics in private emergency accommodation across the region. In partnership with the DRHE, the HSE is running a training programme for staff in Private Emergency Accommodation.

3. Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP)

The Homeless HAP Scheme is an important tool in the 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. **93** new Homeless HAP tenancies were sourced in November 2022.

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

Previous Accommodation	Singles/Couples	Families
Leaving hotels/PEA	9	6
Leaving STA	7	6
Prevention/did not use EA	27	38
Total	43	50

4. Duration accessing emergency accommodation

4.1. Families – Detailed Analysis of Duration in Services:

Duration in EA – November 2022 (as at 30/11/2022)	Total Families	%
24+ months	178	15.6%
18-24months	69	6.4%
12-18 months	173	15.2%
6-12 months	280	24.6%
6 months or less	438	38.5%
Total	1,138*	100%

* This figure differs to the 1,134 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.

When compared to November 2021, the percentage of families in the 6-12 months, 12-18 months and 18-24 months categories has increased. The percentage of families accessing Emergency Accommodation for 6 months or less and the percentage experiencing homelessness for 24+ months has decreased.

4.2. Single Adults – Duration in Services:

Duration in EA – November 2022	Total Single Adults	%
24+ months	574	15.8%
18-24months	193	5.3%
12-18 months	440	12.1%
6-12 months	720	19.8%
6 months or less	1,704	46.9%
Total Adults (Singles)	3,631	100%

5. Housing First

Housing First in the Dublin Region is provided by Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT) on behalf of the DRHE. As of the end of November 2022, there were a total of **452** active Housing First tenancies (432 mainstream and 20 in the Criminal Justice Strand) with a retention rate of 86%. **10** Housing First tenancies were created in November 2022: DCC – 6, DLRCC – 1, FCC – 2, SDCC – 1.

6. Rough Sleeper Count - results

The Official Winter Count of people sleeping rough in the Dublin Region was carried out over the week of 7th to 13th November, 2022. A total of **91** unique individuals were confirmed as rough sleeping across the Dublin region over the week of the count. This represents a reduction of 3 persons (3%) on the same period last year, with 94 individuals found to be rough sleeping during the week-long Winter Rough Sleeper count on the week of October 25th to October 31st 2021. It is the same number as the Spring Count 2022, when 91 people were also found to be rough sleeping. The full report on the Winter 2022 Rough Sleeper count is available on our website, www.homelessdublin.ie.

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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 out free Dublin Rough Sleeper Alert app from App stores

