

Monthly Report to Dublin City Councillors on Homelessness

This is the thirty-fourth report/update on homelessness in the Dublin region. This report focuses on the situation in the Dublin region at the end of **December 2022**.

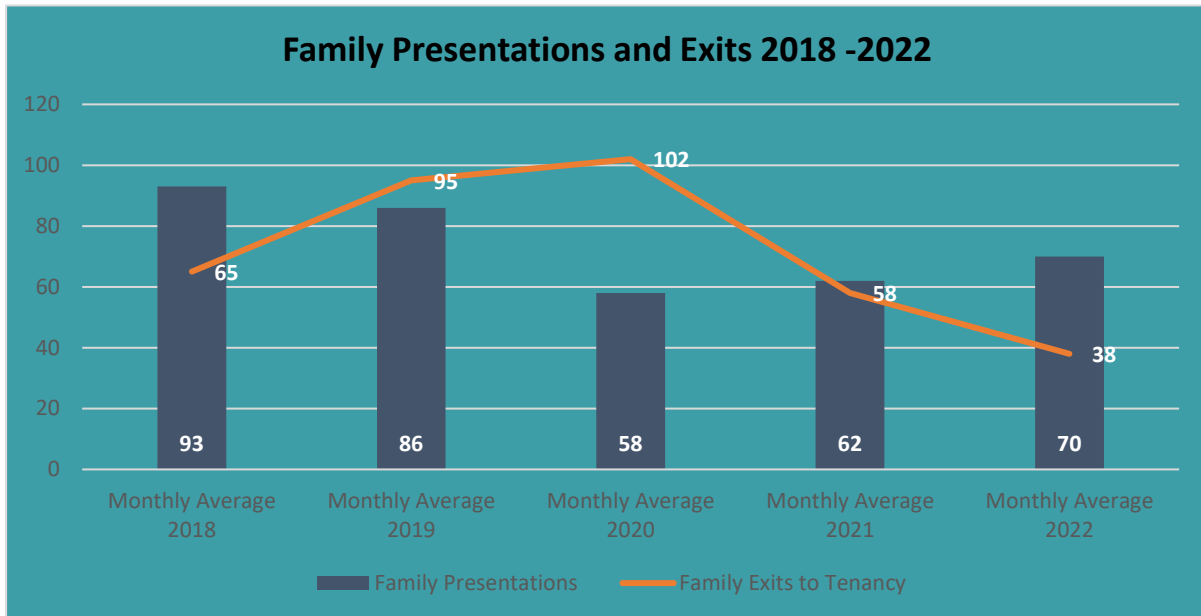
There are 106 more households in emergency accommodation when compared to the previous month, with 172 more individuals. This reflects an increase in both families and single adult households, but predominantly in single households following the introduction of extra capacity under the Cold Weather Strategy.

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

Month	Families	Adults in Families	Children	Singles	Total Adults	Total Individuals	Total Households
Dec 2022	1,148	1,960	2,583	3,833	5,793	8,376	4,981
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

1. Family Homelessness

In Dublin at the end of December 2022, there were **1,148** families in emergency accommodation. This is an increase of **14** on the November 2022 number, and an increase of **346** when compared with December 2021 when there were **802** families in emergency accommodation. This represents an increase of **43%** in family homelessness during 2022. The increase in **average monthly presentations** was marginal, from **62** in 2021 to **70** in 2022. There was a more marked fall in **average monthly exits to tenancy** from **58** in 2021 to **38** in 2022 (the lowest in 5 years).



The number of children residing in emergency accommodation at the end of November was **2,583**. This is an increase of **34** when compared to the November 2022 figure and **692** more than the December 2021 figure of **1,891**.

1.1. Use of Commercial Hotels:

The numbers of families residing in commercial hotels has increased. By the end of December 2022, there were **269** families using commercial hotels. This represents an increase of **10** families from November 2022 and compares with **114** in December 2021, an increase of **155** 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.

1.2. New Family Presentations – December 2022:

49 families entered emergency accommodation for the first time in December 2022. This represents a decrease of 13 on November 2022. The table below shows family presentations for the previous 12 months.

Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022
40	74	80	91	80	64	69	79	78	63	58	62

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

Citizenship	Irish	EU/ EEA	Non-EU	UK	Total
December 2022	21 (42.9%)	14 (28.6%)	13 (26.5%)	1 (2%)	49 (100%)

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

Reason for Homelessness	Dec-22	%
Notice Of Termination	10	20%
Family Breakdown	13	27%
Domestic Violence	4	8%
No previous address in Ireland	3	6%
Relationship breakdown	5	10%
Anti-social behaviour	1	2%
Insufficient funds/Affordability	2	4%
Overcrowding	11	23%
Total	49	100%

Presented to Local Authority: DCC – 16, DLRCC – 2, FCC – 13, SDCC – 18

* NOTs relate to valid Notices pre-moratorium where households have been over-holding or couch surfing in recent months (4), Rent Arrears (2), Breach of tenant responsibility (1), ASB (1), NOT reason not specified (1).

The 4 Domestic Violence cases were referrals from refugees.

1.4. Prevention – Family Homelessness:

In December 2022, **59 families** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through the HHAP Scheme (55) 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 December 2022, **41 families** exited emergency accommodation into new tenancies. 10 moved to HAP, 30* to Social Housing and 1 to LTA. The table below shows family exits for the previous 12 months.

Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022
46	40	32	44	29	46	44	50	31	31	24	44

**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.*

In 2022, **261** families have exited emergency accommodation to social housing (Local Authority/AHB) in the four Dublin Local Authorities. A further **188** families across the 4 Dublin Local Authorities moved with the assistance of HAP, **6** moved to LTA and **1** to RAS.

In a reconciliation exercise for 4 Dublin LAs at year-end, it was found that there were additional exits to social housing that were not inputted on PASS. The updated figures for all months of 2022 are reflected in the table above.

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 **3,833** single adults in emergency accommodation at the end of December 2022, which represents an increase of **92** on last month. This figure was **3,133** for December 2021. Single homelessness continues to increase and the rate of monthly exits to new presentations continues to be approximately 1:4.

2.1. New Single Adult Presentations – December 2022:

The number of single adults presenting as homeless and using emergency accommodation for the first time was **157** in December 2022. This represents a decrease of **43** 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	Nov 2022
184	126	172	162	179	165	181	180	168	176	160	159	200

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

Citizenship	Irish	EU/EEA	Non-EU	UK	Total
December 2022	67 (42.7%)	46 (29.3%)	35 (22.3%)	9 (5.7%)	157 (100%)

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

Singles - Reason for Homelessness	Dec-22	%
Relationship breakdown	4	3%
Notice of Termination	10	6%
Family circumstances	29	18%
Newly Arrived from Abroad	13	8%
Insufficient Funds	20	13%
Unknown (has not engaged for assessment)	9	6%
Overcrowding	20	13%
Hospital Discharge	5	3%
Leaving Direct Provision	5	3%
Rough sleeper	9	6%
Rough sleeper (Moved from Outside Dublin region)	5	3%
Left informal tenancy	2	1%
Leaving care	2	1%
Family relocation - relationship breakdown	6	4%
Emergency Placement - Did not engage	2	1%
Substance Abuse	1	1%
Post Detox	1	1%
Mental Health	1	1%
Prison discharge	2	1%
Unknown-not fully assessed	11	7%
Total	157	100%

Presented to Local Authority: DCC – 113, DLRCC – 4, FCC – 21, SDCC – 19

2.3. Prevention – Single Adult Homelessness:

In December 2022, **49 single adults** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through HHAP (29), Social Housing (18) and LTA (2). 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:

42 single adults exited to tenancies in December 2022: 10 (HAP), 27 (AHB/LA), and 5 (LTA). The table below shows exits of single adults to tenancies for the previous 12 months.

Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022
43	48	49	52	39	48	33	36	44	40	34	39

**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.*

In 2022, approximately **332** single adults have left emergency accommodation to social housing (Local Authority/AHB/LTA/RAS) in the four Dublin Local Authorities. A further **170** across the 4 Dublin Local Authorities moved with the assistance of HAP to the Private Rented sector.

The monthly average number of singles exiting emergency accommodation to tenancies in 2022 was **42**, 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 (PACT) provides 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 a critical 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. **104** new Homeless HAP tenancies were sourced in December 2022.

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

Previous Accommodation	Singles/Couples	Families
Leaving hotels/PEA	7	2
Leaving STA	3	8
Prevention/did not use EA	29	55
Total	39	65

4. Duration accessing emergency accommodation

4.1. Families – Detailed Analysis of Duration in Services:

Duration in EA – December 2022 (as at 31/12/2022)	Total Families	%
24+ months	187	16.5%
18-24months	80	7%
12-18 months	150	13%
6-12 months	306	27%
6 months or less	414	36.5%
Total	1,137*	100%

* This figure differs to the 1,148 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 December 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 – December 2022	Total Single Adults	%
24+ months	580	15%
18-24months	209	6%
12-18 months	435	12%
6-12 months	756	20%
6 months or less	1,734	47%
Total Adults (Singles)	3,714	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 December 2022, there were a total of **462** active Housing First tenancies with a retention rate of 86%. **12** Housing First tenancies were created in December 2022: DCC – 4, DLRCC – 2, FCC – 3, SDCC – 3.

6. Conclusion

While we would like to be in a position to reduce our use of emergency accommodation, we have ongoing demand given the scarce availability of affordable rental. It is extremely challenging to source new accommodation; it is more expensive and there is less of it available. 2022 saw a substantial drop in overall household exits to tenancies. The **monthly average for exits to tenancy** (all households) was **80** compared with **139** in 2021. The most pronounced decline is the exits supported by Housing Assistance Payment (HAP). **1,138** households exited homelessness to tenancies supported by Homeless HAP in 2021 and by 2022, this number had fallen to **358**. On a more positive note, rough sleeping numbers have not increased in line with the overall increase in single adult homelessness and in total **1,147** households were **prevented** from entering homelessness in the Dublin Region in 2022 (HAP 906, Social Housing 206 and Supported Accommodation 35).

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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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