

Monthly Report on Homelessness in the Dublin Region

This report focuses on the situation in the Dublin region (inclusive of the 4 Dublin Local Authorities) at the end of **March 2024**. There are **64** more households in emergency accommodation when compared to the previous month, with **80** more individuals. This reflects an increase in families and an increase in single adult households.

*Number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation in the **Dublin Region** – from March 2023 to March 2024, as published nationally:*

Month	Families	Adults in Families	Children	Singles	Total Adults	Total Individuals	Total Households
Mar 2024	1,453	2,512	3,181	4,487	6,999	10,180	5,940
Feb 2024	1,457	2,516	3,165	4,419	6,935	10,100	5,876
Jan 2024	1,423	2,429	3,083	4,385	6,814	9,897	5,808
Dec 2023	1,400	2,424	3,020	4,330	6,754	9,774	5,730
Nov 2023	1,445	2,474	3,116	4,316	6,790	9,906	5,761
Oct 2023	1,419	2,415	3,060	4,238	6,653	9,713	5,657
Sep 2023	1,377	2,340	2,966	4,085	6,425	9,391	5,462
Aug 2023	1,370	2,339	2,964	3,966	6,305	9,269	5,336
July 2023	1,347	2,302	2,908	4,274	6,576	9,484	5,621
June 2023	1,313	2,232	2,841	4,192	6,424	9,265	5,505
May 2023	1,295	2,217	2,802	4,141	6,358	9,160	5,436
Apr 2023	1,263	2,160	2,722	4,128	6,288	9,010	5,391
Mar 2023	1,203	2,065	2,638	4,072	6,137	8,775	5,275

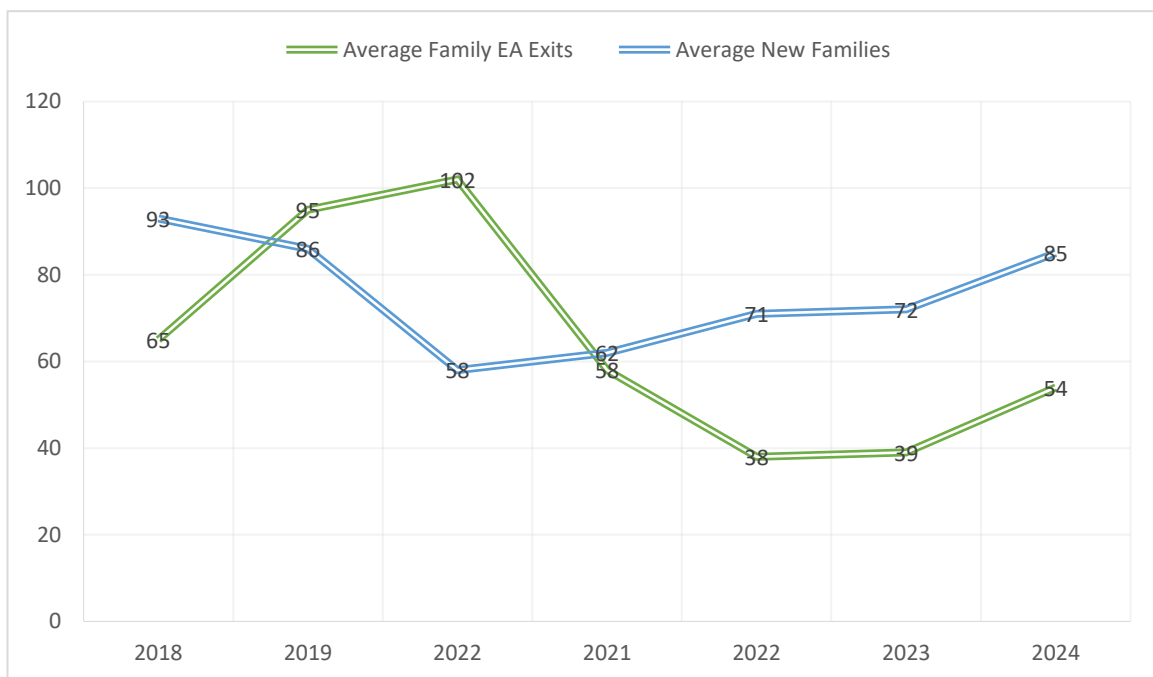
1. Family Homelessness

In Dublin at the end of March 2024, there were **1,453** families in emergency accommodation. This is a decrease of **4** on the February 2024 number, and an increase of **250** when compared with March 2023 when there were **1,203** families in emergency accommodation. That is a **21%** 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 March was **3,181**. This is an increase of **16** when compared to the February 2024 figure and **543** more than the March 2023 figure of **2,638**.

New family presentations have averaged at **85** per month for the first three months of 2024. The average number of families leaving homelessness to a tenancy is **54** per month. **Fewer families exiting homeless accommodation to tenancies is the main driver of the increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in the Dublin region and not an increase in presentations.**

Table 1: Average presentations and exits (families)



1.1. Use of Commercial Hotels

The numbers of families residing in commercial hotels has increased. By the end of February 2024, there were **438** families using commercial hotels. This represents an increase of **1** family from **437** in February 2024 and compared with **317** in March 2023, an increase of **121** families. The highest level was in March 2017, when the number of families in commercial hotels reached **871**. The DRHE is entering contracts with some of these facilities to reduce our vulnerability to shortages during times of peak demand.

1.2. New Family Presentations – March 2024

75 families entered emergency accommodation for the first time in March 2024. This is a decrease of 3 on the number of families that entered for the first time in February 2024. The table below shows family presentations for the previous 12 months.

Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sept 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
84	79	81	74	75	82	82	63	85	43	101	78

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

Citizenship	Irish	EU/ EEA	Non-EU	UK	Total
March 2024	49 (65%)	11 (15%)	15 (20%)	0 (0%)	75 (100%)

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

Family Reason for Homelessness	Mar 2024	%
NOTs	31	41%
Relationship Breakdown – parent/partner/other	18	24%
Overcrowding	7	9%
Leaving Informal Tenancy	4	5%
Domestic Violence	3	4%
Newly Arrived from Abroad	2	3%
Local Authority NOT - Arrears	2	3%
Family Reunification	1	1%
Other – Fire Damage	1	1%
Left without NOT	1	1%
Illegal Eviction	1	1%
Family Circumstances	1	1%
Leaving Care	1	1%
Outside region	1	1%
Victim of Antisocial Behaviour	1	1%
Total	75	97%

Notice of Terminations

20 – Property to be sold, 3 – Landlord’s own or family home, 3 – unsuitable accommodation, 2 – Other (including Part 4 tenancies), 1 – first six months, 1 - Rent Arrears & 1 – Unknown

The Tenant in Situ scheme is used where possible by every Local Authority to avoid homelessness. ***It is very important tenants with a Notice of Termination engage with their Local Authority at an early stage.***

Presented to Local Authority: DCC – 40, DLRCC – 6, FCC – 9, SDCC – 20

1.4. Prevention – Family Homelessness

In March 2024, **96** families were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through the HHAP Scheme (60) and Social Housing (36)*. 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 March 2024, **80** families exited emergency accommodation into new tenancies. 21 moved to HAP and 59* to Social Housing. The table below shows family exits for the previous 12 months.

Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sept 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
32	21	42	30	33	39	50	33	50	76	43	38

****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 the first three months of this year, **161** families in the Dublin Region have exited emergency accommodation to housing: Local Authority (76) / AHB (33) / LTA (2) / HAP (48), RAS (1) & HAA (1). The number of families moving to HAP from emergency accommodation was **21** in March, which was an increase of 9 on the previous month.

The monthly average number of families exiting emergency accommodation to tenancies in 2024 is **54**, compared with **39** in 2023, **33** in 2022, **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 NGO and DRHE teams, as well as access to services provided by the HSE and TUSLA.

2. Single Adult Homelessness

There were **4,487** single adults in emergency accommodation at the end of March 2024, which represents an increase of **68** on last month. This figure was **4,072** for March 2023. That is a 10% increase in single adults in emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region over the past 12 months.

2.1. New Single Adult Presentations – March 2024

The number of single adults presenting as homeless and using emergency accommodation for the first time was **160** in March 2024. This represents an increase of **4** on the previous month. The table below shows the new single adult presentations over the previous 12 months.

Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sept 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
189	132	166	184	157	155	173	172	194	145	216	156

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

Citizenship	Irish	EU/EEA	Non-EU	UK	Total
March 2024	81 (51%)	27 (17%)	49 (31%)	3 (2%)	160 (100%)

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

Singles - Reason for Homelessness	Mar 24	%
Leaving Direct Provision	29	17%
NOT's	20	12%
Rough Sleeping	14	9%
Left Informal Tenancy	13	8%
Overcrowding	13	8%
Relationship breakdown (Partner)	11	6%
Leaving Hospital/Treatment	11	6%
Relationship breakdown (Parent)	8	5%
Family Circumstances	7	4%
Newly arrived from abroad - less than 6 months	4	3%
Insufficient Funds / Affordability of P.R. - Private Rented	4	3%
Release From Prison	4	3%
Presenting from Outside region	3	2%
Relationship breakdown (Family)	3	2%
Local Authority NOT	3	2%

Leaving Childcare Services	3	2%
Returning From Abroad	1	1%
Placed on Humanitarian Grounds	2	1%
Domestic Violence	1	1%
Illegal Eviction	2	1%
Property Repossessed	1	1%
Victim of Antisocial Behaviour	1	1%
Family Reunification	1	1%
Other: Left PR without NTQ	1	1%
Total	160	99%

Presented to Local Authority: DCC – 107, DLRCC – 8, FCC – 13, SDCC – 32

2.3. Prevention – Single Adult Homelessness

In March 2024, **87 single adults** were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through HAP (61) and Social Housing (26)*. This is additional to tenancies protected by the (DRHE funded) Threshold Tenancy Protection Service and 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.*

2.4. Single Adult Homeless – Exit to Tenancies

77 single adults exited to tenancies in March 2024: 27 (HAP), 46 (AHB/LA)* and 4 (LTA). The table below shows exits of single adults to tenancies for the previous 12 months.

Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sept 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
48	33	44	43	55	36	43	27	50	85	46	58

**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 2024 is **60**, compared with **46** in 2023, **44** in 2022, **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.

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. **169** new Homeless HAP tenancies were sourced in March 2024.

Breakdown of household type and previous accommodation of those accessing HHAP in March 2024:

Previous Accommodation	Singles/Couples	Families
Leaving hotels/PEA	23	10
Leaving STA	4	11
Prevention/did not use EA	61	60
Total	88	81

4. Duration accessing emergency accommodation

4.1. Families – Detailed Analysis of Duration in Services

Duration in EA – March 2024 (as at 31/03/2024)	Total Families	%
24+ months	346	24%
18-24months	174	12%
12-18 months	205	14%
6-12 months	279	19%
6 months or less	441	31%
Total	1,445*	100%

* This figure differs to the 1,453 figure for March 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 March 2023, the percentage of families in the 6 months or less, the 6-12 months and the 12-18 months categories has decreased. The percentage of families in the 18-24 months and 24+ months' categories has increased.

4.2. Single Adults – Duration in Services

Duration in EA – March 2024 (as at 31/03/2024)	Total Single Adults	%
24+ months	798	18%
18-24months	367	8%
12-18 months	484	11%
6-12 months	773	18%
6 months or less	1,939	44%
Total Adults (Singles)	4,361	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 March 2024, there were a total of **520** active Housing First tenancies. **7** Housing First tenancies were created in March 2024: DCC – 4, DLRCC – 1, FCC – 0, SDCC – 2.

6. Commentary

The 4 Dublin Local Authorities meet regularly and with the support of the DHLGH we are focussed on housing solutions for larger families, households in emergency accommodation over a long duration, reviewing the range of options available and ensuring all teams are taking a proactive housing-led approach.

Tenant in situ remains available to us to prevent homelessness; this and all options available to support households to exit homelessness are under constant review. Exits are showing an increase in **Quarter 1, 2024** compared to last year both in HAP and Social Housing. Overall in the first 3 months of 2024 **163** families and **184** singles exited to a tenancy compared with the 2023 average of 117 families and 140 singles per quarter. We will be trying to build on this momentum throughout the year.

A strong and consistent approach to improving physical standards in emergency accommodation has been taken as well as close collaboration with the HSE to improve care standards in Private Emergency accommodation. The Q4 2023 Complaints and Independent Inspectorate reports are available on the DRHE website.

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March 2024

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