

26 February 2024

**Our Ref: FOI 302**

## Request

We received your request on 10 February 2024 for the following information:

*Please provide the mean points for housing allocation of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom properties in the Lisburn area from 01/01/23-01/01/24.*

*Please break this down by area of choice within the Lisburn catchment similarly to a previous request:*

*[https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/average\\_points\\_on\\_allocation\\_of#incoming-2540289](https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/average_points_on_allocation_of#incoming-2540289)*

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

## Our response

The table below provides data on the number of allocations in the Lisburn & Castlereagh Area Office from 01/10/22 to 30/09/23, by Common Landlord Area (CLA) and Number of Allocated bedrooms. This response is based on the most recently published data and therefore does not include data for the period from 01/10/23 to 01/01/24; an adjustment has been made to provide data for 12 consecutive months. The table should be viewed in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

<b>Table 1: Number of Allocations in the Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh Area Office 01/10/22 - 30/09/23, by Common Landlord Area (CLA) and Number of Allocated bedrooms</b>				
<b>CLA</b>	<b>No. of Allocated bedrooms</b>	<b>No. of Allocations</b>	<b>Mean Pts at the Point of Allocation</b>	<b>Median Pts at the Point of Allocation</b>
Aghalee	2	<10	163.0	163.0
Ballybeen	1	12	176.5	154.0
	2	26	149.5	140.0
	3	<10		
Ballycrune	3	<10		

<b>Table 1: Number of Allocations in the Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh Area Office 01/10/22 - 30/09/23, by Common Landlord Area (CLA) and Number of Allocated bedrooms</b>				
Ballymacoss	1	14	130.1	138.0
	2	37	154.7	156.0
	3	23	190.7	182.0
Bests Hill	3	<10		
Brooklands	1	<10		
	2	<10	147.0	147.0
	3	<10		
Carryduff	1	<10		
	2	<10	148.0	140.0
	3	<10		
Culcavey	3	<10		
Dromara	2	<10		
Galway Drive/Mews	1	<10		
	2	<10	130.0	130.0
Greenwood	1	<10	135.0	132.0
	2	<10		
	3	<10		
Hilden	1	<10	150.8	140.0
	2	13	165.8	152.0
	3	<10	174.7	174.0
Hill Street	1	<10	152.7	162.0
	2	<10		
Hillhall	2	<10	150.0	154.0
	3	<10	139.2	140.0
Hillsborough	1	<10		
	2	<10		
	3	<10		
Knockmore	1	<10	138.0	136.0
	2	<10	177.3	167.0
	3	<10		
Lambeg	1	<10		
	2	<10	140.0	161.0
	3	<10		
Long Kesh/Eglantine	1	<10		
	3	<10		
Maze	3	<10		
Milltown Derriaghy	3	<10		
Moatview Park	1	<10		
	2	<10		
	3	<10		
Moirá	1	<10		
	2	<10	164.7	210.0
Moneyrea	1	<10		
	2	<10	129.0	129.0

<b>Table 1: Number of Allocations in the Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh Area Office 01/10/22 - 30/09/23, by Common Landlord Area (CLA) and Number of Allocated bedrooms</b>				
Newtownbreda	2	<10	158.8	171.0
Old Warren	1	12	137.0	142.0
	2	17	153.8	154.0
	3	14	162.6	161.0
Ravarnette	3	<10		
Seymour Hill & Conway	1	10	130.4	129.0
	2	26	152.5	159.0
	3	<10		
Tonagh/Manor/Causeway End	1	14	156.3	158.0
	2	16	184.0	180.0
	3	<10		
Wallace Park	2	<10		
Warren	1	<10		
	2	11	116.4	152.0
	3	<10		
<b>Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh Area Office Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>124.7</b>	<b>128.0</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>153.8</b>	<b>154.0</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>178.2</b>	<b>173.0</b>
<b>N. Ireland Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1806</b>	<b>127.5</b>	<b>130.0</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>153.3</b>	<b>150.0</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>1026</b>	<b>169.2</b>	<b>170.0</b>

#### Notes:

- This response is based on the most recently published data.
- Allocations data includes allocations to both Housing Executive and housing association properties.
- When a question of “average waiting times” or “average points” is asked MEAN and MEDIAN averages are provided.

Reasons for this include:

The MEAN is the arithmetic average and as a statistic can often be unreliable, having been skewed by significant outliers i.e. applicants who have been on the waiting list for a number of years.

This degree of skewing makes the arithmetic average, the MEAN, unreliable. Therefore, following expert advice on this matter a methodology that utilises the MEDIAN (a measure of central tendency) as a more reliable indicator in relation to Waiting Lists and Allocations is also provided.

- UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 - It is important to note the GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018 regarding the potential risk of identifying individuals and individual households. Guidance from NISRA suggests that equality monitoring information

should not be disclosed in sensitive cases where individuals or individual households could be identified. Also, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) 'Anonymisation: Managing Data Protection Risk' Code of Practice states 'where less than 10 responses have been given to an answer that identifies something factual, all variables relating to that question have been suppressed'. However, 'it should be noted that attitudinal questions are not bound by this rule, in addition to responses of 'Don't know', 'Refused', 'Other' or similar'. As the information provided is considered sensitive, some statistical disclosure controls may have been placed on the tables with the omission of data in cases where there are less than ten Applicants.

- <10 are cases where numbers are less than 10.
- Further in the interests of Data Protection we have had to remove the points for some categories where there was less than 10 allocations and where the points were substantially different (we used a deviation of 20%) from the overall N. Ireland mean average points.

Waiting List figures are produced quarterly and so the most up to date figures are as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. However, Waiting List Statistics are included in the Department for Communities Housing Bulletin which is designated as a National Statistic.

Section 13(1) of the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007 states that 'the person producing any official statistics which are designated under section 12 as National Statistics must ensure that the Code of Practice for Statistics under section 10 continues to be complied with in relation to those statistics.' Provision of the requested figures before publication of the DfC Housing Bulletin in which the dataset from which they would be drawn is published would be a failure to comply with the Code in respect of parts [T3.3 and T3.4](#).

The December 2023 figures are therefore currently exempt from disclosure under Section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act - disclosure prohibited by other legislation.

This concludes our response.