

Report to Housing SPC

Date: Thursday 23rd November 2017

Item No. 4

Homelessness Update

Emergency Accommodation Usage in the Dublin Region – September 18th-25th, 2017

Over the week September 18th – 25th, 2017, a total of 3,537 adults and 3,124 dependents accessed emergency accommodation in the Dublin Region. The number of families accounted for within these figures is 1,138, this is a decrease of 8 on August 2017.

Adults (incl. adults in family units)	Families	Dependents
3,537	1,138	3,124

Prevention

The Prevention team continued to engage with families and singles presenting as homeless to explore options to prevent an episode of homelessness taking place. Furthermore work is continuing on securing Homeless Housing Assistance Payment tenancies in the Dublin Region. The number of households (adults & families) prevented from entering homelessness from January 2017 to September 2017 is set out in the table below.

Month	НАР	LA/AHB/LTA/Housing Agency Acquisition	Private Rented	TOTAL TENANCIES
Jan-17	12	6	0	18
Feb-17	26	16	0	42
Mar-17	158	23	0	181
Apr-17	121	11	0	132
May-17	112	10	0	122
Jun-17	90	11	0	101
Jul-17	111	18	0	129
Aug-17	114	14	1	129
Sep-17	101	9	0	110
Total	845	118	1	964

Prevention – Families

In September a total of 89 new families presenting to homelessness services in the Dublin Region entered emergency accommodation. In addition, there were 60 families who were prevented from entering homeless accommodation as they were placed directly into tenancies.

Supports provided when in Emergency Accommodation

When a person enters emergency accommodation it is essential that they continue to be supported as appropriate. This entails being provided with a key worker, who works with each individual to prepare a support plan and access to appropriate supports. The table below outlines the number of people accessing services along with the number of people with a support plan for Quarter 3 2017.

	Number of Adults accessing services Q3 2017	Number with a Support Plan
Supported Temporary Accommodation (Service Provider on-site 24 hours)	1,875	1,244
Supported Temporary Accommodation (Service Provider on-site night-only)	1,108	524
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (Service Provider on-site: low support needs)	112	103
Private Emergency Accommodation: Hotel / B&B (Visiting Support Homeless Action Teams)	2,242	817
Detox/Residential Alcohol Services	82	65

Exiting from homelessness in 2017

In September 2017, 223 tenancies were created for families and singles, exiting them from homelessness. The breakdown of the number of tenancies created from January to September 2017 is set out in the table below.

Month	НАР	LA/AHB/LTA/Housing Agency Acquisition	Private Rented	TOTAL TENANCIES (households)
Jan-17	34	29	5	68
Feb-17	61	55	4	120
Mar-17	225	96	7	328
Apr-17	182	104	5	291
May-17	144	89	4	237
Jun-17	125	84	7	216
Jul-17	150	105	4	259
Aug-17	164	112	3	279
Sep-17	129	92	2	223
Total	1214	766	41	2021

Exits - Families

To ensure families that take tenancies are able to sustain those tenancies and avoid returning to homeless services, a range of visiting supports are available including HAIL for persons with mental health issues or SLI which provides general support for a period of six months. During the month of September there were a total of 146 families who were supported to move to tenancies. In addition to the 60 families who were prevented from entering homelessness by taking up tenancies (mentioned above) there were 86 families who were supported to leave emergency accommodation to take up tenancies; 45 families left hotels and 41 families left supported emergency accommodation.

Temporary Accommodation for Families Experiencing Homelessness

Work is continuing on the development of family hub facilities which will provide more appropriate and suitable temporary accommodation for families experiencing homelessness. An update on the facilities in the DCC area is included in the table below.

Location	Detail	Operator	Update
19 / 20 St. Lawrence Road, Clontarf, Dublin 3.	13 Family Rooms	Respond	Works nearing completion - expected to open in early December 17
Clonard Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12.	30 Family Spaces	Salvation Army	Works nearing completion – will be open by end November 17
Mater Dei, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3.	50 Family Rooms	Crosscare	Operational with 29 units in use. 23 additional units to be completed Dec 17
63 / 64 O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.	45 Family Rooms	Lease agreement with private operator	Works ongoing – to be completed December 17
Sarsfield House, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.	12 Family Rooms	Sons of the Divine Providence	Works ongoing – to be completed December 17
Green Castle Parade, Coolock, Dublin 5.	40 Family Rooms	Salvation Army	Works ongoing – to be completed February 18

Community Development within the DRHE

A specific community liaison person has been assigned to work in the DRHE and plays an integral part in creating communication links across the sector and fostering initiatives for community building and integration. Key ongoing projects and initiatives include:-

- The pilot art & craft project for children was successfully completed in the Capuchin Day Centre. Consideration is being given to this project becoming permanent.
- Relationship building in the community has resulted in a collaboration with North West Partnership, North Side Partnership and Dublin North Bay Housing Crisis Community
- Research on Health & Nutrition Programme with a view to running a pilot programme in one of the family hubs – awaiting funding approval.

Cold Weather Strategy 2017

The Cold Weather Strategy 2017 will be operational from November 2017 to April 2018. This strategy also encompasses the introduction of additional bed capacity that will remain open after the winter ends and additional enhanced support services which will be available throughout the cold weather period. A separate information document will be issued detailing the Cold Weather Strategy 2017.