



1. Homelessness Update

This report provides an overview of the data collated and analysed by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) for the first four months of 2018. The DRHE provides funding to 23 Non Profit Organisations for in excess of 102 services across the Dublin Region. In addition the DRHE coordinates and funds the provision of private emergency accommodation for people experiencing homelessness. The DRHE drives a housing led approach to homelessness on a regional basis in conjunction with service providers throughout the sector. The DRHE works to move people through emergency accommodation with health and support services towards a sustained exit from homelessness. This work is carried out through three main areas of operation:-

- Prevention
- Provision and management of homeless support services
- Assistance to exit homelessness

2. Prevention

The DRHE has set a number of Key Performance Indicators as targets to be consistently achieved which include headings under Homeless Prevention. There was much success in 2017 with the introduction of a new Prevention strategy that engaged with families presenting as homeless and worked with them to prevent an episode of homelessness occurring. In 2017, 817 families and 521 individuals were assisted by the DRHE to secure tenancies and prevented from entering homelessness. Homelessness prevention has continued to be a priority for the DRHE as is highlighted in Table 1 below, which details all households (singles and families) prevented from entering homelessness from January 2018 to April 2018.

Table 1

| Month | Housing Assistance Payment | Local Authority / Approved Housing Bodies / Long Term Accommodation /Housing Agency Acquisition | Private Rented | TOTAL TENANCIES |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Jan-18 | 105 | 2 | 2 | 109 |
| Feb-18 | 119 | 16 | 0 | 135 |
| Mar-18 | 94 | 9 | 0 | 103 |
| April-18 | 131 | 3 | 0 | 134 |
| Total | 449 | 30 | 2 | 481 |

The above table reveals that the main source of prevention is the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP), which is consistent with the type of tenancy exits as outlined later in this report in Tables 5 and 6.

2.1 DRHE Prevention Team

In 2017 the DRHE set up a designated homeless prevention team that work with families presenting as homeless to find an alternative solution to entering homeless emergency accommodation. The team also meets with families who are already in emergency accommodation to discuss their move on options. The main focus of the engagement with the families is to provide support to secure a HAP tenancy. So far in 2018 the team have met with 206 families, 144 of these families were prevented from entering homeless services (*these figures are included in the Table 1).

3. Emergency Accommodation Usage

3.1 *People accessing Emergency Accommodation January 2018 - April 2018*

Table 2 below provides an overview of the numbers of adults (singles & couples), families and children in all Emergency Accommodation from January 2018 to April 2018.

Table 2

| Month | No of families including (new families) | No of individual adults in families | No of children in families | No of adults (singles & couples) |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jan-18 | 1,191 (109) | 1,658 | 2,509 | 2,261 |
| Feb-18 | 1,329 (102) | 1,846 | 2,801 | 2,175 |
| Mar-18 | 1,329 (82) | 1,853 | 2,780 | 2,254 |
| April-18 | 1,351 (90) | 1,899 | 2,810 | 2,106 |

3.2 *Families accessing Emergency Accommodation March - April 2018*

The DRHE, in conjunction with the other Dublin Authorities has increased the number of family hub type facilities in the Dublin Region to eighteen. The full utilisation of these family hubs provides more appropriate and suitable accommodation for families, with a range of support services including cooking facilities, meals on site, play space, laundry facilities, communal recreation space, key-working and homework clubs. (A list of the family hubs in the Dublin Region is detailed in Appendix A).

The DRHE recognises that this is not the long term solution. However in the interim, family hubs provide accommodation that is specifically designed for more optimal family living, until more long term housing becomes available. The full utilisation of family hubs is slowly reducing the reliance on hotels for emergency accommodation; further development of additional family hub type accommodation is required. Typically when a family is residing in temporary supported accommodation they will exit to a tenancy within a quicker timeframe, as compared to families that reside in commercial hotels.

The number of families in all emergency accommodation is broken down by type for March and April 18 and detailed in Table 3. Whilst there is a small increase in the number of families accessing Emergency Accommodation, significant progress has been achieved in moving families from hotels / B&Bs to Family Hubs, currently there are 348 families residing in Family Hub Type Accommodation across the Dublin Region.

Table 3

| Families with dependent children in <u>ALL</u> Emergency Accommodation broken down by PEA, STA / HUBS, Own door STA apartments: March and April 2018 | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | No. of families with dependent children | | No. of Individual Adults | | No. of Dependents | |
| | <i>March</i> | <i>April</i> | <i>March</i> | <i>April</i> | <i>March</i> | <i>April</i> |
| Private Emergency Accommodation (Including hotels) (PEA) | 763 | 791 | 1,083 | 1,137 | 1,615 | 1,651 |
| Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) | 94 | 85 | 117 | 110 | 201 | 202 |
| Family Hub Type Accommodation | 351 | 348 | 471 | 459 | 660 | 635 |
| Emergency Accommodation - Own Door Apartments | 121 | 127 | 182 | 193 | 304 | 322 |
| Totals | 1,329 | 1,351 | 1,853 | 1,899 | 2,780 | 2,810 |

As needs arise and evolve, the DRHE is working on innovative accommodation solutions for those in need of emergency accommodation. It is important that the DRHE continue to be innovative in terms of addressing homelessness and provide families and individuals with safe and secure accommodation. Since March 2018 a separate category of emergency accommodation i.e. 'owns door apartments' is included. Previously this category was included under Supported Temporary Accommodation. Families residing in this type of accommodation are not accessing typical emergency accommodation, but instead are occupying fully furnished, own door units that allow families to live independently.

3.4 Individuals accessing Emergency Accommodation March – April 2018

The number of single adults accessing emergency accommodation has been steadily increasing from 1,850 in October 2017 to 2,250 in March 2018. Table 3 sets out the number of single adults accessing emergency accommodation in the first quarter 2018. This increase can be attributed to a significant extent to the increase in accommodation provision for singles and has directly impacted on the number of people sleeping rough, as evidenced in the spring 2018 Sleeping Rough Count which saw numbers decrease by 40% from 184 in Winter 2017 to 110 in Spring 2018.

Table 4

| Individuals in Emergency Accommodation - 2018 | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Month | No. of Individual Adults |
| January | 2,175 |
| February | 2,261 |
| March | 2,254 |
| April | 2,106 |

The requirement to further expand emergency accommodation is under constant review, as the number of new persons being assessed as homeless continues to rise. To date in 2018, 58 additional permanent bed spaces have been sourced and are operational and further accommodation options will be developed over the remainder of the year.

3.5 Housing First

The Housing First model is integral to the DRHE’s response to people sleeping rough and enables the individuals involved, who have a high level of complex needs, to obtain permanent secure accommodation, with appropriate supports to help them maintain their tenancies. The Housing First programme is gaining momentum; over 220 housing first

tenancies have been established to date and this will continue to expand over the coming years.

Currently, the DRHE is preparing a five year implementation plan to extend the programme nationally, specifically aimed at enabling those with a high level of complex needs to obtain permanent secure accommodation with the provision of intensive supports to help them maintain their tenancies.

4. Exits from Emergency Accommodation to tenancy

4.1 Families

It is important to note that in 2017 the number of additional emergency accommodation units needed for families increased by only 9%, this is a dramatic decrease compared to a 51% increase in 2016 and a 106% increase in 2015. This significant shift in the trend can be directly attributed to the work undertaken in exiting families out of homelessness to tenancies.

Consequently the rate of increase in family homelessness is stabilising. Table 6 details the families exiting emergency accommodation to tenancy for the first quarter 2018, broken down by tenancy type.

Table 5

| Month | Housing Assistance Payment | Local Authority/ Approved Housing Bodies / Long Term Accommodation / Housing Agency Acquisition | Private Rented | Private Rented Other | Total Households |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Jan-18 | 31 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 77 |
| Feb-18 | 42 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 61 |
| Mar-18 | 17 | 22 | 0 | 26 | 65 |
| Apr-18 | 32 | 13 | 0 | 65 | 110 |
| Total | 122 | 100 | 0 | 91 | 313 |

4.2 Duration of time families in all Emergency Accommodation

Table 4 sets out the length of time spent by families in all types of emergency accommodation and utilises data from a single night i.e. 31st January 2018. As illustrated below, in January 2018, 45% of families reside in Emergency Accommodation for six months or less, as compared to June 2017 when the figure was 36%. Families are in general spending less time in Emergency Accommodation pending exit to tenancy.

Table 6

| Length of time in EA | June 2017 | | January 2018 | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | No. of families | Percentage | No. of families | Percentage |
| 24+ months | 54 | 5% | 94 | 7% |
| 18-24months | 133 | 13% | 116 | 9% |
| 12-18 months | 188 | 18% | 170 | 13% |
| 6-12 months | 286 | 28% | 335 | 26% |
| 6 months or less | 376 | 36% | 580 | 45% |
| Total families | 1,037 | 100% | 1,295 | 100% |

4.3 Families exiting from Hotels / B&B's

Work continues in 2018 to reduce the duration of time families spent in commercial facilities. Thus far in 2018, **313** families moved from hotels / B&B's to either Supported Temporary Accommodation or tenancies.

Table 7

| Month | Number of families who moved to tenancies from Hotel/B&B | Number of families who moved to STA/HUBs from Hotel/B&B | All families who departed Hotels/B&B |
|--------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Jan-18 | 45 | 32 | 77 |
| Feb-18 | 28 | 33 | 61 |
| Mar-18 | 16 | 49 | 65 |
| Apr-18 | 29 | 81 | 110 |
| Total | 118 | 195 | 313 |

4.4 Singles

An exit from emergency accommodation for single adults to any tenure can be challenging due to the lack of available one bedroom accommodation, yet progress has been achieved in the first quarter 2018. There is a higher uptake of exits to tenancy for single adults when exiting from supported temporary accommodation. Table 8 below provides details of the individuals exiting emergency accommodation in the first quarter 2018 broken down by tenancy type.

Table 8

| Month | Housing Assistance Payment | Local Authority /Approved Housing Bodies /Long Term Accommodation /Housing Agency Acquisition | Private Rented | Allocations to Households |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------------|
| Jan-18 | 15 | 16 | 1 | 32 |
| Feb-18 | 26 | 18 | 1 | 45 |
| Mar-18 | 12 | 8 | 2 | |
| Apr-18 | 16 | 5 | 4 | |
| Total | 261 | 271 | 47 | 580 |

4. Tenancy Offers in 2018

From Jan - March 2018, the total numbers of offers of permanent social housing to homeless applicants was 65. Of the 65 offers, 34 offers were made to single homeless applicants and 31 offers were made to homeless families. Specifically in March 2018, 13 offers of permanent accommodation were made and 11 were accepted (7 singles and 4 families) and 2 refused (1 single and 1 family). **These figures are for the Dublin City Council area only and do not include information for the whole DRHE region.*

5. Presentation on the 2016 and 2017 Families who experienced Homelessness in the Dublin Region - Bernie O'Donoghue Hynes

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Director of Dublin Region Homeless Executive
31st May 2018

Appendix A

Table 2 – Family Hubs operational in the Dublin Region

| | Location | Number of Units | Operator | Local Authority |
|-----|--|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Mater Dei, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 9. | 50 | Crosscare | DCC |
| 2. | Aisling House, 19/20 St. Lawrence's Road, Dublin 3. | 11 | Respond | DCC |
| 3. | High Park, Drumcondra, Dublin 3. | 34 | Respond | DCC |
| 4. | Hazel House, Glasnevin, D11 | 14 | PMVT | DCC |
| 5. | Brookfield Court, Rialto, Dublin 8. | 4 | PMVT | DCC |
| 6. | Sarsfield House, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. | 12 | Novas | DCC |
| 7. | Clonard Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12. | 25 | Salvation Army | DCC |
| 8. | Bram Stoker, Clontarf, D. 3 | 25 | PEA / Focus | DCC |
| 9. | Anna Livia, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1. | 38 | PEA / Focus | DCC |
| 10. | The Townhouse, Dublin 1 | 98 | PEA / Focus | DCC |
| 11. | Greencastle Parade, D. 17 | 24 | Salvation Army | |
| 12. | Viking Lodge, Dublin 8. | 30 | PEA / Focus | DCC |
| 13. | Chuan Álainn, Tallaght, Co. Dublin. | 9 | Respond | SDCC |
| 14. | Abberley, Tallaght, Co. Dublin 24. | 40 | PEA / Focus | SDCC |
| 15. | Malahide Road, Co. Dublin. | 12 | PMVT | Fingal |
| 16. | Kylemore, Swords, Co. Dublin. | 6 | PMVT | Fingal |
| 17. | Millmount, Dundrum, D. 14. | 12 | PEA / Focus | DLRCC |
| 18. | Monkstown, Co. Dublin. | 17 | PMVT | DLRCC |
| | Total | 461 | | |