

**Dublin City Council
North West Area Committee
16th December 2014**

Item No. 18

Motion in the name of Councillor Anthony Connaghan

That the Manager conduct a study of households in the Dublin North West Area with a view to finding out how many households are currently under-occupied (i.e. Senior Citizens living alone in 2-3 or 4 bed homes, but not exclusively Senior Citizens). Can the Manager utilise the expertise of DCC staff to come up with innovative plans to incentivise people moving to smaller accommodation and freeing up the under-utilised properties. Can the Manager provide me with any details of previous schemes and how they worked out?

Report

The City Council facilitates tenants in transferring to smaller properties through the 'surrenderring' larger category in the Allocations Scheme where possible. This allows tenants to transfer into smaller accommodation which may be more manageable or more suitable to their needs. I set out in the table below listing the number of tenants who availed of this option over the last six years:

2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
46	40	42	35	33	65

However, not all tenants wish to avail of the Scheme and tenants are not obliged to move into smaller accommodation or older person's accommodation after their families have grown up and left the family home. When tenants do move into smaller accommodation, more family type housing certainly becomes available. However, there does not appear to be a widespread interest from tenants in such an option.

The table below indicates the number of applicants by housing area who are currently listed on the transfer lists with an interest in transferring to smaller accommodation. However, I wish to advise you that many of these applicants have indeed already been made offers of a transfer but chose not to accept these offers. In some instances, they are very specific about the area or in some cases the particular complex they only wish to consider. On some occasions, when the tenant is actually made an offer, they realise that they do not wish to leave the dwelling that may have been their home for many years. Nevertheless, the City Council will continue to consider transfer requests from tenants who wish to downsize wherever possible.

B	D	E	H	J	K	L	M	N	P	Total
13	11	23	9	18	8	17	9	3	5	116

Dave Dinnigan
Area Manager

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