



Department for

Communities

An Roinn

Pobal

Mánnystrie o

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From: The Minister

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Our ref: AQW 27556 /22-27

Date: 26 June 2025

Mark Durkan MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
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Dear Mr Durkan

AQW 27556 /22-27 – INFORMATION TO BE PLACED IN THE ASSEMBLY LIBRARY

Due to the volume of detail required to answer AQW 27556/ 22-27, the information attached at Annex A has been placed in the Assembly Library.

Yours Sincerely,

Gordon Lyons MLA
Minister for Communities

The Department does not hold the requested information for private, unoccupied properties or for Registered Housing Association properties.

In terms of unoccupied Housing Executive homes, this issue is an operational matter for the Housing Executive.

I have sought the requested information from the Chief Executive, who has advised me as follows:

“The tables below show the count of void Housing Executive ground floor properties, as of 22nd May 2025, broken down by bedroom count. Please note void data is provided at a point in time. Housing Executive Area Office boundaries are broadly coterminous with those of local Councils.

Table 1. Actionable voids*	Bedroom Count			
	2	3	4	Total
CAUSEWAY AREA	6	0	0	6
LISBURN / CASTLEREAGH AREA	7	0	0	7
MID AND EAST ANTRIM AREA	18	0	0	18
MID ULSTER AREA	5	3	0	8
NORTH BELFAST AREA	6	0	0	6
NORTH DOWN AND ARDS AREA	6	0	0	6
SOUTH AND EAST BELFAST AREA	16	0	0	16
SOUTH ANTRIM AREA	4	1	0	5
SOUTH AREA	7	0	0	7
SOUTH DOWN AREA	8	0	0	8
SOUTH WEST AREA	24	3	0	27
WEST AREA	3	0	0	3
WEST BELFAST AREA	2	1	0	3
Grand Total	112	8	0	120

Table 2. Non-Actionable voids**	Bedroom Count			
	2	3	4	Total
CAUSEWAY AREA	3	0	0	3
LISBURN / CASTLEREAGH AREA	14	1	0	15

MID AND EAST ANTRIM AREA	9	1	0	10
MID ULSTER AREA	2	1	0	3
NORTH BELFAST AREA	11	0	0	11
NORTH DOWN AND ARDS AREA	13	2	0	15
SOUTH AND EAST BELFAST AREA	37	0	0	37
SOUTH ANTRIM AREA	8	2	0	10
SOUTH AREA	2	0	0	2
SOUTH DOWN AREA	11	7	0	18
SOUTH WEST AREA	3	0	0	3
WEST AREA	18	2	0	20
WEST BELFAST AREA	3	2	1	6
Grand Total	134	18	1	153

**Actionable voids are properties which are vacant while in the process of being allocated/ awaiting change of tenancy repairs. These may also include properties deemed difficult to let.*

***Non-Actionable voids are properties that are not immediately available for allocation and are held vacant for operational reasons i.e. decanting purposes (where they are being used to house a tenant on a temporary basis pending works to their home), planned maintenance schemes, and properties which have been identified for sale/transfer or have approval for demolition”*

For any future queries relating to operational matters, you may wish to contact the Housing Executive directly. Making direct contact with them will ensure that you receive the information in the shortest possible timeframe and make best use of public resources.