

# DfC releases latest annual Housing Statistics



**A report entitled “Northern Ireland Housing Statistics 2017-18” was published today by the Department for Communities (DfC).**

The [Northern Ireland Housing Statistics report](#) is produced each year by the Analytical Services Unit of the Department for Communities. This report is an annual compendium of statistics containing information on a range of areas relating to housing.

Please note that further detailed statistics on each topic are available alongside the main report in accompanying excel tables.

Key facts include:

## **Supply**

- There were 790,328 dwellings in Northern Ireland in April 2018, a rise of 7,056 (1%) from 2017 (783,272). The volume of housing stock has increased year on year throughout the time series (2008 - 2018).
- In 2017-18, there were 7,100 new dwelling completions recorded by Building Control, an increase of 10% from the previous year (6,465).

- During 2017-18 there were 1,507 Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) new dwelling completions, an increase of 9% from 2016-17 (1,387). Figures for the SHDP are sourced from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.
- In 2017-18 there were 7,382 Residential Planning decisions made. Of these 94% were granted (6,947).

## **Energy**

- Between 2012-13 and 2017-18, 38,537 Boiler Replacement grants were approved amounting to £26.1 million. This equates to an average of £678 per household.
- In the year ending 31 March 2018 there were 4,312 approvals for the 'Affordable Warmth Scheme' issued, and 4,148 homes had been improved.

## **Social Renting Demand**

- In total, 18,180 households presented as homeless to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive in 2017-18, a decrease of 2% from the previous year (18,573). The household types with the highest number of homeless presenters in 2017-18 were single males (33%) and families (32%).
- In 2017-18, of the 18,180 households presenting as homeless 11,877 households (65%) were accepted as full duty applicants and 4,688 (26%) were rejected. Of those households accepted as full duty applicants during the year 1,837 were discharged.

## **Private Renting Demand**

- The estimated average (median) rent per week for the private rented sector in Northern Ireland in 2016-17 was £98, £40 below the UK average (£138) and lower than England (£148), Scotland (£115) and Wales (£109).
- This compares to the estimated average (median) rent per week for the social rented sector in Northern Ireland in 2016-17 which was £77.

## **Owner Occupied Demand**

- The Northern Ireland House Price Index (HPI) in Quarter 3 (July - September) 2018 stands at 121.7 (Q1 2015=100).
- Between Quarter 3 2017 and Quarter 3 2018, the HPI increased by 4.8%.

- The number of loans for first time buyers in 2017 was 9,600. This is a 19% increase from the 2016 figure.

## **Household Characteristics**

- For those buying with a mortgage, the majority of their estimated average income was generated from wages and salaries at 82%. In comparison, for social renters, social security benefits (48%) made up the largest proportion of income, with 26% generated through wages and salaries.
- In 2017-18 the average rates bill was £938.

Copies of the publication can be downloaded from the Department for Communities' website at:

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/housing-statistics>