

Ministerial Direction

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, in accordance with Section 22(17)(a) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, directs each of the following housing authorities:

- Dublin City Council;
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council;
- Fingal County Council; and
- South Dublin County Council

to operate its allocation scheme in accordance with the Direction below for the period from **27 January 2015 to 26 July 2015**.

In accordance with Section 22(3) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, each housing authority is obliged to make an allocation scheme that applies to the following categories of dwellings:

- (a) all dwellings owned or under the control of the authority (including leased dwellings and dwellings subject to rental accommodation arrangements) and
- (b) dwellings owned or under the control of approved housing bodies which are the subject of mortgage agreements under the Capital Assistance Scheme, the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme and the leasing Payment and Availability agreement.

Properties acquired or leased from NAMA's loan portfolio as well as vacant dwellings being brought back into productive use are deemed to be included in the allocation scheme by virtue of Section 22(1) of the 2009 Act.

Direction

1. Each housing authority must ensure that at least **50%** of the dwellings available for allocation under Section 22 of the 2009 Act during the specified period will be allocated to households that are qualified for social housing support (i.e. those who are on the record of qualified households) and that, on or before **1 December 2014**, have been deemed by the authority to have one or more than one of the following needs:
 - (i) was in an institution, emergency accommodation or a hostel (i.e. a homeless household within the meaning of Section 2 of the Housing Act 1988);
 - (ii) has an accommodation requirement arising from an enduring physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual impairment (i.e. households where one of its members has a disability and as such is deemed to be a vulnerable household); and
 - (iii) was in accommodation that was unsuitable for the household's adequate housing on exceptional medical or compassionate grounds (i.e. including households the subject of domestic violence and young people leaving State care and as such deemed to be a vulnerable household).
2. Each housing authority should make arrangements for timely and efficient selection of households and offers of accommodation so as to ensure that households are notified and ready to move into dwellings as soon as they become available. These arrangements should seek to avoid inadvertent delays in letting dwellings, and dwellings being left vacant for lengthy period due to refusals of offers of accommodation.