

## The Right to Adequate Housing - Homelessness in Northern Ireland

### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PREVIOUS CYCLES

**2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Recommendation from Cuba:** *Guarantee the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly health, education and adequate housing (110.103.)*

**Source of position:** A/HRC/21/9 - Para. 110 & A/HRC/21/9/Add.1 - Para. 19

Position : **Supported.**

However, since the last UPR in May 2017, the situation has not improved in Northern Ireland.

#### CHALLENGES

**Acute Housing Shortage**

Almost one third of homeless people are Families

Greater demand for Temporary Accommodation

More people in Rent Arrears

Increase in Private Rental costs

Issues of Mental Health & Addiction

100,000 ‘Hidden Homeless’ (those outside of official figures)

Impact of Covid-19

Cost of Living Crisis

#### IMPACTS

- 44,405 applicants on the Social Housing waiting list
- 23,634 Full Duty Applicants - passed all four statutory tests for homelessness and who has not yet been given a permanent social tenancy
- 10,000 – 12,000 new Homeless Presenters each year
- 6,800 Children officially registered as homeless in 2021
- 8,497 people living in Temporary Accommodation
- 39,489 households in Rent Arrears
- 15 deaths of homeless young people between June & July 2022

### RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that:

1. The UK government addresses the issue of homelessness in Northern Ireland by ensuring the inclusion of a standalone housing and homelessness outcome in the Programme for Government for the NI Executive.
2. The Northern Ireland Housing Executive increases the supply of safe, secure and affordable housing to meet current need.

#### CONTACT DETAILS

Cormac McArt  
Director, Westcourt Centre

[westcourtcentre@gmail.com](mailto:westcourtcentre@gmail.com)  
[www.stillsomebody.org](http://www.stillsomebody.org)