

National Traveller Accommodation
Consultative Committee
An Coiste Comhairleach Náisiúnta
um Chóiríocht don Lucht Siúil



Annual Report 2002

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NTACC Annual Report 2002





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Chairperson's Statement

This report deals with the last year of the first National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (NTACC), the term of office of which expired in early 2002. As Chairperson of the second NTACC – which was appointed in 2003 – I would like to begin by paying tribute to my predecessor, Patricia O'Hara, and to all her colleagues on the first Committee.



Chairperson – Chris Flood

The first Committee securely established the NTACC as a significant, useful and respected contributor to the important task of providing good quality permanent accommodation for those members of the Traveller community who are not in a position to provide accommodation from their own resources.

One of the benchmark measures regarding the provision of Traveller accommodation relates to the number of Traveller families living on the roadside. The number of families living in such circumstances decreased from 1,017 in late 2001 to 939 families in late 2002.

Positive developments were also recorded in other areas of Traveller accommodation. The number of Traveller families accommodated by local authorities, or with local authority assistance, increased during the year. In 2002 an additional 389 families were provided with accommodation. The comparable figure for 2001 was 328 families. Although the increased provision is of course to be welcomed, I am sure that the increase was smaller than the "much greater progress" which Dr O'Hara had hoped for when writing in the 2001 Annual Report. Details of the accommodation provided by each local authority in 2002 are set out in Appendix I.

The outgoing Committee met twice in early 2002, and in that time it approved the Annual Report for 2001, agreed a revised Annual Count of Travellers form, and discussed additional issues such as the caravan loans and grants scheme. The Committee also continued its practice of visiting Traveller sites – this time in County Offaly. In April 2002 the Guidelines on Group Housing, which had been drafted by the Committee and approved by the Minister for Housing and Urban Renewal, were published.

As Chairperson of the second NTACC, I am very aware that the Committee does not work in a vacuum. Consequently, I should like to thank all those who helped it to fulfil its statutory functions. In 2002 the Committee reported to two Ministers for Housing and Urban Renewal, Mr Robert Molloy, T.D., and Mr Noel Ahern, T.D.. Both Ministers were very supportive of the work of the NTACC, as were the members of the outgoing Committee. The staff of the Traveller Accommodation Unit of the Department of the Environment and Local Government provided secretarial and administrative support to the Committee. In Offaly, the County Council members and officials, and local Traveller representatives and residents, welcomed the Committee on its visits. To all of these I express my gratitude on behalf of the outgoing Committee.



Chris Flood
Chairperson



Greenhills Grove, Tymon Lane, South Dublin

General Information

Establishment

The National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (NTACC) was established, on a statutory basis, on 29 April 1999 under sections 19 and 20 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998.

Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:-

To advise the Minister in relation to:

any general matter concerning accommodation for Travellers;

any matter referred to it by the Minister;

the most appropriate measures for improving, at local level, consultation with, and participation of, Travellers in the provision and management of accommodation;

general matters concerning the preparation, adequacy, implementation and co-ordination of Traveller accommodation programmes.

Committee Membership

Dr Patricia O'Hara	Chairperson
Mr Liam Conlon	Department of Justice, Equality, and Law Reform
Mr Fintan Farrell	Irish Traveller Movement
Mr Joe Harrington	Department of the Environment and Local Government
Ms Maria Joyce	National Traveller Women's Forum
Mrs Terry Madden	Minister's nominee
Cllr Seamús McDonald	General Council of County Councils
Ms Ellen Mongan	Minister's nominee
Cllr Lance O'Brien	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland
Mr Brendan Ó Caoláin	Pavee Point Travellers Centre
Mr Donal O'Donoghue	County and City Managers' Association
Ms Theresa White	County and City Managers' Association
Ms Mary Greene	Secretary to Committee

Committee's Annual Report

Section 19 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 stipulates that the Committee must prepare and submit an annual report on its activities to the Minister for Housing and Urban Renewal, who will cause copies of the report to be laid before each House of the Oireachtas. This Report covers the period from 1 January – 31 December 2002.

Meetings

The Committee held two meetings between January and December 2002.



Shandon, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford

Summary of Key Activities

1. Annual Count of Traveller Families

As indicated in the Annual Report of the NTACC for 2001, at the end of that year a subcommittee was considering amendments to the Annual Count form, to improve its accuracy and clarity. The annual count of Traveller families, which takes place each November, is used to establish the accommodation position of Travellers, and provides a record of trends and developments in the accommodation area. In early 2002 the NTACC considered the amendments proposed by the subcommittee and, following discussion, agreed a revised annual count form. This form was used for the Annual Count of Traveller families that was carried out on 29 November 2002. Details are attached at Appendix II.

At the end of 2002, 4,522 Traveller families were accommodated by local authorities, or with local authority assistance. This was an increase of 389 families when compared to the position in 2001. The number of families on unauthorised sites decreased over the same period, from 1,017 families at the end of 2001, to 939 families in 2002.

2. Review of the Caravan Loans and Grants Scheme

The Committee approved the circulation to local authorities of a questionnaire regarding the operation of the scheme. The questionnaire was drafted by a subcommittee, and the latter received a presentation in February by Exchange House Travellers Service on, inter alia, Travellers' access to credit. The NTACC is grateful to Exchange House for sharing its expertise with the Committee.

3. Guidelines on Group Housing

The background to these important guidelines is given in the 2001 Annual Report. They were published in April 2002, and are making a significant contribution to the provision of Traveller-specific group housing.

4. Visits to Traveller Accommodation

Each year the Committee visits Traveller accommodation facilities, in order to meet Travellers, Traveller representatives, Council members and officials, and to see at first hand the position in situ. These visits give the Committee a better understanding, and a more informed view, of accommodation related issues generally.

Finance

The operational costs of the Committee are borne in full by the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

The Committee incurred expenditure of €15,903 in 2002. (The equivalent figure for 2001 was €18,084.)



Booterstown Park, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

Appendix I

Accommodation Provided in 2002

Halting Sites completed in 2002

Local Authority	Location	Number of Bays					
		New			Refurbished/Redeveloped		
		Perm	Trans	Emerg/ Temp	Perm	Trans	Emerg/ Temp
Bray Town Co.	Silverbridge				5		
Clare Co. Co.	Gort Road, Ennis			8			
Cork City Co.	Carrigrohane				12		
Donegal Co. Co.	Ballintra		10				
Donegal Co. Co.	Lisfannon		10				
Donegal Co. Co.	Cullion Road				3		
Dublin City Co.	St. Dominic's Park				10		
Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown Co. Co.	Boosterstown Park	4					
South Dublin Co. Co.	Ballyboden	8					
South Dublin Co. Co.	Cherryfield Way	5			5		
South Dublin Co. Co.	Balgaddy			20			
Dungarvan Town Co.	Shandon	8					
Louth Co. Co.	Killineer, Drogheda			5			
North Tipperary Co. Co.	Parkmore, Roscrea	2			6		
Tipperary Town Co.	Lake Road						4
Tullamore Town Co.	Kilcruttin				16		
Wexford Co. Co.	Marshmeadows, New Ross				12		
Total		27	20	33	69	0	4

Halting Sites under construction at 31 December 2002

Local Authority	Location	Number of Bays					
		New			Refurbished/Redeveloped		
		Perm	Trans	Emerg/ Temp	Perm	Trans	Emerg/ Temp
Carlow Co. Co.	Ardristan, Tullow	2					
Clare Co. Co.	Ballymaley, Ennis	4					
South Dublin Co. Co.	Foxdene			2			
Fingal Co. Co.	Matt Lane, Balbriggan	10					
Galway Co. Co.	Capira, Portumna			6			
Galway Co. Co.	Ballygar				3		
North Tipperary Co. Co.	Ballyvillane, Nenagh	2			5		
Tralee Town Co.	Dingle Road	4					
Westmeath Co. Co.	Lissywollen, Athlone	8	12		12		
Wicklow Co. Co.	Ballinteskin				6		
Total		30	12	8	26	0	0

Group Housing Schemes completed in 2002

Local Authority	Location	Status	
		New	Refurbished/ Redeveloped
Carlow Co. Co.	St. Brigid's Place, Carlow	8	
Clare Co. Co.	Watery Road, Ennis		6
Donegal Co. Co.	Canal Road, Letterkenny	8	
Donegal Co. Co.	Cullion Road	2	
Donegal Co. Co.	Drumfern, Milford	2	
Dublin City Co.	St. Dominic's Park		12
South Dublin Co. Co.	Tymon Lane	6	
Galway Co. Co.	Gilmartin Road, Tuam	8	
Galway City Co.	Bóthar na gCoiste	3	
Wexford Co. Co.	Clonleigh, Palace	2	
Total		39	18

Group Housing Schemes under construction at 31 December 2002

Local Authority	Location	Status	
		New	Refurbished/ Redeveloped
Carlow Co. Co.	Ardristan, Tullow	3	
Cavan Co. Co.	Tullymongan Lower	6	
Clare Co. Co.	Ballymalley, Ennis	2	
Clare Co. Co.	Ballaghfada, Clarecastle	6	
Fingal Co. Co.	Scribblestown	8	
Galway Co. Co.	Ballygar	5	
Galway Co. Co.	Carrowmacowan, Tuam	2	
Galway Co. Co.	Abbeyknockmoy, Tuam	3	
Roscommon Co. Co.	Cornamart, Knockcroghery	2	
Westmeath Co. Co.	Lissywollen, Athlone	4	
Wexford Co. Co.	Ballagh, Clonroach	3	1
Wexford Co. Co.	Bunclody	6	
Wexford Co. Co.	Castlequarter, Bunclody	1	
Wexford Co. Co.	Ardenagh Great, Ballymitt	1	
Wicklow Co. Co.	Rathnew	4	
Wicklow Co. Co.	Ballinteskinn	2	
Total		58	1

Single Instance Housing purchased in 2002

Local Authority	Location
Laois Co. Co.	Ballymaddock, Stradbally
Laois Co. Co.	Aughafan, Castletown
Laois Co. Co.	Timahoe Road, Portlaoise
Laois Co. Co.	Timahoe Road, Portlaoise (Rose Cottage)
Total	4

Appendix II

Annual Count of Traveller Families in 2002

	Accommodated											
	Standard Local Authority Housing			Local Authority Group Housing			Private Houses Assisted by Local Authority			Provided by Voluntary Bodies with L.A. Assistance		
	1			2			3			4		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
Carlow	15	21	34	2	7	12	2	2	5	2	4	3
Cavan	29	30	29	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clare	33	35	34	11	11	11	11	11	20	2	2	3
Cork (City)	114	129	132	0	0	0	1	1	5	0	1	1
Cork (County)	89	94	88	16	16	14	1	1	10	5	5	0
Donegal	66	75	88	4	4	12	2	3	2	0	0	0
Dublin (City)	51	66	82	107	154	154	2	2	2	2	2	2
Dún Laoire/Rath.	32	40	44	20	24	24	0	6	0	0	0	0
Fingal	26	36	53	16	17	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galway (City)	123	128	127	22	28	29	1	1	1	0	0	0
Galway (County)	189	199	203	38	38	38	5	9	13	4	6	6
Kerry	185	162	168	2	0	0	1	5	38	0	0	0
Kildare	10	14	16	0	0	8	2	1	0	0	1	1
Kilkenny	24	27	35	3	3	1	10	10	11	3	5	3
Laois	28	36	39	3	4	4	1	5	9	2	2	2
Leitrim	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Limerick (City)	14	17	12	9	9	9	2	3	2	0	0	0
Limerick (County)	101	108	114	14	16	16	16	16	27	0	0	0
Longford	131	137	140	0	0	0	1	1	10	0	0	5
Louth	102	111	114	18	18	18	17	20	23	5	7	7
Mayo	100	102	105	3	3	5	2	4	15	4	4	4
Meath	54	57	60	34	36	34	0	0	5	4	7	9
Monaghan	51	56	43	0	0	0	0	1	20	0	0	0
Offaly	59	65	74	0	0	0	3	3	4	1	2	3
Roscommon	13	13	13	9	9	10	0	0	3	0	0	0
Sligo	19	22	22	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
South Dublin	78	91	101	19	19	24	18	26	8	0	0	0
North Tipperary	66	72	73	3	8	9	2	2	2	1	0	0
South Tipperary	41	42	43	8	8	8	4	4	4	0	0	0
Waterford (City)	75	83	92	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	4
Waterford (County)	10	14	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Westmeath	53	52	51	0	4	4	0	0	1	0	0	1
Wexford	83	88	94	13	13	14	16	17	16	2	4	3
Wicklow	45	48	61	2	2	8	2	2	2	1	1	1
TOTALS	2,110	2,272	2,395	380	456	493	123	157	259	40	56	61

	Local Authority Halting Sites			Total Accommodation provided by Local Authority or with L.A. Assistance			On Unauthorised Sites			Total Accommodated by or with assistance of L.A. and on unauthorised sites		
	5			6			7			8		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
	4	4	7	25	38	61	20	23	16	45	61	77
	14	14	21	43	48	54	5	1	2	48	49	56
	19	20	25	76	79	93	43	63	54	119	142	147
	62	68	70	177	199	208	46	48	32	223	247	240
	10	10	14	121	126	126	30	35	49	151	161	175
	10	27	35	82	109	137	39	21	6	121	130	143
	187	182	153	349	406	393	62	46	62	411	452	455
	22	32	29	74	102	97	29	19	15	103	121	112
	149	100	173	191	153	249	85	118	35	276	271	284
	26	30	36	172	187	193	25	12	1	197	199	194
	27	24	24	263	276	284	68	79	72	331	355	356
	25	25	30	213	192	236	15	12	11	228	204	247
	29	36	29	41	52	54	57	18	50	98	70	104
	19	15	14	59	60	64	13	10	16	72	70	80
	25	22	12	59	69	66	21	22	18	80	91	84
	20	29	26	22	32	28	0	1	0	22	33	28
	38	32	43	63	61	66	7	2	6	70	63	72
	26	27	27	157	167	184	39	41	101	196	208	285
	14	15	18	146	153	173	16	9	4	162	162	177
	15	15	11	157	171	173	13	6	12	170	177	185
	13	13	6	122	126	135	53	48	46	175	174	181
	42	42	49	134	142	157	12	14	1	146	156	158
	5	4	11	56	61	74	2	5	8	58	66	82
	23	24	32	86	94	113	59	51	43	145	145	156
	19	20	23	41	42	49	3	11	15	44	53	64
	33	33	27	53	56	53	30	26	21	83	82	74
	159	196	237	274	332	370	76	66	31	350	398	401
	12	11	19	84	93	103	31	28	29	115	121	132
	12	17	17	65	71	72	20	16	20	85	87	92
	14	13	20	91	99	116	8	13	2	99	112	118
	14	14	12	27	28	21	12	11	14	39	39	35
	20	27	19	73	83	76	18	15	7	91	98	83
	25	34	18	139	156	145	91	83	111	230	239	256
	20	17	27	70	70	99	45	44	29	115	114	128
	1,152	1,192	1,314	3,805	4,133	4,522	1,093	1,017	939	4,898	5,150	5,461

Estimated Total Number of Traveller Families in all Categories of Accommodation

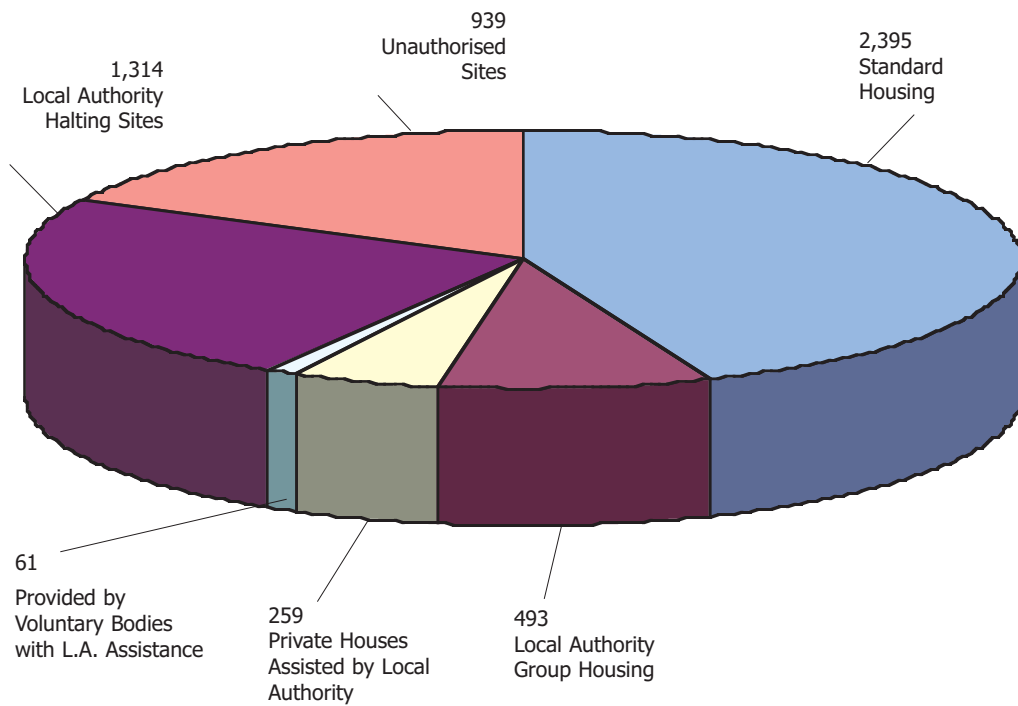
Local Authority	Accommodated by or with assistance of L.A.	On Unauthorised Sites	Own Resources (Estimate)	Private Rented (Estimate)	Sharing Housing	Total
	From Page 19, Column 6	From Page 19, Column 7	3	4	5	6
Carlow	61	16	8	4	10	99
Cavan	54	2	0	0	0	56
Clare	93	54	6	3	12	168
Cork (City)	208	32	5	10	11	266
Cork (County)	126	49	8	16	12	211
Donegal	137	6	0	17	13	173
Dublin (City)	393	62	0	0	32	487
Dún Laoire-Rath.	97	15	0	0	19	131
Fingal	249	35	0	3	5	292
Galway (City)	193	1	0	35	11	240
Galway (County)	284	72	10	13	3	382
Kerry	236	11	0	2	4	253
Kildare	54	50	10	1	0	115
Kilkenny	64	16	5	4	2	91
Laois	66	18	3	2	0	89
Leitrim	28	0	0	0	3	31
Limerick (City)	66	6	1	0	4	77
Limerick (County)	184	101	100	6	2	393
Longford	173	4	22	0	11	210
Louth	173	12	31	12	7	235
Mayo	135	46	7	2	11	201
Meath	157	1	0	4	16	178
Monaghan	74	8	1	4	4	91
Offaly	113	43	3	5	3	167
Roscommon	49	15	0	0	10	74
Sligo	53	21	0	2	3	79
South Dublin	370	31	6	5	11	423
North Tipperary	103	29	0	3	1	136
South Tipperary	72	20	7	1	5	105
Waterford (City)	116	2	32	2	2	154
Waterford (County)	21	14	1	0	0	36
Westmeath	76	7	73	3	1	160
Wexford	145	111	76	3	19	354
Wicklow	99	29	2	0	2	132
TOTALS	4,522	939	417	162	249	6,289



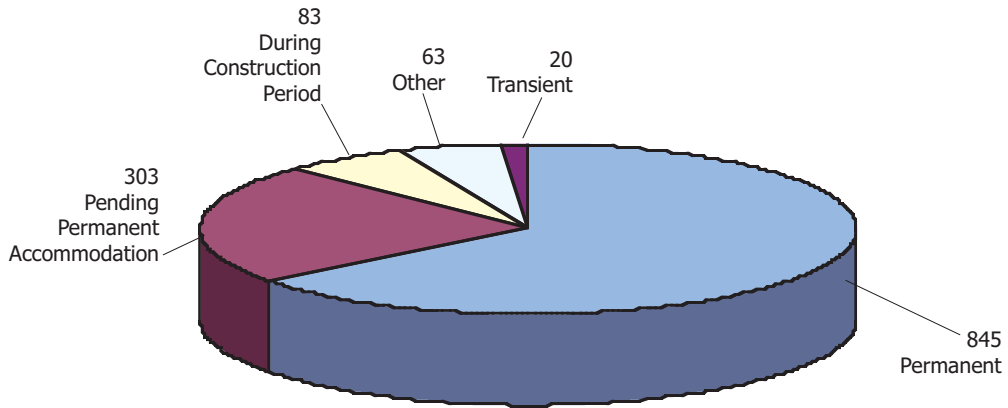
Cherryfield Way, South Dublin

Annual Count of Families – Position at 29 November 2002

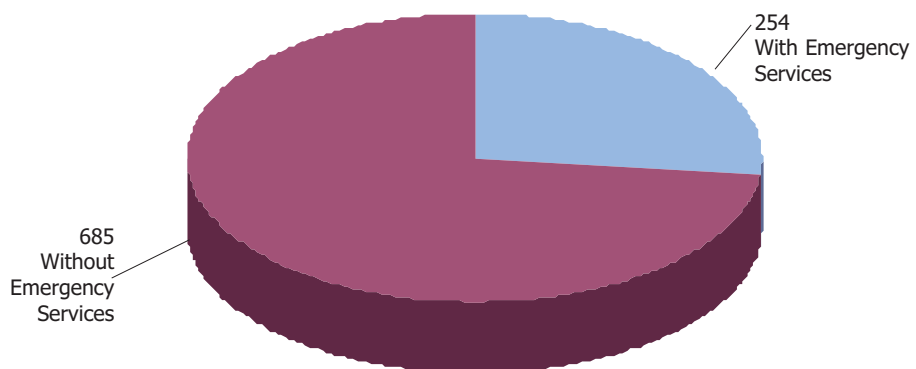
Overall Total Accommodated by or with Assistance of L.A. and on Unauthorised Sites = 5,461



Approved Serviced Halting Sites – 2002
Number of Families



On Unauthorised Sites – 2002
Number of Families



Families Accommodated

