

PBNI Disclosure Log – Response to Request

Request Reference: 025.1809
 Date of Request: 18 September 2025
 Date of Response: 16 October 2025

Request and Response

Prisoner Rehousing Policies and Protocols

Q1. Copies of any current policies, protocols, or strategic documents outlining PBNI approach to rehousing individuals upon release from prison, including those on remand or released under supervision.

Response 1: PBNI has a statutory role to supervise community orders and licences after an individual is released from custody. PBNI does not have a role working with prisoners on remand in prison. PBNI is not responsible for rehousing individuals upon release from prison.

Bail Hostels and Approved Premises

Q2. A list of bail hostels or Approved Premises funded or supported by PBNI for the purpose of housing individuals released from custody.

Response 2: PBNI does not own, manage or fund Approved Premises sometimes known as hostels. They are managed by the community and voluntary sector and are funded by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. There are seven Approved Premises in NI which provide a total of 91 places. A list is below and available at <https://www.cjini.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Approved-Premises-Report-D6-FINAL-270323.pdf>

As of 31 May 2022	Bonds Hill	Centenary House	Dismas House	Edward Street	Innis Centre	MUST	Thompson House
Management organisation	Simon Community Northern Ireland	The Salvation Army	Extern	Simon Community Northern Ireland	Extern	Extern	Council of Social Witness, Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Location	Derry/Londonderry	Belfast	Belfast	Portadown	Belfast	Cookstown	Belfast
Premises Owner	Choice Housing	The Salvation Army	Extern	Choice Housing	Radius Housing	Choice Housing	Radius Housing
PBNI places	4	13	14	15	20	6	19
Accommodate females	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Access	Mixed	Mixed	PBNI only	PBNI only	PBNI only	Mixed	PBNI only

Q3. Criteria for placement in such accommodation and any referral or assessment processes involved.

Response 3: Individuals are referred to the Hostel Panel if probation staff assess it as necessary for them to reside in an Approved Premises, to manage the risk they present in the community. The Hostel Panel is attended by the Approved Premises’ managers and is chaired by a PBNI Area Manager. All referrals are discussed at the weekly Hostel Panel. To meet the criteria the individual requires to have been assessed as presenting a high likelihood

of reoffending (using the PBNI approved assessment tool, ACE) or to have been assessed as a Category 2 or 3 offender under the Public Protection Arrangements for Northern Ireland.

Q4. Any standards or oversight mechanisms applied to these facilities.

Response 4: PBNI is not responsible for setting standards or the oversight for Approved Premises. The Criminal Justice Inspectorate carried out a review of Approved Premises, into how effectively they contribute to rehabilitation, resettlement and public protection. The report is available at <https://www.cjini.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Approved-Premises-Report-D6-FINAL-270323.pdf>.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive may hold information in respect of this question.

Contracts with Private Landlords

Q5. Information on any schemes or agreements PBNI has with private landlords to provide accommodation for ex-offenders or individuals released on bail.

Response 5: PBNI has no such schemes or agreements in place.

Q6: The number of such placements made in the past three years.

Response 6: PBNI has not made any placements.

Q7. Any financial arrangements, incentives, or support provided to private landlords participating in these schemes.

Response 7: There is no financial arrangements, incentives, or support provided to private landlords by PBNI.

Temporary and Emergency Accommodation

Q8. Procedures for assessing and providing temporary accommodation to individuals released from custody who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Response 8: PBNI does not have a statutory responsibility for providing temporary accommodation to individuals released from custody who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This is the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. PBNI does, however, have a role, in conjunction with partner organisations such as the PSNI, in assessing whether accommodation can be approved, as some individuals subject to supervision have restrictions.

Q9. Data on the number of individuals placed in temporary accommodation following release from prison over the past three years.

Response 9: PBNI does not hold this information.

If you have any queries about this letter, or if you feel I have misinterpreted your request please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way PBNI has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review using our complaints procedure.

A copy of our [complaints procedure](#) is available on our website www.pbni.org.uk
If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information
Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House,
Water
Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

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