

## Spokesperson for Housing, Planning and Local Government Darragh O'Brien TD



April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Eoghan Murphy TD

Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Dear Minister,

## Re: Homeless Data Publication

I am writing in relation to reports around changes to the monthly publication of homeless figures by your Department.

I am concerned to hear the Department plans to publish homeless figures on a quarterly rather than a monthly basis. Given the scale of the homelessness crisis, with some 10,000 individuals including 3,755 children without a home, the department cannot shirk away from or hide the figures.

Having accurate up to date information is critical to both the work of the Department and the NGO sector. It is also crucial in holding the government to account for its policies.

Fianna Fáil is opposed to any such change that would diminish accountability and potentially obscure the depth of the issue at stake.

I am looking for your explicit re-assurance that such a change in policy is not being planned by your department.

I look forward to your response on this matter.

Kind Regards,

DARRAGH O'BRIEN T.D Spokesperson for Housing, Planning & Local Government

Fianna Fáil

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