

Statement: Homeless people and Census 2016

Tuesday, 5 April 2016

Following recent comments suggesting that homeless people will not be enumerated in Census 2016, the Central Statistics Offices wishes to clarify the matter.

Every person in Ireland must be included on a census form on Sunday, 24 April. This includes homeless people.

The census provides vital information on a wide range of topics and issues and is used in the development of policy by every government department and local authority in the country, along with a wide range of both public and private service providers. The formulation of policy on addressing the country's homeless problem requires accurate information on the number of homeless people and their location. The census is the appropriate way of gathering that information.

The CSO is aware of the increased complexity of the homeless situation in Ireland, and has been working for the past 18 months on the most appropriate methodology for enumerating homeless people in a variety of settings, including rough sleepers.

Following Census 2011, the CSO published a special report on homeless persons in Ireland. The report can be read on www.cso.ie - <http://www.cso.ie/en/census/census2011reports/homelesspersonsinirelandaspecialcensus2011report/>

ENDS

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