

Leaving Direct Provision and moving to Independent Living

- An overview of the steps required for housing assistance -

1. Apply for GNIB CARD:

When you receive your status (refugee/ Subsidiary Protection/ Leave to Remain), you will need to apply for a GNIB card at the Immigration Office, Henry Street Garda Station, Limerick. This can take up to 10 working days (sometimes longer) to process.

2. Have you got children with you in Direct Provision?

You can apply for Child Benefit now, before you leave Direct Provision accommodation. The payment is not backdated so the sooner you apply the better. You need your GNIB card for this application. To apply for child benefit, visit the Social Welfare office for assistance.

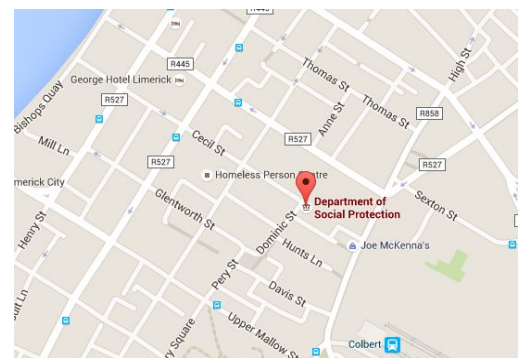
Contact Details:



Social Welfare office
Dominick Street
Limerick

Tel: 061 212200

Doras Luimní can help you to complete this form.



3. Housing Needs Assessment

The Homeless Action Team will provide you with a letter to confirm you are leaving Direct Provision so that you can access Rent Allowance from your Community Welfare Officer.

You will need to make an appointment to meet with a staff member of the Homeless Action Team.

Contact details:



Homeless Action Team,
2 Church Street,
St. John's Square,
Limerick

Tel: 061 481212

We can contact them for you to arrange an appointment for you if needed.



4. Limerick City Council Housing List application

You will need to apply for the Limerick City & County Council housing list, in order to access financial assistance to pay rent. Doras Luimni can help you to complete this form.



Download the Housing List application form:

<https://www.limerick.ie/council/apply-council-housing>

Contact details:



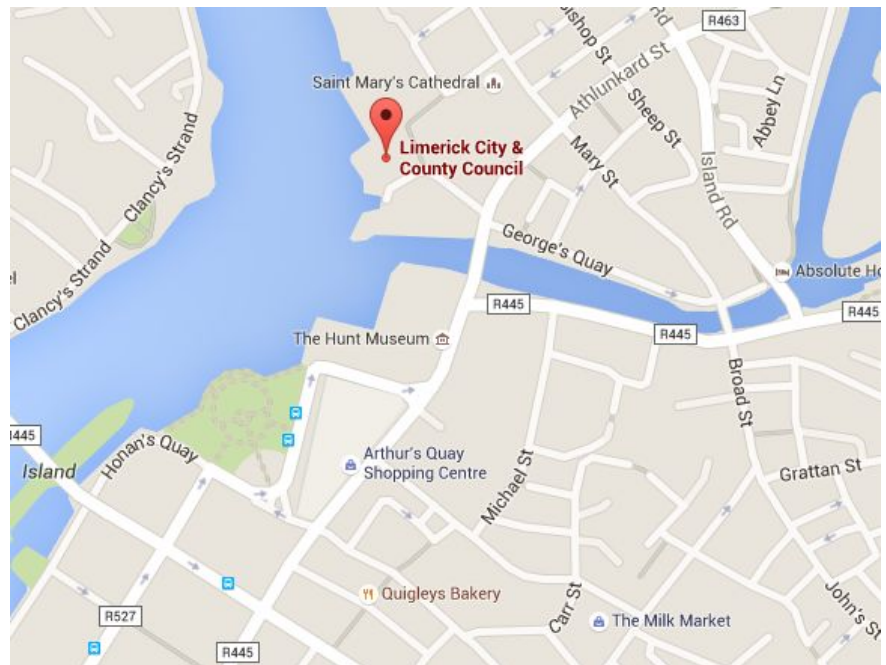
Limerick City & County Council
(Housing Office)
Merchant's Quay
Limerick

Tel: 061 407139

Note:

You will need to complete this application form and have it stamped by staff in the local post office or by CWO.

You will also need to provide a letter from the Department of Justice, confirming your status.



5. Applying for Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rent Supplement

There are two forms of financial assistance available to you that will help you to pay rent. The Housing Assistance Payment, known as "HAP", is the most common form of assistance. You can apply for this assistance once you have found suitable accommodation within the maximum rent limits.

For Limerick city, the following maximum rent limits apply (from 1st July 2016):

County	Single Shared	Couple Shared	Single	Couple	Couple/One Parent Family - 1 Child	Couple/One Parent Family - 2 Children	Couple/One Parent Family - 3 Children
Limerick	€270	€300	€420	€450	€650	€700	€750

When looking for accommodation, you will need to ask the landlord if they will accept HAP or Rent Supplement.

If you find suitable accommodation in which the landlord will accept HAP or Rent Supplement, you will need to make an application to Limerick City & County Council for HAP, or to the Department of Social Protection for Rent Supplement.

Note:

Rent Supplement may be granted to you initially, but Limerick City & County Council will require you to move on to HAP eventually. If the landlord will accept HAP, this is the better option to avoid further applications in a few months time.

a) **Applying for HAP**

- Once you have found suitable accommodation, within the maximum rent limits and with a landlord who has agreed to accept HAP, you can apply to the Limerick City & County Council. Your landlord will need to complete part of the application form.

Go to Limerick City & County Council to get an application form for HAP. Doras Luimní can help you with completing this form.

b) **Applying for Rent Supplement**

- Once you have found suitable accommodation, within the maximum rent limits and with a landlord who has agreed to accept Rent Supplement, you can apply to the Community Welfare Officer (CWO). You must apply to the Community Welfare Officer (CWO) in the area to which you are moving.

For a list of Community Welfare Officers (CWO) in Limerick, see here:

<http://www.welfare.ie/en/Pages/otheroffice/community-welfare-office-limerick.aspx>

If you are moving to Limerick city centre, the responsible CWO is based in St Brendan's Health Centre in Rosbrien, and is available to meet with you on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am - 11am. Please check the list for accurate CWO times as your exact address will determine when you can meet with the CWO.

Contact details:

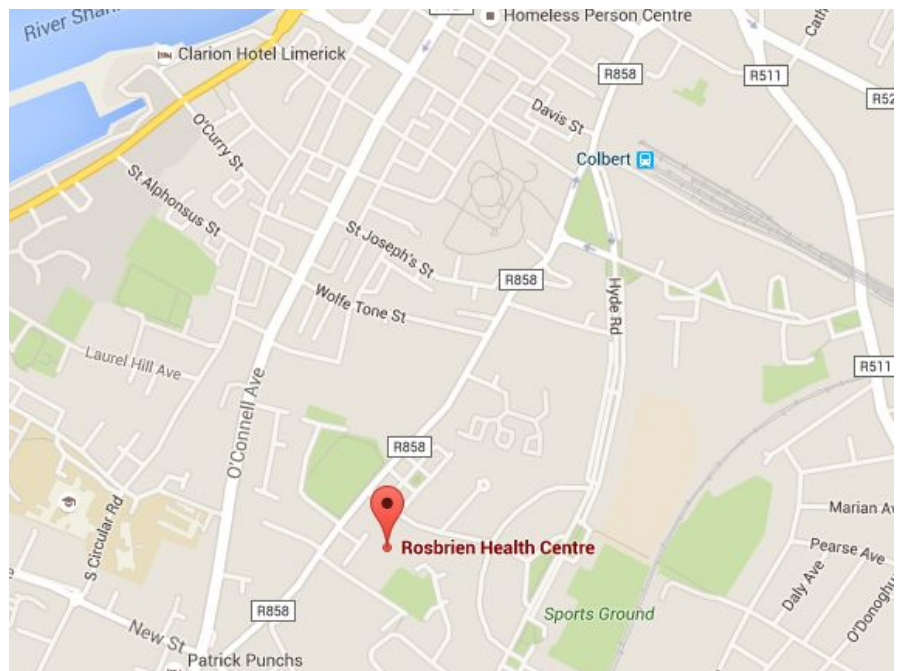


St Brendan's Health Centre
(CWO)
Donnellan's Buildings
Rosbrien
Limerick

Tel: 061 436020

Note:

It is important to check at which time and day you may be able to meet the CWO. Day and time depends on where your new accommodation is located. Please see the list below for details of Limerick city clinic times, organising by location/address.



Community Welfare Officer (CWO): Limerick city clinic days/ times

Clinic	Address/ Location of new accommodation	Times
St. Brendan's Health Centre, Rosbrien Tel: 061 436020	Aspen Gardens; Aster Court; Bloodmill Road; Childers Road; Claughaun Avenue; East Singland Road; Fair Green; Galvone Road; Garryowen Villas; Glasgow Park; Glenbrook; Glendale; Hillcroft; Kennedy Park; Keyes Park; Linden Court; Lynwood Park; Norwood Park; O'Malley Park; Rose Court; Roxborough Avenue Singland; South Claughaun Road; Southill; Springfield; Sunny Heights; The Pike; Walnut Drive; West Singland Road; Willow Court (off Galvone Rd); Windsor Court	Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 - 11:00
St. Brendans Health Centre	Dublin Rd; Clare St. (left side); Mulgrave St; Old Cork Rd; Rhebogue	Wednesday 10:00 - 11:00
St. Brendans Health Centre	Downey St/Ave; Dublin Rd (right side city to traffic lights); Flood St; John's Street; Johnsgate; Keane Street; Keating Street; Killalee; Kilmurray ave/court/rd; Mitchell Street; North Claughaun Rd; Pennywell; Rostown Tce; Summer Street; Watergate	Tuesday & Thursday 14:00 - 15:00
St. Brendans Health Centre	Ballinacurra Garden; Carew Park; Careys Road; Croom; Fedamore; Garryglass Gardens Greenfields; Herbertstown; Janesboro; Killeely; Oakview Drive; Rathbane.	Tuesday 11:30 - 12:30 Wednesday 10:00 - 11:00
St. Brendans Health Centre	Adare; Ballynacarriga; Carrig; Crecora; Dock Road; Dooradoyle; Dunaman; Henry Street; Kilcornan; Kildimo; Kilfinny; Little Gerald Griffin Street; Mount Kenneth; Mungret Street; Newenham Street O'Curry Street	Tuesday & Thursday 14:00 - 15:00
St. Brendan's Health Centre	Ballinacurra Weston; Bishops Quay; Dooradoyle; Edward Street, Howley's Quay; Limerick City Centre; Parnell Street Prospect; Rosbrien Road; Ballinacurra Road	Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 - 11:00

Looking for accommodation

You cannot apply for Social Welfare/Jobseeker's Benefit until you have found accommodation, outside of Direct Provision. The following websites, agencies and media provide lists of available accommodation in Limerick. Doras Luimní can help by calling landlords, accompanying you to viewings. Contact our office for assistance.

Websites	Property Agencies	Media/ Classifieds	Informal networks // Word of Mouth
www.daft.ie	M&C Property 51 O'Connell Street	Limerick Post (Available every Thursday morning)	Doras Luimní keep landlord contact details on file - register your needs with us.
www.rent.ie	Rooney Auctioneers 99 O'Connell Street	Supermarket noticeboards (Tesco/ Lidl/ Aldi)	Friends, former DP residents and acquaintances may be able to help - ask as many as possible to help your search.
www.myhome.ie	Simply Rent 17 Mallow Street		