

Rising stars in Ireland's housing sector have work cut out as homeless increase 31%

Tonight sees one of the biggest events in the housing calendar: the NI & ROI's housing professional's awards. Will the news that homeless rose by 31% impact?

DUBLIN, IRELAND, February 27, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- "Talented housing professionals needed that will lead the future."

Tonight sees one of the biggest events in the housing calendar as the results of the Chartered Institute of Housing Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland [annual awards](#) are announced.

[VPSitex](#), who last year helped to secure and prepare nearly 20,000 empty houses for new tenants across the UK, Northern Ireland and the Republic, are the European leaders in managing vacant property, and sponsor the Rising Stars category in the CIH NI and ROI annual awards.

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These are the talented housing professionals needed that will lead the future.

Anthony Owen, Managing Director VPSitex

However the latest [figures of homeless](#) published by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive this week, will cast a shadow over the event as they indicate that for the last quarter July-September, a 31% increase occurred over the same quarter the previous year. And over 1000 long-term empty properties in the Republic of Ireland are being targeted

to be brought back into use this year.

“Matching up those who are homeless with voids, or empty homes, especially if the properties have been vacant for a long period, is a priority for local authorities.” Says Anthony Owen, Managing Director of VPSitex. “We know from experience that when a unit becomes empty it is essential to secure and protect it quickly, and clean and prepare it so it can be returned to occupied housing stock as soon as possible. Turnaround times are key, but in some circumstances a property remains void for a long period, and then it becomes subject to neglect or a target for vandalism.”

Anthony concludes: “Our best wishes to the four candidates in the Rising Stars awards - Nichola Casey & Sara Miller from Helm Housing, Megan McGlinchey from Fold NI, and Eileen Thompson from the NI Housing Executive. Whoever wins tonight, they are the talented housing professionals that will lead the future.”

ENDS



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<http://www.vpsitex.ie/news/press-releases/homeless-numbers-rise-31/>

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