

# Guide to moving out of Ballyhaunis Direct Provision Centre

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- *Disclaimer: This presentation is provided for general information only and should not be taken as a substitute for professional guidance.*

Compiled July 2021



**South West Mayo**

DEVELOPMENT COMPANY CLG

Comhlacht Forbartha  
Iardheisceart Mhaigh Eo CTR

# Leaving Direct Provision



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**Register with your local  
immigration officer**



# Immigration Registration

- First step after you get your legal status is to register with the local immigration officer
- Send an email to [claremorris.immigration@garda.ie](mailto:claremorris.immigration@garda.ie), introduce yourself and ask for an appointment
- Bring your Minister's letter, Refugee Declaration, passport (if you have one) to the appointment with the immigration officer
- GNIB card is an old name for the immigration registration card, now it is called IRP (Irish Residence Permit) – same thing!
- When you move out – contact the immigration officer in your new locality **as soon as possible (i.e., within a couple of days)** and inform of your arrival at the new address

**List of immigration officers around the country –**

<https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-departments/office-of-corporate-communications/news-media/news-archive/reopening-of-registration-offices.html>

A stylized sun graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a solid yellow circle at the bottom, with several yellow dashed lines of varying lengths radiating upwards and to the right, suggesting rays of light. The background is a solid orange color.

**Immigration applications  
or documents that you  
may need**

# Documents

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Travel Document (refugees, subsidiary protection) information  
[http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/inis/pages/application for a travel document](http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/inis/pages/application%20for%20a%20travel%20document)

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Your Passports (for Leave to Remain only), birth certificates – email to the Ministerial Decision Unit [mduinfo@justice.ie](mailto:mduinfo@justice.ie) and ask for your original documents to be returned to you

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Family Reunification (refugees, subsidiary protection) - information  
<https://www.irishimmigration.ie/family-reunification-of-international-protection-holders/#What-is-Family-Reunification>

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Naturalisation as Irish Citizens (for refugees who are 3 years in Ireland, others – 5 years after getting legal status) – information  
<https://www.irishimmigration.ie/citizenship/become-an-irish-citizen-by-naturalisation/>

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**Help with applications, emails: MIA -  
Natalya 0860406134, Patricia 087 096 6560**

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- Social Welfare is a financial support that is provided for people who do not have sufficient own income (e.g. jobless, low income, parenting alone, disability, in full time education)
  - If you earn enough income - you will not need Social Welfare supports
  - Your Direct Provision Payment will stop soon after you get status - **you need to apply for the Social Welfare payment after getting status ('standard' payments)**



What is social welfare?

# Social Welfare – Payments

- Child Benefit (for children up to 18 years)
- Job Seeker's Allowance (if you are available & looking for full-time job)
- One Parent Family (if you parent alone the child who is up to 7 years old)
- Working Family Payment (if you are in low income job over 19 hours p/week + have children)
- Back to Education Allowance (if you are in full-time education)
- Disability Allowance (significant illness)
- Supplementary Welfare Allowance - apply to receive weekly money while waiting for approval of your main Social Welfare payment application

Help to apply, questions: MIA, Natalya – 0860406134

Citizens' Information Service, contacts in Mayo:

<https://centres.citizensinformation.ie/county.php?county=mayo>

[https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social\\_welfare/social\\_welfare\\_payments/](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/)





# How to find a home

# Find a Home (steps)

1. Fill out application for Housing Supports with Mayo County Council

2. Get approved on the Council housing list and approved for HAP (Housing Assistance Payment)

3. Look for house to rent: on [www.daft.ie](http://www.daft.ie), contact local letting agents, ask friends and people you know.

4. After finding house – make sure HAP forms are filled, follow up with County Council on all paperwork required.

Make sure to understand how HAP works.

Who can help: Paul Fallon at +353 86 606 2768 (Depaul charity)

# How to move out of direct provision

Ask locally for transport to move (van), or look up online, e.g.

<https://www.manwithavandublin.ie/man-with-a-van-mayo/>,

<https://www.movinginireland.com/Removals-Mayo.html>

Ask your community welfare officer for relocation costs (these are usually equal to public transport one-way fare)

When you are packing – **do not** throw away official letters – you may need proof of address when applying for Irish citizenship in the future!

Inform your GP (and other supports you are connected with) about your move, discuss transfer of hospital/medical/specialists' referrals

After moving from  
direct provision...

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## 1. Register with your local immigration officer in your Garda station as soon as possible

Contact local Intreo Office (department of social protection) – inform of your new address

Ask Intreo for financial supports with costs of moving, settling in the new house (bring a list of all items you require to purchase)  
<https://www.gov.ie/en/service/19ef0f-urgent-needs-payments-swa/>

Still struggling with relocation costs? - contact charity St Vincent de Paul  
<https://svp.ie/home.aspx>

Find & register children with schools and childcare

Inform your bank about change of address

Find local GP, register there and exchange your Medical Card on the new GP name  
<https://www2.hse.ie/file-library/medical-cards/medical-card-and-gp-visit-card-change-of-gp-form-english.pdf>

Ask your landlord questions about utilities - gas, electricity, waste bins, heating oil, TV licence. Utilities may need to be transferred to your name. Make sure to take electricity (or gas) meter reading before you move. Be careful on spending until you get your first bill (!)

You can get advice on budgeting and spending money from MABS  
<https://www.mabs.ie/en/>

Start looking for a job – Intreo officer will be able to help and link you with supports

For supports with local education options contact ETB, Adult Education Guidance service

For any queries, information, assistance contact local Citizens' Information Service



# Connecting with your new community

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## Look for connections with your new community:

- Greet your neighbours
- Visit the Family Resource Centre in your area and introduce yourself – they have some great projects or groups which you may join, ask questions 😊 <https://www.familyresource.ie/family-resource-centres-ireland.php>
- Look up for local clubs, groups, church, your native community if you like
- Consider volunteering for integrating <https://www.volunteer.ie/about-us/vcs/find-your-vc/>
- Look up for sport clubs and other activities for your children
- It is worth contacting your local Development company and their SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme) workers for various supports (employment, business, community, orientation in new place) - <https://ildn.ie/directory/local-development-companies-map/>





In summary ...

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# Leaving Direct Provision



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## Afterwards

- Keep in touch! We love to hear how people are settling in after they leave Direct Provision
- **Keep all correspondence and letters**, even if you need to move house. This will be very important if you apply for citizenship. Please contact Patricia Quinn (087-096 6560, [pquinn@southmayo.com](mailto:pquinn@southmayo.com)) for a separate information sheet on this.
- If you stay in Mayo, we can continue to support you in any way we can.



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Welcoming and Including New Communities project is co-financed by the European Commission under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2014-2020 and is supported by the Department of Justice and Equality