

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

MARCH 2026

## Highlights


As at end of March 2026.

For breakdown by  
quarter, see page 2



**23,020**

registrations of interest  
on firsthomescheme.ie



**11,682**

applications received\*

\*There is a time lag  
between applications  
received and approved



**10,045**

buyers have been  
approved by the Scheme  
(Eligibility Cert received),  
allowing them to buy/  
build their chosen home  
(a joint application is counted as  
one buyer, not two)



**6,479**

contracts issued



**5,329**

homes purchased/  
built

The Scheme, a major part of the Government's Housing Plan has published its performance update for Q1 2026 which also shows that over 10,000 approvals have been issued and supported over 5,300 home purchases to date.

The Scheme was set up to provide first-time buyers who, despite having a mortgage approval in place, still could not cover the cost of a new-build home. In exchange for providing funding, the Scheme takes an equity stake of up to 30% in the home.

### New-build Product

Launched 7th July 2022



**10,853**

Number of  
Applications to date



**9,421**

Number of Eligibility  
Certificates (approvals)  
issued to date



**6,096**

Number of Contracts  
issued to date



**5,007**

Homes Purchased

### Tenant Home Purchase Product

Launched 17 April 2023



**563**

Number of  
Applications to date



**419**

Number of Eligibility  
Certificates (approvals)  
issued to date



**268**

Number of Contracts  
issued to date



**238**

Homes Purchased

### Self-built Product

Launched 20 September 2023



**266**

Number of  
Applications to date



**205**

Number of Eligibility  
Certificates (approvals)  
issued to date



**115**

Number of Contracts  
issued to date

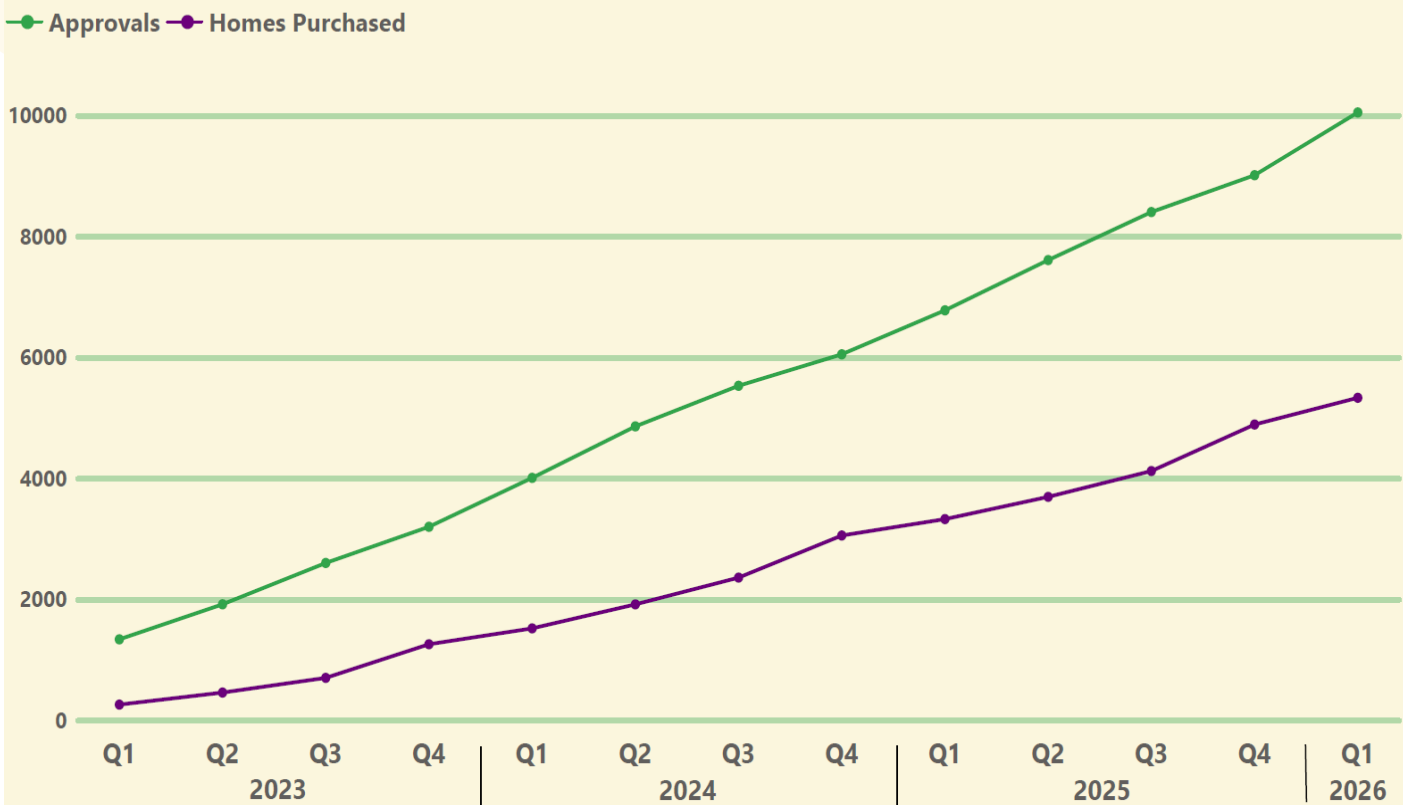


**84**

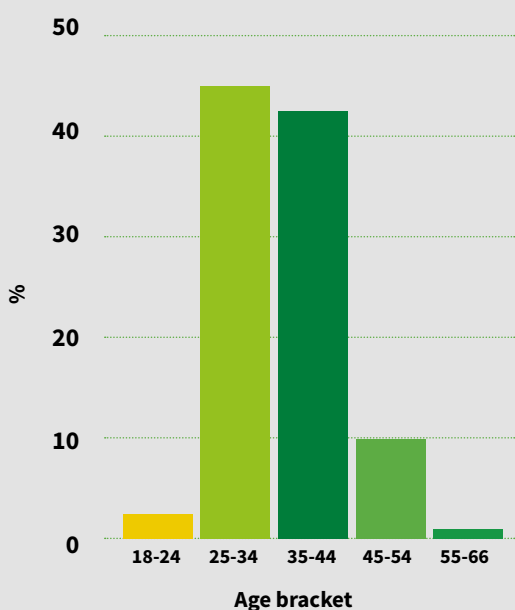
Homes Built

Year	Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Total (by year)	
	Approvals	Homes purchased	Approvals	Homes purchased	Approvals	Homes purchased	Approvals	Homes purchased	Approvals	Homes purchased
2022*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	474	8	276	129	750	137
2023	586	120	579	199	683	243	598	556	2,446	1,118
2024	809	262	851	396	711	501	480	638	2,851	1,797
2025	727	271	831	368	794	427	609	769	2,961	1,835
2026	1,037	442								

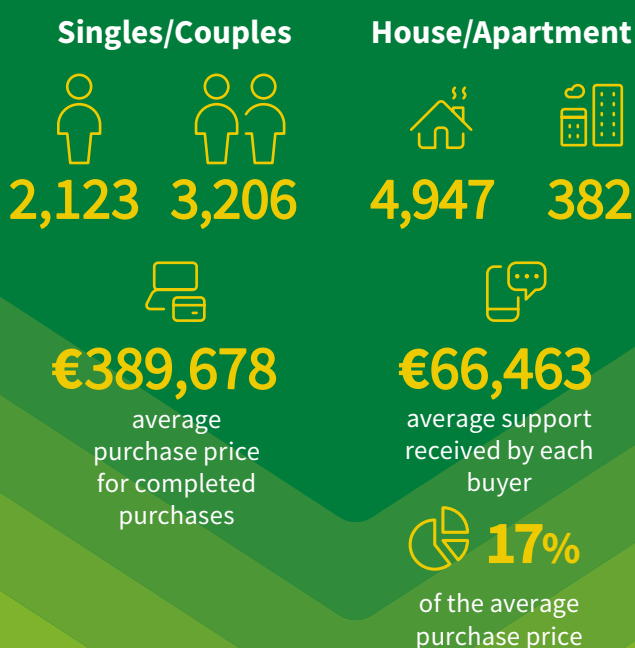
### Quarter on Quarter progress for Approvals and Homes Purchased/Built



### Applicant Age Profile

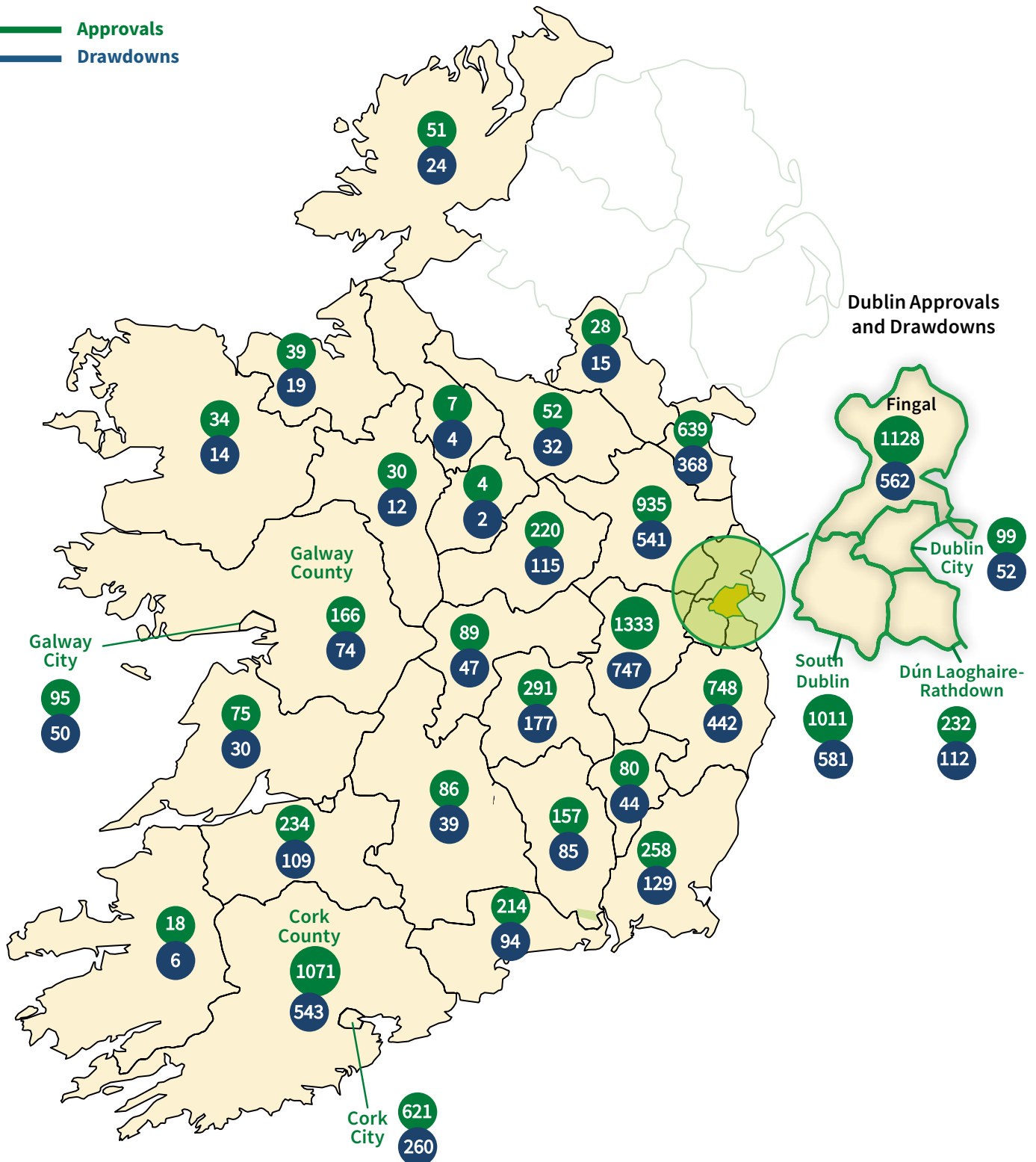


### Homes Funded

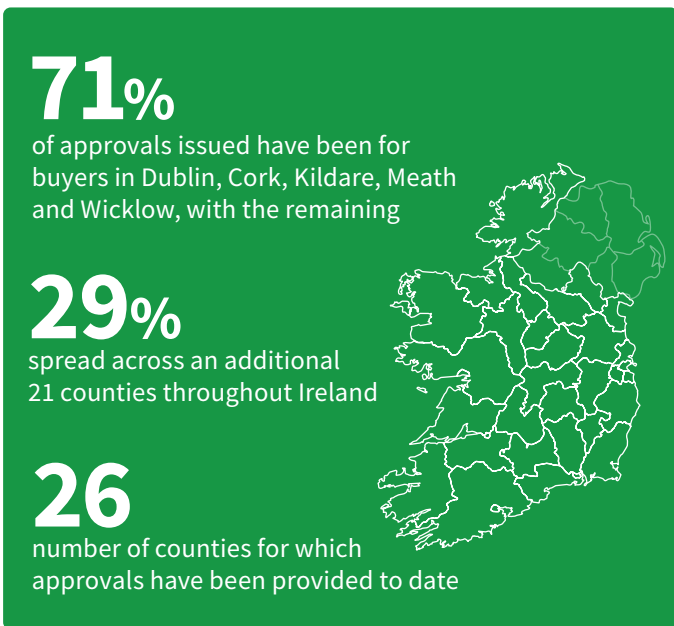


# NUMBER OF APPROVALS AND DRAWDOWNS

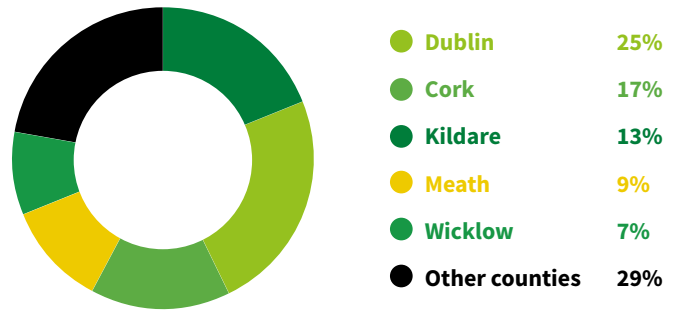
— Approvals  
— Drawdowns



## Geographical split



## Breakdown of Approvals by County

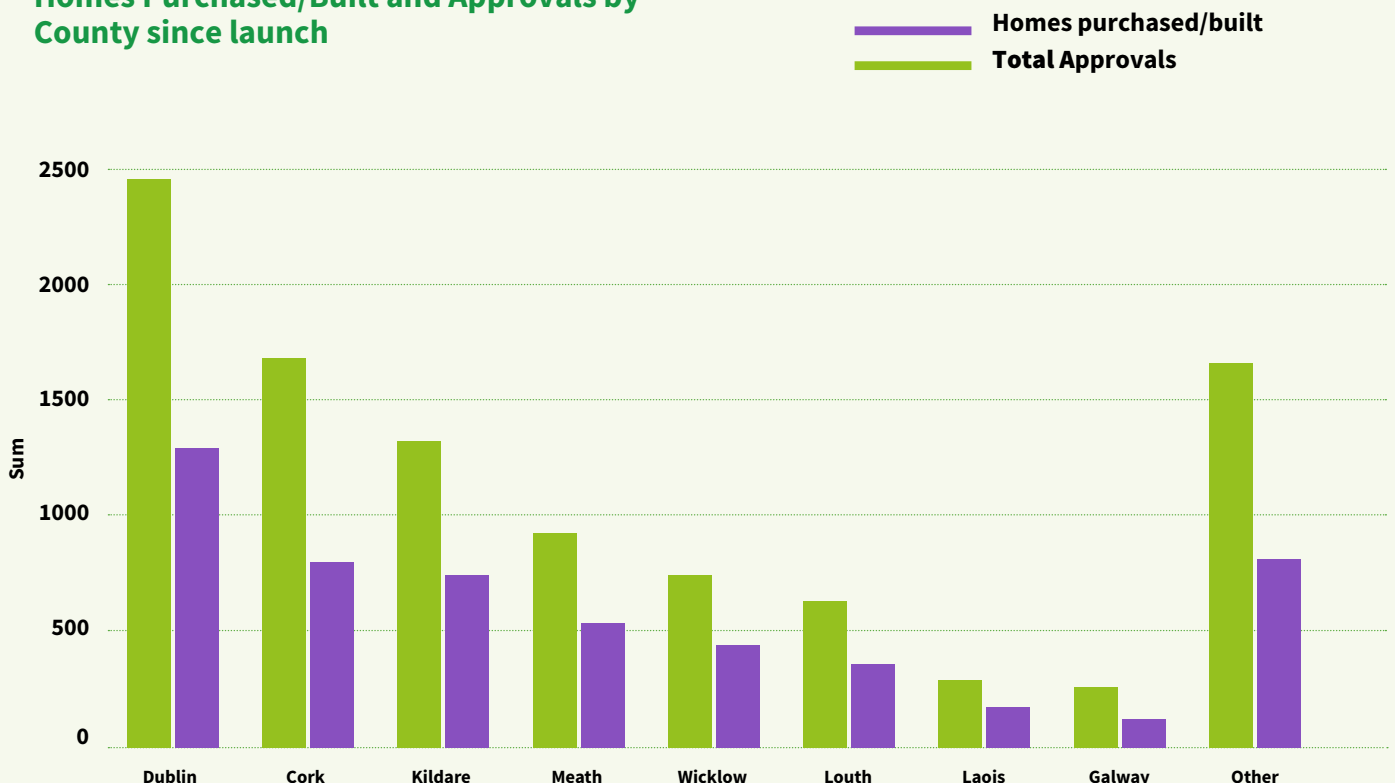


The First Home Scheme has provided over €350m in support to people who have bought or built their homes

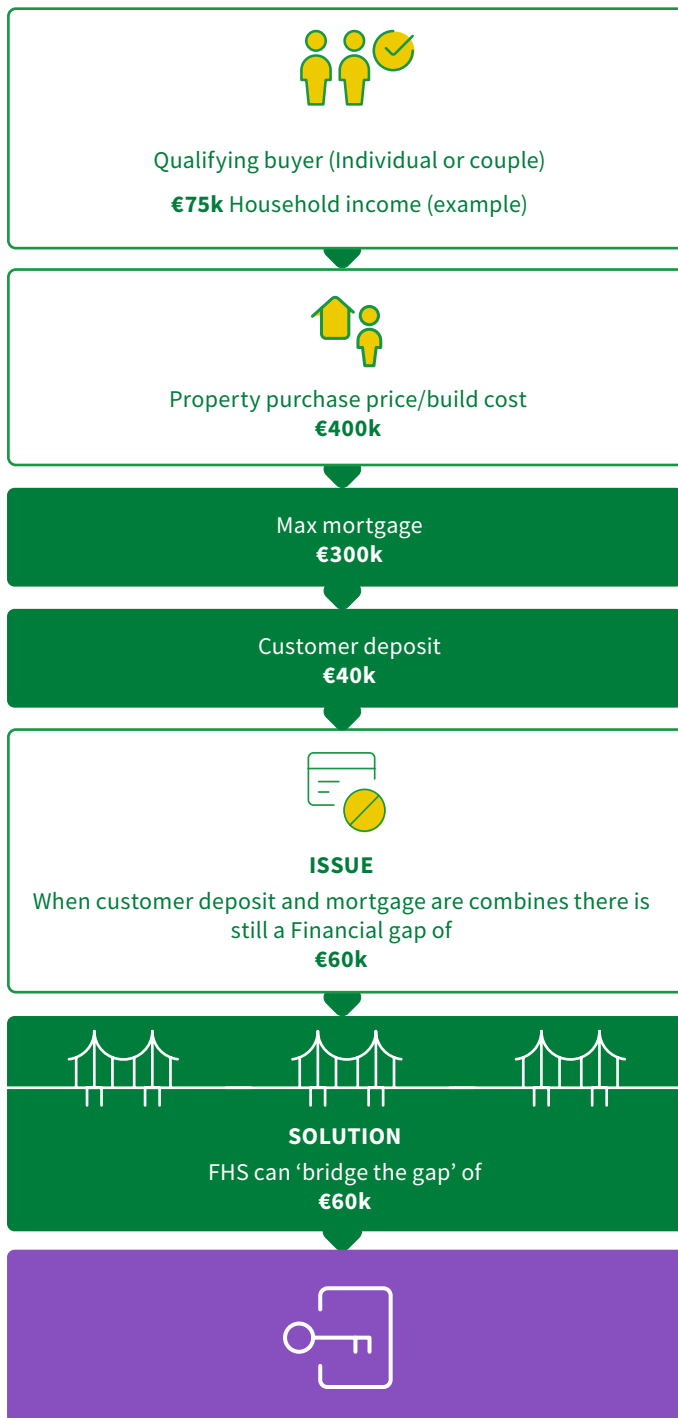
Over 10,000 potential buyers have been approved by the Scheme, with over 1,000 new approvals issued in Q1 2026.

66% of First Home Scheme users are also availing of the Help to Buy scheme.

## Homes Purchased/Built and Approvals by County since launch



## How the First Home Scheme works



The Scheme provides financial support to First-time Buyers and facilitates them in purchasing or building a new home that they could not otherwise afford after combining their available mortgage and deposit (equity in your site can form part of the deposit in the case of a self-build).

By bridging the gap between the available mortgage, deposit and the price/build cost of the new home, the scheme will make the prospect of home ownership possible for many for the first time.

The scheme is making €680 million available to facilitate the purchase of homes by First-time Buyers and other qualifying applicants, subject to demand.

<b>First-Time Buyer income</b>	<b>€75,000</b>
<b>Maximum borrowing (4x income from January 1st 2023)</b>	<b>€300,000</b>
<b>Property Purchase price/Build cost</b>	<b>€400,000</b>
<b>Deposit*</b> <small>*Equity in your site can form part of the deposit in the case of a self-build</small>	<b>€40,000</b> <b>(10% of purchase price/build cost)</b>
<b>Maximum that First-Time Buyers can pay without support</b>	<b>€340,000</b> <b>€300,000 plus €40,000</b>
<b>Affordability gap</b>	<b>€60,000</b> <b>€400,000 minus €340,000</b>
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>First Home Scheme can provide €60,000 in return for a 15% equity stake in the property</b>

The First Home Scheme can provide a maximum of 30% of the purchase price or build cost (20% if the buyer is also using the Help to Buy scheme).