

# Ireland Residential Investment Snapshot 2020



# IRELAND RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT SNAPSHOT 2020

## HEADLINES

**42%**

RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT WAS THE LARGEST PROPORTION OF INVESTMENT SPEND

**€1.26 Bn**

TOTAL RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT SPEND FOR 2020

**3.75%**

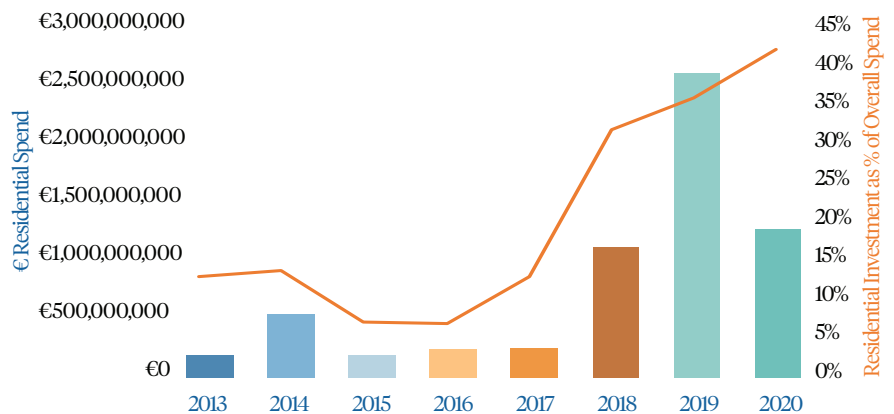
PRIME RESIDENTIAL YIELDS HAVE REMAINED RESILIENT THROUGHOUT 2020

Despite the impact of Covid-19 on world markets throughout 2020, real estate investment and residential investment in particular held up very well as investors sought out core assets. Investment volumes in Irish commercial real estate in 2020 were lower compared to the previous year, however 2019 was an exceptional year due to a number of large scale transactions such as the Green REIT sale. €3 billion worth of investment transactions closed throughout 2020 of which €1.26 billion were residential deals. This equates to 42% of the Irish investment market, the highest percentage of any year since 2013. In total, there were 27 residential investment transactions over €1 million of which four of these deals exceeded €100 million.

Covid-19 paused the market in the first half of the year with only 21% of the year's deals transacting. As the market came to grips with the pandemic, deal flow began once again with 37% of the year's deals crossing the line in Q3 and 42% in Q4. There was also a high volume of off-market deals which occurred throughout the year with only 32% of the transaction volumes over €1 million being widely marketed.

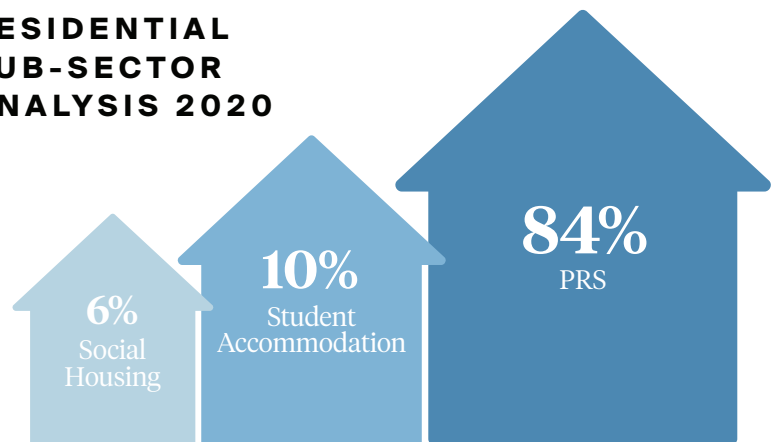
Institutional ownership of residential assets has increased to over 18,000 units throughout Ireland with the highest proportion being in Dublin. IRES-REIT and Kennedy Wilson remain the largest institutional holders of residential units at 23% and 18% respectively. Avestus, DWS, IRES-REIT, Orange Capital Partners, Irish Life, Roundhill, LRC Capital and Urbeo all added to their existing portfolio's throughout 2020.

## RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT 2013 - 2020



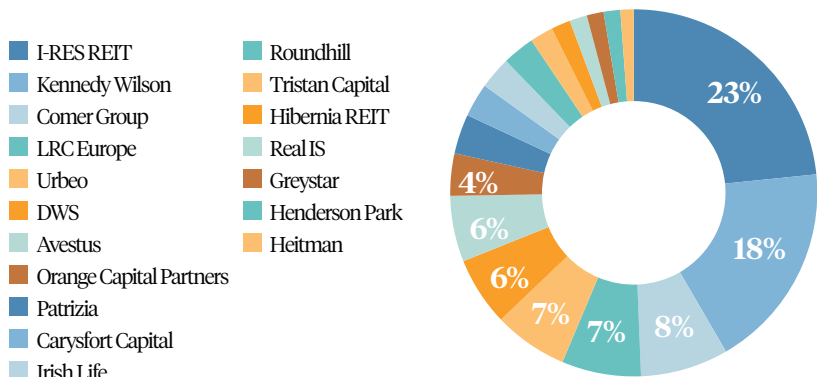
Source: Knight Frank Research

## RESIDENTIAL SUB-SECTOR ANALYSIS 2020



Source: Knight Frank Research

## INSTITUTIONAL RESIDENTIAL OWNERSHIP



Source: Knight Frank Research

## TOP 3 DEALS OF 2020

# 1

### €195 Mn

CUALANOR, DUN LAOGHAIRE  
ACQUIRED BY DWS FOR  
€195 MILLION

# 2

### €145 Mn

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO ACQUIRED  
BY DWS FOR €145 MILLION

# 3

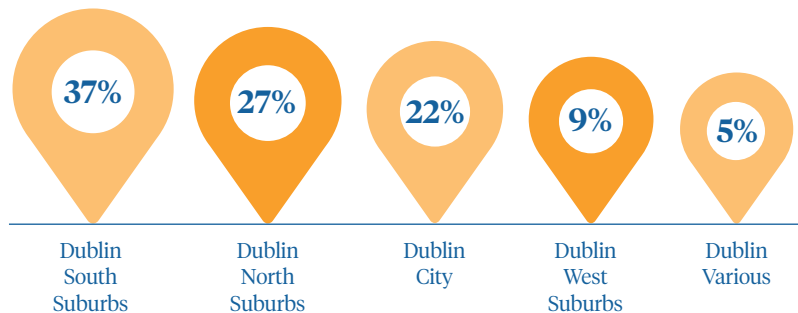
### €140 Mn

CONFIDENTIAL TRANSACTION  
COMPLETED FOR €140 MILLION

Dublin was the focus of residential investment transactions throughout 2020. This is not surprising considering the shift towards core assets seen across the entire CRE sector.

- Of the reported deals, Dublin's South Suburbs remains a key location for investors with 37% of the investment volume transacting here.
- The north suburbs were a close second with 27% of transaction volumes.

## 2020 RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS BY LOCATION



Source: Knight Frank Research

## TOP 5 RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT DEALS 2020

Quarter	Property	Sector	Deal Structure	€m	Purchaser
Q3 2020	Cheevers Court & Haliday House	PRS	Forward Commit	€195m	DWS / SW3 Capital
Q3 2020	The Prestige Portfolio	PRS	Forward Commit	€145m	DWS / SW3 Capital
Q4 2020	Confidential	PRS	Forward Commit	€140m	Confidential
Q4 2020	Blackwood Square	PRS	Forward Commit	€123.5m	Round Hill Capital & Quad Real Property Group
Q1 2020	Former Brewery Block, Newmarket Square	Student	Forward Commit	€85m	Round Hill Capital / NBK Capital

Source: Knight Frank Research

Investor activity has arguably been held back by limited supply and Covid-19 construction constraints.

- While the number of completions for first nine months of 2020 were lower than the same period in 2019, grants of planning increased by 22%.
- In the first nine months of 2020, 20,656 apartment units were granted planning permission, of which 16,752 (81%) were SHD applications.
- With this increase in granted schemes there is a clear pipeline of future stock for both the investment and private sales market.

## IRELAND, UNITS WITH A GRANT OF PLANNING



Source: CSO

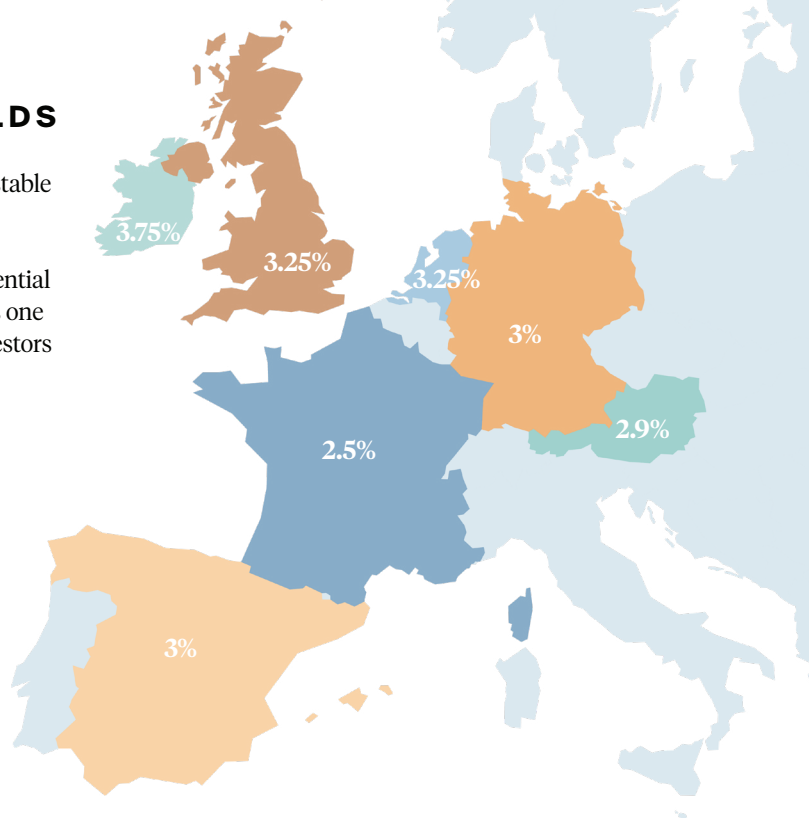
## RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT YIELDS

Prime residential investment yields in Dublin have remained stable throughout 2020 despite the onset of Covid-19.

In comparison to other major European destinations for residential investment, Ireland and Dublin remain competitive and this is one of the key factors that will continue to attract institutional investors to the Irish market throughout 2021.

## OUTLOOK 2021

- Flight to quality and professionally managed schemes
- Supply shortages to continue
- Emergence of forward funding deals
- Trading of long income social leases
- Growth in management operating platforms and technology links
- Increased importance in ESG
- Strong demand for portfolios of single-family housing
- Continued debate on the importance of micro/co-living within cities



## EUROPEAN RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT MARKET

	Germany	France	Spain	Netherlands	Austria	Ireland	UK
Rent Restrictions/ Tenant Rights	Rent Cap in Berlin	Rent controls in Paris	Rent controls being discussed	Regulated & free market	Regulated & unregulated	Rent controls in RPZ's	Some affordability requirements
Prime Net Initial Yield	3%	2.5%	3%	3.25%	2.9%	3.75%	3.25%
Prime Gross Yield	3.35%	3%	3.7%	3.5%	3.1%	4.5%	4.3%
Prime PRS Cap Val (per sq m)	€7,500	€10,700	€5,750	€10,000	€6,500	€8,000	£8,500
Avg Rent Per Sqm per Month	€22	€27	€14.50	€22	€13.5	€30	£30

♦♦ This table shows prime yields and cap vals for stabilised assets in capital cities (Berlin in Germany) and as such these will vary for regional cities. Capital Value and Rent numbers reflect good quality product in un-regulated rental markets ♦♦

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