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# Newsletter 10 October, 2015

This is our last newsletter before the CHA-Impact Conference 21-23 October. We are looking forward to meeting many of you there.

# Transaction Unit market sounding process

CHA has received strong feedback on the Market Sounding information memorandums for Tauranga and Invercargill from our members. The feedback suggests substantial further work is required in order to ensure that stock transfers deliver on the aims expressed for the transfers, in particular their potential for better outcomes for families, communities and taxpayers.

CHA has discussed its submission with government officials. We are pleased to confirm an interactive session between these officials and the sector on the issues raised during the Market Sounding in the context of the Government's social housing policy.

# The session will be on Thursday 22 October during the CHA IMPACT conference.

Many of the sector's comments about the market sounding are on topics that are wider than the stock transfer programme – in particular the delivery of housing solutions across the full housing continuum. We have said that stock transfers should create scope and incentives for participants to increase the supply of social housing to serve those in greatest need, while also stimulating the

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Our Place: All New Zealanders wellhoused



supply of affordable housing. We have asked for a good faith discussion that can result in a much better framework for stock transfers and avoids locking in the problems of the New Zealand's current social housing system – and that request has been granted. Thank you for your engagement to date.

#### Read our submission here.

# RFP – Emergency Housing Services in Auckland

The Ministry of Social Development released a Request for Proposals (RFP) on 6 October through GETS, to seek providers to deliver temporary emergency housing services in Auckland from 1 January, 2016. The aim of these services is to provide short-term accommodation and individualised support services for individuals and households that have an emergency housing need. **Go here for details.** 

# Seeking feedback on 'Our Place' – a plan to house 50,000 more people



'Our Place' is the proposed sector strategy for community housing. The goal of the strategy is to house 50,000 more people in community housing by 2020. What do you think of this goal? Can we achieve it and what will it take to get there? What do you think 'success' looks like for our sector over the next five

years to 2020?

Please take 10 minutes to complete this survey.

# **RFI- Social housing process**

Government has released a Request for Information document, with an open end date, as a forum to submit any ideas that providers may have to deliver more social housing (and affordable housing?). While there are no specific resources confirmed to implement housing solutions that come through the process, this is an attempt to allow a cross-agency engagement that, up to this point, has not previously been available. The RFI also calls for responses for stock transfers outside of the current Tauranga and Invercargill process which have a fixed response date. Have a read and see what you think. **Go here for the documentation**.

### Making affordable homes happen – launched



The launch of the new development guide site to help create more affordable homes in Auckland was held on Monday and attended by over 130 people. There was much interest in the information provided on the website and a very positive response.

Auckland Council Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse says: "The availability of good quality affordable housing that meets the needs of all Aucklanders is an issue that has become particularly challenging given the current shortage and our growing population. We know that addressing this issue needs a coordinated and joined-up approach across several sectors, and the development of the 'making affordable homes happen' site is a really good example of that collaborative approach in action."

Here is the link to the **new site**:

# Annual General Meeting of Community Housing Aotearoa

The Annual General Meeting of Community Housing Aotearoa will be held at 6pm, 21 October at Te Raukura, Wharewaka Function Center, 15 Jervois Quay.

Please join us at 5:30pm on Wednesday 21 October 2015 at Te Wharewaka. We'll start with the Mihi Whakatau followed by nibbles and drinks and the Annual General Meeting.

The candidate statements are now available for the four nominations received. You can read the statements **here** for the candidates:

- Julie Scott: Queenstown Lakes Community Housing Trust
- Carrie Mozena: Nelson Tasman Housing Trust
- Julie Nelson: Keys Social Housing
- Warren Jack: Habitat for Humanity, Auckland

Thank you to our members for nominating this fantastic group of sector leaders. We encourage full members to vote before the meeting to allow us more time to devote to CHA priority activities at the AGM. Full members will have received voting papers by mail or email which we request be returned here by 5:00pm Tuesday, 20 October 2015.

Please contact CHA if you did not receive your voting papers. Go here for further information.

### Welcome to new members

Porirua Whanau Center

### CHA annual report hot off the press!

Please take some time to read our annual report for the 2014/2015 period. You can read it here.



## **CHA IMPACT Conference 2015**



LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TO GO BUT ITS NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER. Register for the conference **HERE** 

Our conference opens with a mihi whakatau at the Café at Te Wharewaka o Pōneke at 5.30. Please gather outside at the Karaka grove entrance. The process of the mihi whakatau is **attached here**. The kawa is a little different as the manawhenua are from the Taranaki iwi so the hongi and hariru take place at the beginning.

The final programme will be on the website early next week and there are still places available on the site visits on the Wednesday, in the Sam Tsemberis workshop, and the Māori and Pasifika forums.

#### **Conference exhibiting opportunities**

There is an opportunity for CHA members or others to present your business at the IMPACT Conference in the exhibition hall. Please contact Sarah **here** if you are interested in following up this opportunity.

# Please update your member details on the CHA website

We need your current details on the CHA member database on our website. Please log in and update your details as we will need current member lists to transfer to our new website. If you need your log in details please **contact us here**.

# **Employment opportunities**



#### CHA Seeking Senior Programme Manager – Auckland based

Community Housing Aotearoa is a vibrant and growing organisation. Our mission is to support the growth and development of community housing in New

Zealand to meet our vision of all New Zealanders well housed. If you share our passion for an increasing role for community housing providers in meeting New Zealand's housing need and have great relationship and communication skills then we want to talk to you. You can see the **announcement** and job description on our website **here**.

### In the news

Click on the title to read the news item.

8 OCTOBER- Paula Bennett reassures tenants. In this opinion piece from the Southland Times, 2nd October, the Minister for Social Housing, Paula Bennett, reassures tenants about the transfer of HNZC properties to community housing providers.

#### 3 October- New papakainga opened

Ranga-Bidois whānau papakāinga in Ngāruawahia has opened three new homes for whānau housing.

#### 5 October- Māori Housing Network set up

Minister for Māori Development Te Ururoa Flavell formally launched the Māori Housing Network at the opening of the Ranga-Bidois whānau papakāinga in Ngāruawahia today.

# 2 October - Chris Parker comments on Auckland housing situation

Chris Parker says Mike Hosking has it wrong when he heaps all the blame for soaring house prices on the Auckland Council.

#### 2 October- Building consents hit eight year high

The latest data from Statistics New Zealand showing the annual number of building consents in Auckland at an eight-year high have been welcomed today by Building and Housing Minister Dr Nick Smith.

#### 30 September-Housing affordability report released by Massey

According to Massey's University's latest Home Affordability Report, annual deterioration in home affordability has slowed – and has recently improved.

# 30 September - Finance Minister's speech on housing affordability

Bill English comments: "Housing costs are becoming a larger proportion of incomes – and that matters the most at the bottom end of incomes among people who have few choices."

#### 30 September- Auckland money a temporary solution

Lifewise are urging the government to consider solutions that will end homelessness permanently, rather than temporarily manage the problem, following Social Housing Minister Paula Bennett's \$2 million plan to set up transitional housing for families in Auckland

# 29 September- boost in funding for Auckland emergency housing provision

Social Housing Minister Paula Bennett said an extra \$2 million funding would fund up to 120 places a year for homeless families and individuals, with support to help them find longer-term housing.

#### 28 September- New process for social housing transactions

The Government has released a new process for identifying further opportunities for social housing and is seeking requests for information.

#### 28 September- Iwi collective keen to expand housing

The Tamaki Collective is a collective of 13 Auckland iwi that are building 300 houses at Waimahia Inlet in South Auckland.

#### 28 September- Auckland's quest for affordable housing

Todd Niall asks does New Zealand have the systems in place to successfully turn out enough reasonably priced homes.

#### 28 September- Minister of Finance on social investment

On 17 September Hon Bill English presented a speech on social investment to the Treasury guest lecture series.

### Spotlight on the hidden homeless

Auckland's Housing Call to Action group has chosen to highlight the plight of "the hidden homeless" during Spotlight on Housing week this week culminating with World Homelessness Day on Saturday 10 October.

This week comprises a series of events, activities and competitions with the aim of raising the profile of housing and homelessness as important issues for New Zealand society. It kicks off on Monday morning 5 October at 8am with a Tent City and Sausage Sizzle in central Henderson opposite the District Court. Full details of events are available on the Housing Call to Action Facebook page.

The hidden homeless are those people living in cars, in garages, sleep-outs, couch surfing or in overcrowded homes, often with several families sharing a dwelling. Recent census data suggest there could be up to 20,000 people living in these conditions currently in Auckland.

- · About half of homeless adults are in employment or studying;
- Most homeless people in New Zealand are under the age of 25;
- · Auckland has about half of those waiting for Social Housing;
- There are at least 20,000 severely housing deprived people in Auckland;

• People living in overcrowded and/or substandard housing have a high rate of hospital admissions and primary health related issues.

# Research

The inter-relationship between structural factors and individual risk factors in explaining homelessness

This research project examines how housing and labour markets, social deprivation and other area-level factors interact with individual risk factors to influence housing instability. It provides new insight into ways to prevent homelessness and help vulnerable households remain housed. This is an AHURI research report, September 2015, written by: Guy Johnson, Rosanna Scutella, Yi-Ping Tseng, and Gavin Wood. See more here.

# **Events**

# 16 October: Dunedin, Healthy and affordable housing: local and national issues

A Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) event, speakers include:

Fatima McKague -PhD candidate, Centre for Sustainability, University of Otago - "Voices of the fuel poor: the cold truth -Understanding energy hardship in New Zealand" Nicola Liebergreen - Assistant Research Fellow, University of Otago -"Out in the cold"Dunedin Mayor Dave Cull- the Cosy Homes Project. More information here.

#### 21 November - Hikoi for homes - everyone deserves a home

Organised by the Child Poverty Action Group in Auckland and Wellington.The Auckland event will take place from 12noon -3.30pm and will begin in Glen Innes and end at Britomart/Queen Elizabeth Square. The Wellington event will start in Cuba Street 1pm-2.30pm walking to Civic Square.More information on their **website**.

#### 17–19 Feb 2016 Australasian Housing Researchers Conference to be hosted by the University of Auckland

The conference is open to all researchers concerned with housing issues including: affordability and homelessness, housing policy and planning, housing economics, housing sustainability, and regional, national and international housing markets. As well as established researchers, the input and participation of early career researchers is especially welcome. **Go here for more information**.

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