



## Simpler contracting to deliver more houses for people in need

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) has drafted a new Contract Framework that will make it easier and faster for MSD and providers to work together to bring on more public houses (IRRS places and transitional housing) for people who need them.

During July and August we will be working with the sector to test and refine the draft Contract Framework before it comes into use.

### What is the Contract Framework?

- A simpler way of contracting for public housing.
- Reflects a new relationship-based way of MSD and providers working together in partnership.

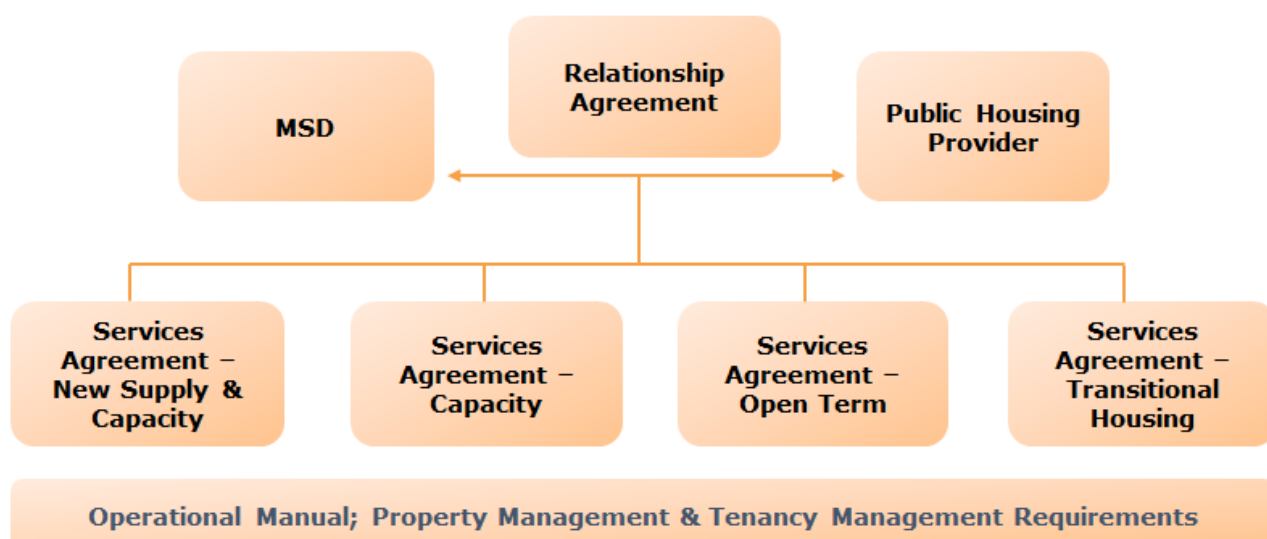
### What will be different?

Up until now, we've required providers to sign several different types of contracts and agreements, often creating extra effort, duplication and lack of consistency for both providers and staff.

Over the past few months, MSD has been developing a simpler and more consistent way of contracting for public housing. We've listened to providers' and staff feedback, run workshops with providers and agencies and worked with legal experts.

Under our new framework, our providers will only need to sign:

- the overarching Relationship Agreement which sets the tone and principles for how providers and MSD work together
- clear and straightforward Services Agreements which apply to each product/service purchased by MSD.



## **Next steps – sector workshops**

During July and August we will test and refine the draft Relationship Agreement and Service Agreements in a series of workshops with Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA), the Community Housing Regulatory Authority, MSD Housing and Policy, and Housing New Zealand.

We also want to invite housing provider representatives to take part. Interested providers should contact Chris Glaudel, Deputy Director CHA on [projects@communityhousing.org.nz](mailto:projects@communityhousing.org.nz).

## **Workshop goals**

Together we will refine a fit for purpose comprehensive housing contracting framework that supports best possible outcomes for clients. It will:

- use clear and consistent terms and performance measurements for providers
- provide transparency and certainty, and foster collaboration
- reduce transaction costs and time for government and providers
- enable consistent outcomes measurement and over time, in conjunction with a new procurement model, enable benchmarking.

By getting this right together, we will make a real difference to the way we can bring on more public housing for New Zealanders now and in the future.

## **How do providers find out more?**

CHA will be taking part in these workshops to make sure that our new contracting framework aligns with the needs of community housing providers and transitional housing providers.

CHA is working with MSD to help communicate this work to their wider group of housing providers, and to channel feedback back to the working group.

Copies of the draft documents will be available for providers to download on the CHA website from 27 June.

Providers can contact Chris Glaudel, Deputy Director CHA on [projects@communityhousing.org.nz](mailto:projects@communityhousing.org.nz).

## **When will the new Contract Framework apply and who to?**

We anticipate the workshops will wrap up in August and the new Contract Framework will launch soon after that.

It will apply to all future contracts for public and transitional housing, except those already in negotiation. For providers who have a proposal submitted, but aren't yet in contract negotiations, then the new Contract Framework will apply.

The Contract Framework does not yet cover support services or the Housing First and Creating Positive Pathways programmes. Service Agreements will be developed for these in the future



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