

**ALL NEW  
ZEALANDERS  
WELL-HOUSED**



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## Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) COVID-19 Update

This special issue of our newsletter is about COVID-19 for community housing providers from your sector body, Community Housing Aotearoa Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa.

We have provided useful links to information and advice about responding to Covid-19 including:

- [CHA's support for members](#)
- [Ministry of Health information and advice](#)
- [Government support for your organisation](#)
- [Other helpful resources](#)

## Message from CHA's Chief Executive

Kia ora koutou,

It is admittedly a strange time to be joining you all as a new CE. My first five working days have been book-ended by two very scenarios. Last Wednesday, we held an in-person sector meeting with Ministers Woods, Henare and Williams during which the early release of the Operating Supplement was announced, which I know was welcome and will assist many of you with finance conversations. Last night was of course the announcement that the bubble is back, and we face into a rapidly changing external environment once again with seven confirmed cases of the Delta variant of COVID-19 in our communities.

I know that for most of you, the coming days will be about looking after your teams, understanding what you need to stop or pause, and checking in vulnerable tenants. All the team at CHA are committed to supporting you in that, in whatever way you need – whether that be finding out information from the Ministry of Health on your behalf, coordinating questions to HUD or MSD or facilitating other expert information.

On that score, I strongly encourage you to join us for our sector calls. Our first call will be tomorrow Thursday from 2:00-3:00PM. Full details for joining the call are provided below. We will be joined by public health and housing expert, Clare Aspinall who can answer any questions you may have. It will also be a time for us all to connect as a sector.

On a personal note, I have come to understand already that this sector is full of committed people who are absolutely dedicated to getting positive outcomes for those in need. The crisis situation in the housing sector has just been compounded once again by COVID. That can be a lot to take on mentally. So, I reflect to you all what we reflected on as a CHA team this morning – none of us is ‘working from home’ right now. We are in our homes (or staying with others), during a difficult time, trying to work. Our collective wellbeing is important so please let us know if there is anything that we as an organisation can do to support yours.

The whakataukī he waka eke noa is used a lot, but I think that is because it is more true than ever right now – we really are all in this together. Please take care of yourself and each other and let’s stay in our bubbles, scan, scan, scan the Covid Tracer app and wash our hands.

Ngā mihi,

Vic Crockford  
Chief Executive  
Community Housing Aotearoa

## CHA's support for members

### Guidance resources for Alert Level 4

Community Housing Aotearoa developed resources to assist providers to safely provide housing services during the initial lockdown periods in 2020. The [Level 4 information](#) is still relevant and is available on our website. The guidance documents contain information, contacts, resources and advice to help you in your day-to-day service delivery and decision-making under the Government’s Levels 4 through 1 response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We urge all providers to review the resources to ensure your residents, staff and visitors have information available to maintain their health and safety.

## REGIONAL EVENT SERIES

### Seniors Housing Event Postponement

The Senior Housing Event which was to be held in Wellington tomorrow, Thursday 19 August has been postponed. We will reschedule the event and update the [conference website](#) with the future date in due course.

### Waikato Regional Housing Initiative - Place-based Housing

This event is currently scheduled to take place in Hamilton on Tuesday, 24 August. We will keep you posted about this and let you know if the event will be rescheduled to a later date.

## Sharing ideas and issues

CHA is hosting a sector zoom on Thursday 19 August from 2:00-3pm. This will be the same format as previous lockdown periods with a chance for providers to ask questions and identify any areas of support required.

We are inviting colleagues from MSD and HUD, but due to quick move to Level 4 are not yet sure of their participation. We are pleased to also have Clare Aspinall joining us to provide support for any public health questions.

Here are the details and the link you will need to click on:  
Topic: Community housing sector Covid zoom

Time: Aug 19, 2021 02:00 PM Auckland, Wellington

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89838240972?pwd=UjY2N0tmRjFxaURWYVluTDRzeTBPZz09>

Meeting ID: 898 3824 0972

Passcode: 119693

One tap mobile

+6436590603,,89838240972# New Zealand

+6448860026,,89838240972# New Zealand

If you can't make the meetings but have an issue you would like raised, please contact [David](#) or [Chris](#).

## Ministry of Health information and advice

Please visit the [Ministry of Health website](#) for the most up-to-date official advice and information about COVID-19 in New Zealand:

More government information about COVID-19 is available [here](#).

## Government support for your organisation

### Ministry of Housing and Urban Development - Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga

Kia ora koutou katoa i runga i ngā ahuatanga katoa o te wā.

Yesterday evening you will have heard the Prime Minister announce that following confirmation that an individual in the community in Auckland has tested positive for COVID, from midnight tonight all of Aotearoa New Zealand will move to Alert Level 4 Lockdown for three days, and the Auckland region and Coromandel for seven days.

This means New Zealanders have been instructed to stay home to stop any further spread of the COVID virus. People can still leave their home for the purposes of physical exercise provided it is in their neighbourhood, visit the supermarket, or for necessary medical purposes and for getting a COVID test.

For more detailed information about Alert Level 4 we refer you to the Ministry of Health website.

As was the situation last year, at a high-level our understanding is essential services including agencies and non-government organisations that provide welfare and social services to maintain the wellbeing of people will continue to operate.

This is an evolving situation, so we will confirm any updates with you over the next day or so as more is known.

Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga will do everything it can to support your organisation and your

mahi. We have the systems and processes in place to ensure that we can continue to operate during this time. This means we can continue to fund and pay your invoices promptly and on time.

We are in the process of updating our website with relevant information and guidance to support you. Please do check it regularly.

If you want to talk with HUD directly about any aspect of your service delivery including housing opportunities, please contact your HUD relationship manager or email [ProviderEnquiries@hud.govt.nz](mailto:ProviderEnquiries@hud.govt.nz).

Ngā manaakitanga ki a koutou katoa. Kia haumaruru te noho.

KARARAINA CALCOTT-CRIBB  
Deputy Chief Executive, Tumuaki - Te Kāhui Kāinga Ora

STEPHANIE ROWE  
Deputy Chief Executive, System Performance

## **Ministry of Business Innovation & Employment - Update for the Building and Construction Sector**

For any providers with construction projects underway, here is information received from MBIE today.

Alert Levels may be updated by the Government at any time. Information and guidance on what you can do at Alert Level 4 is being updated – please keep checking the following websites for the latest information:

- For Health and Safety protocols at different alert levels, visit [CHASNZ COVID-19](https://www.chasnz.org) and working at the current alert level (chasnz.org)
- For COVID-19 guidance specific to the building and construction sector, including information on essential services, visit [building.govt.nz COVID-19](https://www.building.govt.nz): Building and construction sector guidance | Building Performance
- For information about COVID-19, visit [Unite against COVID-19](https://www.covid19.govt.nz) (covid19.govt.nz)

Please note building and construction work can only be carried out at Alert Level 4 if it meets the Government definition of an essential service. This includes work required to:

- maintain human health and safety
- avoid significant environmental harm
- support critical infrastructure, for example electricity, gas, water and waste water (sanitation)
- support essential services, for example food processing, food distribution, supermarkets, dairies and pharmacies
- support regulatory service in relation to building consenting, compliance and resource consenting necessary for essential services outlined above
- maintain the supply of products and materials necessary for essential services outlined above.

Stay safe, and look after each other.

Ngā mihi,  
The Building Performance Team

**Ministry for Pacific Peoples Channels**

You will find a range of videos and factsheets on Alert Level 4 across the Ministry for Pacific Peoples digital channels about the alert level changes. They include English and 9 Pacific languages. Please visit our website for more information: [www.mpp.govt.nz](http://www.mpp.govt.nz)

### **Important website links**

- [Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](https://covid19.govt.nz)
- [Alert Level 4 | What to do at alert level 4](#)
- [Doing business at Alert Level 4 | Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](https://covid19.govt.nz)
- [COVID-19: Locations of interest | Ministry of Health NZ](#)
- [Mental Wellbeing For You & Your Workplace — Mentemia](#)