



**ALL NEW
ZEALANDERS
WELL-HOUSED**



Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) Newsletter 20 September 2021

Welcome to the fifth special issue of our newsletter about Covid-19 for community housing providers from your sector body, Community Housing Aotearoa Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa.

Message from Chief Executive

Kia ora koutou,

'Staying the course' to break the chain of Delta transmission is turning out to be a much more difficult path for some than others, especially our members, partners and friends in Tāmaki Makaurau and for those of you looking after the unwell and the isolated. If that's you, we're thinking of you and we know you're doing your very best with the time and resources you have.

The Prime Minister announced today that Auckland will move Alert Level 3 beginning from 11:59pm Tuesday. With this change will come some limited new freedoms, but also continued challenges to maintain the health and safety of staff and residents.

At CHA, we aim to relieve the pressure wherever we can. Last week, we hosted Barnaby Locke, from employment law firm Dundas Street, at our sector call to offer an overview of the rights and responsibilities of employers when it comes to mandating the COVID-19 vaccination. We know it has been a sticky issue and we've heard that Barnaby's presentation was useful for many. For those of you who missed Barnaby live, you can watch him on our YouTube channel [here](#). Many thanks to him, and the team at Dundas Street, for volunteering their time.

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For me, the real uplift of the week came from our team's contribution to the online Māori Language Moment, during which we spent the time reflecting on and practising our pepeha. It helped reconnect us to something outside of the daily grind. A shout out to the team behind 'the moment', who have surely added momentum to a movement. Kia kaha te reo Māori!

Stay safe.

Ngā mihi,

Vic Crockford
Chief Executive
Community Housing Aotearoa

Local Government housing items

Local governments across New Zealand are busy working to document and address housing need in their communities. A few items of interest for our members include:

Auckland Council – the Council's Finance and Performance Committee approved the draft Contributions Policy for consultation on 16 September. The consultation period is from 20 Sept – 17 Oct at 5pm. They are also holding online drop in Have Your Say Events on 24 & 30 September from 9:30-11am. The consultation document and supporting information can be found [here](#).

Waimakariri District Council - the Waimakariri District Council have notified their Proposed District Plan on Saturday 18 September. The Proposed District Plan is open for public submissions until 5pm on Friday 26 November. Full details can be found [here](#) including links to supporting documents containing a [Housing Demand and Need](#) report completed by Livingston & Associates/Community Housing Solutions.

Greater Christchurch Partnership – as part of their 2021 Housing Capacity Assessment reporting, the GCP has released the Greater Christchurch [Housing Demand and Need Report](#) completed by Livingston & Associates.

Queenstown Lakes District Council – QLDC is also updating their housing strategy with consultation open until 26 September. Of note are the [Draft Queenstown Lakes Homes Strategy](#) and the [Planning for Affordable Housing – Inclusionary Zoning](#)

Fast track IRR reviews for Public Housing tenants in Alert Levels 3 & 4

MSD is working to ensure that public housing tenants living in locations at alert levels three or four whose income has been impacted by COVID-19 can have their income-related rent (IRR) quickly reassessed.

Normally a change in circumstances would need to last for 8 weeks or longer before MSD make a change to IRR, but they have relaxed that rule in order to minimise any anxiety or hardship for public housing tenants in locations at alert levels three or four.

If you are a Public Housing provider and you think your tenant may be struggling, please [email MSD using this link](#).

Community Housing Providers may be asked to explain how COVID-19 has impacted the tenant's income, as well as other relevant details.

New book 'Celebrating Ageing Well: the first five years of the Ageing Well Science Challenge'



Congratulations to the National Science Challenge on the release of their new book '*Celebrating Ageing Well: the first five years of the Ageing Well*'.

The book explores the commitment to scientific research to help all New Zealanders age well and features studies across Aotearoa New Zealand that span the fields of science, healthcare, anthropology, psychology, medical research, sociology and much more.

Read more about and download the book [here](#).

In the News

- [Racist, ageist and discriminatory: does mixed housing work?](#)
- [Horowhenua social housing supply could increase 25%](#)
- [Where Is Housing Most Affordable?](#)
- [Lockdowns push families and migrants to the edge](#)