

Social housing by the numbers

Housing New Zealand

Housing New Zealand owns around 65,000 houses and leases 3,000 more.

2,300 Housing New Zealand houses are currently vacant. 70 per cent of these are unfit for use (for example because they are earthquake prone).

4.5 per cent of all residential properties in New Zealand are Housing New Zealand properties.

Social housing tenants

The Government funds around 62,000 social housing places through the income-related rent subsidy. In total this supports around 181,000 people.

Of this, 131 social housing places are provided by community housing providers. The remainder of the places are provided by Housing New Zealand.

An additional 3,300 Housing New Zealand houses are let at market rent.

In total, there are around 193,000 people in Housing New Zealand houses.

There are currently around 5,000 applicants on the social housing register. One in four of these are already in a social house and want to move to another one.

The social housing reform programme will:

Increase the number of social housing places funded by the income-related rent subsidy, from around 62,000 currently to 65,000 in 2017/18.

We'll look to sell between 1,000 and 2,000 Housing New Zealand properties in the next year for use as social housing run by approved community housing providers.

The Government may begin further sales over the next three years, but that has yet to be decided. Housing New Zealand will continue to be by far the biggest provider of social housing in New Zealand, and we will ensure that in 2017 it provides at least 60,000 properties.

Community housing providers' stock will grow as Housing New Zealand stock decreases.