



# Housing and Urban Initiatives

There is a plan to help all New Zealanders; from people sleeping on the streets, families living in cars, people who need state housing to get back on their feet, and renters and young families locked out of the dream of home ownership.

**1 Homelessness**  
 Housing First  
 Preventing and Reducing Homelessness  
 Transitional Housing  
 Emergency Housing - Special Needs Grants

**2 Public Housing**  
 6,400 more Public Houses  
 Community Housing Providers  
 Stopped sell off of State Homes

**3 Rental Market**  
 Residential Tenancy Act Reform  
 Healthy Homes Standards  
 Banning Letting Fees  
 Families Package  
 Housing Support Products

**4 Home Owners**  
 KiwiBuild  
 Progressive Home Ownership  
 First Home Loan  
 First Home Grant

**5 Kāinga Ora**  
 Public Housing Landlord  
 Supply of affordable housing  
 Large-Scale Projects

**6 Māori Housing**  
 Whenua-based Housing  
 Papakāinga Housing  
 Iwi and Māori Partnership programme

**7 System Settings**  
 Banning Overseas Speculators  
 Brightline Test extended  
 Loss ring fencing of rental properties

**8 Urban Growth**  
 Urban Growth Agenda  
 RMA Reform  
 Urban Growth Partnerships

Improving the wellbeing of New Zealanders and their families





## Housing and Urban initiatives

1

### Homelessness

The 2013 Census estimates there are 41,000 New Zealanders in severe housing deprivation. Close to ten percent (4,200) individuals were without shelter or in uninhabitable housing. Housing First is the primary response to chronic homelessness. For others, transitional housing provides warm, safe and dry short-term accommodation and tailored support services, delivered by providers who are skilled in supporting tenants with a range of social and tenancy-related needs.

2

### Public Housing

The demand for public housing assistance continues to rise sharply, driven in part by a shortage of housing, inadequate housing, homelessness, and insecurity of tenure. An extra 2,178 public houses have been delivered which is part of a fully funded pipeline of 6,400 additional public housing places

3

### Rental Market

Nearly 600,000 households now rent in New Zealand, and our rental stock is of poorer quality than owner-occupied homes and is less affordable. The healthy homes standards have been set for rental housing around heating, insulation, ventilation and moisture. A review of the Residential Tenancies Act is looking at changes to make life better for renters. We've already banned letting fees.

4

### Homeownership

Home ownership rates are at their lowest in nearly 60 years, while house prices have increased over the last 10 years, outstripping income growth. The government is increasing support for progressive ownership schemes to help address both the deposit barrier and mortgage servicing and helping households who have been priced out of the market. KiwiBuild will continue to deliver more affordable housing for New Zealanders.

5

### Kāinga Ora—Homes and Communities

Kāinga Ora is being established to respond to the need for an integrated and prioritised approach to housing and urban development. Kāinga Ora will bring together knowledge and experience from Housing New Zealand, HLC, and KiwiBuild to create one centre of capability. Kāinga Ora will contribute to the Government's priorities for housing and urban development by leading small to large-scale urban development projects and acting as a public housing landlord.

6

### Māori Housing

Māori have an opportunity to re-shape and drive the future of Māori housing and change what the poor statistics tell us today. The government is supporting and enabling hapū, iwi and Māori groups to ensure Māori have fair and equal access to housing and opportunities for home ownership.

7

### System settings

The Overseas Investment Amendment Act stops overseas speculators from buying up Kiwi homes and driving up property prices. The Brightline test was also extended from two to five years.

8

### Urban Growth

The Urban Growth Agenda will deliver medium to long-term changes needed to urban system settings to create the conditions for the market to respond to growth, bring down the high cost of urban land to improve housing affordability and support thriving communities.

