



**Community Housing**  
*Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa*

PO Box 11543  
Wellington  
New Zealand  
Ph 04 385 8722  
[www.communityhousing.org.nz](http://www.communityhousing.org.nz)

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### **Leading our representative body: a review from the Co-Chairs**

As a sector, we are making progress. We are growing, both in numbers and in levels of service delivered to our most vulnerable households.

Our message is getting through. We can see a wider acceptance of the continuum approach and the recognition that affordable rental and pathways to home ownership are just as essential as a place to sleep tonight.

More providers are adding staff and adding homes – through a range of tools. Yet the demand is increasing faster than our ability to respond.

How do we make a step change? Over the course of the five Community Housing Aotearoa council meetings this year we've devoted half our time to the big picture, the strategic issues facing our sector. Thought leadership is even more crucial during times of change. We are building a culture based on high trust and deep confidence to back ourselves.

Strategically, we have highlighted the importance of commencing conversations that activate capacity and capabilities within our membership group as a means to develop community housing provider collaborations. By doing so, we feel that we can both support small and niche providers, while also enabling larger projects to be delivered within New Zealand.

The IMPACT Conference in June this year mandated bringing providers together to work collaboratively and set out a clear 'how' so we can achieve 'all New Zealanders well-housed'.

Now that Our Place has set out this high-level vision, the challenge for the incoming council will be to put a new strategic plan in place for what CHA should focus its talent and energy on. We've made first steps with establishing Community Housing Solutions Ltd as our key delivery arm for technical consulting services to individual members, local government, and consortia. We are not yet in a settled policy environment; we will all need to continue to be flexible, and open to new approaches.

Thank you for your ongoing support for your sector peak body. We look forward to supporting you, our members, in your efforts to deliver emergency, social and affordable housing.

Kind regards,

Alan Pollard and Julie Nelson  
Co-Chairs  
Community Housing Aotearoa