

Community Housing-Supply Data Centre

Community Housing Aotearoa is pleased to announce the implementation of an exciting new project documenting the supply of homes by the community housing sector. This work builds on the survey conducted on CHA's behalf by the Centre for Research, Evaluation and Social Assessment (CRESA) in 2014.

The *Community Housing Provision* (CRESA; 2014) report provided the most comprehensive information yet compiled. As a point-in-time survey it provided critical benchmarking information on the sector early in the Social Housing Reform Programme.

The new centre will build on this information while also providing a richer, dynamic view of the sector. CRESA and the Ministry of Social Development have assisted with the survey design. We are progressing from snapshots often taken years apart to creating a dynamic resource. It will be updated quarterly to document the change in the number of homes provided by the sector. MSD will incorporate the results to inform its purchasing intentions for social housing places.

This on-going approach will allow us the time to reach out to organisations that have not previously reported. It will document growth resulting from stock transfers from Housing New Zealand and local authorities so that increased provision by community housing organisations is not confused with an increase in the overall supply of housing.

What we are asking from providers

The process is voluntary- but we hope all providers will participate. CHA will contact all Community Housing Regulatory Authority (CHRA) registered providers, our members and other non-governmental organisations known to provide social and affordable housing.

- Each organisation will receive a unique identification name and password to login and download the response form.
- The survey will be completed in an excel spreadsheet accessed through a portal on the CHA website.
- In addition to the survey Response Guide, CHA staff will be available to answer questions and provide assistance.
- Once the form is completed it is uploaded to the database.
- Future quarterly reports are accessed in the same manner with the last reports information pre-populated. Only changes in information need to be entered.

- CHA will consolidate the information submitted by respondents each quarter. It will allow us to report information from a regional level down to the census mesh block level; and to make comparisons to prior periods.

Data Security

CHA will produce reports with a sufficient level of detail to inform the work of community housing organisations, central and local government, researchers and others interested and active in the sector, whilst respecting the confidentiality of respondents' data. No address data will be released.

We know that some of the information we are requesting may be viewed as commercially sensitive. To address this CHA will be reporting location information at the census mesh block level. In addition, respondents have the ability to opt out of being identified. However, we believe that a high level of transparency regarding their activities is one of the strengths of community housing organisations and request respondents allow for detailed reporting to identify where social and affordable homes are provided.

Use and Reporting of Information

CHA will publish quarterly reports summarising the results of the survey. CHA will also share anonymised data collected with academics, researchers and Government agencies working with the sector.

The highest level of detail to be provided is at the census mesh block level. CHA believes that by consolidating and reporting on this information there will be a greater level of consistency and quality of data about the sector. It will also relieve individual organisations from responding to multiple requests from differing Government agencies or other inquiries as CHA will be able to provide up-to-date information across the sector.

Project timeline

- The first survey will collect data as of the **quarter ending 31 March 2016**.
- Outreach and assistance to providers will commence in mid-April.
- The **first report provided in June**.
- The second quarterly survey will be timed with the quarter ending **30 June 2016**.

Survey content

The survey will collect core information on each home's location, typology, use, funding and safety/amenity features. The attached survey template and response guide provides full details of what the survey will collect.

Questions

Please send any questions or comments to CHA Deputy Director, Chris Glaudel, at projects@communityhousing.org.nz or phone 04 385 8722.