

**ALL NEW  
ZEALANDERS  
WELL-HOUSED**



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## Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) Newsletter 16 November 2020

Welcome to the fortnightly newsletter of Community Housing Aotearoa *Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa*.

Included in this issue – CHA Annual General Meeting reminder, Guidelines on the right to housing, Inclusionary Zoning discussion paper, Limitations on whānau and child wellbeing: not having enough income, CHA welcomes new housing ministers, Government's time to deliver on housing promises, Nelson City Council Transfer 142 Units, Lottery COVID-19 Wellbeing fund, Funding Announcement: Prestigious PhD Scholarships, helpful links in the news, and upcoming Events.

## Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) AGM

[Do you know about the Lottery COVID-19 Community Wellbeing Fund?](#)

[Funding announcement: prestigious PhD scholarships](#)

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Photo: CHA AGM 2019

### **Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) 2020 Annual General Meeting.**

Date: Tuesday 17th November 2020

Time: 11am –12 noon.

Via: Zoom link sent to current members

We have received **three nominations for the three open Council seats**. The **slate will be moved for approval at the AGM** and *no ballot process is needed*.

Please click [here](#) for the three candidates profiles.

Members unable to attend are encouraged to designate a Proxy form, these to be sent via [email](#) to Ngahuia.

## **Human Rights Commission releases Draft Guidelines on the right to a decent home**

On Friday 13 November, the **New Zealand Human Rights Commission** released for public consultation a draft of Aratohu tika tangata ki te whai where rawaka i Aotearoa | [Guidelines](#) on the right to a decent home in Aotearoa.

The Commission says “the purpose of the Guidelines is to clarify for individuals and communities, local and national government, what the right to a decent home means.

Our aim is to provide a clear, firm framework upon which to build. This will represent a significant step towards enabling human rights to deepen and strengthen robust housing initiatives.

The Guidelines address the unique context of Aotearoa and Te Tiriti O Waitangi. They underscore the importance of active and informed

citizen participation, the need for constructive accountability mechanisms and more.”

The consultation on the Guidelines will be open until Monday the 21st of December. Submissions can be made to the Human Rights Commission via [email](#) here. Feedback can be in the form of tracked changes and bubble comments on the word document version of the Guidelines.

The Commission would also welcome the opportunity to meet with people to discuss feedback, and they are also considering arranging workshops about the Guidelines. These are likely to be run online via Zoom. Please let the Commission know by [emailing](#) if you are interested in attending a workshop or meeting with them.

CHA is also open to convening discussions on the Guidelines. Please [email](#) Brennan if you would like to discuss.

## CHA releases Inclusionary Zoning discussion document

**Inclusionary Zoning** is a planning tool to specifically generate affordable housing. It is widely used in the US and UK to deliver homes the market on its own cannot. As the calls for new tools to address housing affordability continue to mount, CHA has prepared a discussion document to explore how IZ may work in New Zealand.

We know there is interest in understanding Inclusionary Zoning and how it might work in the New Zealand context. This interest was confirmed by the [remit](#) passed by Local Government New Zealand at its Annual General Meeting in August 2020. Auckland Council's Planning Committee also considered the topic earlier this month. While Queenstown Lakes District Council has operated a form of IZ for over a decade, others are hesitant to proceed without a clear legal framework. With momentum seeming to build on Resource Management Act reforms, now is the time to understand whether it is a tool to be added for Councils to respond to housing need.

Click [here](#) to read the Inclusionary Zoning discussion document.

We welcome your ideas and input. To further the discussion, we plan to hold meetings, seminars and webinars to engage with all who are interested in finding solutions to the housing challenges we face. However, you do not need to wait for these events to share your thoughts. Please email your ideas, proposals or questions to [Chris Glaudel](#) to further this discussion.

## Limitations on whānau and child wellbeing: not having enough income.

CHA is one of more than 60 NGO organisations that have come together as a collective and signed an [open letter](#) to the government,

urging it to increase income support to liveable levels to release families from dire poverty.

We all want every child in Aotearoa to be thriving and enjoy a happy childhood. But right now, hundreds of thousands of children are restricted by poverty despite the best efforts of parent(s).

## CHA welcomes new housing ministers

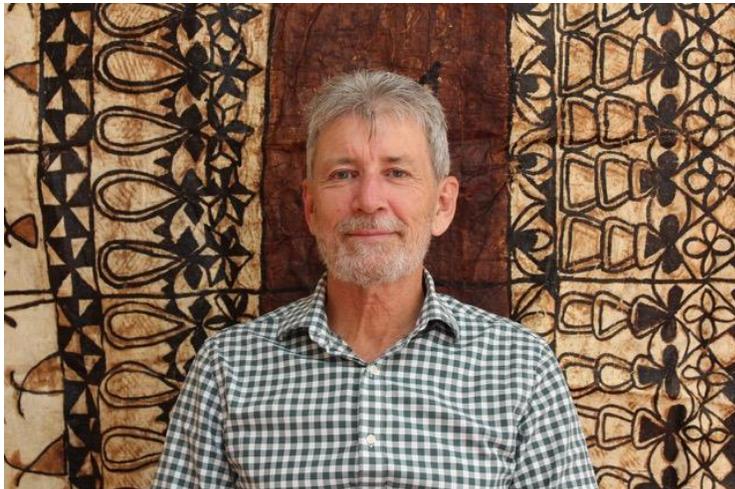
Community Housing Aotearoa welcomes the Prime Minister's announcement of the new housing ministers.

CHA has sent letters to the new appointed Ministers congratulating and entrust them and the important responsibilities they have in the Housing sector:

- Hon Dr Megan Woods, reappointment as Minister of Housing
- Hon Poto Williams, Associate Minister of Housing (Public Housing)
- Hon Peeni Henare, Associate Minister of Housing (Māori Housing)
- Hon Marama Davidson, Associate Minister of Housing (Homelessness)

We look forward working together with the new Appointed Associated Ministers in the new year 2021.

## Government's time to deliver on housing promises



Figures released last week show at the end of August there were 20,385 households on the Public Housing Register, up from 19,438 in July and 13,167 in August 2019. Over 18,000 of those on the list were ranked as "priority A" - the most needy.

With over 20,000 people waiting for a home and an out of control housing market, the new government has to act, Monte Cecilia Housing Trust chief executive Bernie Smith says.

Click [here](#) for full article.

## **Nelson City Council transfers community housing**



The Nelson City Council announced on 5 November the transfer of 142 Community Housing Units to Kāinga Ora in a \$19.8 sale. The new ownership under Kāinga Ora would take effect in February 2021. The Council also said \$12m from the sale will be placed into a new Housing Reserve for the purpose of supporting affordable and social housing projects in Nelson.

With no central government programme to support council housing for more than a decade and their exclusion from access to the Income Related Rent subsidy, we understand this is a pragmatic decision. We hope the new Housing Reserve will immediately begin supporting new affordable rental housing development for those who are struggling in the expensive Nelson market, but do not qualify for Public Housing. This could be a win/win if the Council invests in growing community housing provision of affordable rental and progressive home ownership housing alongside Kāinga Ora delivering more Public Housing.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

## **Do you know about the Lottery COVID-19 Community Wellbeing Fund?**

A new \$40 million lottery fund opened on 28 October with a focus on community and social initiatives post COVID-19.

The Lottery COVID-19 Community Wellbeing Fund will provide one-off grants for community or social initiatives that increase the strength

and resilience of communities that are responding to the impacts of COVID-19. Click [here](#) for the full details.

## Funding announcement: prestigious PhD scholarships

Ageing Well National Science Challenge is pleased to announce the funding for three prestigious PhD scholarships, two for Māori candidates and one for a Pacific candidate, with the twin aims of developing research capacity and building excellent research into ageing well for Māori and Pacific peoples.

“We are thrilled to announce these Prestigious PhD scholarships to support and encourage the career development of Māori and Pacific researchers,” said Associate Professor Louise Parr-Brownlie, Director of Ageing Well. Click [here](#) for the full announcement

## In the news

- [Nelson City Council Transfers Community Housing To Kāinga Ora For \\$19.8m](#)
- ['Nonchalant' Reserve Bank must bring back LVR and debt-to-income ratios](#)
- [Reserve Bank builds costly housing hopes](#)
- [Reserve Bank Policies Will Inevitably Heat Housing Market, Government Must Implement Tax Reform To Cool It Down](#)
- [Building the country from the ground up](#)

## EVENTS

### Australasian Housing Institute training

[Wellness – Online Workshop, 24 November 2020](#)

Time: 12:30-3:30PM NZ

This virtual training course is designed to support employees and leaders in an organisation to focus on their own mental wellbeing, as well as that of their colleagues.

[Mental Health First Aid - Online Workshop, 03 December 2020](#)

Become a mental health first aider to support friends, family members, colleagues and others. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training will teach you practical skills to support someone with a mental health problem. Make a real difference to people in your community.

