



Tauranga and Masterton Sign Agreement on Social Housing

A formal Heads of Agreement was signed today between two social housing interests in Tauranga and Masterton to bring enhanced benefits to the concept of communities taking responsibility for social housing instead of the traditional state housing model.

The agreement between the Tauranga Moana & Te Puke Housing Consortium and the Masterton Trust House Community Enterprise is the first of its kind in New Zealand. It comes at a significant time in the area of social housing with central government and local authorities reviewing their housing portfolios, and the start of social housing transfers in Invercargill and Tauranga.

‘This Heads of Agreement is a visionary initiative,’ Victoria Kingi, spokesperson for the Consortium said. The Tauranga Consortium comprises three Bay of Plenty Treaty Settlement Tribes - Nga Potiki a Tamapahore Trust, Tapuika Iwi Authority and Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Ranginui Settlement Trust – established to bid for the transfer of social housing in the Tauranga area.

“As Treaty Settlement Tribes and Community Housing Providers, we believe, like Trust House Masterton, that our community is best placed to take responsibility for social housing in our region. Our Consortium has the capability, the commitment and the historical knowledge to achieve the best results.”

‘This is about collaboration and partnership,’ Allan Pollard, Trust House Masterton Chief Executive said. ‘We have a common commitment to our own communities and the drive to succeed. We were the first community house of its kind to be established in New Zealand and have 16 years of experience behind us. This is a precedent-setting opportunity for both our organisations.’

Mr Pollard said Trust House had a rental portfolio of 500 homes in the Wairarapa and Tararua which made a significant contribution to social housing in the region. ‘The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment approved us as New Zealand’s first registered community housing provider in 2014,’ he said. It was a major step forward in enabling local communities to take responsibility for social housing. The partnership with the Tauranga Consortium would be a ‘win win’ for both organisations. ‘We look forward to assisting the Consortium through the social housing transfer process,’ he said.

Ms Kingi said the three iwi involved in the Consortium had already been working in the area of social housing specifically in the construction of new homes for their kaumātua. “The potential for social housing to be devolved to the community is an exciting one because it offers all the benefits of local knowledge and skills coupled with initiative and the potential to work with like-minded organisations.”

Although the Consortium was a comparative newcomer to the housing sector, it had already gained an appreciation of what could be achieved. By establishing a strong working relationship with Trust House, the Consortium would be able to further its social housing goals and at the same time benefit from the Masterton experience.

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Additional Notes

Tauranga Moana & Te Puke Housing Consortium

- Established in 2015 to bid for the transfer of social housing in Tauranga.
- Comprises three well established Treaty Settlement Tribes in the Bay of Plenty – Nga Potiki a Tamapahore Trust, Tapuika Iwi Authority, Nga Hapū o Ngāti Ranginui Settlement Trust.
- Each Iwi Individually, is involved to varying degrees in social housing and affordable home ownership in the Tauranga and Te Puke area including the delivery of trades training for Maori and Pasifika youth via a partnership with the BOP Polytechnic and Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment. The Consortium is currently progressing through the initial stages of the bidding process for the transfer of social housing in Tauranga.

Masterton Trust House Community Enterprise

- Community landlord in Wairarapa and Tararua since 1999.
- In 2014, became New Zealand's first registered social housing provider in the government's new social housing scheme to make rents more affordable for people on low incomes.
- Trust House manages 500 rental homes under the housing scheme.
- As a registered community housing provider, it can make its housing portfolio available to new tenants who are assessed as having high needs or who are assessed as qualifying for the income-related rent subsidy.
- Income-related rent subsidies have previously only been available to Housing New Zealand tenants.
- Since 1999, the Trust has invested more than \$20 million in improving and maintaining its rental properties. This includes for example – heating, insulation, fencing, redecorating, and concreting driveways.

Heads of Agreement

- Established to enable Trust House and the Consortium to work together to assist the Consortium provide effective tenant, property and commercial management systems.
- The Consortium and Trust House will maintain and further their own individual businesses.



Standing: Pia Callahan and Helen Biel (CEO and Trustee - Tapuika Iwi Authority); Victoria Kingi (Deputy Chairperson - Nga Potiki a Tamapahore Trust) Allan Pollard (CEO - Trust House Ltd); Robert Urwin, Kimiora Rawiri and Te Pio Kawe (Chairman and Trustees - Nga Hapu o Ngati Ranginui Settlement Trust). Seated: Colin Reeder (Chairman - Nga Potiki a Tamapahore Trust) and Raymond Southey (Director - Trust House Ltd)

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For further information please refer to our “pop up website”

<http://www.tauranga-housing.nz/>

general email enquiries can be sent to info@consortium.org.nz