

Key Messages (Factsheet)

Transitional Housing

As part of the Wellbeing Budget we are supporting people and whānau in urgent need of housing through the ongoing funding of transitional housing services.

Budget 2019

- Budget 2019 provides \$283m to continue funding and maintaining over 2,800 Transitional Housing places throughout New Zealand.
- Transitional housing is still needed to support people and whānau in urgent need of housing while the Government and community providers increase public housing supply over the next four years.
- Each transitional place can support up to four people or whānau every year.
- The Government is committed to increasing the supply of public and affordable housing and taking serious action to reduce homelessness. This commitment is reflected in Budget 2018 which provides funding for 6,400 additional public housing places over four years, or 1,600 per year.
- Transitional housing can be delivered faster than public housing and is required as New Zealand's housing demand continues to exceed supply. As we bring on 1,600 additional public housing places per year (until 2022), transitional housing will support people who urgently need housing in the meantime.
- There are currently more than 50 transitional housing providers across New Zealand.
- As at March 2019, there were 2,697 transitional housing places available or tenanted.

FAQs

Transitional housing provides warm, dry, short-term accommodation housing for people and whānau who don't have anywhere to live.

Transitional housing includes support services to help people secure a longer-term home and get back on their feet so that they're in a stronger position to stay housed.

People and whānau stay in transitional housing for an average of 12 weeks or more.

In most cases, they receive a further 12 weeks support once they've found a more permanent place to live.

Transitional housing is managed by housing support service providers, who support tenants with a range of tailored social support, tenancy-related services and are also responsible for maintaining the properties.

Transitional Housing

FAQs

Transitional housing providers:

- Identify the support needs of a client including health, mental health, social, employment or financial needs to help them transition to longer-term housing.
- Provide the support services for these needs, either in-house through social workers/navigators and tenancy managers, or by referring clients to specialist services, such as budgeting or mental health services.

Why do we need transitional housing?

Transitional housing is required as New Zealand's housing market is under pressure as demand for housing continues to exceed supply.

Transitional housing is needed to support people and whānau in urgent need of housing while Government and community providers increase public housing supply over the next four years.

Transitional housing provides warm, dry and safe short-term accommodation for people in immediate need of a place to live, along with support to them find a long-term home.

Transitional housing is an effective way of keeping people and families safe and housed when they have nowhere to live.

Who is transitional housing for?

Transitional housing supports people and whānau who become homeless, or are at risk of homelessness, in insecure, temporary or unsuitable accommodation.

The people and whānau who need support through transitional housing generally:

- Are without shelter - who are homeless for a short time, or are at risk of homelessness, because of unexpected circumstances, such as health trauma or family breakdowns.
- Are individuals whose homelessness or risk of homelessness, is because of multiple and complex issues.
- Have become homeless, or are at risk of homelessness, as a result of difficult circumstances, such as family violence, drug and alcohol issues and/or debt/credit issues.
- Caused by lack of affordability, personal circumstances or unexpected life events that puts them at risk of homelessness, such as people exiting state care, facing mental health issues, victims of family violence.

- Budget 2019 provides \$283m for supporting people or whānau with transitional housing.