



**Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga**  
Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

# **Local Innovation and Partnership Fund Round two**

## **Guidance for applicants**

**16 November 2021**

# Contents

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Background.....	3
Purpose of the Fund.....	3
Timeline.....	3
Eligibility.....	3
Priorities.....	5
Application process and grant size.....	6
Assessment process.....	6
Due diligence .....	6
Glossary of terms.....	7
Contact us.....	7

## Background

As part of the [Aotearoa New Zealand Homelessness Action Plan](#) the government has made \$16.6 million available for the Local Innovation and Partnership Fund. The fund is aimed at supporting local initiatives to respond to and prevent homelessness.

In round two of the fund, up to \$6 million will be allocated to eligible initiatives that meet the criteria and align with the priorities of the fund. A proportion of the fund, \$1 million, will be allocated to small grants.

## Purpose of the fund

The purpose of the fund is to:

- support the development and implementation of local initiatives that respond to and prevent homelessness
- enable and support community organisations, local government, iwi and wider community partners to work together on initiatives to address homelessness
- support innovative ways of working to address homelessness, address system gaps and improve responses tailored to needs in local areas
- prioritise applications that support functional zero (ending or reducing the most acute forms of homelessness) approaches to street homelessness and/or reduce reliance on motels
- fund wider homelessness projects where a community identifies a need that is currently not being responded to, or where existing support is not adequate.

## Timeline

Activity	Dates
Applications open	16 November 2021
Applications close	5pm on 28 February 2022
HUD assessment of applications	March/April 2022
Applicants notified of the outcome of the evaluation	April/May 2022

## Eligibility

Applications must be made by the lead organisation of a partnership. The partnership must be made up of two or more organisations (local or nationally based) with an interest in responding to homelessness, for example:

- Māori providers, hapū and iwi
- community groups or non-government organisations
- local councils (territorial authorities).

The lead applicant must be a legal entity. Local councils as lead applicants will have to demonstrate partnership with one or more community organisations.

Applicant organisations and/or partners will need to have experience in delivering homelessness support or other relevant intervention in the past.

Organisations such as universities, research institutes, Police, District Health Boards and other government departments can be partners but not lead organisations. For example, through the provision of match funding or funding in kind.

## **Applicants from round one**

Applicants from round one can apply in round two.

If you were unsuccessful in round one, we advise you to consider feedback from the round one funding decision letter if thinking about making a new application in round two.

Successful applicants from round one can apply for a new initiative or a new development phase of an existing initiative. If applying for a new development phase of an existing initiative, you will need to demonstrate the successful outcome of the current initiative and clearly evidence the additional impact or added value that will be created as a result of receiving additional funding.

## **Examples of initiatives that are eligible**

- new initiatives to respond to and prevent homelessness that do not receive funding from other government sources
- integrated, local responses to homelessness involving partners with linked streams of work
- regional collaborative and coordinated initiatives to address homelessness
- development of virtual or physical homelessness related events, hui, training, planning, evaluation, facilitator fees and operational costs of innovative local initiatives
- capability and capacity building within the partnership organisations (where this is aligned to projects to address or prevent homelessness)
- a new development phase of existing local area homelessness related initiatives that are working well and that do not duplicate an existing service
- initiatives that include evidence gathering, homelessness action plan development and practical solutions to address homelessness
- capital costs such as building leases, or modifications to buildings for the provision of office space for the delivery of the new initiative
- capital costs for vehicle purchase or lease and vehicle modification; office equipment including furniture
- piloting and co-ordination of local homelessness prevention and response initiatives.

## **Initiatives that are not eligible**

- funding the purchase or lease of land, buildings, new builds or property intended to provide accommodation for people experiencing homelessness
- existing initiatives (unless the application is to develop a new phase of a current initiative)
- the duplication of existing initiatives, programmes or services funded by government in the same local area
- initiatives or parts of initiatives that have been completed or taken place prior to the closing date of round two
- reimbursement of past transactions and completed work
- repayment or servicing of debt
- services, activities or programmes to be delivered overseas
- initiatives that are primarily being used for research/evaluation purposes
- projects that are specifically intended to generate a profit.

Please note **housing supply** (the purchase or lease of land, buildings, new builds or property intended to provide accommodation for people experiencing homelessness) **is not eligible for this fund**. You can apply for funding to cover the service part of the initiative providing that you have secured funding for the housing supply component.

## Profits are allowed

An initiative may generate a profit or surplus, but this must be reinvested in the initiative to meet ongoing costs and contribute to its sustainability. Any anticipated profit or surplus must be accounted for in the initiative budget and be shown as contributing to the initiative in the future.

## MAIHI principles

We ask that you either explain how the MAIHI principles guide or influence your initiative or ways of working, or how your own set of values/principles align and achieve the same outcomes. If you are a Māori/iwi organisation who uses a different set of values to guide your initiative, please outline those.

The [Māori and Iwi Housing Innovation \(MAIHI\) framework](#) for Action was co-designed with Māori and drives a whole of system approach. The MAIHI principles are kaupapa Māori principles that are seen as particularly relevant to housing and support services and can be used to guide the sector and government to enable and support kaupapa Māori approaches and improve outcomes for Māori.

## Priorities

Weighting will be given to initiatives that evidence alignment with [MAIHI framework](#) and whānau-centred approaches, and meet the needs of the following priority cohorts:

- wāhine/women
- rangatahi/young people
- kaumātua/older people
- Māori
- Pacific
- rural communities and
- other groups at risk of homelessness.

Applications are more likely to be successful if the proposed initiatives are:

- well-designed and planned, and professionally managed
- based on research or evidence that identifies priority groups and needs in the local area
- in the areas where there is currently little or no response or where there are gaps in services
- aligned with MAIHI and its principles
- improving outcomes for Māori
- focused on supporting priority cohorts
- clear on how the lead applicant and nominated partners intend to work together
- innovative and don't duplicate existing services
- led by group/organisation that has capacity and capability to deliver a project of the proposed size and scope.

Please note that the fund supports initiatives that focus on reducing and preventing homelessness rather than providing temporary solutions that do not work to support pathways to longer-term housing and wellbeing.

## Application process and grant size

Applications for initiatives lasting up to three years can be made for two different funding streams:

1. **Small grants up to \$100,000**
2. **Medium to large grants from \$100,000 to \$1 million**

Decisions on applications for grants will be made by the Local Innovation and Partnership Fund Selection Panel, and all applicants will be notified of the outcome.

Grant applications must include the following supporting documentation:

- Initiative deliverables with detailed timelines
- Annual financial accounts of the lead applicant, no older than 18 months

## Assessment process

All applications will be assessed for completeness, eligibility and due diligence. Applicants may be asked to provide further information or clarification.

HUD will review applications against the assessment criteria. The Local Innovation and Partnership Fund Selection Panel, made up of HUD senior leadership and external experts, will make final funding decisions, based on how the applications align with the criteria, purpose and the priorities of the fund.

### Assessment Criteria

Using on the information provided on the application form, all grant applications will be assessed against the following five assessment criteria:

- **Outcomes:** Demonstrates alignment of the initiative with the purpose of the fund - to reduce and prevent homelessness. The focus is on reducing and preventing homelessness rather than providing temporary solutions that do not work to support pathways to longer-term housing and wellbeing. Demonstrates the benefit to the priority homelessness groups: wāhine/women, rangatahi/young people, kaumātua/older people, Māori, Pacific, rural communities, and other groups at risk of homelessness.
- **Innovation:** Demonstrates research, development, and implementation of a new or scaled up product, process or service or new way of working. Can include new services that have been tailored to cultural or regional needs, that may have been used elsewhere in New Zealand or internationally but are new to that particular region.
- **MAIHI principles:** Demonstrates how MAIHI principles guide or influence the initiative or ways of working, or how their own set of values/principles align and achieve the same outcomes. Demonstrates that local iwi and/or Māori organisations will be involved in planning and/or delivery of the initiative.
- **Partnership:** Demonstrates that there is a joined-up approach in responding to the local needs. Community organisations, local government, iwi and Māori providers, and wider community partners collaborate and build on their strengths to plan and deliver the initiative.
- **Capability and capacity to deliver:** Demonstrates capability and capacity to deliver the initiative (such as appropriate governance, payment, personnel and risk management systems).

## Due diligence

Due diligence is our way of making sure that you have the capacity and capability to fully deliver the initiative on time and within budget. We will consider your legal status, governance and management arrangements, the organisation's financial viability and project deliverables and timelines.

If you are a local council, a registered Community Housing Provider (CHP) or have accreditation with Te Kahui Kāhu (formerly Social Service Accreditation), we will factor this into our due diligence process.

## Successful applicants

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications. HUD will negotiate grant agreements with all successful applicants.

As part of the grant reporting requirements, successful applicants will be expected to evaluate their initiative and provide an evaluation report alongside their final report for the grant. The evaluation should be fit for purpose, as appropriate to the size, scope and scale of the initiative.

## Glossary of terms

For the purposes of the Local Innovation and Partnership Fund:

<b>Conditional grant (grant)</b>	funding HUD provides to the successful applicant who undertakes to perform specific obligations in return for the money.
<b>Homelessness</b>	a broad definition that covers people who are without shelter, in emergency and temporary accommodation, living as a temporary resident in a severely overcrowded private dwelling or living in uninhabitable housing.
<b>Initiative</b>	a plan, product, project, process or service that responds to and prevents homelessness in a local area.
<b>Innovation</b>	the research, development and implementation of a new or scaled up product, process or service or new way of working. 'Innovative' initiatives can include new services that have been tailored to cultural or regional needs, that may have been used elsewhere in New Zealand or internationally.
<b>Lead organisation</b>	the organisation making the application to the fund on behalf of the partnership and who the grant will be made out to.
<b>Local Council</b>	a territorial authority - city council, district council and unitary authority.
<b>Partnership organisation</b>	an organisation that the lead organisation will be working with to deliver the initiative. The lead organisation may have one or more partnership organisations. The nature of the relationship will be determined by the lead organisation and partnership organisations.

## Questions about the fund

Email HUD at [InnovationandPartnership@hud.govt.nz](mailto:InnovationandPartnership@hud.govt.nz) if anything is unclear or you have a question about the fund or the application process.