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# ROTORUA HOUSING ACCORD

9 DECEMBER 2022

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**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government



**ROTORUA** LAKES  
COUNCIL  
Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

**TE ARAWA**

# Rotorua Housing Accord

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## Background

The Crown, Rotorua Lakes Council and Te Arawa Iwi acknowledge that Rotorua is in a housing crisis. Rotorua has experienced strong population growth, but new housing supply has not kept up. This has resulted in rapid growth in rents, increased crowding and has put individuals and whānau in unstable housing situations.

Among other things, this housing crisis combined with high use of motels for emergency housing, in particular over the COVID-19 period, has adversely impacted the social, cultural, environmental, and economic well-being of Rotorua and its people, including the mana of Te Arawa overall and Ngāti Whakaue as mana whenua.

The Parties acknowledge that it is the core role and responsibility of the Crown to look after and care for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand including those in Rotorua.

Rotorua Lakes Council has a role in leading and representing its communities.

The Parties have agreed to work together in good faith and in a collaborative manner to resolve Rotorua's housing issues.

# Principles of this Accord

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The parties agree that the following overarching principles will guide their interactions with each other, noting that the position of Te Arawa and Ngāti Whakaue as Te Tiriti parties is recognised and supported:

Mahi Tahi and Partnership	Our partnership is based on good faith and willingness to work together to achieve shared goals
Respect and Tikanga	We will respect each other's tikanga and our interactions are mana enhancing. Our relationships are based on mutual respect
Openness, transparency and maramatanga	We will be clear about what we are trying to achieve
Mohiotanga and early communication	We will communicate clearly and early and provide all necessary information so that all three parties can participate effectively

## Values

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“Me tika, me pono hoki tātau i roto i wā tātau mahi, i ngā wā katoa”

“We will work and act with integrity and honesty at all times”

“Me whai mana nui hoki ngā mātāpono a **Te Arawa** ki tēnei kaupapa kīhai ki tā **Te Arawa** whakataua ai”

“**Te Arawa** beliefs and ideologies must be given “mana” and applied as directed by **Te Arawa**”

# Purpose of this Accord

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The purpose of this Accord is to bring together the collective insights, capability, and experience of Te Arawa, the Crown and Council, combined with the resources of the Crown and Council to:

- reduce the use of emergency housing in Rotorua to near zero as soon as possible;
- ensure appropriate emergency housing options are available for those with urgent housing need from Rotorua;
- ensure quality delivery of care and well-being services to individuals and whānau residing in emergency housing accommodation;
- mitigate the unintended adverse social, cultural, economic, and environmental impacts emergency housing has had on the Rotorua community;
- ensure the safe transition of individuals and whānau exiting emergency housing accommodation with appropriate support provisions to maintain independent living; and
- address the chronic housing shortage in Rotorua by increasing the housing supply.

## Accord Objectives

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The Objectives of this Accord, which will be set out in more detail with progressive solutions in the Initial Work Plan, are:

### ***Objective One: Care and Well-being and Management of Emergency Housing***

- To end the use of mixed-use motels or similar accommodation for emergency housing.
- To provide appropriate support for, and actively manage, the individuals and whānau in emergency housing and look out for their care and well-being;
- To ensure individuals and whānau exit emergency housing in an appropriate manner ready and equipped to move into better housing.
- To manage the entry and placement of individuals and whānau into emergency housing.
- To mitigate current, and prevent further, adverse social, cultural, environmental, and economic effects of emergency housing on the Rotorua community.

### ***Objective Two: Housing Supply***

- To build a pipeline that encompasses planning and infrastructure requirements that delivers public, affordable and other housing required to meet Rotorua's current and future demand.
- To grow the overall volume of housing supply.
- For the Crown and Council to actively support those Te Arawa Iwi, hapū, and lands trusts and incorporations that wish to participate in housing supply to do so.
- To ensure new infrastructure and housing supply will be responsive to demand, and provide for the long-term social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being of Rotorua and its people.

## Review and Monitoring

The Parties agree that in addition to any other matter that they may consider as part of their monthly hui, the Steering Group will actively review, monitor and report on progress of the Accord Objectives.

## All of Crown

The Parties agree that at times the Objectives of this Accord can only be achieved with the input, participation and approval of other Crown Ministers and their departments.

The Crown agrees to have other Ministers and departments participate in Accord discussions when the Parties consider that is necessary to achieve the Objectives in this Accord.

## Structure, Workplan, Communication

The Parties have agreed to the Structure in Appendix One, which is essential to enable action to achieve the Objectives in this Accord.

The Parties will develop a joint Workplan for the next 12 months, including resourcing.

The Parties agree that unless otherwise notified by Te Arawa in writing, all Accord related communications to/from the Crown and/or Council must be directed to/from Te Tatau o Te Arawa.

## Decisions

The Parties agree to work in good faith and that all decisions in respect of this Accord, including any decisions of their Accord Signatories, Steering Group members, and work stream members are made by consensus.

The Parties also acknowledge that each of them has statutory obligations or legal responsibilities. Consequently, some decisions that may influence the outcomes of the Accord may need to be made independently. For example, Rotorua Lakes Council's role and functions as a Building Consent Authority and decision-maker under the Resource Management Act would not be bound by the Accord. Similarly, in making decisions around funding the Crown and Council may need to consider budgetary constraints. Te Arawa will also have other material pressures influencing decision making on specific matters.

The Parties will act in good faith to balance these factors while remaining true to the Accord Purpose and in pursuit of the Accord Objectives.

# Signatories to the Rotorua Housing Accord

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Signed on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022

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Hon Dr Megan Woods

**Minister for Housing**

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Hon Carmel Sepuloni

**Minister for Social Development  
and Employment**

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Tania Tapsell

**Mayor of Rotorua**

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Sandra Kai Fong

**Deputy Mayor of Rotorua**

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Te Uruora Flavell

**Te Arawa**

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Lauren James

**Te Arawa**

# Definitions

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**Emergency Housing** means the use of motels and other tourist accommodation for emergency accommodation through Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants, Contracted Emergency Housing, COVID-19 motels, motels used for Transitional Housing and use of motels by other government departments.

**Ngāti Whakaue** means the iwi of Ngāti Whakaue.

**Ngāti Whakaue Mandated Representatives** means, for the purpose of this Accord, Lauren James, Tina Leach, Norma Sturley, Tamati Coffey and Segina Te Ahuahu who were mandated at hui a Iwi of Ngāti Whakaue at Tamatekapua on 25 September 2022 and then again on 20 November 2022 to lead and represent Ngāti Whakaue on housing and homeless issues with the Crown and Rotorua Lakes Council;

**Te Arawa** means the Iwi of Te Arawa (including Ngāti Whakaue who for the purposes of this Accord are represented by the Ngāti Whakaue Mandated Representatives).

# Appendix One

## Signatories to this Accord

The Parties to this Accord are the Crown, Rotorua Lakes Council and Te Arawa. This Accord will be signed by two signatories for each party (Accord Signatories).

## Governance

Governance responsibility will sit with the Accord Signatories and their representatives, who will commit to meeting quarterly.

## Accord Steering Group

The Accord Steering Group will meet monthly. It will comprise:

- Chief Executive Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (Andrew Crisp)
- Chief Executive, Rotorua Lakes Council (Geoff Williams)
- Four Te Arawa Representatives (two being appointed by the Ngāti Whakaue Representatives)
- Deputy Chief Executive, Ministry of Social Development (Viv Rickard)
- Regional Public Service Commissioner (Ezra Schuster)
- Deputy Chief Executive Place, Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (Ben Dalton)
- Deputy Chief Executive District Development, Rotorua Lakes Council (Jean-Paul Gaston)

## Work Streams

The Steering group will be supported by two work streams each delivering on one Accord Objective. The Chairs (TBC) will ensure the Steering Group and Accord members are well supported.

Objective One: Care, Well-being and managing emergency housing	Objective Two: Housing Delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deputy Chief Executive Place, Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (Ben Dalton)</li> <li>▪ Group General Manager Housing, Ministry of Social Development (Karen Hocking)</li> <li>▪ Deputy Chief Executive Community Wellbeing, Rotorua Lakes Council (Anaru Pewhairangi)</li> <li>▪ Regional Public Service Commissioner (Ezra Schuster)</li> <li>▪ Two Te Arawa Representatives (1 being appointed by the Ngāti Whakaue Representatives)</li> <li>▪ Police Area Commander (Herby Ngawhika)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deputy Chief Executive Place, Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (Ben Dalton)</li> <li>▪ Deputy Chief Executive District Development, Rotorua Lakes Council (Jean-Paul Gaston)</li> <li>▪ Two Te Arawa Representatives (one being appointed by the Ngāti Whakaue Representatives)</li> <li>▪ Deputy Chief Executive Te Puku Ikaroa – Central, Kāinga Ora (Daniel Soughtton)</li> </ul>

The purpose of the work streams is to ensure sharp focus on delivering the actions required to meet the Accord Objectives. As required, the work stream members will work with other Government agencies and officials who may have responsibility for some of the actions needed to deliver on the Accord Objectives.



# Structure

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# Signed by Te Arawa in attendance

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Signed on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022

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