

IREQ20/21030838 update on refugee housing

Purpose

- This note updates you on progress in delivering additional public housing to support the increased refugee quota.

Context

- Resettlement of refugees into New Zealand is resuming, with around 210 people due to be resettled in three cohorts of 70 each between February and June 2021. Resettlement had been paused in late-March 2020 due to COVID-19.
- Despite resettlement being paused, agencies continued to deliver and source additional public housing to meet targets.
- Kainga Ora is delivering 100 percent of supply in 2020/21 (175 places), with CHP delivery beginning from 1 July 2021 [BRF19/20090429 refers].

Progress update

- As at 28 February 2021, Kainga Ora has delivered 105 homes and is 60 percent towards meeting its total refugee target of 175 homes for 2020/21.
- Targets have been achieved in five locations – Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Palmerston North, and Christchurch.
- Progress on the delivery targets for 2020/21 has occurred in Levin, Blenheim, Nelson, Whanganui, Timaru, and Invercargill.
- Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes
- A summary of progress and steps we are taking now to deliver on the next two years targets are outlined in the table below.

Next steps

- Kāinga Ora has delivery plans across all locations that enable them to meet their total three-year targets outlined in the Refugee Resettlement Plan.
- To complement Kainga Ora's delivery, HUD is working closely with Community Housing Providers (CHPs) to progress supply to deliver on commitments in 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- For example, HUD has already contracted deals in Whanganui and Palmerston North which will deliver a high proportion of the 3-year target in these areas.
- Your agreement to updating funding settings is an important enabler for CHP delivery, particularly in smaller regions such as, Ashburton, Timaru, and Levin.

Location	2020/21 target	Progress toward target (as at 28 February 2021)	What we still need to deliver in 2020/21	Ongoing implementation activity
Auckland	23	23	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery by Kāinga Ora and CHPs is on track to achieve 3-year targets.
Wellington	17	17	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery by Kāinga Ora and CHPs is on track to achieve 3-year targets.
Hamilton	12	12	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery by Kāinga Ora and CHPs is on track to achieve 3-year targets.
Palmerston North	15	15	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery by Kāinga Ora and CHPs is on track to achieve 3-year targets.
Christchurch	17	17	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery by Kāinga Ora and CHPs is on track to achieve 3-year targets.
Masterton	0	0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugees are being resettled in the private market in Masterton in 2020/21. Delivery of additional supply begins in 2021/22 (15 places) continuing into 2022/23 (15 places) [BRF19/20090429 refers] HUD has contracted with Emerge to deliver 22 new build places. HUD is due to deliver 4 new builds in partnership with Abbeyfield before June 2022 s 9(2)(j) Discussions with Kainga Ora are on-going to establish its presence in Masterton
Whanganui	On hold	On hold	On hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resettlement of refugees into Whanganui has been deferred this year whilst agencies work with iwi and local government to address their concerns [BRF19/20090429 refers] Contract signed with one CHP to deliver 6 new build places before June 2022. Kainga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Whanganui 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Blenheim ²	14	11	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes HUD is in discussions with two CHPs and local Iwi interested in providing public housing to seek delivery of public housing for the next two financial years. Kainga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Blenheim in 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Timaru	9	2	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes HUD is currently progressing conversations with a CHP who has signalled interest in delivering in Timaru. Wider engagement being undertaken with CHPs to consider options to expand into the area. Kainga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Timaru 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Levin ³	12	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes We are working with a key CHP to progress a potential 52 place new build development in Levin. Discussions are on-going s 9(2)(j) Kainga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Levin 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Invercargill	13	4	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes Discussions with one CHP to potentially deliver 14 places. Discussions with two CHPs to consider the potential for delivery in this location.

Location	2020/21 target	Progress toward target (as at 28 February 2021)	What we still need to deliver in 2020/21	Ongoing implementation activity
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kāinga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Invercargill 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Nelson	17	5	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes • HUD has approved funding for ¹⁰ places with ^{s 9(2)(j)}, due for delivery in 2022/23 • HUD has contracted with Nelson Tasman Housing Trust to deliver 6 places in Nelson due for delivery in 2022/23 • One CHP interested in establishing a new presence and is working with the Community Housing Regulatory Authority to progress this. • Kāinga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Nelson 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Dunedin	12	0	17 ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes • HUD has contracted with The Salvation Army to deliver 20 places in November 2022. • HUD is progressing a further opportunity which could result in up to 10 additional places. • One CHP has expressed interest in establishing a presence in the area. • Kāinga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Dunedin 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Ashburton	14	0	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kāinga Ora is urgently pursuing all options to meet targets in refugee resettlement areas, including working with local councils to identify any council landholdings that could be used for housing purposes • Engagement being undertaken with CHPs to consider options to expand into the area. This includes discussions with a Christchurch-based CHP. • Kāinga Ora will continue to deliver public housing in Ashburton 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the Public Housing Plan
Total	175	105	70	

¹ Kāinga Ora has demolished 5 places in Dunedin this financial year with no builds forecast for the remainder of 2020/21. Kāinga Ora is to deliver 17 places to account for its refugee targets and this demolition activity