



Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

Minute of Decision

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Recommencing Public Housing Tenancy Reviews

Portfolio **Housing / Associate Social Development and Employment**

On 30 August 2023, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC):

Background

- 1 **noted** that:
 - 1.1 in 2011, Cabinet introduced public housing tenancy reviews for new tenants [CAB Min (11) 13/5];
 - 1.2 in 2013, Cabinet extended the reviews to existing tenants, with the intention of ensuring public housing is being well utilised [CBC Min (13) 2/7];
- 2 **noted** that in 2018, SWC agreed the following groups of tenants were not eligible for a three-yearly tenancy review:
 - 2.1 tenancies where the signatory or their partner is aged 65 or over;
 - 2.2 tenancies where the signatory or their partner has one or more dependent children aged 18 years and under in their care;
 - 2.3 tenancies where the signatory or their partner receives a Supported Living Payment;
 - 2.4 tenancies with agreed lifetime tenure with Housing New Zealand Corporation;
[SWC-18-MIN-0112]
- 3 **noted** that in 2020, in response to COVID-19, public housing tenancy reviews were paused;
- 4 **noted** that in March 2022, SWC deferred a decision on the Future State of Public Housing Tenancy Reviews and tenancy reviews have remained paused [SWC-22-MIN-0042];

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- 5 **agreed** to recommence public housing tenancy reviews, with an initial focus on eligible tenants paying the market rent, that have held a tenancy for three years or more;
- 6 **agreed** that Kainga Ora must take appropriate action when a Kainga Ora tenant has had their tenancy reviewed and is found to no longer be eligible, including issuing a 90-day notice where applicable;

- 7 **invited** the Minister for Social Development and Employment, Minister of Finance and Minister of Housing to approve the necessary amendments to the Ministerial Direction on Application of Reviews of Continued Eligibility for Social Housing to give effect to paragraph 5 above;
- 8 **noted** that the Ministry of Social Development will implement the new approach to tenancy reviews from March 2024.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)
Hon Jan Tinetti
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Priyanca Radhkrishnan
Hon Ginny Andersen
Hon Willow-Jean Prime
Hon Rino Tirikatene

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for SWC