



# Transitional housing

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Transitional housing is a new approach to housing.

It provides warm, dry and safe short-term accommodation for people in need, along with tailored social support while they're there.

Transitional housing is managed by contracted providers who are responsible for making sure the homes are warm, dry and safe and that the families living there are looked after. They also work with the families to help them access any support they need such as budgeting advice or social services.

Families and individuals stay in transitional housing for an average of 12 weeks or more while they are helped to find more permanent housing.

## Transitional housing providers

Transitional housing providers are skilled in supporting tenants with a range of social and tenancy-related services, and are also responsible for maintaining the properties. There are currently 36 providers across New Zealand.

The transitional housing programme is led by the Ministry of Social Development and Housing New Zealand and involves local councils and emergency housing providers right across New Zealand.

## Number, locations and types of transitional housing

It is anticipated that there will be more than 2,000 transitional housing places across New Zealand by the end of the year.

These places are in Auckland and other cities and towns across New Zealand including Hamilton, Tauranga, Rotorua, Napier, Hastings, Palmerston North, Wellington, Nelson, Blenheim, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Transitional housing is diverse. In some cases individual, stand-alone residential homes can be used for transitional housing. In other cases it may be larger developments, such as former motels or purpose-built housing.



## Who transitional housing is for

Transitional housing provides short-term housing for families who don't have anywhere to live and have an urgent need for a place to stay. They are likely to already live in the community, with children going to local schools.

Families could be in this situation because:

- the house they were renting has been sold and they've had to leave
- they've been living with family, or in overcrowded or sub-standard accommodation (like a garage) and can no longer stay there.

In all situations they will have struggled to find a place to rent, and will have been assessed by Work and Income as having the greatest priority.

People who need help should contact Work and Income on 0800 559 009.

## Cost of transitional housing

The Government's investment in transitional housing is \$354 million.

People living in transitional housing pay rent of up to 25 per cent of their income, which is in line with income-related rents for social housing. The balance is subsidised to providers by the government.

## Emergency housing special needs grant

Transitional housing is not the same as an emergency housing special needs grant. The emergency housing special needs grant is a one-off grant to cover immediate housing costs for a period of seven days.

For more information see <http://www.housing.msd.govt.nz>

## Examples of transitional housing:

### Luke Street, Otahuhu, Auckland

The transitional housing development at Luke Street, Otahuhu, was constructed by Housing New Zealand. It includes 42 homes of two, three and four bedrooms, two community centres, play areas and communal green space.

Three providers manage the tenancies and provide support to the families who live there – Monte Cecilia, The Salvation Army and VisionWest. The first families moved into the development earlier this year, with some already making the transition to more permanent housing.

The homes are warm, dry and built to modern standards, positioned for maximum sun and privacy.



Transitional housing complex at Luke Street, Otahuhu

### 247 Puhinui Road, Auckland

In Papatoetoe, Strive Community Trust manages a new 72-unit development of eight separate blocks each comprising nine studio units and a communal living area, kitchen and laundry. It is warm, dry and modern. Strive Community Trust has a manager based at the site at all times. The Trust works with the tenants to help them develop the skills they need to move to more sustainable, long term accommodation.