

Proactive Release

The following documents have been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson:

Progress report on Implementation Unit Assignments

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Progress report on Implementation Unit Assignments (CAB-21-SUB-0519 refers)

- Implementation Unit Work programme update
- Progress Update on Actions from the Mid-Term Review of the Budget 2019 Mental Health and Addiction Package
- New Zealand Upgrade Programme Transport Assessment
- Report: Emergency and Transitional Housing
- Jobs for Nature Stocktake of Progress
- Infrastructure Reference Group Programme Status Update

Title of minute: Progress report on Implementation Unit Assignments (CPC-21-MIN-0034 refers)

Title of minute: Report of the Cabinet Priorities Committee: Period Ended 10 December 2021 (CAB-21-MIN-0519 refers)

Title of paper: Stocktake of Progress Report – Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CAB-22-SUB-0006 refers)

• Carbon Neutral Government Programme Stocktake of Progress

Title of minute: Stocktake of Progress Report – Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CBC-22-MIN-0006 refers)

Title of minute: Report of the Cabinet Business Committee: Period Ended 25 February 2022 (CAB-22-MIN-0045 refers)

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.



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FAQs to Support the Release of the Emergency and Transitional Housing System Review of Agency Working Arrangements

What is New Zealand's emergency and transitional housing system?

The emergency housing system is the Government's temporary accommodation and support response for people with an immediate and urgent housing need. It is intended to deliver a range of outcomes, including access to housing for people with urgent housing needs, support services, and a pathway towards longer-term public housing.

Emergency housing is delivered through the Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant (EH-SNG) which is administered by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). The EH-SNG pays for stays of up to 21 days in commercial accommodation (normally a motel room). Transitional housing is short-term accommodation (intended to be 12 weeks) and tailored support services delivered by accredited housing support providers. The transitional housing programme is led by the Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

What did the Implementation Unit look at?

The Implementation Unit assessed the current working arrangements between agencies responsible for delivering emergency and transitional housing, as well as their milestones and plans for reporting on findings from an agency-led review of the emergency housing system. This review was not a deep dive on delivery.

What were the main findings of the Implementation Unit's report?

The Implementation Unit found that HUD and MSD are performing their respective roles and responsibilities in the emergency and transitional housing system as they were designed, and that working arrangements between agencies are operating as intended.

Transitional housing

The Implementation Unit identified that HUD's programme management arrangements were effective, as HUD has end-to-end responsibility and ownership of the programme.

The Implementation Unit found that HUD is mostly on track to deliver its 2020/21 goal for transitional housing, which will result in an increase of 2,000 additional transitional housing places, on top of 1,000 places delivered in February 2021 under the Aotearoa New Zealand Homelessness Action Plan.

The Implementation Unit identified that there were opportunities for HUD to enhance its data collection of those entering and exiting the transitional housing system to strengthen reporting to Ministers.

Emergency housing

The EH-SNG is delivered as a benefit, meaning it does not have any specific delivery milestones and is not set up to operate as a programme. While the Implementation Unit identified that agencies were performing their roles in the management of the benefit as designed, these arrangements could have been revisited as the delivery of the EH-SNG became more complex and use of the grant for emergency housing grew.

What, if any follow up work will the Implementation Unit do?

The Implementation Unit will support delivery agencies by identifying and sharing lessons learned from the establishment of emergency housing pilot in Rotorua to inform the agencyled review of the emergency housing system. This will report to the Deputy Prime Minister in March. The Unit will also give advice and provide support to agencies, including providing advice on governance, accountabilities and programme management arrangements, planning, and reporting structures, to implement decisions stemming from the agency-led review of the emergency housing system.

At the end of 2022, the Implementation Unit will undertake a stocktake of progress on the implementation of decisions and report to the Deputy Prime Minister in December 2022.