

### **Media statement 31 March 2023**

Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities is about to start a new engagement process aimed at getting the communities in the Hibiscus and Bays area more involved in conversations about the current shortfall of public housing and how it can be addressed.

Many whānau are in need of homes in the area so we have to think carefully about how we can meet some of that demand by increasing the supply of public housing.

We want the communities to be part of the conversation and we want to hear a wide range of perspectives, so we are enlisting the help of an engagement collective who can help our team tap into the different communities and draw-out different voices.

Our aim is to have a meaningful dialogue about the need for public and other types of housing in the area and the role that Kāinga Ora can play in helping to address some of that need.

The primary role of Kāinga Ora is to provide public housing, but we also administer a range of home ownership products on behalf of the Government to help people into home ownership. Kāinga Ora also rents or leases properties to specialist third-party community group housing providers.

The feedback we gather through this engagement process, which will take a number of months to complete, will help us to create a plan to guide Kāinga Ora development in the Hibiscus and Bays area.

We have updated community stakeholders on our engagement plans and will provide more detail shortly on how people in the Hibiscus and Bays area can get involved in this important conversation.