

Supportive, thriving, urban village



Good for our industry, the community and environment

The New Zealand Government is working to ensure that broader social, environmental, cultural and economic outcomes are achieved through government contracts. Kāinga Ora is also prioritising these outcomes, and our contracts for such things as construction of new homes now have a greater focus on providing long-term benefits for New Zealanders. This is known as social procurement.

Greys Avenue social procurement overview

Kāinga Ora has partnered with construction company Icon to deliver an innovative 276-apartment complex in central Auckland. As part of our commitment to provide broader social outcomes, we have agreed on a set of initiatives to help boost employment and training opportunities, grow Māori and Pasifika businesses, support worker wellbeing, minimise environmental impact, and foster a positive relationship with the community.



How will this project deliver broader outcomes?

Training opportunities

At least 28 apprentices will be hired as part of the construction of 139 Greys Avenue. This will create long-term employment opportunities and grow the construction workforce. Around half of the apprentices will come from groups such as youth, women in construction, Māori and Pasifika, long-term and cyclical unemployed people, current Kāinga Ora customers, and local residents.

Icon will also host site visits for university students studying architecture and engineering.

Supplier diversity

Actively supporting diversity among our suppliers is another way we are delivering broader outcomes. Our construction contracts will help support Māori and Pasifika business growth and provide greater employment opportunities. It is anticipated at least five percent of the Greys Avenue contract sum will be spent with Māori and Pasifika businesses.

Environmental outcomes

Kāinga Ora and Icon are implementing initiatives to minimise the environmental impact of the development. These will focus on waste minimisation, energy efficiency, emission reduction, sustainable purchasing and corporate sustainability. The complex has been designed to achieve a 7 Homestar rating for the homes and a NABERSNZ rating for the commercial office spaces. We aim to achieve 85 percent diversion of materials from landfill throughout construction. Icon will also hold a number of tree planting days to offset carbon emissions during the project.

Contractor health and wellbeing

All workers and subcontractors will be supported by the MATES in Construction mental health and suicide prevention programme. The initiative provides tools and resources to help workers identify mental health warning signs in both themselves and others, then take appropriate action.

Wider community outcomes

Kāinga Ora will liaise with the community throughout the construction phase to keep them up to date on progress. The community has already provided valuable feedback on the design and landscaping of the development, and offered insights about how to create a well-connected community. We will also hold public events such as site open days, and community groups have been invited to paint murals on the boards around the site.

The Greys Avenue development will provide so much more than 276 new warm, dry homes. We want to be supportive partners in this neighbourhood and the wider community.

Customer wellbeing

A number of homes in the Greys Avenue development will cater to people with complex or higher needs. Residents will have access to wraparound support services and medical facilities. The design of the complex aims to promote social connectedness and wellbeing through a community hub, shared cooking and eating areas, recreation and learning space and gardens.

Cultural outcomes

Ngāti Whātua has been involved in the design process and will be an integral partner throughout the project. The narrative for the building is based on a taniwha named Horotiu, who wraps around the building. A number of iwi artists and designers have also been engaged in the project.

