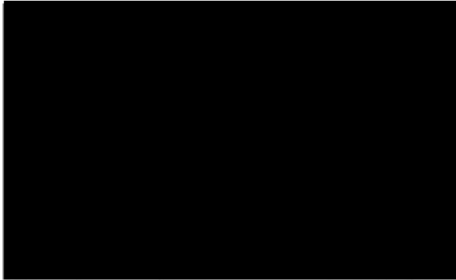


27 JUL 2020



Thank you for your email of 7 July 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

- 1. What was the agency's total greenhouse gas footprint in the most recent year in which records exist (if such records exist)? Please provide a breakdown of those emissions if they are available.*
- 2. Does the agency have a policy of requiring employees and/or contractors to offset work-related emissions, e.g. domestic or international flights?*
- 3. Does the agency have an emissions reduction plan, or emissions reduction targets, either in place or in development? If so, please provide details of the plan and/or targets.*

Please see below the response to your questions.

- 1. What was the agency's total greenhouse gas footprint in the most recent year in which records exist (if such records exist)? Please provide a breakdown of those emissions if they are available.*

The Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities carbon accounting report for the period 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019 is currently being finalised. I am withholding this report under section 9(2)(f)(iv) – *to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials*. Please note that this is the first carbon accounting exercise that Kāinga Ora has undertaken and as such we expect there will be a number of areas where improvements will be required.

With respect to information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

- 2. Does the agency have a policy of requiring employees and/or contractors to offset work-related emissions, e.g. domestic or international flights?*

No, Kāinga Ora has implemented a comprehensive flexible working policy and put in place systems to support this which we expect will significantly reduce staff travel related emissions.

- 3. Does the agency have an emissions reduction plan, or emissions reduction targets, either in place or in development? If so, please provide details of the plan and/or targets.*

On 11 February 2020, Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities made the decision that it would prioritise improving its sustainability and environmental performance. This decision strengthens our commitment to delivering the outcomes set out in our Environment Strategy.

Part of this decision includes transitioning the Kāinga Ora construction, urban development and asset management activities to be carbon neutral with the overarching goal of reducing emissions by 100 percent by 2050.

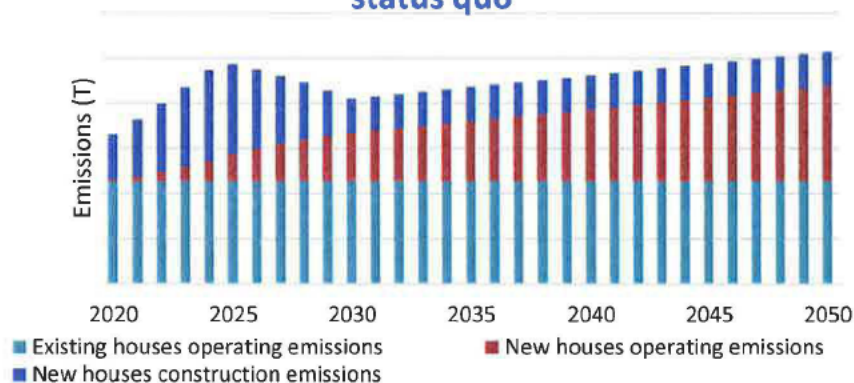
Kāinga Ora is looking to:

- transition our public housing portfolio to be carbon neutral and climate change resilient
- lead by doing to influence improved performance across the New Zealand residential construction sector
- reduce or minimise construction and demolition waste
- build or contribute to healthy urban environments that promote sustainable lifestyles and protect or enhance nature

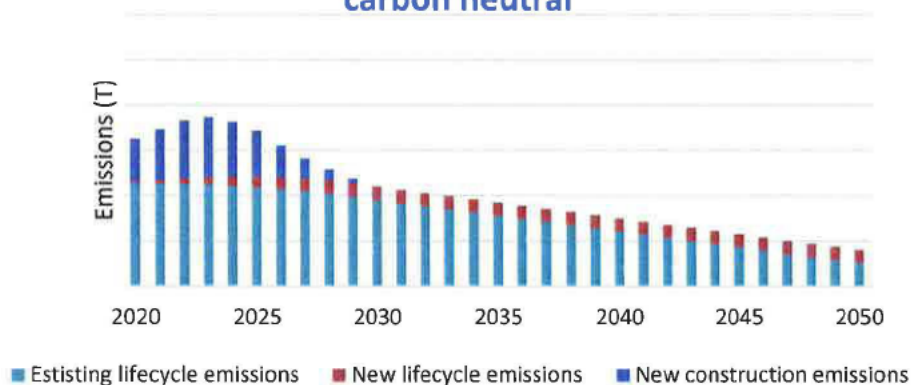
A copy of the Environment Strategy summary is available on our website at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Strategic-documents/Environment-Strategy-Summary.pdf>.

The below charts in relation to carbon reduction for our public housing portfolio are provided for illustrative purposes only.

### Estimated annual emissions projection – continue status quo



### Estimated annual emissions projection –lead on carbon neutral



Our carbon footprint is significant as we own 65,000 homes and our build programme is delivering 1,100 net additional homes each year for the next four years (excluding Budget 2020 announcements -see [www.beehive.govt.nz/release/8000-more-public-houses-be-delivered](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/8000-more-public-houses-be-delivered)).

The new targets under the Zero Carbon Act require us to significantly change the performance of our portfolio. Our scale gives us the opportunity to lead and change practises across the sector.

We need to:

- Deliver 'carbon neutral' houses from new construction within 10 years
- Retrofit the remainder of our portfolio to carbon neutral over 30 years
- Offset additional emissions through carbon positive activities delivered at neighbourhood scale
  - low carbon urban development
  - energy storage and generation

The approach and resourcing to deliver this is still in development and specific targets have not yet been endorsed or approved by the relevant decision makers.

You have the right under section 28(3) to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman about the decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at either [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Kelly  
**Manager Government Relations**