

7 September 2023

s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your request of 23 August 2023 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities for the following information about the First Home Partner scheme, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- ‘ When an individual or family are successful in purchasing a home via this scheme, what are the terms and conditions they are bound to in terms of the Shared ownership of a dwelling?*
- Are the successful individuals or families free to make alterations to a property at their leisure?*
- Are the successful individuals or families bound to any agreements above and beyond the shared ownership agreement?*
- Please provide the template used for shared ownership agreements.’*

I can advise that all households that have settled on their new home with the assistance of the First Home Partner scheme have a Shared Ownership Agreement. This agreement outlines the key details, terms, and structure of the agreement, and the responsibilities of both Kāinga Ora and the household/co-purchaser. Households will sign this document along with their solicitors to ensure that they understand all terms and conditions of the agreement. Each co-purchaser’s document will contain the specific terms and conditions of their agreement.

Any alterations to the property must be raised as a request to Kāinga Ora before commencement of work. Each household has an online portal to submit their requests and to provide details for our consideration. Any work requiring a contractor or structural amendments require approval. Alterations to the appearance of a property are considered as a ‘for our information’ request. Our Goals Management team will also make an annual visit to the property and may check on the progress or outcome of the alteration.

The Shared Ownership Agreement is the only agreement that a First Home Partner- assisted household needs to refer to. There are no other agreements post-settlement.

An example of a Shared Ownership Agreement can be found on our website at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/assets/Home-ownership/Brochures-and-forms/Shared-Ownership-Agreement.pdf>. We also have a guide with answers to frequently asked questions available at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/assets/Home-ownership/Brochures-and-forms/FHP-Guide-to-the-Shared-Ownership-Agreement.pdf>.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/> with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely



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