

Media Advisory 30 April 2015

Tāmaki Redevelopment Company welcomes the Government's acceleration of the Tāmaki Regeneration Programme

The Tāmaki Redevelopment Company (TRC) welcomes the announcement today by Government to transfer the ownership and management of approximately 2,800 Housing NZ properties in Glen Innes, Panmure and Point England to TRC.

"The local community has been advocating strongly for improvement in the area for many years and TRC welcomes the Government's renewed commitment to Tāmaki," says Brian Donnelly, TRC's Chair.

TRC is committed to fulfilling the intentions of the Government's social housing reform programme by delivering a more diverse supply of social and affordable housing and improved responsiveness to tenants' needs.

"This is an exciting time for the area and after two and a half years, residents want us to move faster on rejuvenating this community. The people of Tāmaki are at the heart of everything we do, and TRC will continue to listen to their voices," he added.

"The announcement today by Government gives TRC the necessary levers to accelerate current neighbourhood redevelopments, start new regeneration initiatives, maintain momentum in the long-term programme and ensure that the company and its partners tackle the intergenerational challenges in the Tāmaki community," Mr Donnelly added.

"We are well aware of people's aspiration to housing independence, so we will aim to provide better and more options for home ownership," says John Holyoake, TRC's Chief Executive.

TRC is New Zealand's first community-based urban regeneration company. It is publicly owned (59% by the Crown and 41% by the Auckland Council). The continuing programme of housing redevelopment in Tāmaki is playing a critical role in social transformation, economic development and neighbourhood improvement.

In regards to housing redevelopment on publicly owned land, TRC is being tasked to make significant inroads into its target of building 7,500 homes, replacing about 2,500 existing Housing New Zealand homes over the next 10-15 years. There are currently around 2,800 social homes owned by Housing NZ. The number of social homes will remain at least at this level, and those retained will be of better quality.

The transfer of properties, the management of tenancies and property maintenance services currently held by Housing NZ will occur by 31 March 2016.

"We acknowledge this may cause some feelings of uncertainty for tenants. TRC can assure all tenants that Housing NZ remains their landlord in the meantime, and the terms and conditions of tenancies will remain the same when they are transferred to TRC," says John Holyoake.

TRC will continue to stand by the "Tāmaki Commitment" to the local community. This ensures that any Housing NZ tenants affected by redevelopments who are still need of social housing can remain in Tāmaki if they wish.

At the same time, TRC will seek to welcome new families into the area, whether that be through opportunities created by more jobs or options for home ownership.

TRC is currently working closely with Government agencies, Community Housing Providers (CHPs) and other organisations to explore improved service models for tenancy management and property maintenance in the longer term.

"There might also be an opportunity for local Tāmaki groups to put up their hand. At the end of the day, the aim is to provide a high quality service and we want to see tangible, better outcomes for tenants and for Tāmaki," says Mr Holyoake.

TRC is currently working in partnership with Housing NZ in two neighbourhoods – Fenchurch and Overlea -- and will be commencing activity in the next neighbourhood area for regeneration in Panmure.

TRC understands the impact that redevelopments have on families, particularly with schools, so we acknowledge the important role of the principals and schools of the area.

Urban regeneration is more than bricks and mortar and TRC and its partners remain committed to delivering on its social, economic and spatial development objectives.

"We would like to thank the more than 40 Tamaki groups and organisations who have worked with us sharing their valuable insights and ideas and who are now partners with us on a number of projects. We are reliant on the commitment from this community to the regeneration kaupapa," said Mr Holyoake.

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For more information contact

Deanne Douglas, Communications Manager at Tāmaki Redevelopment Company

027 934 8018