

To: Hon Kelvin Davis, Minister of Corrections

Aide Memoire: Community engagement for the Housing and Support Services Programme - May to July 2020

Date	18 May 2020	Decision and Timing	No decision required
B number	B4023	Priority	Medium

Contacts for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Contact number	First contact
Megan Main	Deputy Chief Executive - Corrections	§9(2)(a)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Rebecca Barson	General Manager, Reintegration & Housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
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Purpose

- 1 This Aide Memoire is to inform you of the Community Engagement activity planned for Corrections' Housing & Support Services programme.

Background

- 2 In Budget 2018, Cabinet approved \$57.6 million in operating funding over four years to allow Corrections, along with other government agencies, to establish a range of housing and support services for people in the criminal justice system. Corrections established the Housing and Support Services programme to deliver these services and capital funding has been allocated to Kāinga Ora to source the properties.
- 3 Transitional homes are an integrated approach to supporting individuals in a community environment. Support services build skills and confidence for people to lead more independent lives as they transition back to the community, or as an alternative in the community to imprisonment.
- 4 Across the programme, 207 supported accommodation placements are forecasted to be delivered over four years.

Community engagement approach during COVID-19 restrictions

- 5 Before the COVID-19 Alert Level 4 lockdown period began, Community Engagement activities for five properties had been planned but were put on hold. As the need for accommodation services remains, Corrections has revised the Community Engagement approach so that it can proceed during the COVID-19 restrictions and the services can be made available to support individuals in our care.
- 6 Community Engagement is carried out in two phases: engagement with community leaders such as mayors, MPs, iwi leaders, Government agencies and schools, and engagement with neighbouring residents.
- 7 Engagement with community leaders usually takes place through face-to-face meetings. Where we are unable to do so due to COVID-19 restrictions, we plan to engage with these stakeholders through remote phone or video calls or through face-to-face meetings if the meetings can be conducted safely and within Government guidelines.
- 8 Engagement with neighbouring residents usually takes place after engagement with community leaders through face-to-face home visits. With social distancing restrictions, we plan to make initial contact with neighbours by sending a letter to them through the post. The letter will inform residents that we would like to engage with them about a new service and invite them to make contact over the phone. Our staff can then inform them about the service and respond to any queries. Written information about the services will also be prepared and can be provided to neighbours.
- 9 The Community Engagement outlined in the memo is different to Corrections' 'Community Notification' process, 'Community Notification' relates to notifying people in communities about an individual offender residing in a community.

Potential Risks

- 10 With Community Engagement there is always the potential for negative community reaction. Each site selected for delivering services undergoes a comprehensive due diligence process, to get the best view of suitability. Additionally, thorough planning goes into all community engagement ahead of commencing.

Planned community engagement

- 11 Table One below outlines the five addresses for which community engagement will take place from May to July 2020. Corrections will notify your office before each engagement takes place and provide you with a copy of the detailed community engagement plan.



- 12 The above table is based on indicative timeframes forecasted for each project at this time. The Minister's Office will be informed ahead of each engagement, and if these opportunities do not eventuate or may change.
- 13 A high-level view of community engagement for the Housing and Support Services programme through to September 2020 is included with this Aide Memoire as Appendix One.

Proactively Released