

19 August 2024

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

I write in response to your request dated 17 July 2024, for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Has Kainga Ora an estimate of how much all the planning and community consultation that has gone into this project so far has cost?

I can advise that to date, the planning, design and consenting costs for the proposed 50 homes in Ruakākā is approximately \$17,640 per unit, a total spend of \$882,000. These costs were budgeted for and are comparative (per unit) with other similar redevelopment projects of this size and scale.

Planning costs include geotechnical work, site surveying, engineers, architects, and planning consultants who provide technical advice on matters such as traffic, water and wastewater capacity, flood and hazard risk. The various professionals engaged at this stage of the project ensure we are meeting local regulatory requirements and are delivering high-quality developments.

Our locally based, Te Tai Tokerau team carried out extensive, early engagement for our proposed redevelopment in Ruakākā. Our engagement approach reflecting the high-level of community interest, and our genuine commitment to engage with local communities about our plans.

Early designs were shared at a series of community information sessions held in the heart of Ruakākā Township – The Bream Bay Trust. An all-day event was held first, followed by a series of shorter drop-in sessions to suit all different schedules.

Information regarding the redevelopment proposal was set out on info-boards and factsheets, as well as visually presented via artist impressions, technical drawings and aerial photography to help inform understanding.

Hundreds of community members attended the events including locals, Kāinga Ora tenants, people seeking housing support, business owners, elected members, local media, community groups and neighbours.

We have spent approximately \$13,000 on community engagement to date, which is inclusive of event costs such as venue hire, radio and newspaper advertising to encourage attendance, mail drops and deliveries of invites, as well as photography, design and printing collateral.

Project update (as previously provided July 2024)

Kāinga Ora has been building new social housing in Northland at pace, in line with the Government's Public Housing Plan. We are committed and on track to meet the targets the plan sets, which includes all developments contracted for delivery by 30 June 2025.

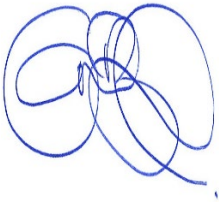
All additional social housing opportunities for the region, that are not contracted for delivery by 30 June 2025, are under assessment. The proposal to build 50 new social houses in Ruakākā is

not contracted for delivery prior to June next year, and therefore falls into this category. This assessment process is to ensure best value for money and alignment with the Government's priority locations.

As decisions are made, we will keep the community informed.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases its 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.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a trailing end, positioned above the printed name.

Caroline Butterworth
Deputy Chief Executive – Auckland and Northland