



Housing Forum Notes Wednesday 30th July 2014

Present: Andrew Booker, Paul Commons HNZC; Jaimita de John, Ley Frebig, Michelle Whitaker CEA Rex Gibson ChCh Migrants Centre; Rosslyn Brewer, Stephen Firth, Steve Orme, Sharalyn Pollard, Erin O'Brien City Housing; Stacy Potter City Mission; Helen Murphy Prisoners Aid & Rehabilitation Society, Emily Dunstall Penny Krebs City Housing; Jenny Townsend City Housing; Simon Templeton Age Concern Canterbury. Rebecca Chenery Family Help Trust, Simonette Boele Community Law Canterbury, Karen Tansley, Lorraine Murray Comcare Housing; Sarah Nicholas; Kim Willims Canterbury Property Investors Association; Anna Langley Te Puna Oraka Shirley Early Years Hub, Nicole Randall MBIE; Joanna Corbett CCC; Ivan Gobie, Suzanne Chittenden WCC; Claire Billens Bromley Community Centre; Valerie McDonald CDHB Social Work; Dawn Clark Presbyterian Support; Mike Field CYPD; Peter Atkin Waimakariri Dist Council; Simon Atkinson; Marilyn Gibb ChCh Hospital Social Work; Heather Mannix Christchurch East Electorate; Di Harwood TPA; Annie Smith Methodist Mission; Ann Reeve Older Person Health; Don Martin MBIE; Edmund Le Grelle, Tony Brazier Brazier Property Management; Lisa Burder Skilled Migrant Business Services.

(Apologies for those on the other side of the room – the attendance register got stuck!)

Notes are brief – We have lost our digital voice recorder (last seen at the Forum) if anyone has seen it please let us know on 3792297 or leave a message on 3791122:

Guest Presenters: Dr George Abrahams NZ First; Jan Logie Acting Spokesperson – Greens; Poto Williams – Labour Party; Ngārie Button – Maori Party

Facilitator: Helen Gatonyi

Karakia: Glen Buckner – Salvation Army

Presentations:

Politicians were asked to speak for 5 minutes about their policies.

Below are brief notes taken at the meeting and during the question and answer period. More details about each party platform and policies on housing can be found on their websites.

www.labour.org.nz www.greens.org.nz www.nzfirst.org.nz <http://maoriparty.org/our-policies/>

www.national.org.nz <http://mana.net.nz/policy/> (apologies unable to attend).

Dr Abrahams – NZ First: - Dr Abrahams was asked to stand in for Dennis O'Rourke who was unable to get away from parliament. Dr Abrahams talked about his 18 years in the city, the serious housing crisis here, the issues the Indian and other migrant communities are experiencing, the rising costs of rentals – and called for a clear implementable policy.

Jan Logie – Greens Acting Spokesperson on Housing: Greens want a cleaner, fairer smarter NZ – they are here to stay and are a strong voice for change. Highlighted the Human Rights Commission 'right to live in secure safe affordable housing' report.. Propose building affordable housing; Capital Gains Taxation; Progressive home ownership; Rent-to-own leveraged to buy, and support solar power. Want tenants with Christchurch City Council to become eligible for IRR rents without having to change structure. For rental tenants secure tenure; limits to rent increases and a warrant of fitness for housing. 25-35M plus 2m to build back smarter. Quality social housing using universal design and integrated into community. Housing is a core green issue.

Poto Williams Labour Party: Two areas to talk about National Framework and Kick start Canterbury Recovery. Big Picture Kiwi build Programmes 100,000 affordable homes, health homes guarantee – insulation heating; commitment to 2000 apprenticeships. Capital Gains Tax. 17B – self funding go back into pool. Canterbury – 10,000 over four years – address extraordinary lack of buildings 100 homes = 10 days 300 homes 100 days 600 homes in six months. 3000 affordable rentals sold off for 1st home buyers – tenants first refusal. Rebuild mixed income communities and EQ damage repairs to be on LIM Report. Because of the extraordinary rent increase Accommodation Supplement to match that of Auckland.

Ngarie Button – Maori Party – Te Taitonga - Significant issues in Te Taitonga – Dunedin there is serious issues in standards and heating, Canterbury a serious issue. There is always a need for social housing. Maori Party has a long term goal of home ownership “we have given away home ownership too easily”. Impacts child health, employment; support rent to own schemes. Turnover of housing stock, new technology updates; trade-training schemes are other aspects of policy.

Our sincere apologies to everyone: The question and answer part of the discussion was recorded with minimal notes taken – we have lost our digital recorder, and rather than wrongly attribute questions and answers we have omitted this part of the discussion, in the notes

Questions ranged around Capital Gains Tax; Local Body /Central Government in Rental Housing; EQ Damage recorded on LIM; Social Housing; Youth Housing; Insurance Issues; Security of Tenure in Rental Housing; Minimum Standards; Rent Stabilization; Housing Affordability; Housing Accessibility.

The next housing forum will be on Wednesday 17th September 2014 Forum topic to be advised – Updates via the website www.christchurchhousingforum.org.nz