



# News And Views

Issue 1

Monday February 10th 2014

## The week ahead:

- TPA will be at Linwood Link Tuesday 9am to 11am. Appointments preferred.
- Wednesday 12 –2  
Christchurch Housing Forum—Oxford Tce  
Baptist Church.

Housing Forum Information can be found at [www.christchurchhousingforum.org.nz](http://www.christchurchhousingforum.org.nz).

## When Willing becomes redundant!

Do you know what happens to the information you provide in a pre tenancy application form?

Information gained from our own data has shown prospective tenants are often asked to provide information that may not be relevant to assessing their suitability as a prospective tenant. This information gathering and profiling can lead to denial of access to housing and a possible infringement of a persons human rights. Is it important to know how much a person earns—does that dictate whether or not they will pay their rent on time? What about your marital status—does it matter if you are married, single, living together when a tenancy agreement asks only for number of occupants of household.

Tenants have a right to only share information about themselves that they are willing to share and landlords can only

collect information relevant and necessary.

TPA believes tenants should have a right to not give information that they are not legally obliged to and this non disclosure shouldn't compromise their tenancy. TPA has evidence that this is not being adhered to.

Landlords collecting information from tenants must adhere to the Privacy Act 1993, however TPA believes there should be a clearer Code of Conduct and Practice that all landlords must follow, including both what information can be requested and how that information is stored, All landlords and tenants must be clear on:

Who uses the information?

Where and with whom does it get shared?

What is the purpose of requiring this information?

Information Privacy Principles can be found at:

<http://www.privacy.org.nz/news-and-publications/guidance-notes/information-privacy-principles/>



## TPA invites comments and views on topics raised in this newsletter.

You can find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/tpa.chch?ref=hl>

[www.tpa.org.nz](http://www.tpa.org.nz)

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TPA aims to provide Tenancy advice, advocacy and education for the Christchurch area. To protect, promote and advance generally the rights interests and welfare of tenants in the Christchurch region .