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New Zealand Productivity Commission
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Bay of Plenty Regional Council's submission to chapter 12: Rural Māori housing in the Draft Housing Affordability Report

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on chapter 12: Rural Māori housing in the Draft Housing Affordability Report. The Bay of Plenty Regional Council does not wish to reserve the right to present our submission in person.

For matters relating to this submission, please contact Kataraina Maki at kataraina.maki@boprc.govt.nz or 0800 884 881 ext. 9321.

Our Organisation

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council is responsible for the sustainable management of resources within the Bay of Plenty region. Our Council works to manage peoples' effects on freshwater, land, air and coastal water under the Resource Management Act (1991).

We also have a broader responsibility working with district councils in the area, for the economic, social and cultural well-being of communities in the Bay of Plenty region.

Comments

While the Regional Council does not play a direct role in housing we have read the Draft Housing Affordability Report with interest.

We note that increasingly Māori communities are recommending that regional councils extend their responsibilities or influence to support Māori housing through our responsibilities under the Local Government Act. Particularly to cater for the four wellbeing's, specifically the social component.

The Regional Council would like to express our support for the matters the report raises.

The Regional Council has focussed its comments to chapter 12 of the report dealing with Rural Māori housing. This is a topic of real relevance across the Bay of Plenty Region as it is across many other regions of New Zealand.

We support the key points raised about Rural Māori housing in chapter 12 of the Draft Housing Affordability Report. We would also note the following initiatives in the Bay of Plenty for your information:

- As a Regional Council we have supported the development of a Papakāinga Toolkit as a smart growth initiative to support papakāinga on Māori land in the Western Bay of Plenty. This toolkit is a step by step guide to develop and build on multiple owned Māori land. Workshops are being held with Māori Land Trusts on how to use the toolkit.
- The Papakāinga Toolkit workshops are being facilitated by Te Puni Kokiri. This is a successful initiative that could be replicated by other local authorities
- Through the Treaty Settlements process, iwi are brokering relationships with key agencies such as Housing New Zealand to develop housing strategies for their respective Māori communities. Some of these housing strategies will be implemented through cultural redress packages with iwi in the Bay of Plenty i.e Ngāi Tahu
- Māori Land Trusts in our region are increasing their role of developer on Māori land, often providing the finance to build then offering the dwellings as 'rent to buy' for their shareholders.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona McTavish
Group Manager Strategic Development