



## Tenancy reviews are on hold until after mid-2018

### **Why are tenancy reviews on hold?**

We have put tenancy reviews on hold while Government looks at whether more groups should be exempt from tenancy reviews.

While that work is happening, we do not want tenants who are already in the review process to take steps to leave social housing - unless they wish to.

### **What should I do if I have a tenancy review in progress?**

While tenancy reviews are on hold, anyone with a tenancy review in progress does not need to do anything more about their review for the time being.

After tenancy reviews re-start later in the year, MSD will get in touch with tenants to explain the next steps.

- **If we wrote to you about a tenancy review or you were talking to a case manager about your review:**
  - You don't need to do anything more.
  - We will be in touch if we re-start your review later in the year.
- **If your tenancy review has already found you are still eligible for social housing:**
  - This stays the same and you do not need to do anything more about your tenancy review.
  - You may stay living in the house you are in unless you are offered another house that better meets your needs.

- **If you have been told you are not eligible for social housing as a result of your tenancy review:**
  - You may stay living in the house you are in for the time being.
  - While your tenancy review is on hold, you do not need to look for alternative housing unless you wish to.
  - Your landlord knows you are allowed to remain in your property.
  - We will be in touch when we re-start reviews later in the year, and we will have another look at your circumstances.
- **If you previously received a 90-day notice from your landlord as a result of your tenancy review:**
  - You may stay living in the house you are in for the time being.
  - While your tenancy review is on hold, you do not need to look for alternative housing unless you wish to.
  - Your landlord knows you are allowed to remain in your property and will not enforce your 90-day notice.
  - We will be in touch when we re-start your review later in the year.

### **Do I need to contact my landlord?**

No. We have been in touch with your landlord or housing provider and they know that you are able to stay where you are for the time being.

### **Do I still need to tell MSD if things change for me or my household?**

Yes. You still need to let MSD straight away know about changes such as income earned or the people who are living in the household. That way we can make sure tenants are paying the right rent and living in the right sort of house for their needs.

### **What is a tenancy review?**

Tenancy reviews help make sure people living in social housing still need it, and the type of property they are living in still meets their needs.

All social housing tenants, with a few exceptions, may be contacted for a tenancy review every three years.

Currently, only those tenants who live in a property modified for their needs (for example wheelchair access), who have agreed lifetime tenure with Housing New Zealand, who are 75 or older, or households working with a Children's Team in Oranga Tamariki won't be selected for a tenancy review.

Government is looking at whether more groups should be exempt from tenancy reviews.

### **Why is MSD looking at changes to tenancy reviews?**

While social housing is not intended to be a house for life, we know that some tenants need secure social housing and support for a long time.

We want to make sure that these tenants are protected, do not need to undergo tenancy reviews, and do not move into private housing when it is not a good fit for them.

### **When will tenancy reviews begin again?**

MSD will re-start tenancy reviews from after June onwards.

Tenancy reviews are still an important way to make sure that social housing is there for people who need it most, and people are living in the right sort of house for their needs.

### **What will happen when tenancy reviews start again?**

MSD will have another look at your situation, and will be in touch to explain the next steps.

### **Will changes to tenancy reviews affect me?**

We won't know that until MSD finishes reviewing the policy. However, when tenancy reviews begin again, MSD will have another look at your situation and see if you still need to take part in a tenancy review.

If you are already exempt from tenancy reviews, this won't change.

### **I have questions. Who can I talk to?**

If you have any questions, please call MSD on 0800 559 009.