

2020 Endeavour Fund - Research Programme

Enhancing the impact of major urban regeneration on community wellbeing

The overarching purpose of this research programme is to positively impact the multi-billion-dollar, transformational urban regeneration projects taking place across New Zealand.

Contemporary urban regeneration combines the provision of affordable housing options with environmentally friendly and people-centred neighbourhoods. While urban regeneration has the potential to alleviate the current housing burden and to create thriving neighbourhoods, high-quality, applied research is critical to ensure that these developments have a positive impact on community wellbeing, deprivation, social cohesion, and cultural identity - all of which are key areas of future value and critical need for New Zealand. Our multilevel and multidisciplinary research programme will not only provide crucial return-on-investment information but will also activate implementation pathways to ensure current and future developments are guided by rigorous scientific evidence. The scale of impact provided by a coordinated research programme of this kind is not achievable through standard operational procedures.

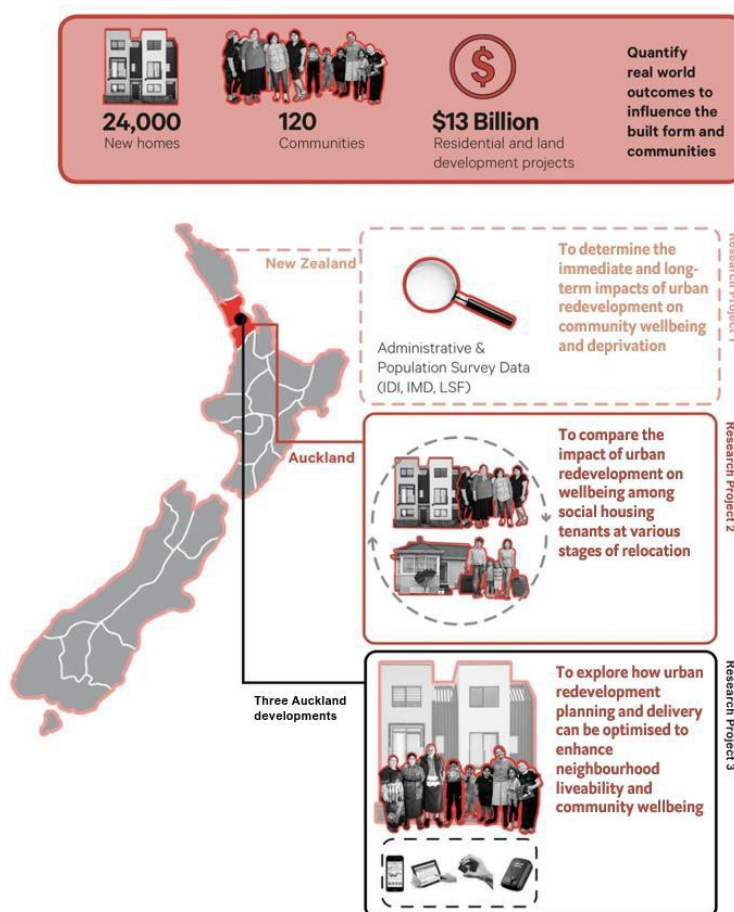
This research programme is centred on urban regeneration projects taking place across New Zealand by our industry partners Kāinga Ora (formerly Housing NZ and its development subsidiary HLC) and Isthmus (integrated design studio). Examples of urban transformation include:

- (1) increasing access to high quality, lower cost homes,
- (2) redesigning streets and public spaces to increase walkability,
- (3) creating 'greenways' of connected green spaces, and
- (4) revitalising town centres.

The ultimate goal of this programme – to ensure that urban regeneration improves the lives of New Zealanders – is highly relevant to Vision Mātauranga. By focusing on community wellbeing through a holistic and multifaceted lens, our research aligns closely with the theme of Hauora/Oranga. The community-building setting will naturally bring elements of whakawhanaungatanga (relationships/kinships) and ūkaipōtanga (cultural identity) into the programme, which will be discussed and protected through reciprocal relationships with tangata whenua. A/Prof Duncan (Science Leader) is a Māori researcher (Kāi Tahu) who will be supported by Prof Ka'ai (Key Researcher; Ngāti Porou, Kāi Tahu) to ensure that Māori participants have access to their spiritual realm, language, and protocols throughout implementation and reporting phases. Our industry partner, Kāinga Ora, has long-lasting relationships with iwi involved in the developments, and we will invite these key contacts to participate in a Community Advisory Board that monitors the cultural integrity and sensitivity of the programme as it progresses. Importantly, all knowledge and people holding that knowledge, te wānanga me ngā wānanga, will be treated as taonga, and therefore addressed with respect and care during and after the programme.

Te Hotonga Hapori: Connecting Communities

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Study	Sample	MEASURES
Theme 1	Urban redevelopment communities across New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDI administrative and population survey data
Theme 2	Social housing tenants residing in the Auckland region (n=3,024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current personal and household wellbeing (CATI or Online) <p><i>Time points: Baseline, 12 months and 24 months</i></p>
Theme 3	Community participants residing in selected Auckland development (exposure) and non-development (control) areas (n=1,134)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current personal and household wellbeing (CAPI) • Experienced wellbeing (EMA) • Physical activity (Accelerometer) • Neighbourhood mobility (GPS) <p><i>Time points: Baseline, 12 months and 24 months</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood perceptions and community advocacy (Citizen Science) <p><i>Time points: Baseline only</i></p>