# TE AHO TĀHUHU

the Progressive Home Ownership Webinar Series

Be your own developer
Ingrid Downey, Dwell Housing Trust





# **Dwell Housing Trust**

New home development is only part of our story, but an exciting part!

First home purchased in 1981 – Elizabeth Street, Mt Victoria

First development project in 2007-2009 – Stoke Street, Newtown

Since then, steady progress, ramping up to now having 19 new homes under construction in Kilbirnie and land in the pipeline for more.





## **Developing our own homes**

"Developing" is so much more than "building" because creating homes is much more than the construction part

#### All this

- \* the potential of the land finding it, researching what is possible, buying it
- \* design the homes, the gardens, shared spaces, parking and sunlight and......
- \* the engineering to make the design work the buildings, the site and services
- \* consenting (Resource and Building Consents)
- \* cash and finance
- \* government support applications and contracts
- \* other community support

#### Plus

\* the construction contract and build process





#### **Keys to success**

#### Owning the land free and clear

establishes equity, which the bank will need to see.

#### A great location

allows the residents higher quality of life, and can affect how much extra should be provided

#### Ability to build densely and humanely

design – feedback/research – design better soil, flooding, fire, utilities

#### **MONEY**

before, during and after

### Quick, but thoughtful, decision making

who we are building for and what is possible

### Partners that will prioritise your work, and understand your purpose

The community in community housing NO "favours" – everyone supported to do their best







#### **Our challenges**

#### We are an independent trust

sadly, no big trust or multi-national organization behind us!

#### Not aligned to a church

a great source of support and purpose

#### No favours from councils

they have their own housing to look after and a special land relationship with Kainga Ora

#### Support from government ever changing

new teams, new programmes, new rules – everything has to be relearned/rediscovered on each project

#### Not a strong recognition that housing is a legacy option, yet

the old wealth of this country needs to see housing as an area they can leave their legacy







Dwell owned 2 old villas and turned them into 6 homes

\$ Government = small grant, 25-year HIF loan (interest free for 10 years). Bank loan











Dwell purchased land to build 4 x 4-bedroom homes

Sovernment = grant, HIF loan. Bank loan









Purchase of surplus land with a zone change from WCC. 4 homes built - 2 rental, 2 shared homeowner

\$ Government = grant for shared homeownership, HIF loan. Bank loan and proceeds from homeowners











Dwell owned a large old villa and built 14 homes over 3 buildings

\$ Upfront grant from government, IRRS contract for 15 years, and bank loan. And 2 loans from supportive donors.





photos by Paul McCredie





Dwell was able to purchase 2 properties (supported by a donor) and is building 19 homes and a commercial space

\$ No upfront grant from government – Dwell used the sales proceeds from 3 old homes and bank loan.

Government providing IRRS and Operating subsidies via 25-year contract.









# **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- 1. A long strange journey, made bearable by friends who will celebrate the outcomes with you.
- 2. We are here because a few people boldly took that first step.
- **3.** Exponential growth possible over time, keep at it.



# **CONTACT DETAILS**

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Our website <a href="www.Dwell.org.nz">www.Dwell.org.nz</a> --- 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year! See our history section

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