

# Murihiku Southland Housing Forum and Opening of Papakāika Housing

**Date:** 12 June 2025  
**Location:** Murihiku Marae, Tramway Road, Invercargill  
**Time:** 9am-5pm  
**Entry Fee:** No charge

The Murihiku Southland Regional Housing Forum, hosted by Great South in partnership with Southland's councils and Waihōpai Rūnaka, will bring together a wide range of stakeholders committed to understanding and addressing Southland's housing challenges.

The forum is a key opportunity to highlight the region's commitment to housing and future development, while demonstrating that Southland is *open for business* and *development ready*.

Designed to be positive, solutions-focused and forward-thinking, the event will encourage collaboration and new ideas - something Southland has a proud track record of delivering.

During the forum, Waihōpai Rūnaka will unveil new papakāika (housing) at Murihiku Marae.

## The Programme (subject to change):

9.00 – 10.00am Powhiri and Welcome

<b>Session 1</b>	<b>"Beyond the Quarter-acre Housing Dream"</b> <i>Thinking about opportunities to provide different and affordable housing to meet future generation's needs.</i>
<b>10-11.30pm</b>	<b>Housing in Southland – Setting the Scene</b> Bobbi Brown, <i>GM Regional Strategy</i> , Great South
	<b>Affordable Housing Models – New Zealand &amp; Australia,</b> Kerrie Young, <i>Regional Director – South Canterbury/Otago/ Southland</i> , Kāinga Ora.
	<b>Homes for our Seniors</b> Diane Turner, <i>Director of the Office for Seniors</i> , Ministry of Social Development
	<b>Highs &amp; Lows of Finding Housing Solutions for Fiordland</b> Sarah Greaney, <i>Councillor for Southland District Council and Te Anau Business Owner</i>
	<b>Living in a Tiny Home</b> Dr Ella Lawton, <i>Tiny Home Owner</i>

11.30 - 11.45pm Presentation: Papakāika Housing

12.00 - 12.45pm Opening and Blessing of Papakāika Housing

12.45 - 1.30pm Lunch

<b>Session 2</b>	<b>"Spatial Planning, Regulation and Housing"</b> <i>Building in the right places, navigating the rules and embracing proposed planning changes.</i>
<b>1.30-3.00pm</b>	<b>Spatial Planning and Housing</b> Vibhuti Chopra, <i>GM Strategy and Partnerships</i> , Southland District Council
	<b>Understanding the Rules to Build our Future Homes</b> Christine McMillan, <i>Divisional Manager Planning</i> , Bonisch
	<b>Medium Density Housing enabling Inner City Living</b> Roger Beattie, <i>Director/Registered Architect</i> , Beattie McDowell Architects
	<b>District Plan Changes to enable different Housing</b> Jonathan Shaw, <i>Group Manager - Consenting and Environment</i> , Invercargill City Council
	<b>Residential Use in Inner City Buildings,</b> Phil Orr, <i>Architectural Designer</i> & Nicola McGilvray, <i>Building Owner</i>

**3.00 - 3.30pm      Afternoon Tea**

<b>Session 3</b>	<b>"Housing as an Economic Enabler"</b> <i>Ensuring that housing is not a barrier for the region to realise new jobs and economic opportunities for our people.</i>
<b>3.30-4.45pm</b>	<b>Enabling Future Housing to Meet Demand – Launch of "Build Southland" Housing Portal</b> Bobbi Brown, <i>GM Regional Strategy</i> , Great South Becs Amundsen, <i>Projects Advisor</i> , Great South
	<b>Update on Te Puāwai Housing Development (Invercargill)</b> Don Moir, <i>Te Puāwai Development Consultant</i> , Ralph Moir Limited
	<b>Thinking about Housing Differently to Recruit and Retain Staff</b> <b>Panel Discussion:</b> Facilitated by Sheree Carey, CEO, Southland Business Chamber. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcoming Sharks Basketballers to the Region</b> – Jill Bolger, <i>Operations Manager</i>, Sharks Basketball Limited</li> <li>• <b>Housing our Future Aquaculture Workforce</b>, Mogana Manivannan, <i>Head of Operations</i>, Ocean Beach New Zealand</li> <li>• <b>Healthcare and Workforce</b> – Karl Metzler, <i>CEO</i> Gore Health</li> </ul>

**4.45 - 5.00pm      Wrap Up and Farewell**