



Extending Social Housing in the Central City



The Community of Refuge Trust is adding to its portfolio of central city properties in

Auckland, with vital help from the Housing Innovation Fund.

CORT provides low-cost housing for people who need it, including people with mental health issues.

Buying flats in its area of operations is necessarily expensive and keeping the rent levels affordable to the target tenants is only possible through the concessionary terms agreed with Housing New Zealand.

CORT's Robin Guy says that 15 flats have been purchased under this scheme and the demand from potential tenants is high.

The Trust views the partnership with Housing New Zealand as a positive and successful method of meeting social housing needs and the Trust's experience is that the scheme is working smoothly.

The Housing Innovation Fund financed 85% of the purchase price with a mix of conditional grant and interest-free loan for 10 years.

Robin says the reaction from a single woman recently offered a flat by CORT says it all.

"I am so delighted - you have saved me from spending another winter squatting in a disused building without power and water."