



1222 Moonshine Rd,
RD1, Porirua 5381
Private Bag 50 908
Porirua 5240
New Zealand
P: +64 4 237 1170
branz.nz

MEDIA RELEASE
Wednesday 21 November 2018

BRANZ Welcomes Funding For Future Of New Zealand Housing

BRANZ congratulates everyone involved in New Zealand's 11 National Science Challenges for securing the second tranche of five-year funding and looks forward to supporting further world-class research into New Zealand's housing crisis.

On Saturday 17 November 2018, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment announced the successful mid-point review of the [11 National Science Challenges](#).

BRANZ is proud host the Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities National Science Challenge – the only non-university or CRI to host one of the challenges. BBHTC is a collaboration between more than 170+ social scientists around New Zealand, working in both public and private institutions, to address some of the long-standing housing challenges for our most disadvantaged.

The studies being conducted by BBHTC are designed to discover the smartest solutions for New Zealand's built environment - ones that support thriving communities and regions and create homes and spaces for generations.

Challenge Director Ruth Berry says the second phase of funding signals a massive opportunity for all New Zealanders.

"Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities is a platform to ensure everyone in New Zealand is living in a safe, dry, warm home in neighbourhoods celebrating diversity and community," explains Ruth.

"We want Kiwis to know that no matter where they are on the housing spectrum, there is hope. Our research is providing tangible solutions to policymakers and planners so we can fundamentally change the nature of our housing sector."

ENDS

Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities Background Notes

Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities (BBHTC) is one of 11 National Science Challenges, funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Enterprise (MBIE). BBHTC undertakes world-class research to shape New Zealand's built environment and strengthen communities. The Challenge develops findings that will empower public, planners and policymakers with reliable information and new tools for fresh thinking and better decisions. The Challenge is discovering new pathways to address the long-standing housing challenges of our most disadvantaged and to support Māori into healthy homes.

For queries about this or the work we do at BRANZ, please contact:

Justine Storey

DDI: **04 238 1371**

Email justine.storey@branz.co.nz