

Keynote address: *As safe as houses*

New Zealand is a signatory to Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, which promotes the right to a standard of living - including housing - adequate for everybody's health and well-being. There is strong research evidence for the importance of living in affordable, secure, warm, dry, safe housing in neighbourhoods, which provide easy access to walking, cycling and public transport, for health and well-being. He Kainga Oranga/Housing and Health Research Programme is working with community, local and central government partners to build such communities.

About the presenter:

Philippa Howden-Chapman, professor of public health at the University of Otago, Wellington, is the director of *He Kainga Oranga*/ Housing and Health Research Programme and the NZ Centre for Sustainable Cities. Her team's randomised community trials, in partnership with local communities, provide evidence to inform housing, health, safety and energy policy. Their work focuses on reducing inequalities in the determinants of health and they have received a number of awards including the Prime Minister's Science Team Prize. She is currently the chair of the WHO Housing and Health International Guideline Development Group, the ICSU Scientific Committee on Urban Health and Wellbeing and was a member of the NZ Minister of Housing and Urban Development's Independent Housing Stocktake Group.