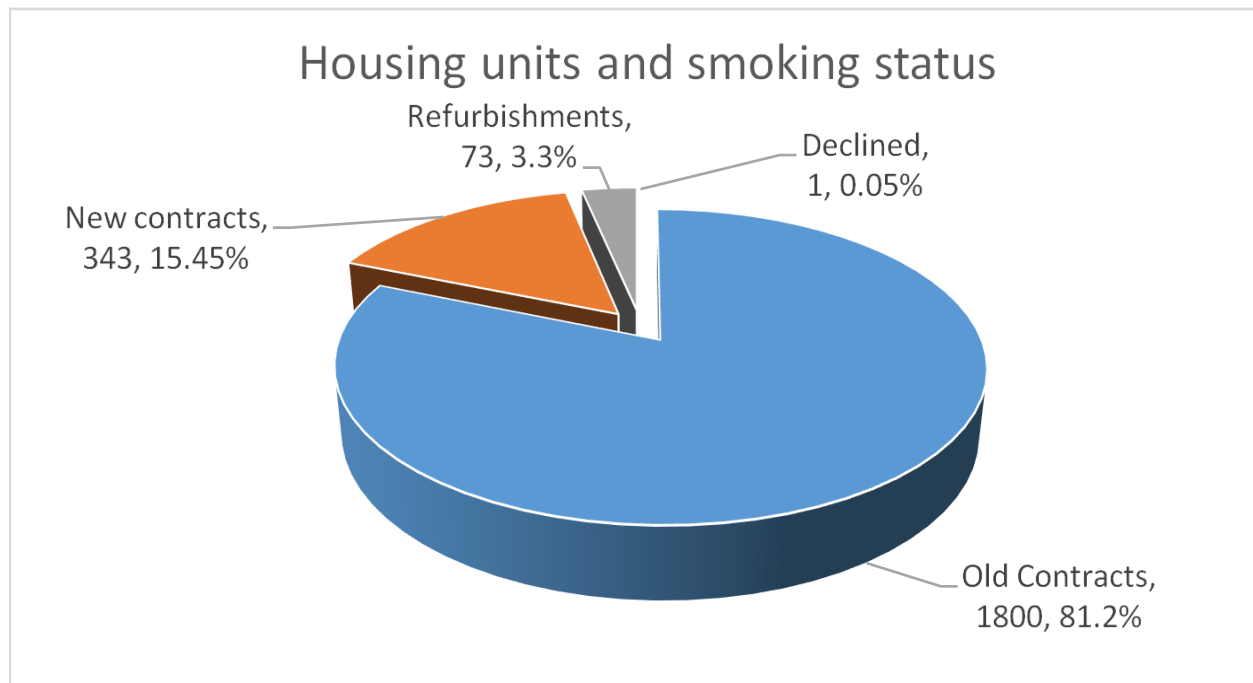


# Smokefree Social Housing—One year on



## Progress to date

The Christchurch City Council policy requiring new and refurbished social housing to be smokefree indoors was adopted in January 2014. Since the adoption of the policy the housing stock is progressively transitioning to smokefree status via new contract sign-ups and refurbishment triggered contract variations (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:** The proportion of housing units that are smokefree under new contracts or contract variations and the number of housing units tenanted under 'old' contracts. Note the smoking prevalence in this population is not yet known therefore it is not possible to show the proportion of smoking vs non-smoking households for the remaining housing stock.

# PROGRESS TO DATE

- ✓ Tenancy advisors report a high degree of acceptance by tenants at the time of contract discussions (contract signing).
- ✓ Tenancy advisors report high levels of observed compliance (anecdotal only to date).
- ✓ The policy/process is supported by a close relationship with Smokefree Canterbury – in particular Community and Public Health.
- ✓ The recent *Tenant Satisfaction Survey* included three new questions designed by the Information Team at Community and Public Health. These questions asked tenants to comment on their smoking status and other aspects of their experience with the new policy. This data (when collated) will provide a valuable 'snap shot' of the tenant population as smoking prevalence has never been measured in this population previously.

# TRAINING AND ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Training and quit support

- ✓ Tenancy advisors have participated in general training around smoking issues and referral to stop-smoking support agencies.
- ✓ All staff have had Smokefree training. 6/7 tenancy advisors are now Quitcard providers (including the activities coordinator) and can provide NRT to manage smoking or to assist quit attempts.
- ✓ Stop smoking support and Promotion – Stop Smoking resources have been available at all council common lounges. AKP (a stop smoking support provider) has been onsite at all lounges to increase access to support for all tenants regardless of contract status.

- Ongoing

- Developing and trialling an information sheet to help prepare applicants and to encourage quitting.
- Developing and trialling an information/recording sheet and process to guide advisors in their discussions around smoking at the time of contract sign-up (including recording smoking status).

# EVALUATION

- Community and Public Health have partnered with the CCC to evaluate the policy. The evaluation broadly aims to assess and report the extent to which the policy/programme has been/is being implemented and the extent to which the policy is achieving the goals of reducing operating costs and providing healthier environments for existing and future CCC social housing tenants. To describe the consultative/collaborative methods employed by CCC and CPH staff in the development and implementation of the policy and to demonstrate the benefits of working collaboratively to other CCC teams and other interested groups.