

Housing New Zealand CCTV Privacy Policy

Housing New Zealand has installed Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in some of our complexes to monitor common areas for any unwanted or unsafe activity.

In accordance with the Privacy Act 1993, Housing New Zealand must ensure that these CCTV cameras do not unnecessarily impede on our tenant's privacy. We have created a privacy policy to govern the collection, use and disclosure of images captured by CCTV cameras.

This privacy policy is designed to inform you of our reasons for installing CCTV cameras and where personal information has been collected, your rights in relation to that information. Nothing in this privacy policy limits or excludes your rights under the Privacy Act 1993.

Privacy Policy Overview

This privacy notice will set out;

- what information is being collected;
- the purpose of the information's collection;
- whether we intend to pass this on to others, and who they may be;
- whether the collection of this information is authorised or required under a particular law;
- the rights of the individual to access and correct the information; and
- our address for contact.

What information is being collected?

We have placed CCTV cameras up at some of our complexes to monitor the common areas for security and safety purposes. These cameras may from time to time record footage of you, your family and friends as you pass through the CCTV camera area. We consider this footage to be your personal information so we will be ensuring that it is managed as set out in this privacy policy.

What is the purpose of the information collection?

Housing New Zealand is taking steps to ensure the safety and security for our tenants, as well as making sure that our properties are prevented from damage in any way. We view CCTV cameras as a means to carry out these steps with minimal imposition on our tenants.

It is also paramount that our staff are safe and secure when visiting complexes. The CCTV cameras are a way to help achieve that objective. We may use this footage when conducting internal investigations relating to staff or tenant complaints.

Will we be passing this information on to other parties? Who will they be?

In the event of some unlawful activity being carried out at the premises, and it being recorded on our CCTV cameras, we may pass that footage over to Police for the purpose of an investigation. Likewise if the Police believe some unlawful activity was carried out at the complex then they may view or ask us to hand over, any footage that may help.

Is collection of this information authorised or required under a particular law?

As the owner of the complexes it is our right to install and operate the CCTV cameras in our properties. We also view it as a way to fulfil our responsibility under section 45(1)(c) of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986. This section makes us responsible for complying with all requirements in respect of buildings, health, and safety under any enactment so far as they apply to the premises. It is our view that the CCTV cameras are one way to comply with this responsibility.

What rights do individuals have to access and correct the information?

Any individual who is recorded by our CCTV cameras has the right to access that footage and to make any corrections so long as that information relates to that individual. These are principles of the Privacy Act 1993. The length of storage of footage may vary from complex to complex and so there is no guarantee that this information will still be held by HNZ at the time the individual wants access. The individual has no right to access footage that does not relate to the individual.

How do you get in contact with us?

If you have any queries about this privacy policy you can contact Housing New Zealand on 0800 801 601.