



New Zealand Superannuation

Does your party support retaining the eligibility age for New Zealand Superannuation at 65?

Yes. We will retain NZ Superannuation as a universal entitlement from age 65.

Does your party support retaining universal entitlement to New Zealand Superannuation, regardless of income or assets?

Yes. We will retain universal entitlement.

Does your party support maintaining the current rate and indexation of New Zealand Superannuation? If not, what changes would you make?

Yes, we support maintaining the current rate and indexation of NZ Superannuation. We are also open to exploring rate changes to be individualised rather than having a lower rate for people in a relationship.

Accommodation Supplement

(The accommodation supplement is subject to an asset test. For single individuals, the cash asset limit is \$8,100. For couples, the limit is \$16,200.)

Will your party increase the asset threshold for eligibility for the Accommodation Supplement? If yes, what threshold do you propose and when would it be introduced?

The Green Party does not have a policy to increase the asset threshold for accessing the Accommodation Supplement. However, we note the Welfare Expert Advisory Group recommendations on indexing the supplement to real housing costs and would be open to exploring this.

Does your party support reviewing the Accommodation Supplement asset thresholds on a regular basis to ensure they remain fit for purpose?

As noted above, the Green Party does not have a policy to increase the asset threshold for accessing the Accommodation Supplement. However, we note the Welfare Expert Advisory Group recommendations on indexing the supplement to real housing costs and would be open to exploring this.



Dementia Care

What specific measures would your party introduce to improve dementia care and support for people living with dementia and their families?

The Green Party are committed to investing more in the prevention of ill health, including dementia. This means warm, dry housing, adequate incomes, a transport system that supports active travel and reduced air pollution, and reducing advertising of alcohol, including in sports. We support funding the community organisations on the ground who support good health, by removing restrictive contracts and funding these providers to give the wrap-around support that enable higher trust in these healthcare providers and allow them to do more to keep people well. As part of our manifesto policies for Seniors, the Green Party have committed to Launch a dedicated long-term strategy for the needs of an ageing population which encompasses the holistic wellbeing of kaumātua, elder abuse prevention, ensuring income is equitably accessed and sufficient to live comfortably.

Does your party support fully funding and implementing the national Dementia Action Plan? If so, over what timeframe?

We have committed to the implementation of the national Dementia Mate Wareware Action Plan and working with the sector to develop an appropriate road map for its implementation over the next five years. We also recognise the importance of this plan and believe that the wider health and care system is systemically underfunded. Significant tax reform to increase the tax base by requiring major corporations and the super-rich to contribute more will enable this, so that we have the funding that is needed to fully implement the plan.

How would your party improve access to respite care, community support, and specialist dementia services?

The Green Party will improve access to respite care, community support, and specialist dementia services through rights-based health funding, expanded individualised care models, and workforce strategies for the health workforce that grow and develop the workforce we need to ensure we attract, develop and retain the workforce we need. Additionally, we need to see mechanisms in place with the system that focus on accountability, commissioning, and transparency.

Housing for Older New Zealanders

What policies does your party have to increase the supply of affordable housing for older New Zealanders?

Our policy is to expand accessible public housing options, including by building more papakāinga prioritising seniors on social housing waitlists, and the establishment of a state-owned, not for profit Retirement village scheme. The Green Party would also be open to investigating easier access to bridging finance for seniors.



Does your party support increasing the number of public and community housing units specifically designed for seniors?

Yes. We propose funding the delivery of thousands more accessible Kāinga Ora public homes with housing designs that are accessible and suitable for older people's needs.

How will your party help older renters who are struggling with rising housing costs?

The Green Party's energy policy will help lower power bills for households, with support for solar panels on homes and KiwiPower to bring down wholesale prices. We will also expand Warmer Kiwi Homes so more low-income people can make their homes warm, dry, and energy efficient, including through insulation, efficient heating, and other upgrades. Our public housing programme will deliver thousands more homes for low-income households, as well as making rents more affordable by limiting annual rent increases to no more than 2%.

Aged Care Workforce

Does your party support restoring or strengthening pay equity protections for aged care and disability support workers?

Yes. We will restore Pay Equity and prioritise delivering a pay equity settlement for care and support workers. We believe in providing secure conditions for support workers that enable them to provide high quality, compassionate support.

What policies will your party implement to recruit and retain the aged care workforce?

Key focuses for a healthy workforce are working conditions and workers' rights. The Green Party will strengthen worker bargaining power by changing employment law to default union membership. This means people automatically join a union when they start a new job, but can opt out later. This would also empower unions to hold employers accountable for working conditions, such as rostering and ratio. Additionally, the Green Party will restore pay equity and prioritise pay parity.

Health

How will your party improve access to general practice, specialist services and elective surgery for older New Zealanders?

Our policy is to work towards a publicly delivered, fully free primary healthcare system. We would ensure public healthcare services are accessible to all, with a focus on prevention, early screening, timely care, and reducing cost barriers for older people. This includes bringing dental care into the public health system, so it is free and accessible, and removing cost barriers to essential medicines, including prescriptions.



What will your party do to reduce waiting times for diagnosis and treatment of conditions that commonly affect seniors?

Our policy is to ensure that public health care services are accessible for all with a focus on prevention and early screening. Alongside funding mobile healthcare clinics to ensure that all communities have regular access to care. This is achieved by increasing support and funding to health services to allow for shorter wait times and higher number of staff.

Cost of living

What specific measures will your party introduce to reduce the cost-of-living pressures facing older New Zealanders?

The Green Party's energy policy will help lower power bills for households, with support for solar panels on homes and KiwiPower to bring down wholesale prices. We will also expand Warmer Kiwi Homes so more low-income people can make their homes warm, dry, and energy efficient, including through insulation, efficient heating, and other upgrades. Our public housing programme will deliver thousands more homes for low-income households. We will have more to say about addressing food costs closer to the election.

Does your party support changes to rates rebates, energy assistance, or other targeted support to reduce living costs, and/or does it support the Ratings Assistance Scheme to defer rates costs, for qualifying seniors?

Yes. Our tax policy, with a tax-free threshold of \$10,000, would see more money going to seniors who are reliant on the pension. Our policy also includes implementing zero-interest clean energy loans to install solar, significant tax changes to redistribute wealth and free public transport. We support the Ratings Assistance Scheme.

Aging Well

What are your party's top three priorities for improving the wellbeing and quality of life of older New Zealanders over the next parliamentary term?

- Implementing a dedicated long-term strategy for the needs of an ageing population that covers holistic wellbeing, elder abuse prevention, income equity and accessible living spaces.
- Increasing funding for community spaces, facilities, programmes, education and volunteering opportunities that are accessible to seniors.
- Requiring residential services, rest homes and retirement villages to meet set standards for staff ratio to seniors, accessibility, affordability and wellbeing of Seniors.



GREYPOWER
NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION INC

Grey Power Election 2026

Green Party Policy Response

If elected, what actions will your party take in its first year to improve outcomes for seniors?

Our recently announced Power and Tax policies will directly address the price of living crisis for all of New Zealand, allowing Seniors to support themselves in the short term while longer form projects mentioned above are implemented. Alongside the increased funding and support to the health care system to ensure appropriate levels of treatment and dignity, which would include upscaling the home and community care workforce. We will also work with the sector to implement any changes or recommendations on aged residential care.

Closing question

What single policy or initiative do you believe would make the greatest positive difference to the lives of older New Zealanders, and why?

The Green Party's tax policy will redistribute wealth to address the rising cost of living pressure that impacts so many aspects of daily struggles, including a tax free bracket for those earning under \$10,000, stronger community initiatives, free transport, and revitalizing of our health sector. There is enough in Aotearoa for all of us, and our seniors and elders must be looked after.