# Grey Power Election 2026

# NZ First Party Policy Response

## New Zealand Superannuation

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

New Zealand First will not support changes to the entitlement or eligibility of New Zealand Superannuation. This position was clearly prioritised in the 2023 Coalition Agreement and will be retained. Universal entitlement and maintenance of the value at 66% of net average wage will also be maintained.

## Housing

New Zealand First recognises the importance of housing Seniors and will continue to deliver on the practical actions that prioritises housing security and affordability.

In the current term of Government New Zealand First delivered improvements to the rates rebate scheme thresholds, retained the winter energy payment and legislation to make it easier to build subsidiary dwellings.

Expanding housing options and support infrastructure development will continue. This has been achieved through the Fast Track legislation which has allowed for faster approvals and greater confidence in development.

Delivering a Seniors Housing Plan will be a priority for NZ First and this will include considerations around expanded options for addressing the cost pressures of being able to age in place.

This will include expanded options for affordable housing and recognising the existing initiatives that are delivering innovative solutions.

Long term, secure rental is not only delivered through social housing and therefore NZ First will continue to explore more options and investment, particularly in regional New Zealand.

Warm, dry, secure, accessible and low maintenance homes will not only improve quality of life and health outcomes but will strengthen communities and families.

New Zealand First will also, as part of banking reform, investigate financing options to expand opportunity for Seniors to be able to subdivide, build a subsidiary dwelling, downsize or move closer to family.

## Health

New Zealand First will drive a comprehensive reform to improve health for New Zealanders. Our 2023 coalition agreement prioritised a number of actions which recognised the important of a bi-partisan agreement and long term, sustainable change.

Recommendations from the Health Select Committee Enquiry and the Ministerial Advisory Group on Aged Care will inform future work.

Health for Seniors must include the practical investments need to stay well along with the system reform that delivers the right care, at the right time and in the right place.

Access to Primary Care will be improved through cohesion with all the services that will deliver early intervention, diagnosis and treatment involving GPs, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, paramedics, physiotherapists, nutritionists, occupational therapists, chiropractors, or any specialists that can contribute to better health. With better cohesion there is an opportunity to reduce demand on GP practices while delivering better health.

In addition, New Zealand First will deliver a comprehensive reform of care including respite, in-home community, residential, convalescent and rehabilitative care. This reform will recognise the publicly funded, privately delivered system that can reduce hospital system pressures while encouraging investment in the sector.

## Cost of living

New Zealand First is the party of common sense and therefore we continue to look initiatives that directly address the cost-of-living pressures.

This included changing the income abatement thresholds for the rates rebate eligibility for Supergold Cardholders and retaining the winter energy payment.

Enhancing the benefits of the Supergold card is continuing with an improved platform for accessing information and increasing discount opportunities. Budget 2026 secured the funding to make the Supergold card a primary form of legal identification to assist those who no longer have a passport or driver license.

Most importantly New Zealand First values the contribution that Seniors make to our economy and we will continue to drive investment and economic growth.

We have already announced our policy positions to deliver reform to the energy sector and supermarkets. Investment in our regions will drive economic growth.

Expanding housing options and using subsidiary dwellings as an opportunity to support multi-generational living will also provide cost of living relief.

## Aging Well

New Zealand First will prioritise the deliver of the actions in the Better Later Life Action Plan. This looks at a range of enhancements including housing, social connection, technology, mobility, legal protections and health.

Most importantly providing certainty regarding superannuation entitlement and asset protection will continue to be a New Zealand First priority.

It is New Zealand First that continues to hold the strongest position on the value of our Seniors. An aging population is a reality but so is the benefit we gain. NZIER’s Business of Aging report values just the unpaid and voluntary contribution of seniors at over $20billion per annum.

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## 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?**

Age Care reform with bi-partisan support is an investment in New Zealand. Allowing as many New Zealanders as possible to stay well, live independently and enjoy a high quality of life benefits us all.