

# Natalie Keane

Principal Design Lead & Auckland Team Lead  
(Registered Architect NZRAB)  
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## About

Natalie is a Registered Architect with over 12 years of experience delivering residential and community-focused architecture projects across Aotearoa New Zealand. Her work focuses on design visioning with clients, early feasibility designs, collaborating with design teams through all design phases to align with the project vision, and developing in-house design principles and guidelines to steward the organisational mission through the built environment of the developments created.

Natalie combines strong project management capability, communication and collaboration with a design-led approach, ensuring projects are both well-coordinated and responsive to client and community needs. She works closely with the wider Kāinga Maha team to deliver projects which are financially feasible, and can be delivered to programme and budget, whilst maintaining the design vision. She also works alongside the wider members of the group, to seek innovative and efficient construction methodologies, implement sustainability strategies, and ensure the quality of the homes are enduring and practical to maintain.

Her background includes work across social housing, iwi-led housing developments and community projects, where she contributes to the delivery of projects that prioritise thoughtful, beautiful design and create spaces that support a sense of belonging for people and communities.

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## Qualifications / Professional Memberships:

- Registered Architect, NZRAB — 2022
- Master of Architecture (MArch), University of Auckland — 2011–2013
- Bachelor of Architectural Studies (BAS), University of Auckland — 2008–2010

## Key Skills

- Project Visioning
- Design Coordination & Options Analysis
- Technical DD & Consultant Oversight
- Feasibility & Business Case
- Development Strategy & Structuring
- Development & Project Oversight

## Key Clients

- Kāinga Maha
- Kāinga Ora
- Salvation Army
- Auckland City Mission
- Iwi and hapū partners
- Community housing providers

# KĀINGA MAHA

## Key Experience

### Design Principles and Specification

#### Kāinga Maha

Natalie is leading the development of mission-aligned Design Principles which will provide the urban and built environment direction for our projects, in alignment with the mission and values of our Kaupapa. These consider carefully the pragmatic realities of construction, alongside best practice urban masterplanning, culturally fit-for purpose design, robust operational and maintenance outcomes, and metaphysical qualities of belonging, beauty and connection to whenua. Natalie is collaborating with industry experts with local and international experience, alongside the HFG Research Lead to springboard the Design Principles off the HOME Theory of Change Model for enabling homes for flourishing.

Alongside this, Natalie has prepared a project specification, testing this with the needs of multiple community housing providers, to ensure the way the homes are designed and constructed, how they function, and their finishes and fittings are in alignment with resident needs.



#### Arbor Green, Rolleston, Canterbury

##### Kāinga Maha

Natalie prepared initial sketch masterplans for early feasibility, worked closely with the Development Manager to develop the concept design, and then reviewed the design at all stages, including assessing value engineering opportunities, whilst maintaining the quality design outcome desired

#### Te Rapa Rd, Hamilton

##### Kāinga Maha

Natalie prepared initial sketch masterplans for early feasibility, worked closely with the Salvation Army Social Housing to determine masterplan and housing need, developed project specifications, directed the design consultants, and worked closely with the KM Development Manager/Associates to progress the design through the early design phases. Natalie has also worked with alongside a cultural advisor and engaged with local iwi and hapu for design input on the project. Further, Natalie has worked closely to adjust the construction methodology following an extensive value engineering process. This project will be submitted for Resource Consent in May 2026.

#### Te Paeroa, Tauranga

##### Kāinga Maha

Natalie is working with the lead architect and KM Development Management team on the Stage 1 design of apartments for this large scale mixed-tenure development (circa 200 homes). As part of this work, Natalie will develop project-specific design guidelines based off the KM Design Principles work, to steer the Kaupapa for the duration of the project over the next 5 years or so.

