

Making the right decision

When you're evaluating your retirement options, you need to make sure you're with the right retirement village operator, in the right village, in a home that suits your needs. So it's important to ask the right questions and get the right advice.

✓ Checklist

- Involve your family and friends in your decision
- Get independent advice from a lawyer, ideally with experience in retirement village matters
- Make a list of the things you'd like in an ideal village, taking your future needs into account - particularly with regards to support and care
- Visit different villages and find out what they offer
- Find out whether or not you can move between villages if at some point you decide you'd like to move
- Check that pets you have are welcome in the village
- Make sure that friends and family are welcome and can stay for periods of time
- Find out whether or not you can add your own personal touches to your home
- Ask your village operator for information around their resident satisfaction survey results
- Talk to residents about what it's like living in the village. Why not pop into our Divine Cafe and have a chat over coffee?
- Check that the village you're interested in is a registered member of the Retirement Village Association (www.retirementvillages.org.nz)
- Investigate the village's disaster policy to make sure you're covered if a disaster affects your home or the village
- Check that the village allows you to leave within a certain period if you're not happy and you can get your money back in full
- Get independent advice. The following websites and resources can help:

Commission for Financial Capability:

0800 268 269 or visit [www.cffc.org.nz/retirement/retirement villages](http://www.cffc.org.nz/retirement/retirement-villages)

Retirement Villages Association (RVA):

04 499 7090 or www.retirementvillages.org.nz

Sorted:

www.sorted.org.nz/guides/choosing-a-retirement-village

Retirement Village Residents Association New Zealand Inc:

www.rvrnz.org.nz