

## **Short Biography**

Dr Helen Viggers is a researcher with He Kāinga Oranga/The Housing and Health Research Programme at the University of Otago in New Zealand. She was a named member of the research team awarded the 2014 Prime Minister's Science Prize, and in 2021 was a named member of the He Kāinga Oranga/Housing and Health Research team who were awarded the Rutherford medal for "preeminent research". Her work is primarily quantitative and interdisciplinary – with skills in engineering and statistics as well as public health and some qualitative analysis. The central focus of her research is the interaction of New Zealand's housing standards with energy policy, and the subsequent effects on the health of New Zealanders. Aspects of this work have included: warmth, energy use, resilience, heating sources, fuel charges and household income. She has used Census data to estimate the number of people in uninhabitable housing in New Zealand, including the number of both dwellings and people without access to electricity. She worked on the NZDep2023 deprivation index. Her research has been instrumental in informing government policy. She is currently working on energy aspects of the Public Housing and Urban Regeneration Programme, and examining the effectiveness shared energy resources in an apartment block.