

04th March 2025

Deputy Chief Executive
Communities, Partnerships and Pathways
Private Box 1206,
Wellington 6140,

Civic Centre
1061 Haupapa Street
Private Bag 3029
Rotorua Mail Centre
Rotorua 3046
New Zealand

Attention: **s7(2)(a)**

**ABATEMENT NOTICE ISSUED TO TIKANGA ARORO CHARITABLE TRUST DELIVERING SERVICE
CONTRACT TO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

It has come to our attention that Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust who delivers the Puwhakamua service contracted by Department of Corrections has been operating an unconsented reintegration facility at 796b Te Ngae Road, Rotokawa, Rotorua 3074.

Council was provided with a letter from Department of Corrections confirming that Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust has been contracted by Corrections to deliver the Pūwhakamua service at the property since 1 November 2022. The letter further stated that Pūwhakamua supports up to 14 people at any one time and as of 10 February 2025, 11 individuals were residing at the property subject to a sentence or order managed by Corrections.

A site inspection was conducted by Council Officers on 26th February 2025 which confirmed that a reintegration housing facility is currently being operated at the property without the Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust first obtaining the necessary resource consent from Council.

The property is in Rural 1 Zone of the Rotorua Operative District Plan (RODP). Operating a reintegration housing facility (the **activity**) is not expressly provided for in the Rural Zone. As it is not expressly provided for, the activity is a con-complying activity and requires consent for it not to be a permitted activity.

The current use of the property does not meet the RODP definition of a 'residential unit' as this means a building or part of a building that is used for a residential activity exclusively by one household. The property is not a residential unit as multiple households and occupants reside there.

Furthermore, the current use of the property also does not meet the RODP definition of 'community housing' as the definition stipulates a maximum of eight persons can reside at the property (including residents and residential staff) where some element of care or support is provided for residents. The definition includes emergency housing (including temporary overnight accommodation) and rehabilitation centres but excludes facilities where the movement of residents are legally restricted. Residents on a particular sentence such as parole, home detention and EM bail may be or are subject to conditions restricting their movement.

The use of the property as a reintegration housing facility cannot be categorised as either a residential unit or community housing in accordance with the definition under the RODP. The activity is not otherwise expressly stated in the Rural 1 Zone and requires resource consent as a non-complying activity under rule RURZ-R2 of the RODP.

An abatement Notice has been issued to the General Manager of the Trust, **s7(2)(a)** on 05th March 2025 to cease the activity onsite unless a Resource Consent is obtained from Rotorua Lakes Council for it to be used as a reintegration facility.

As Department of Corrections has contracted Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust to deliver the Puwhakamua service, we are making you aware and bringing it to your attention, that that the aforementioned activity Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust is conducting in Rotorua is a non-complying and an unconsented activity.

Should you have any further inquiries or require clarification on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.



Kind Regards,

Chris Craig
Regulatory Services Manager
Community and Regulatory Services