

To: Chief Executive Rotorua Lakes Council Private Bag RO3029 ROTORUA	Name of Submitter: Kelly and Cole Weston <div style="text-align: right;"><i>[Full Name]</i></div>
---	--

Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust

To establish and operate a reintegration housing activity in the rural zone 1A of the Rotorua Lakes District Plan (in Waikite Valley)

474 Puaiti Road, Waikite Valley

The application in its entirety

We oppose the facility location because of the social impacts on our family which are largely linked to the proposed facility being in a remote rural setting totally inappropriate for the proposed activities.

In sum, we are fearful of the impacts on the way we live, the safety of our children and the economic prospects for the value of our property if this proposed facility goes ahead for the reasons outlined below.

- We currently live in a safe, rural community— we feel secure in knowing that we are at extremely low risk of criminal activity and this is one of the reasons we chose to live rurally. This will change if we have a facility of offenders who are not yet ready to be reintegrated into society down the road, with no police presence on site. The staff at the proposed facility are not police. Of concern is also the visual, noise and social impact of the visitors that will be allowed to this property.
- We often work from home, on a very remote property with remote access/one way driveway, alone and currently feel safe doing so – we not feel safe if this facility is down the road with no corrections or police staff on site and over 40 mins from a police station.
- The way we socialise will change – we currently let our children and friends’ children do things like pick blackberries or ride their bike on safe rural roads near home – this will no longer be an activity we allow if the facility proceeds – it will change the way we live in our small rural community. There is no CC tv or streetlights to help mitigate crime here as there is in town – where the facility would be better located.
- Our nearest school bus stop (for future use) is on Puaiti Road – we would no longer feel safe or comfortable leaving our children at a bus stop with the facility only a couple of km down the road with no police on site/40 min response time.
- Waikite is a small community that needs young families to come and then remain for the community to be sustainable – this facility would put people off living so remotely/away from the police.

- We are concerned about the emergency services response time out here if something goes wrong with one of the residents – we are 40 mins out of town with no police presence, this causes anxiety and fear. It's just not an appropriate location – if there are no police or corrections staff onsite, it should be near a police station.
- The economic impact – the proposed facility would have a negative impact property values and size of pool of future buyers (which is already smaller for rural properties).

I seek the following decision from the consent authority *[Give precise details, including the general nature of any conditions sought]*:

To decline the application

☐





I wish to be heard in support of my submission

☒

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission

☐

If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Signature of submitter (or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter):  	Date: 21-Jun-2025
 ter:	Telephone:
Contact person: [name and designation, if applicable] Kelly and Cole Weston	

Note to submitter:

You must serve a copy of your submission on the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the consent authority.

The information you have provided on this form is required so that your submission can be processed under the RMA, and your name and address will be publicly available. The information will be stored on a public register and held by the Council, and may also be made available to the public on the Council's website. In addition, any on-going communications between you and Council will be held at Council's offices and may also be accessed upon request by a third party. Access to this information is administered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the Privacy Act 1993. If you have any concerns about this, please discuss with a Council Planner prior to lodging your submission. If you would like to request access to, or correction of your details, please contact the Council.