FORM 13

SUBMISSION ON A PUBLICLY OR LIMITED NOTIFIED APPLICATION CONCERNING RESOURCE CONSENT

ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Section 96 Resource Management Act 1991
(Rotorua Lakes Council is the operating name of Rotorua District Council)

To:	**Name of Submitter:**
Chief Executive Rotorua Lakes Council Private Bag RO3029 ROTORUA	Kelly Graham *[Full Name]*

Received
25 JUN 2025
Rotorua Lakes Council
Customer Centre

This is a submission on an application from *[name of applicant]*:

Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust

for a Resource Consent to *[Briefly describe the type of consent, proposed activity, and location of the resource consent]*: To establish and operate a reintegration housing activity in the rural zone 1A of the Rotorua Lakes District Plan.

at *[The location of the resource consent]*:

473 Puaiti Road, Waikite Valley

The specific parts of the application that my submission relates to are *[Give Details]*:

The application in it's entirety

My submission is *[include whether you **support or oppose** the specific parts of the application or wish to have them amended; and the reasons for your views]*: I oppose the application for the following reasons: Proximity to my Mothers farm (who is on her own), and all the additionall ~~er~~ reasons in the attached.

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

To decline the application

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☑ 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: 22-6-2025
Address for service of Submitter: [redacted]	Telephone: [redacted]
Contact person: *[name and designation, if applicable]*	Fax/email:

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.

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Waikite Valley is known for its quiet, rural roads, essential for maintaining the peace and safety of our community. Introducing a facility like a Reintegration Centre would dramatically increase traffic through these roads, posing risks to both residents and visitors. The area is already a hotspot for traffic accidents, with vehicles frequently leaving the road and crashing into boundary fences. There have been three incidents where cars have crashed through my parent's road farm fence since June 2024. This is a direct result of the lack of familiarity with the area's roads and the tendency for drivers to speed, particularly around blind corners. The increase in traffic, particularly from deliveries and visitors to the centre, will only exacerbate this issue, leading to further safety concerns.

The location of the proposed facility, far from urban centres, raises concerns about the isolation of the Reintegration entre. Prisoners will be distanced from their families and support networks, which could have a detrimental effect on the reintegration process itself. Furthermore, the long distance for family members to travel will likely result in a reduction in visits, which could contribute to higher levels of frustration and relapse. A more suitable location closer to existing support networks such as near the Rotorua youth prison would be far more beneficial for the reintegration process.

Recently, a young couple with two children purchased a property nearby, intending to settle and make a life in the area. The announcement of this facility next door has devalued their property and, more importantly, has made them feel unsafe in their own home. This is a sentiment shared by many long-standing residents, including myself. In light of this, I have had to reassess my own future plans for the area.

I was intending to return to the family farm to assist my elderly mother and continue the family legacy. However, with the introduction of this facility, I now feel compelled to install security measures such as gates and cameras to ensure my mother's wellbeing and safety and keep the property secure. The presence of the centre will undoubtedly alter the peaceful character of the area and erode the sense of security that long time residents rely on.

I am also concerned that if an inmate escaped, making their way up onto the Paeroa Range, an area that is critical to many keen hunters including myself. This is a large part of my life and livelihood, and the possibility of it being compromised due to the proximity of a reintegration facility is deeply unsettling. If such an event were to occur, it could result in restrictions or even the closure of the hunting area, severely affecting my ability to carry on my passion and feed my family.

Lastly, I question why such a facility is being located so far out of town. This raises issues not only for visitors but also for those required to provide regular servicing to the centre, including deliveries and maintenance. The added costs and logistical challenges of operating such a facility in a remote area, far from basic infrastructure make it an impractical choice. It would be more sensible to consider other locations closer to established facilities like the youth prison, where there is already access to transportation, services, and resources.

I respectfully urge the Rotorua Lakes Council to decline the application from the Tikanga Aroro Charitable Trust for a Reintegration Centre in Waikite Valley.

While I fully support reintegration efforts for offenders, I believe there are alternative locations better suited to this purpose, with more accessible infrastructure and a lower impact on local communities.

Thank you for considering my submission.

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