

13 May 2026

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email, received on 16 April 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information regarding bail and remand homes. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Youth Justice Community Homes (bail and remand homes) look like other homes in their neighbourhood with a few functional differences to ensure the health and safety of kaimahi, rangatahi, visiting whānau and social service providers, victims of youth crime and the local community.

Oranga Tamariki kaimahi assess and work with the rangatahi and their whānau, and with the staff or providers running the home, to ensure that the Community Home is an appropriate placement. For bail and remand placements, local Police will also be part of that process, and an order will be made by a Judge.

Most rangatahi come into these homes for a short time; often just a few weeks while they are waiting for courts to approve a less restrictive option, such as a placement with whānau.

You have requested:

I would like to as many details as possible about the 14 bail or remand homes that are available across the North and South Island.

Can I please have that information? If there are information sheets on each home made available to OT Social Workers then that would be sufficient for me.

The homes currently have capacity for between 3 and 6 rangatahi. The majority are operated by our partners (social service providers). Please see below a list of the homes with service provider names included, as follows:

- **Oranga Tamariki-led Community Homes**
 - Hillcrest Home in Kirikiriroa
 - Te Kohanga in Rotorua (bail home)

- **Community Homes run by social service providers**

- Hillsborough Lighthouse in Tāmaki Makaurau (operated by Kia Puāwai)
- College Road in Tāmaki Makaurau (Reconnect Family Services Limited)
- Glenmore Lighthouse in Tāmaki Makaurau (Kia Puāwai)
- Teo Afua le Taeao in Tāmaki Makaurau (Emerge Aotearoa)
- Mahuru in Kaikohe (Ngāpuhi Iwi Social Services)
- Te Kaika Whakaaroaro in Waihōpai (PACT and Waihōpai Rūnaka) (bail home)
- Te Wharau o te Tairawhiti in Tūranganui-a-Kiwa (Turanga Social Services)
- Whare Manaaki in Ahuriri (Te Ikaroa Rangatahi Social Services) (bail home)
- Te Whare Pūmau Mana in Havelock North (Te Ikaroa Rangatahi Social Services)
- Whare Tiaki in Whakatū (Whakatū Marae) (bail home)
- Iti Mapihi Pounamu in Karapiro (Te Rūnanga o Kirikiriroa)
- Te Kāika Whare in Ōtepoti (Ōtākou Health Limited)

Having Community Homes throughout the country enables:

- A rangatahi who has offended or is alleged to have offended to remain close to their community, with travelling times for many rangatahi significantly reduced
- whānau to remain connected, with the aim of making physical visits easier
- local judiciary to be provided with a safe and effective option for remanding rangatahi into our custody
- existing engagement with social service providers to continue, and for a rangatahi and their whānau to form new relationships with services that can continue once the rangatahi has left our custody
- Aotearoa New Zealand to meet the United Nations standard of rangatahi accessing the least restrictive placement appropriate
- a reduction in demand for places in our secure youth justice residences and to minimise the number of rangatahi entering residences for short stays.

In response to the second part of your request for information sheets on each home made available to Oranga Tamariki social workers, Oranga Tamariki does not hold information of this nature. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act that the information requested does not exist.

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this on our website with any personal details removed.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Wilson', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Kathryn Wilson
Chief Advisor
Youth Justice Services and Residential Care