# Child, Youth and Family Residential Care Regulations Inspection Report: 2014

## Te Poutama Arahi Rangatahi Residence

### Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi is a specialist residential treatment facility located in Christchurch. The service, which is managed by Barnardos under contract from Child, Youth and Family, provides residential treatment for young men aged from 12–17 years who have engaged in harmful sexual behaviour and who can no longer be safely treated within their own communities. Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi provides a safe, secure and therapeutic environment to assist young men to engage in their individualised treatment programmes in a positive and responsive way. Community-based treatment providers and clinical staff also work alongside families prior to, during and throughout the reintegration phase of young people’s treatment. The Ministry of Education provides an on-site school which all young people attend on a daily basis and external activities and educational and vocational opportunities are also provided, based on each young person’s individualised education plan. Treatment, which ranges from nine months to two years, is provided to young people until they are deemed ready and able to be reintegrated safely back into the community.

### Inspection Reports

The eight residences run by Child, Youth and Family and Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi are assessed every calendar year by the Office of the Chief Social Worker to ensure:

* compliance with the regulations as specified in the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families (Residential Care) Regulations 1996 (the Regulations)
* compliance with section 384 of the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989
* the provision of safe, appropriate care for children and young people.

A report is produced, summarising the findings of the inspection that focuses on any non-compliance identified, and residences are required to develop a response to the report that addresses these areas for improvement.

## Inspection summary as at November 2014

### Scope

The residential care regulations are about the safety and wellbeing, and upholding of the rights of, children and young people placed in a Child, Youth and Family residence. They also outline expectations about management and inspection of the residences.

Each inspection covers the six parts of the regulations, namely:

* Part 1: Rights of children and young persons in residences
* Part 2: Limitations on powers of punishment and discipline
* Part 3: Management and inspection of residences
* Part 4: Searches
* Part 5: Secure care
* Part 6: Records.

In 2014 Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi achieved a 91.4 percent rate of compliance across the six parts of the regulations, for those provisions tested on the inspection.

### Overall

* Not all provisions of the residential care regulations and section 384 of the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989 apply to every residence, on every occasion.
* Due to the nature of some regulations, non-compliance in one area can mean automatic non-compliance with other regulations as they are inherently linked.
* The inspection identified areas of strength as well as areas for improvement for Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi.
* An improvement plan was developed to address the identified areas of improvement and the result of this plan is outlined below.

### Areas of strength

Areas where the inspection found evidence of good practices and processes that were promoting the wellbeing and safety of children and young people included:

* young people speaking positively about the care they receive at Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi.
* staff able to describe with clarity the purpose and the ethos of the residence
* highly rated education provision not only in NZQA and ERO inspection reports but in the feedback from young people who reported they enjoyed school.
* the integrated approach across the whole residence ensured that the young person and their individual plan and goals are the focus for all staff
* young people were in possession of personal effects with responsibility for managing these themselves; this was indicative of relationships based on mutual trust and respect.
* contact and relationships with family/whānau supported and encouraged.
* a range of services provided to young people to meet individual needs, and engagement in activities out in the community.
* generally the standard of recording at the residence was high.
* a robust compliance monitoring process in place at the residence.

### Areas for improvement

Areas where improvement was required included:

* Ensuring that young people supported by the implementation of an Intensive Support Plan and isolated from the main group have that plan regularly reviewed with a view to re-integration to the main group as soon as is practicable.
* Ensuring that information about the behaviour management programme is clear to young people and staff, in order to ensure consistent application
* Ensuring that staff are fully aware of the range of options for managing young people’s challenging behaviour.
* Ensuring that Information about how to access the regulations, rules and grievance process is available in public areas and copies available on request.

### Service delivery response

In response to the identified areas for improvement, Barnardos has implemented the following actions:

* Completed a restructure allowing new roles to be created at Te Poutama Arahi Rangatahi which it is anticipated will have a direct impact on enhancing the quality of practice and the compliance with the regulations.
* Initiated a review of the Intensive Support Plans for young people to ensure that their rights and needs are being met at all times. This will include providing sufficient opportunities for young people with an Intensive Support Plan, and where it is safe enough to do so, to associate with other young people particularly at mealtimes
* Initiated a review of the behaviour management system to ensure that the models are able to meet the needs of the young people resident at Te Poutama Arahi Rangatahi
* Initiated a formal performance and development process, alongside training package to ensure staff are aware, trained, resourced, supported and monitored in relation to de-escalation strategies.
* The confirmation of the appointment of the Audit and Compliance Advisor

will ensure appropriate monitoring of the improvements being made in the maintenance of the daily log, personal files, and availability of information