

2. RESIDENTIAL CARE AT THE KINGSLEA SITE

Officer responsible Community Advocate, Burwood/Pegasus	Author Dennis Morgan DDI 386-0909
Corporate Plan Output: Community Advocacy	

The purpose of this report is to request the Council to write to the Minister of Social Services concerning announced delays in the timetable for shifting youth justice operations from the Kingslea Residential Centre. These delays were drawn to the Board's attention in the Community Advocate's Update.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Child, Youth and Family Services is unable to meet a commitment to shift youth justice operations from the Kingslea site by 31 October 2002, given at a meeting with the Kingslea Community Liaison Committee in August.

A reassessment of the time required to find a new site and build the new facility has established the changes will take longer than earlier thought.

At the earliest, the youth justice young people will be off the Kingslea site in September 2003. Sentenced young prisoners will still be away from Kingslea by 31 August 2003, as the new Auckland youth justice facility should be operating by then.

The department now hopes to have selected a site for the proposed new youth justice facility in Christchurch by July 2001. Construction could then begin by August 2002, with the opening following in October the year after.

Recommendation: That the Council write to the Minister of Social Services:

1. Expressing the Council's concern at his department's inability to meet the time limits as set out in the designation for the removal of youth justice from the Kingslea Residential Centre site.
2. Requesting that the Minister keep the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board informed at three monthly intervals of progress in removing youth justice and criminal justice activities from the Kingslea site.

[Chrissie Williams requested that her vote against recommendation (1) be recorded.]