



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### Military-Style Academy Pilot: The Approach

Portfolio                      Children

On 10 June 2024, Cabinet:

- 1            **noted** that a military-style academy pilot will begin on 29 July 2024;
- 2            **noted** that the military-style academy pilot will involve six to ten young males, aged 15-17, who are on Supervision with Residence orders and have military-style academy involvement in their court-approved plans;
- 3            **noted** that initial funding of \$6.037 million operating and \$1.000 million capital was provided through Budget 2024 for one military-style academy pilot;
- 4            **noted** that work has progressed on the detailed design of the pilot since the Budget 2024 initiative was submitted, resulting in a reduction of forecast expenditure to \$4.115 million operating and \$1.000 million capital;
- 5            **noted** that lessons from the military-style academy pilot will inform the operational elements of future military-style academies, and the legislative parameters for this are set out in companion paper *Young Serious Offender Declaration and Military-style Academies* [CAB-24-SUB-0208].

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet



# Cabinet

## Summary

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### Military-Style Academy Pilot: The Approach

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Children</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	This paper outlines the high-level design of the military-style academy pilot.
<b>Previous Decisions</b>	In May 2024, SOU invited the Minister to give further consideration to proposals and report-back with a revised paper [SOU-24-MIN-0047].
<b>Proposal</b>	<p>The military-style academy pilot is designed to achieve sustained reductions in offending and help the teenagers involved to positively contribute to family and society. The pilot will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• begin on 29 July 2024, for up to 12 months;</li> <li>• involve six to ten young males, aged 15-17, who are on Supervision with Residence orders and have military-style academy involvement in their court-approved plans;</li> <li>• take place within an existing youth justice residence, and be led by Oranga Tamariki; and</li> <li>• involve three key stages of Assessment, Intensive Residential Academy, and Transition to Community, underpinned by intensive care management.</li> </ul>

The components of the pilot are summarised in **Appendix 1**. The principles that underpin the design, including ‘evidence-based’, ‘long-term focus’, and ‘safety and security’, are listed in the table on **page 6**.

Since consideration by SOU, an additional paragraph has been added noting that NZDF will provide support to Oranga Tamariki officials for the design and development of the detailed programming, specifically relating to the three-month residential component (**paragraph 32, page 7**).

Lessons from the pilot will inform the operational elements of future academies (for which the legislative parameters are set out in companion paper *Young Serious Offender Declaration and Military-Style Academies* [CAB-24-SUB-0208]). Evaluations will be complemented by a social values model (i.e. looking at the impact on society beyond the pilot period, as well as financial considerations), that will be focused on social investment costings.

<b>Impact Analysis</b>	None from this paper.
<b>Financial Implications</b>	As work has progressed, costings have been revised down from \$6.037 million in operating funding to \$4.115 million in operating funding. The expected \$1 million in capital funding is unchanged. Most of the cost reduction is associated with using internal staff, and scaling project management and administrative costs. A detailed funding breakdown is in <b>Appendix Two</b> .
<b>Legislative Implications</b>	None from this paper. The companion paper proposes a Military-Style Academy Order, which would be available as a standalone sentencing option, linked to the making of a YSO Declaration.
<b>Timing Matters</b>	Outlined above.
<b>Communications</b>	On 5 March 2024, the Minister announced that the pilot would start operating from the middle of 2024. Further to this, the Minister intends to issue a press statement before the pilot is launched.
<b>Consultation</b>	<p>Paper prepared by Oranga Tamariki, Crown Law, Corrections, MoE, the Treasury, MoH, MoJ (Justice, Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence), Privacy Commissioner, Police, MSD (Youth, Social Development and Employment), Pacific Peoples, Te Arawhiti, MHUD, PSC, Disability Issues, SWA, Ethnic Communities, and TEC were consulted. DPMC was informed.</p> <p>The Minister indicates that all Ministers and Parliamentary Under-Secretaries were consulted.</p>

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### The Minister for Children recommends that Cabinet:

- 1 note that a military-style academy pilot will begin on 29 July 2024;
- 2 note that the military-style academy pilot will involve six to ten young males, aged 15-17, who are on Supervision with Residence orders and have military-style academy involvement in their court-approved plans;
- 3 note that initial funding of \$6.037 million operating and \$1.000 million capital was provided through Budget 2024 for one military-style academy pilot;
- 4 note that work has progressed on the detailed design of the pilot since the Budget 2024 initiative was submitted, resulting in a reduction of forecast expenditure to \$4.115 million operating and \$1.000 million capital;
- 5 note that lessons from the military-style academy pilot will inform the operational elements of future military-style academies, and the legislative parameters for this are set out in companion paper *Young serious offender declaration and Military-style academies* [CAB-24-SUB-0208].

Jenny Vickers  
for Secretary of the Cabinet

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**Hard-copy distribution: (see over)**

**Hard-copy distribution:**

The Cabinet

Minister for Children

## **In Confidence**

Office of the Minister for Children

Cabinet

## **Military-style academy pilot – the approach**

### **Proposal**

- 1 This paper provides information on the high-level design of the military-style academy pilot (the pilot) that will commence in July 2024.

### **Relation to government priorities**

- 2 The proposals in this paper support the Government's overarching priority to restore law and order, and its commitment to begin work to address serious youth offending and achieve the Government target for reducing child and youth offending by 15 per cent by June 2029.

### **Executive summary**

- 3 As part of our 100-Day Plan, the Government committed to making decisions on establishing a Young Serious Offender category and making Youth Military Academies a sentencing option for the Youth Court.
- 4 My companion paper *Young serious offender declaration and military-style academies* seeks Cabinet's agreement to a package of options to strengthen the Government's response to serious and persistent youth offending. It includes proposals to amend legislation to establish a Young Serious Offender (YSO) declaration, and to establish future legislative settings for Military-Style Academies.
- 5 In the meantime, a cross-agency co-design process led by Oranga Tamariki is being used to develop the pilot for the Military-Style Academies. This pilot will incorporate key lessons from other military-style programmes in New Zealand and internationally. NZDF is providing direct support to Oranga Tamariki officials for the design and development of the detailed programming, specifically relating to the three-month residential component.
- 6 The pilot will commence on 29 July 2024 for up to 12 months and will be run within an existing youth justice residence. The pilot will start with 10 young males aged between 15-17 years old who are on Supervision with Residence orders and have participation in the pilot written into their sentencing plan. The pilot will involve three key stages, underpinned by intensive case management, with further details on each stage in paragraph 27. These stages are:
  - 6.1 Assessment;
  - 6.2 Intensive Residential Academy stage; and

### 6.3 Transition to Community.

- 7 The high-level design set out in Appendix One provides the framework for detailed design to occur. My officials will continue working alongside cross-agency representatives, clinicians, academics and advocacy groups on this detailed design work, as preparations for implementation of the pilot in July continue.
- 8 Lessons from the pilot will inform the operational elements of future Military-style Academies and evaluations will be complemented by a social values model (i.e. looking at the impact on society beyond the pilot period as well financial considerations) that will be based on social investment costings.

## Background

- 9 On 5 March 2024, I announced that a Military-style Academy pilot, led by Oranga Tamariki, would start operating from the middle of this year. This followed an agreement between the Ministers of Police, Justice, Defence and myself that Oranga Tamariki would lead the design and delivery of the pilot.
- 10 To ensure a well-rounded programme is developed for the pilot, Oranga Tamariki officials worked with other government departments, academics, clinicians, and advocacy groups to develop the high-level design presented in this paper and set out in Appendix One.
- 11 The design has also been informed by evidence and lessons identified through evaluations and analysis of other military-style programmes, such as the Limited Services Volunteer (LSV) programme, the previous Military-style Activity camp (MAC), and other military-style academies in New Zealand, Australia and internationally.

## **The Military-style Academies pilot is designed to achieve sustained reductions in offending and help the teenagers positively contribute to family and society**

*The pilot reflects the strong evidence basis of what is likely to make a military-style programme for young offenders more successful*

- 12 I am focused on ensuring that the military style programme for young offenders is designed in a way that gives them the best chance of success. In my view, it is important that the pilot includes rehabilitative and trauma-informed care approaches to enable them to positively contribute to the community and reduce risks of reoffending.
- 13 Teenagers with serious and persistent offending need intensive support and support to take accountability for their transition plans. This pilot will help identify how the military component can make a positive difference when the Military-style Academies enabled by a new legislative framework begins.
- 14 The LSV course is a six-week programme run by the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), aimed at supporting young people 18 to 24 years old to build their confidence and skills to get work ready and make a fresh start. A review of the LSV found the structured military environment fosters learning and development, teaches discipline, participation, and supports positive personal health.

- 15 While the pilot requires a different approach than is used in the LSV course, due to differences in cohorts and risks, overarching legislative framework and the therapeutic requirements, there are a number of lessons and similar approaches that will be implemented through the pilot. One of these is the graduated approach to delivering the daily curriculum and key programmes throughout the duration of the intensive academy component, as follows:
- 15.1 Stage 0 – Settling in<sup>1</sup> – (Respect for Self – Aware and Connected)
  - 15.2 Stage 1 – Imposed discipline – (Respect for others – Bold & United)
  - 15.3 Stage 2 – Development of self and team – (Responsible for my own future – Responsible and Determined)
  - 15.4 Stage 3 – Self-discipline and team member - (Dare to win)
- 16 The MAC programme was delivered in New Zealand from 2010 to 2016. The programme aimed to target the most serious and persistent young offenders and was delivered as a partnership between Child, Youth and Family (CYF) and the NZDF, based at Te Puna Wai o Tūhinapō Youth Justice Residence in Christchurch.
- 17 The broad design of the MAC programme in New Zealand sought to limit the extent of the military component, as compared with similar programmes overseas, and increase the use of educational programmes and programmes with a youth focus.
- 18 An evaluation of the MAC<sup>2</sup> found that the residential component of the MAC improved the attitude and motivation of young people to address their offending. Most young people respected the NZDF using teamwork and a mix of structured and routine activities, the NZDF staff helped break down barriers and promote the principles of equity, respect for authority, and self-discipline in the young people. Eighty percent of MAC participants successfully graduated the residential programme.
- 19 However, the lack of robust support (that addresses the causes of the young person’s offending), meant improved outcomes were not realised to the extent they might have been. Indicating a community-based programme may also be required once the young people leave the residence, to provide enough time for effective support to be delivered and longer-term behaviour change for the young people.
- 20 A lack of transitional support and intervention with family and whānau were also identified as shortcomings. Transitioning young people back to their families and communities from Christchurch was cited as a particular difficulty, as 73 percent of those on the programme were from the North Island.
- 21 The following key lessons of ‘what works’ will be incorporated into the pilot:
- 21.1 A comprehensive assessment of suitability needs, and criminogenic factors, prior to selection is needed.

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<sup>1</sup> Original LSV terminology

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Social Development (2013). Evaluation Report for the Military-style Activity Camp (MAC) Programme. Ministry of Social Development: Wellington, New Zealand.

- 21.2 Providing a comprehensive and multi-faceted intensive academy component curriculum that incorporates and integrates military-style elements as well as therapeutic, educational, vocational, cultural, and life skills components is key to success.
- 21.3 Intensive case management and transitional support including ongoing training, mentoring and support for the teenager and their family or whānau is needed.
- 21.4 The need to provide support to not only the teenagers on the pilot but to their whānau and siblings at the earliest opportunity and continue this throughout the transition and support phases.
- 21.5 Effective responses to reoffending are needed and should be considered in advance as there is often a path towards desistance of less serious and less frequent offending, rather than all offending stopping immediately.

### **Key objectives of the Military-style Academies pilot**

- 22 With this evidence base in mind, I want to deliver a pilot that makes a difference in the lives of the teenagers involved to enable them to thrive and positively contribute to their whānau and community.
- 23 The key objectives of the pilot are to:
  - 23.1 Make a difference – have both immediate and long-term positive outcomes for pilot teenagers and their whānau and communities through their residential and in-community academy experience.
  - 23.2 Design and deliver a Military-style Academy – enable positive change for pilot teenagers through tailored, evidence-based interventions delivered through proven military-inspired approaches.
  - 23.3 Prove the concept – test and evaluate key aspects of delivery to enable an informed choice about a scaled and enduring Military-style Academies programme.
  - 23.4 Keep teenagers in the pilot, staff, and communities safe – ensure the physical and psychological well-being of teenagers in the pilot, staff and partners involved in the academy by taking a prevention and safety-first approach.

### **The Military-style Academies pilot will involve six to 10 young males aged 15-17 years**

- 24 The pilot will begin on 29 July 2024 and will involve six to 10 young males aged 15-17<sup>3</sup> on Supervision with Residence orders.<sup>4</sup> Participation in the pilot will be part of teenager's plan approved by the Youth Court.
- 25 The teenagers on the pilot are very likely to have:

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<sup>3</sup> Some may turn 18 while the response to their offending is finalised.

<sup>4</sup> A Supervision with Residence order is currently the highest order that a Youth Court can make, and involves a young person being placed in the custody of the Chief Executive of Oranga Tamariki for a period of between three to six months. It is normally spent in a secure youth justice residence.



- 25.1 a history of violence and aggression;
  - 25.2 experienced high level of trauma and abuse; and
  - 25.3 high and complex needs including neurodiversity and mental health needs.
- 26 Many of the teenagers who will make up the cohort for the pilot are also likely to be known to multiple agencies, have been assessed throughout their lifetime and will likely be recidivist offenders. It will therefore be important that the pilot recognises and seeks to understand this past trauma, and how this has impacted the teenager – and their family and whānau – so that long-term behaviour change can be achieved.

*The Military-style Academies pilot will be focused on a military-style programme and intensive rehabilitation*

- 27 The pilot will consist of three key stages, all of which will be underpinned by an intensive case management approach:
- 27.1 **Assessment** - Teenagers entering into the pilot will follow a strength-based approach (that is focusing on their positive attributes), enabling intensive case management to take place throughout the 12-month pilot period. The approach will be multi-agency and will include core government agencies such as Oranga Tamariki, NZ Police and the Ministries of Social Development, Health and Education. This assessment phase will consolidate existing assessments across the agencies and will involve working with the teenagers and their whānau and/or caregivers to develop a targeted plan that meets their individualised needs.
  - 27.2 **Intensive Residential Academy Stage** - The residential component of the pilot will run for three months at Te Au rere a te Tonga, an existing secure youth justice residence in Palmerston North starting on 29 July 2024. Existing safety and security precautions for the teenagers and staff will apply and are being reviewed to ensure all appropriate measures are in place, including but not limited to the privacy of the teenagers, 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]. The residential stage includes the military style approach that has been successfully tested in programmes such as LSV. Acknowledging the cohort is different from that of LSV, Oranga Tamariki is also adding a criminogenic approach of using an established offender rehabilitation framework. It will also include cultural components throughout the therapeutic, rehabilitative, and life skills components. Education delivered within the residential setting will be a critical component considering the anticipated diverse capabilities of the young people involved. Officials will be working with the Ministry of Education to ensure tailored plans form part of this stage of the academy to address the learning needs of the teenagers, such as improvements in literacy and numeracy as well as vocational and higher education opportunities where appropriate. The pilot will see youth workers, social workers, intensive mentors, psychologists, iwi and community representatives and key service providers working with the teenagers. Whānau involvement will also be fundamentally integrated throughout the pilot.

27.3 **Transition to Community** - The transition stage ensures accountability to ensure that the plan for the teenager to immerse back into the community is implemented and agreed. Transition plans will be developed with support from family and community. For rangatahi Māori, transition plans will include input and support from whānau, community and iwi in consultation with their Marae as appropriate. It is intended that the intensive case management will continue for up to 10 months to support the teenager to return to a safe, stable and loving environment. There will be a focus on continued education and/or employment, as well as pro-social networks in the community. <sup>9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>

28 The high-level design includes the following curriculum and programming components: physical (including military-style activities), cultural, life skills, mental health and wellbeing (including criminogenic), education, employment pathways, mentoring, whānau support, and community support. These will be delivered by specifically trained Oranga Tamariki staff, partners, and contracted providers.

**Detailed design work on the Military-style Academies pilot is underway**

29 The high-level design set out in Appendix One provides the framework for which detailed design is being based. A set of design principles have been developed to underpin and guide the development the detailed design of the pilot, as outlined in Table One:

*Table One: design principles for Military-style Academies pilot*

Design Principle	Explanation
Evidence-based	Incorporate learnings from evaluations and analysis of other military-style programmes in New Zealand and internationally, voices of teenagers, and clinical experts to optimise Academy outcomes.
Safety and Security	Keeping teenagers, staff, partners, and the community safe from harm is non-negotiable.
Trauma-informed	Seek to understand past trauma, and how it impacts the teenagers and their whānau dynamic. Work to a resiliency-informed practice.
Whakapapa	Recognise whakapapa, and work with the teenager’s whānau and community to support positive and appropriate re-integration.
Long-term focus	Focus on sustained long-term change, whereby transition is planned and enabled before the pilot teenagers leave the residential Academy component.
Personalised	Potential teenagers for inclusion in the pilot are assessed for Academy suitability before selection and sentencing, and Academy components are tailored to individual needs.

<sup>5</sup> Utilising an existing youth justice residential care home.

Design Principle	Explanation
Positive stories	Share positive evidence-based stories that pilot teenagers can be proud of.
Equipped and supported	Kaimahi and partners working with pilot teenagers and whānau are prepared, equipped and support for the environment – both physically and mentally.

- 30 Detailed design is well underway, and officials are continuing to work alongside cross-agency representatives, clinicians, academics and advocacy groups on this, as preparing for implementation of the pilot in July continues.
- 31 Through the detailed design officials are developing the detailed programming for the three-month residential component as well as elements of the 10-month return to community component. The full 12-month pilot will also include intensive case management throughout. Through this work it will be determined which services are required to be delivered by external providers and/or partners. This will include for example counselling services, education and vocation, some aspects of the military-style and physical components, cultural components, mentoring, and ongoing community liaison support.
- 32 NZDF is providing direct support to Oranga Tamariki officials for the design and development of the detailed programming, specifically relating to the three-month residential component. This includes the training and ongoing mentoring of Oranga Tamariki staff who are involved in delivering the pilot, hosting a two-week induction at the Youth Development Facility at Trentham Military Camp, access to the confidence course at Linton Military Camp (a 20-minute drive from Te Au Rere Youth Justice Residence), as well as visits and planned activities that build the understanding of the NZDF ‘Military Way’ methods.
- 33 Lessons from the Military-Style Academy pilot will inform the operational elements of future Military-Style Academies. The proposed legislative parameters of such are set out in the companion Cabinet paper *Young Serious Offender Declaration and Military-Style Academies*.

**Cost-of-living Implications**

- 34 These proposals are likely to have little or no impact on the cost of living. They do not create costs for households or businesses.

**Financial Implications**

*Cost of the pilot*

- 35 Oranga Tamariki received \$6.037 million operating and \$1.000 million capital in Budget 2024 to run the pilot.
- 36 Work has progressed on the detailed design of the pilot since the Budget initiative was submitted and later scaled at the request of the Minister of Finance. As a result, Oranga Tamariki has reduced the forecast expenditure to \$4.115 million operating and \$1.000

million capital. Most of the cost reduction is associated with using internal staff (instead of recruiting a new external workforce as originally planned) and scaling the project management and administrative costs.

37 9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]

*High-level breakdown of funding*

38 Table Two below provides a high-level breakdown of the forecast expenditure with further detail provided in Appendix Two.

*Table Two: High-level breakdown of expenditure*

Category	Description	\$million
Establishment	Includes programme management, evaluation, and training of staff as well as the depreciation and capital charge fit out of residences for Military Academies.	\$1.840
Run	Includes salaries of limited staff recruited external to Oranga Tamariki, travel for families of young people, and programme related funding (noting the pilot is not delivered within the Residences' BAU programme).	\$0.722
Community-based support (post the residential component)	Includes community-based intensive wrap-around support and the operational costs of the Step-Up Home (see below).	\$1.554
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,115,772</b>

9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]

*Funding for the military component no longer required*

39 9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]

40 In staffing the pilot, Oranga Tamariki has endeavoured to ensure an appropriate mix of skills and experience, including former military personnel. In addition, the pilot workforce will also undergo two weeks of training with Limited-Service Volunteers (LSV) staff from the NZ Defence Force. This complements the work done in the

9(2)(f)(iv)

*Efficacy of Military-Style Academies and Return on Investment*

41 9(2)(j)

42 To counter this, Oranga Tamariki has conducted a lessons learned assessment of the Ministry of Social Development-led Military-style Activity Camps; reviewed what works domestically and internationally to reduce youth offending, particularly serious and recidivist offending; and sought the advice and expertise of New Zealand youth justice and social work experts, such as Dr Ian Lambie and others, to inform the detailed design of the pilot including the in-residence, transition and community components. The costs of the pilot reflect the evidence that has been incorporated into development of the curriculum, integration of the programme components and the nature, type and frequency of interventions included in programme delivery.

43 9(2)(j)

**Legislative Implications**

44 There are no legislative implications arising from this paper. The pilot is being conducted within existing legislative settings (by drawing eligible participants from the cohort of young people on a Supervision with Residence order and have participation in the pilot written into their sentencing plan), to rapidly test an operational approach.

45 My companion paper *Young serious offender declaration and military-style academies* outlines the Military-Style Academy Order which will be available in the future as a standalone sentencing option, linked to the making of a YSO Declaration. In creating the standalone Academy Order, the legislation will also address some of the constraints that were identified in the design of the Military-Style Academy pilot, such as the maximum length of the programme under the current Supervision with Residence Order, and the types of components or modules that can be undertaken, including activity outside the residential setting.

**Impact Analysis**

*Regulatory Impact Statement*

46 There are no regulatory proposals in this paper, and therefore Cabinet's impact analysis requirements do not apply.

*Climate Implications of Policy Assessment*

47 The Climate Implications of Policy Assessment (CIPA) team has been consulted and confirms that the CIPA requirements do not apply to this proposal, as the threshold for significance is not met.

*Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti o Waitangi analysis*

48 The Oranga Tamariki Act’s purpose is to promote the well-being of children, young persons, and their families, whānau, hapū, iwi, and family groups by, amongst other things, “providing a practice commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in the way described in this Act”. The Treaty principles relevant to this proposal are:

48.1 Kāwanatanga / governance: applied here means that consultation on the proposals should be undertaken with Māori and their views represented in the design. Consultation to date has included discussions with Māori representatives and that will increase as we get into the detailed design of the pilot. Māori are represented in the External Reference Group, and officials are working with mana whenua, Rangitāne o Manawatū, in Palmerston North on the detailed design of the pilot.

48.2 Oritetanga / equity: the overrepresentation of Māori within the Military-Style Academy pilot cohort may raise concerns about inequitable treatment of rangatahi Māori, and whether the measures uphold the principle of active protection. However, the overall approach is aimed at reducing reoffending, and this – alongside connecting the young person with their culture and whakapapa – will ultimately benefit rangatahi Māori.

**Population Implications**

49 As noted in my companion paper, *Young Serious Offender Declaration and Military-style Academies*, Māori are already significantly overrepresented in the youth justice system. Modelling indicates 80-85 percent of those eligible for a YSO declaration are likely to be Māori.

50 9(2)(g)(i)  


51 The high-level design involves therapeutic outcomes and educational components that are intended to support trauma-experienced and disabled teenagers.

52 The high-level design does contain some exclusions from the pilot cohort, including some physical disabilities, complex mental health conditions, and individuals who were

born or identify as female. This is necessary for the pilot and is based on health and safety grounds.

### **Human Rights**

- 53 I acknowledge the requirements set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA) and New Zealand's international obligations through the United Nation Conventions on the Rights of the Child (defined as anyone under 18) and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- 54 There is no additional impact on the human rights of the teenagers involved in the pilot than exists already as a result of a Supervision with Residence order. This includes rights under the NZBORA, such as the freedoms of movement, association, and expression during the residential component may be impacted. Criminal procedure rights, such as the right of a child or young person to be dealt with in a manner befitting their age may also be impacted. The high-level design represents best practice and will provide support to help reduce reoffending and transition teenagers back into the community. This may assist with the justification for any limitation of NZBORA rights and freedoms.
- 55 The high-level design, and subsequent detailed design and implementation, are focused on ensuring that the rights of the child are upheld, including the United Nation Conventions on the Rights of the Child (defined as anyone under 18) and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

### **Consultation**

- 56 The Department of Corrections, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Pacific Peoples, Ministry of Education, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ministry of Justice, Ministry for Social Development, New Zealand Police, Te Puna Aonui, Office of the Privacy Commissioner, Public Service Commission, Social Wellbeing Agency, Te Arawhiti, Tertiary Education Commission, the Treasury, Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People, and the Ministry of Youth Development have been consulted on the Cabinet paper. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet was also informed.
- 57 The Privacy Commissioner commented on the importance of clarifying the detailed design, legislative settings and the implementation of the programme so they are developed in a manner that properly respects the privacy rights of the young people involved, and appropriately protects their personal information. Taking a respectful and privacy-protective approach will support the intended outcomes of the pilot.
- 58 Officials have also established an External Reference Group for the detailed design and duration of the pilot. This group includes leading academics in youth crime and social work, leading figure from the legal community and community leaders across Māori and Pasifika.
- 59 Officials are engaging with mana whenua, Rangitāne o Manawatū, in Palmerston North on the detailed design of the pilot as the residential component will occur in their rohe. Rangitāne have offered to support iwi engagements on behalf of the pilot noting that the teenagers will whakapapa back to a range of iwi across the motu.

60 The Principal Youth Court Judge has been informed of the pilot as the Court will need to agree to plans for teenagers to participate in the pilot.

61 Officials have also been engaged with teenagers currently based at Te Au rere a te Tonga on elements of the design to ensure that the voices of young people are incorporated. This will continue in detailed design.

### **Communications**

62 On 5 March 2024, I announced that the pilot will start in mid-2024.

63 This pilot forms part of a wider package of initiatives announced by this Government to reduce serious youth offending. A communications strategy linking this initiative to the package of interventions, as set out in the companion paper *Young serious offender declaration and Military-style academies*, is being developed. I intend to release a press statement before the pilot is launched on 29 July 2024.

### **Proactive Release**

64 I intend to proactively release this paper consistent with the Official Information Act 1982.

### **Recommendations**

The Minister for Children recommends that Cabinet:

- 1 **note** that a military-style academy pilot will begin on 29 July 2024;
- 2 **note** that the military-style academy pilot will involve six to ten young males, aged 15-17, who are on Supervision with Residence orders and have military-style academy involvement in their court-approved plans;
- 3 **note** that initial funding of \$6.037 million operating and \$1.000 million capital was provided through Budget 2024 for one military-style academy pilot;
- 4 **note** that work has progressed on the detailed design of the pilot since the Budget 2024 initiative was submitted, resulting in a reduction of forecast expenditure to \$4.115 million operating and \$1.000 million capital;
- 5 **note** that lessons from the military-style academy pilot will inform the operational elements of future military-style academies, and the legislative parameters of such are set out in companion paper *Young serious offender declaration and Military-style academies*.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Karen Chhour

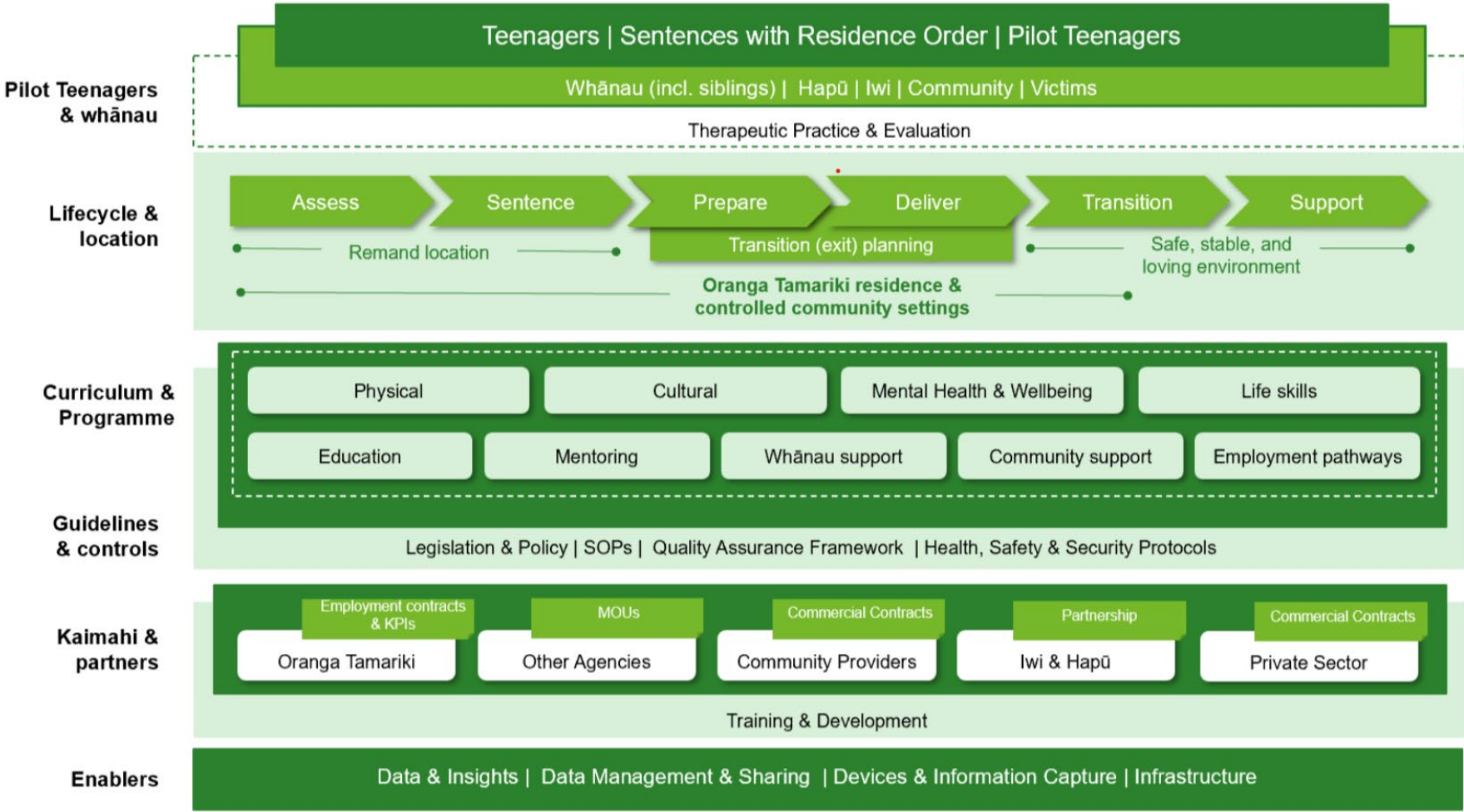
**Minister for Children**



Appendix 1

# Pilot Design Components

The key design components of the Military-Style Academy Pilot are summarised below.



Appendix 2

Category	Description	All years
Establishment	Travel and allowances for Pilot workforce not from Palmerston North. Training for all pilot staff.	108,000
Establishment	Uniforms for the pilot workforce (existing Residence staff do not have uniforms) and for young people on the pilot (noting that existing clothing is not fit for purpose for the pilot).	37,772
Establishment	Programme Management Office (Programme Manager, Project Coordinator and Business Analyst).	320,000
Establishment	Evaluation	600,000
Establishment	Social Impact Return on Investment	364,000
Establishment	Depreciation and capital charge on Capital investment	410,000
<b>Sub-Total Establishment Costs</b>		<b>\$1,839,772</b>

Category	Description	All years
Running costs	9(2)(j)	
Running costs		
Running costs		
Running costs		
Running costs		
Running costs		
Running costs		
<b>Sub-Total Running C</b>		

Category	9(2)(f)(iv)	
Support costs		
Support costs		

	9(2)(f)(iv)	
Support costs		
Support costs		
<b>Sub-Total Support Co</b>		

<b>Grand Total for pilot</b>	<b>\$4,115,772</b>
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# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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*This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.*

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### Report of the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee: Period Ended 24 May 2024

On 27 May 2024, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee for the period ended 24 May 2024:

Out of Scope



SOU-24-MIN-0047

**Military-Style Academy Pilot: The Approach**  
Portfolio: Children

*[Deferred by SOU]*

Out of Scope



Diana Hawker  
for Secretary of the Cabinet



# Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Military-Style Academy Pilot: The Approach

**Portfolio**                      **Children**

On 22 May 2024, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee:

- 1            **noted** the contents of the submission under SOU-24-SUB-0047, and the advice from the Minister for Children (the Minister) and officials;
- 2            **invited** the Minister, in consultation with the Prime Minister, Minister of Police, and other relevant Ministers as necessary, to give further consideration to proposals and report-back with a revised paper in due course.

Jenny Vickers  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon  
Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Hon David Seymour  
Hon Dr Shane Reti  
Hon Paul Goldsmith  
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)  
Hon Mark Mitchell  
Hon Tama Potaka  
Hon Nicole McKee  
Hon Casey Costello  
Hon Penny Simmonds  
Hon Karen Chhour

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for SOU  
Ministry of Justice  
New Zealand Police  
Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children