

5th August 2023

Dear NSW Population and Health Services Research Ethics Committee Chair,

Karitane has been contracted by the NSW Ministry of Health to deliver the Virtual Parenting Residential Service (VRPS) and to participate in the evaluation of this program, which is being conducted by the Parenting Research Centre (PRC) in partnership with the University of New South Wales (UNSW).

We understand the purpose of this evaluation is to examine the VRPS implementation and effectiveness, as well as costs in relation to outcomes. The evaluation will also include Tresillian, another agency also contracted to deliver the VRPS. The evaluation will include comparison of VRPS to the face-to-face residential parenting programs, which are also delivered by Karitane and Tresillian.

The evaluation will involve inviting VRPS staff, managers and adult parents/carers to participate in interviews, following receipt of their informed consent. It will also involve analysis of administrative and outcomes data routinely collected by Karitane staff at both the VRPS and in the face-to-face program. An online survey to collect additional client outcomes data from VRPS and face-to-face residential program participants, will also be conducted by the evaluation team but will not require Karitane staff to administer the survey and collect data.

I write this letter to confirm Karitane supports this evaluation, which will commence following NSW Population and Health Services Research Ethics Committee (PHSREC) approval as well as approvals from Sydney Local Health District and South Western Sydney Local Health District and conclude in March 2025.

I also note that Karitane has had a number of opportunities to contribute to the evaluation plan, as well as discuss and ask questions of the evaluators. I understand that Karitane will also have ongoing consultation with the evaluation team throughout the evaluation period, particularly where any significant changes may be required to the project.

Should we have any complaints or questions concerning this evaluation we understand we can contact the PRC evaluation team, the PHSREC or NSW Ministry of Health.

Regards



Grainne O'Loughlin

CEO