

Kāpiti Coast District Council Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices 2023/24



1. Introduction

The Kapiti Coast District Council, as a territorial authority, must report annually on its dog control policy and practices. The purpose of this report is to provide the information required under section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act) in relation to:

- a. Its dog control policy adopted under section 10; and
- b. Its dog control practices.

2. The Council's Dog Control Policy (the Policy)

2.1 The Policy

The Kapiti Coast District Council adopted its Dog Control Policy on 14 March 2019. The Policy outlines how the Kapiti Coast District Council will address the requirements set out in section 10 of the Act. The Policy is enforceable through the 2019 Kapiti Coast District Council Dog Control Bylaw.

The objectives of the Policy are to:

1. Ensure all dogs in the District are kept under proper and appropriate control at all times.
2. Prohibit or restrict specific breeds of dogs which are known to be dangerous.
3. To eliminate or minimise the distress, danger and nuisance caused by dogs to the general public and their property and sensitive sites.
4. To ensure that the owners of dogs comply with their obligations under the Act.
5. To provide the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.
6. To recognise good and responsible dog owners and to reward them by reduced fees; and to discourage poor dog ownership by applying penalty fees where appropriate.
7. To provide for the welfare of dogs by at least ensuring minimum standards of care are met.

3. Dog control practices

3.1 The current operational structure of the team

The team is currently managed by a Team Leader with six full time employees. The service operates a full-service Monday to Sunday 7am to 7pm. Outside these hours the staff rotate through an on call after hour service for urgent service requests.

4. Dog Control Statistics

Dogs and Owners	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Total number of known dogs in the district as of 30 June	8756	8650	8537	8367
Total number of dogs registered in the district as of 30 June	8404	8324	8262	8359
Total number of known dog owners	6877	6867	6783	6564
Probationary owners in the district	1	1	1	2
Disqualified owners in the district	6	5	3	3
Total number of dogs that are classified as dangerous in the district	6	9	9	8
Total number of dogs that are classified as menacing in the district	101	114	117	119
Number and provision of dogs classified menacing by deed (s.33A) this financial year	3	13	15	10
Number and provision of dogs classified menacing by breed (s.33C) this financial year	4	4	4	2
Complaints	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Dog attack	109	98	104	105
Dog threatening	105	115	93	112
Dog wandering	385	404	535	498
Dog noise/barking	419	404	386	465
Dog fouling	23	11	9	21
Total complaint related service requests	1041	1033	1127	1201
Infringements issued	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Failure to comply with bark abatement notice	-	-	-	-
Wilful obstruction	-	-	-	-
Failure to implant a microchip	1	-	1	-
Failure to register dog	208	75	124	120
Failure to keep dog under control	20	21	60	50
Failure to keep dog controlled/confined	7	10	20	19
Failure to comply with the effects of classification	-	4	3	2
Failure/refusal to supply information	-	-	-	-
Bylaw breach	1	-	-	-
Falsely notify death of a dog	-	-	-	-

Wilfully provides false particulars	-	-	-	-
Failure to advise change of address	-	-	-	-
Failure to advise change of ownership	-	-	-	1
Total Infringements	237	110	208	192
Prosecutions	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
	0	0	0	0
Impound or relinquished outcomes	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Impounded dogs returned to owners	100	117	136	125
Rehomed by Council to new owners	9	7	6	4
Rehomed through rehome agency	9	2	10	3
Euthanised -	10	17	5	3
On trial or in shelter at time of report	5	10	6	4
Not recorded	1	-	1	29
Total Impounds	134	154	164	168