

9.9 DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10 REPORT**Information Only - No Decision Required**

Report To: Environment and Planning Committee

Meeting Date: 5 September 2019

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Report Number: REP19-09-14

1 Summary

- 1.1 The Dog Control Act 1996 (DCA) Section 10A requires territorial authorities to publicly report on dog control policies and practices for each financial year. This report contains the information required under the DCA for the year 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. It is a requirement of the DCA that a copy of this report be made publicly available and be sent to the Secretary for Local Government.

2 Draft Resolution

That the Environment and Planning Committee receives the Dog Control Act Section 10 Report REP19-09-14

DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10 REPORT**3 Purpose of the Report**

- 3.1 This report constitutes the annual report that the Council has to prepare in administering its obligations under the DCA.

4 Background and Discussion (Dog Control Policy and Enforcement Practices)

- 4.1 The Council reviewed its Dog Control Policy and Bylaw in 2014 adopting the Dog Control Policy 2014 and Dog Control Bylaw 2014 on the 18 September 2014.
- 4.2 The objectives of the Dog Control Policy are:
- To promote responsible dog ownership
 - To minimise any danger, distress or nuisance created by dogs
 - To have regard to the welfare, exercise and recreational needs of dogs, and
 - To identify required means of dog control in all public places.
- 4.3 Control Services (Tasman) Ltd is contracted to implement the Council's dog control policy and bylaw. Compliance is achieved by:
- Responding to dog related incidents
 - Targeted property visits and patrols of areas with specific issues
 - Close liaison and cooperation with external agencies
 - Conducting dog safety and bite prevention programs.
- 4.4 The Council uses various media to inform the public of dog-related issues. The Council's website provides dog-related information, online forms, and links to relevant legislation and other websites of interest.

5 Options (Dog Registration and Enforcement Statistics for July 2018 to June 2019)

5.1	Number of dog owners in the district	7546
	• Probationary owners	1
	• Disqualified owners	0
5.2	Number of registered dogs in the district	11284
	• Rural dogs	5886
	• Urban dogs	5398
5.3	Number of dogs classified as Dangerous under DCA Section 31	
	• Sec 31 1(a) due to owner conviction	2
	• Sec 31 1(b) due to sworn evidence	18
	• Sec 31 1(c) due to owner admission	0

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5.4	Number of dogs classified as Menacing under DCA Section 33	
	• Sec 33A (Observed or Reported Behavior)	43
	• Sec 33C (By Breed)	35
5.5	Infringement Notices Issued	
	• Failure to comply with effects of classification	1
	• Failure/refusal to supply information	2
	• Failing to register dog	164
	• Failure to keep dog under control	12
	• Failure to keep dog controlled or confined	3
	• Failure to comply with barking dog abatement notice	1
	• Failure to comply with Bylaw	7
5.6	Prosecutions: Nil	
5.7	Complaints	
	• Unregistered dog	17
	• Attack domestic pet	55
	• Attack stock	13
	• Attack human	53
	• Barking	447
	• Fouling	16
	• Rushing	29
	• Wandering/found	725
	• Welfare	52
	• Dog in restricted area	11
	• Dog not on leash	5
	• Dog not under control	28
	• Unfenced Property	3
	• Excess Dogs	2

6 Strategy and Risks

6.1 The Dog Control activity is a function of high visibility to the public and providing for the care and control of dogs contributes to achieving the community outcomes which promote safe and healthy communities.

7 Policy / Legal Requirements / Plan

7.1 This report achieves compliance with the DCA.

DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10 REPORT**8 Consideration of Financial or Budgetary Implications**

- 8.1 This report creates no financial burden that is not already covered under the Dog Control budget and which is separately reported on through the Annual Report. The Dog Control activity is entirely funded from user charges with no general rate contribution.

9 Significance and Engagement

- 9.1 This statistical report is of low significance and is prepared in accordance with an obligation under the DCA. There is no obligation to consult although the availability of the report must be publicly notified.

10 Conclusion

- 10.1 The Council's current level of enforcement meets the requirements of DCA and the expectations of the public.

11 Next Steps / Timeline

- 11.1 On adoption, give public notice of Report **REP19-09-14**
- 11.2 Within one month of adoption provide a copy of Report **REP19-09-14** to the Secretary for Local Government.

12 Attachments

Nil