

7. Dog Control Act 1996, Section 10A Report – Policy and Practices 2019/20

Reference / Te Tohutoro: 20/1277349

Report of / Te Pou
Matua: Mark Vincent – Manager Animal Services

General Manager /
Pouwhakarae: Leonie Rae – General Manager Corporate Services and Consenting & Compliance

1. Brief Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to meet the requirements set out in Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, providing information by the Territorial Authority to Local Government that covers the Policy and Practices delivered for the reporting period year ending 30 June 2020.

2. Executive Summary / Te Whakarāpopoto Matua

- 2.1 This report is for information purposes and supports the requirements of Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, relating to the Council's administration of its Dog Control policy and practices by providing information in respect of the 2019/20 Dog Registration period relating to:
 - 2.1.1 the number of dogs registered in the territorial authority;
 - 2.1.2 the number of probationary and disqualified owners within the territorial authority;
 - 2.1.3 the number of dogs classified as dangerous and menacing within the territorial authority;
 - 2.1.4 the number of infringement notices issued;
 - 2.1.5 the number of complaints for the year;
 - 2.1.6 the number of prosecutions taken by the Council.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996, the Council is required to give public notice of this report, by means of a notice published in daily newspapers

3. Officer Recommendations / Ngā Tūtohu

That the Regulatory Performance Committee recommends that the Council:

1. Receive the information in the Dog Control Act 1996, Section 10A report – Policy and Practices 2019/20.
2. Adopt the 2019/20 Annual Report to Local Government, as set out in Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.

4. Context / Background / Te Horopaki

Decision Making Authority / Te Mana Whakatau

- 4.1 Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, requires the Territorial authority to report on dog control policy and practices.

- 1) A territorial authority must, in respect of each financial year, report on the administration of—
 - a) its dog control policy adopted under [section 10](#); and
 - b) its dog control practices.

- 2) The report must include, in respect of each financial year, information relating to—
 - a) the number of registered dogs in the territorial authority district;
 - b) the number of probationary owners and disqualified owners in the territorial authority district;
 - c) the number of dogs in the territorial authority district classified as dangerous under [section 31](#) and the relevant provision under which the classification is made;
 - d) the number of dogs in the territorial authority district classified as menacing under [section 33A](#) or [section 33C](#) and the relevant provision under which the classification is made;
 - e) the number of infringement notices issued by the territorial authority;
 - f) the number of dog related complaints received by the territorial authority in the previous year and the nature of those complaints;
 - g) the number of prosecutions taken by the territorial authority under this Act.

- 3) The territorial authority must give public notice of the report—
 - a) by means of a notice published in—
 - i. 1 or more daily newspapers circulating in the territorial authority district; or
 - ii. 1 or more other newspapers that have at least an equivalent circulation in that district to the daily newspapers circulating in that district; and
 - b) by any means that the territorial authority thinks desirable in the circumstances.

- 4) The territorial authority must also, within 1 month after adopting the report, send a copy of it to the Secretary for Local Government.

Christchurch City Council's Policies (Section 10A (1a))

- 4.2 The Council adopted the "Control of Dogs" Policy ("the policy") in September 2016. The Policy has provisions relating to the control of dogs in public places, which are enforceable under the Christchurch City Council Dog Control Bylaw 2016.
- 4.3 The objectives of the policy are to:
 - set the framework for Dog Registration Fees and Classification of Owners;
 - identify mechanisms for promoting responsible dog ownership and interaction with dogs;
 - set the framework for Issuing of Infringement notices and Impounding of Dogs;
 - specify the requirement for neutering of dogs classified as dangerous or menacing; (sections 32(1) (c) and 33E (b));
 - provide adequate opportunities to fulfil the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners;

- set the framework for categories of Dog Control;
- Notify areas where specific dog control status has been designated for reasons such as public health, safety and hygiene and protection of wildlife, animals and stock;
- Identify the matters to be covered by bylaws.

Christchurch City Council's Practices (Section 10A (1b))

- 4.4 To satisfy the requirements of section 10A of the Dog control Act 1996, the following information is provided.
- 4.5 Dog Registration
- 4.5.1 The total number of dogs recorded on the Council's dog registration database for the period was 40,002 compared to 39,127 last year.
- 4.6 Probationary and Disqualified Owners
- 4.6.1 The Council recorded 11 owners recorded as probationary owners and 1 owner as disqualified over the period.
- 4.7 Dangerous Dog Classifications
- 4.7.1 The Council classified 8 dogs classified as dangerous under section 31 of the Dog control Act 1996, adjusting the total number of dogs on the dangerous dog register to 60.
- 4.8 Menacing Dog Classifications
- 4.8.1 The Council has two separate menacing dog classifications:
- Section 33A (1) (b) (i) of the Dog control Act 1996, provides for dogs to be classified as menacing (based on the dogs aggressive behaviour). For the period, 28 new dogs were classified as menacing, adjusting the total number of dogs classified in this category, on the Council's register to 230.
 - Section 33C of the Dog Control Act 1996, provides for dogs to be classified as menacing (based on the dogs breed or breed type). For the period, 10 new dogs were classified as menacing, adjusting the total number of dogs classified in this category, on the Council's register to 140.
- 4.9 Infringement Notices Issued
- 4.9.1 The Council issued 1,494 infringement notices for breaches against the Dog Control Act 1996.
- 4.10 Dog related complaints
- 4.10.1 The Council investigated 578 priority one complaints (dogs attacking persons, stock, poultry, domestic animals and protected wildlife or traffic hazards relating to wandering stock on roads).
- 4.10.2 The Council received 7613 complaints relating to dogs barking, wandering, fouling, rushing and unregistered dogs.
- 4.11 Prosecutions
- 4.11.1 The Council took 1 prosecution resulting in a conviction where the dog owner was disqualified from owning dogs for four years.

4.12 Statistical Summary

Total number of registered dogs	40,002
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Total number of probationary owners	11
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Total number of disqualified owners	1
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Total number of dogs classified as dangerous (live records only)	
S.31 (1)(a) Section 57A conviction	
S.31 (1)(b) Sworn evidence	60
S.31 (1)(c) Owner admits in writing	

Total number of live dogs classified as menacing	
S.33A Observed or reported behaviour (deed)	230
S.33A Breed characteristics (breed)	140
S.33C Dogs listed in schedule four.	

Number of infringement notices issued (not waived or cancelled)	1494
Number of dog related complaints -	
Dog attacks on people, stock, poultry, domestic animals or protected wildlife	578
Dog rushing, intimidating people or domestic animals.	365
Dogs barking, roaming or fouling (covers self-generated bylaw, roaming dogs and miscellaneous matters)	5976
Unregistered dogs	1272
Number of prosecutions taken	1

Attachments / Ngā Tāpirihanga

There are no attachments to this report.

In addition to the attached documents, the following background information is available:

Document Name	Location / File Link
Not applicable	

Confirmation of Statutory Compliance / Te Whakatūrutanga ā-Ture

Compliance with Statutory Decision-making Requirements (ss 76 - 81 Local Government Act 2002).
(a) This report contains:

- (i) sufficient information about all reasonably practicable options identified and assessed in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - (ii) adequate consideration of the views and preferences of affected and interested persons bearing in mind any proposed or previous community engagement.
- (b) The information reflects the level of significance of the matters covered by the report, as determined in accordance with the Council's significance and engagement policy.

Signatories / Ngā Kaiwaitohu

Author	Mark Vincent - Manager Animal Services
Approved By	Tracey Weston - Head of Regulatory Compliance Leonie Rae - General Manager Consenting & Compliance and Corporate Services Groups