

## 7.1 DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10A REPORT

**Information Only - No Decision Required**

<b>Report To:</b>	Regulatory Committee
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	3 September 2020
<b>Report Author:</b>	Ross Connochie, Administration Officer - Regulatory
<b>Report Number:</b>	RRCN20-09-1

### 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 2019 to 30 June 2020. It is a requirement of the DCA that a copy of this report be made publicly available once adopted.

### 2 Draft Resolution

**That the Regulatory Committee**

- 1) receives the Dog Control Act Section 10A Report RRCN20-09-1; and**
- 2) agrees to forward the annual report to the Secretary of Internal Affairs**

### 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

- 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 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
  - Education programs delivered to schools.
- 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 Dog Registration and Enforcement Statistics for July 2019 to June 2020

#### 5.1 Number of dog owners in the district

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Number of dog owners in the district	7,190	7,546	7,704
Probationary owners	1	1	1
Disqualified owners	0	0	1

#### 5.2 Number of registered dogs in the district

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020

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Number of registered dogs in the district	10,829	11,284	11,399
Rural dogs	5,729	5,886	5,821
Urban dogs	5,119	5,398	5,578

 5.3 Dogs classified Dangerous DCA Section 31

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Sec 31 1(a) due to owner conviction	1	2	2
Sec 31 1(b) due to sworn evidence	18	18	21
Sec 31 1(c) due to owner admission	0	0	0

 5.4 Number of dogs classified as Menacing under DCA Section 33

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Sec 33A (Observed or Reported Behavior)	39	43	50
Sec 33C (By Breed)	36	35	31

 5.5 Infringement Notices Issued

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Failure to comply with effects of classification	2	1	2
Failure/refusal to supply information	0	2	0
Failing to register dog	121	164	50
Failure to keep dog under control	3	12	15
Failure to keep dog controlled or confined	3	3	2
Failure to comply with barking dog abatement notice	0	1	3
Failure to comply with Bylaw	0	7	1
Failure to implant microchip transponder	82	0	0
Wilful Obstruction of officer	0	0	1
Failure to comply with Dangerous dog classification	0	0	1

 5.6 Prosecutions

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5.6.1 TDC v Hatley dog attack domestic pet & failing to muzzle “Dangerous Dog” in public. Fined \$1000, reparation \$400, costs \$113.

5.6.2 TDC v Friesen & Fulcher Poole dog\’s attack stock, ongoing.

5.6.3 TDC v Name Suppressed dog attack domestic animal, ongoing.

5.6.4 TDC v Oliver dog attack person, ongoing.

5.6.5 Infringement appeal TDC v Stevens failing to control a dog. Fined \$500, reparation\$300, costs \$30.

5.6.6 Infringement appeal TDC v Johnson. Found in favour defendant.

**5.7 Complaints**

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Unregistered dog	7	17	7
Attack domestic pet	47	55	50
Attack stock	28	13	27
Attack human	28	53	47
Barking	419	447	376
Fouling	9	16	5
Rushing	51	29	46
Wandering/found	776	725	734
Welfare	72	52	26
Dog in restricted area	9	11	8
Dog not on leash	4	5	9
Dog not under control	24	28	11
Unfenced Property	0	3	2
Excess Dogs	0	2	0

**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**

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**DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10A REPORT**

7.1 This report achieves compliance with the DCA.

**8 Consideration of Financial or Budgetary Implications**

8.1 This report does not create any financial burden that is not already covered under the Dog Control budget and 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, this is shown by the exceptional customer satisfaction results.

**11 Next Steps / Timeline**

11.1 On adoption, give public notice of Report REPXX-XX-XX on the internet and in hard copy.

11.2 Forward copy to the Secretary of Internal Affairs.

**11. Attachments**

Nil