

30 November 2021



Dear 

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2021-119

Thank you for your email of 4 October 2021 to the Carterton District Council requesting the following information:

"...I am an emergency registrar, currently doing research into prevention of dog bites and other dog related injuries, through Safekids Aotearoa and the Starship Foundation.

As part of this we are collecting information from every Animal Management Team across the country, to explore the reasons why disparities exist in dog related injuries, and what could be done to further prevent them.

The participation of your Animal Management Team would be a valuable contribution to our research, and to the prevention of dog related injuries.

*I have attached the participant information sheet to this email. If you would like to join us, we would appreciate having the survey filled out by the **30th November 2021.**"*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 (the Act).

Our response to your request, the answers to your survey is attached as **Appendix A.**

Note: the data provided excludes dogs that became deceased during the period requested.

In regard to the question, *'During 2014 to 2018 fiscal years, what was your total annual budget allocation for animal control (in whole dollars), before council overheads such as for paying for accommodation or computers.'* for the fiscal years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, the amount in

dollars cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section s17(f) of the Act for the reason that the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

Please note, the Council now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email/letter. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.



Geoff Hamilton
Chief Executive
Carterton District Council

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Appendix A – Carterton District Council response to survey

Please enter the number of registered dogs in the 2014-2018 fiscal years (from 1st July - 30th June).

2014-15	2,413
2015-16	2,538
2016-17	2,394
2017-18	2,574
2018-19	2,035

Please enter an estimated number of all un-registered dogs (known and unknown) in the following fiscal years (from 1st July - 30th June).

2014-15	45
2015-16	33
2016-17	58
2017-18	48
2018-19	23

Please enter the total number of complaints received for a dog attack on a person (including bites or 'rushing') during the 2014-2018 fiscal year.

2014-15	21
2015-16	29
2016-17	20
2017-18	26
2018-19	17

Please enter the total number of classifications made for menacing dogs due to their *behaviour* during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	6
2015-16	9
2016-17	8
2017-18	6
2018-19	6

Please enter the total number of classifications made for menacing dogs due to their *breed* during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	2
2015-16	12
2016-17	9
2017-18	6
2018-19	9

Please enter the total number of classifications made for dangerous dogs during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	1
2015-16	0
2016-17	1
2017-18	0
2018-19	0

Please enter the total number of dogs that were recorded by the council as being chemically or surgically sterilised (de-sexed) during the 2014-2018 fiscal years (if known).

2014	132
2015	121
2016	129
2017	122
2018	124
2019	112

Please enter the total number of dogs that had a microchip (new or old) during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014	166
2015	177
2016	188
2017	180
2018	191
2019	206

Please enter the total number of infringements for non-registration during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	45
2015-16	33
2016-17	58
2017-18	48
2018-19	23

Please enter the total number of number of infringements for failure to control dog (including section 53 and any breach of your bylaw made under section 20 of the Act) during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	103
2015-16	52
2016-17	73
2017-18	76
2018-19	76

Please enter the total number of prosecutions for a dog attack on a person (including rushing at a person) during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	0
2015-16	0
2016-17	1
2017-18	0
2018-19	1

Please enter the total number of dog destruction orders during the 2014-2018 fiscal years.

2014-15	0
2015-16	0
2016-17	1
2017-18	0
2018-19	1

During the 2014 to 2018 (all) years, please give an estimate of the percentage of beaches/parks where most of the space has a dog on-leash law (or dogs-prohibited), for *more than half of the year* within your TA.

10.

During the 2014 to 2018 (all) years, please give an estimate of the percentage of beaches/parks where most of the space has a dog off-leash law (an off-lead dog-exercise area), for *more than half of the year* within your TA.

70.

During 2014 to 2018 (all years), please give an estimate of what percentage of beaches/parks have the dog-access rules regularly enforced (to an extent where people adhere to the rule most of the time).

60.

During 2014 to 2018 fiscal years, what was the annual number of full-time staff equivalents involved in your animal control services?

2014-15	1
2015-16	1
2016-17	1
2017-18	1
2018-19	1

During 2014 to 2018 fiscal years, what was your total annual budget allocation for animal control (in whole dollars), *before* council overheads such as for paying for accommodation or computers.

2014-15	Refused under section s17(f)
2015-16	Refused under section s17(f)
2016-17	Refused under section s17(f)
2017-18	110,348
2018-19	128,212

During 2014 to 2018 fiscal years, how much (in whole dollars) was spent on council overheads, that did not directly fund dog-control, such as for paying for accommodation, computers.

2014-15	33,207
2015-16	34,022
2016-17	37,572
2017-18	65,293
2018-19	88,979

21. Please outline the cost of dog registration, and cost structure (ie: what is the cost for registering a dog: and is it a flat fee, or are there discounts or penalties)

The urban entire dogs' registration fee is \$95.00. From 1 August 2021 a 50% of the fee will be added as penalty which is \$47.50. Further information on dog registration fees can be found in our website: https://cdc.govt.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/fees-and-charges_2021-22-1.pdf.

Please outline the cost of dog registration, and cost structure (ie: what is the cost for registering a dog: and is it a flat fee, or are there discounts or penalties).

Registration (%)	98.3%
Impounding (%)	0.4%
Donations (%)	0.1%
Grants (%)	-
ACC (%)	-
Other (%)	Infringements 1.2%

Please describe the three main messages of any dog-safety education your service provides

Message One: De-Sex
 Message Two: Early Socialisation
 Message Three: Never Leave children alone with a dog

Do you provide dog-safety information on your website, and if so, how is this distributed? (eg: social media, through dog-registrations).

As well as our website, the Council distributes dog-safety information via social-media.

The resources about dog behaviour can be found here: <https://cdc.govt.nz/services/animal-control/>

Does your service have an agreement with any local medical or veterinary professionals to report dog related injuries to the council? If so, please describe.

The Council does not have any agreement with any local medical or veterinary professions to report dog related injuries.

Please describe any problems you feel exist with current dog control legislation.

The current dog control legislation makes it easier to clarify dangerous dogs.

Please describe any problems you feel exist with other dog control strategies.

The Council bylaws would need strengthening.

Has your service encountered any particular cultural issues that have impacted on the above prevention strategies? If so, please describe.

The Carterton District Council has not encountered any particular cultural issues.

Do you have any further suggestions about how to prevent injury to people from dogs, particularly in children, Māori or low-income groups, who are at greater risk?

Community outreach, media, and other social media outlets are some ways to prevent injury to people from dogs.

***Caveat:** The data excludes dogs that became deceased during the period.

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