



30 August 2017

REPORT ON DOG CONTROL POLICY AND PRACTICES – 2016/2017

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report outlines the dog control activities and practices related to the Carterton District Dog Control Policy

2. SIGNIFICANCE

The matters for decision in this report are not considered to be of significance under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

3. BACKGROUND

Section 10A of the Dog Control Act (1996) requires that a Territorial Authority must, in respect of each financial year, report on the administration of its dog control policy and its dog control practices. The type of information required will assist central government to build a database of national information and to assess national trends and developments with regard to dog control. Educational initiatives are being developed by central government. Collecting information from territorial authorities on a national level will enable central government to develop further guidelines or initiatives.

The report is attached as **Attachment 1**

4. RECOMENDATION

That the Policy and Strategy Committee

- 1. Receives** the report
- 2. Adopts** the report on Council's Dog Control Policy and Practices for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 under section 10A Dog Control Act 1996the attached option to lease be signed

Dave Gittings
Planning and Regulatory Manager

Attachments 1 – Report on Control Policy and Practices

Appendix 1

Report on the administration of Carterton District Council's policy and practices in relation to the control of dogs for the year 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

Council has applied the Carterton District Council Dog Control Policy ("the Policy") when administering its policy and practices for the control of dogs.

The bylaw was made on 1st August 1997 and has been subject to a review on 18th September 2007 and adopted on 26th September 2007. Unless revoked or reviewed sooner, it shall be reviewed no later than 9th October 2017

Policy has provisions relating to the control of dogs in public places, which are enforceable under Part 4: Carterton District Council Control of Dogs Bylaw Amendment 2007.

There are no specific dog exercise areas defined as there are sufficient open spaces and parks around the district for appropriate exercise due to Carterton having an extensive rural community. However a rural public park where dogs can exercise off the leash has become popular with dog owners and poo disposal bags and a dog poo bin have been placed there. There are dog prohibited areas which are well signposted. Dogs in specified public places and CBD must be on a leash at all times. Carterton District Council provides Doggy Doo Dumpster bins near dog exercise areas and in urban streets. Council Officers monitor these areas to ensure compliance.

Fees and charges are reviewed annually and set by Council resolution. Council's funding policy for animal control is that 80% of the total costs are met by dog registration fees and 20% from rates.

Council provides dog owners with information regarding education programmes and obedience courses and offers dog owners a discount on registration fees for neutered/spayed dogs. Council promotes dog owner education through their locally designed pamphlet 'Animal & Dog Control,' dog owner education pamphlets by J. Payne and promotes the NZIACO website to dog owners for advice. Council promotes the local Dog Obedience and Kennel Club and a local Dog Obedience Trainer. Carterton Dog Control have adopted Christchurch City Council's Dogsmart Education programme and is implementing it in our local schools. It has been presented in the local Carterton library during the school holiday programmes.

With regard to offences and penalties, Council's policy is to approach each incident on a case by case basis and to use infringement notices for minor offences. Council's policy is to adhere to the provisions of the Dog Control Act 1996 as closely as possible, where an attack has occurred.

Council has adopted the 'Assessment Matrix' for prosecution decisions.

Under the Carterton District Council Control of Dogs Bylaw Amendment 2007, owners with more than two dogs within an urban area must obtain a permit through an application to Council. The Council Dog Control Officer inspects the property for suitability for housing and controlling dogs,

interviews the dog owner and considers any previous history. Submissions in writing are sought by affected neighbours.

Number of registered dogs	2715
Number of probationary owners	0
Number of disqualified owners	0
Number of dogs classified as dangerous under Section 31	1
▪ s.31 1(a) due to owner conviction	0
▪ s.31 1(b) due to sworn evidence	0
▪ s.31 1(c) due to owner admittance	1
Number of dogs classified as menacing under Section 33A	17
▪ s.33A 1(b)(i) observed or reported behaviour	8
▪ s.33A 1(b)(ii) characteristics associated with breed	0
Number of dogs classified as menacing under Section 33C	9
Number of infringement notices issued for – failing to register a dog.	58
Number of infringement notices issued for – failure to implant microchip transponder	0
Number of infringement notices issued for – failure to keep dog under control	1
Number of infringement notices issued for – failure to keep dog controlled or confined	11
Number of infringement notices issued for – failure to comply with bylaw	0
Number of infringement notices issued for – failure to comply with effects of classification	2
Number of Dog Related Complaints	400
Dog Bites On People	3
Dog Bites On Animals/Stock	12
Dog Rushing	16
Dogs Barking	73

Dogs Wandering	114
Dog Welfare	11
Dogs Lost	56
Dogs Found	62
Dogs Impounded	63
Dogs Sold To New Owner	5
Dogs Surrendered To Other Organisations for rehoming	4
Dogs Illegally Removed from Pound	0
Dogs Destroyed	8
Dogs Returned To Owner	46
Number of prosecutions	1