

21 August 2025

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2025-40**

Thank you for your email request of 20 August 2025 to the Carterton District Council attached as **Appendix 1**.

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

We note from your email that you were upset that my staff had sent you a courtesy message via text during our staff working hours at 4:34 p.m. This time is within the Animal Control Team's usual working hours of 8.00am to 5.00pm (excluding after hours call out)

With dog registrations, our business practise is to try and help our ratepayers in receiving a courtesy phone call or text message to dog owners who failed to pay their registration fee by 31 July 2025. This is to provide an opportunity for them to avoid a late fee of a 50% penalty on the registration which became effective from 1 August 2025.

With yourself included, Council made courtesy contact with 230 dog owners who failed to pay their registration within the above timeframe to allow them a chance to register their dogs without the penalty. We made a decision to apply the penalty on 20 August 2025, allowing Council 20 days to make contact with you and other dog owners.

As indicated in your text message to my staff, you will no longer be receiving a courtesy text message from the Council following the official Council dog registration letter.

Please note, the Council proactively publishes LGOIMA 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. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Hamilton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Geoff Hamilton  
**Chief Executive**  
**Carterton District Council**

RELEASED UNDER LGOIMA

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 August 2025 4:45 pm  
**To:** Council Info Mailbox <[info@cdc.govt.nz](mailto:info@cdc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Request for information

**Caution:** This email originated from outside the council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kia ora,

I would like to request the following information, email response in this circumstance is acceptable.

General information:

- 1.) This year How many Dog owners received out of office hour text messages from Dave Morris to advise of outstanding fees and to call him to discuss?
- 2.) A copy of the business process confirming that this is how council conducts this part of its business.

I'd also like to make a complaint I told Dave not to text me and the smart fulla goes ahead and texts me again clearly hasn't gotten over his vendetta with me and my, this is definitely an attempt to aggravate me.

4:34



+64 27 444 2413 >

Text Message • SMS  
Today 4:14 PM

Good afternoon, This is a courtesy reminder from Carterton Animal Control Carterton. My name is Dave Morris, and I'm following up regarding your dog's registration. Our records currently show that your dog is not registered for this registration period. To avoid a late fee and potential infringement notice, please contact me as soon as possible on [027 4442413](tel:0274442413) to resolve this matter. Thank you for your attention to this.

Don't ever fucken text me again  
send a letter like a normal business.  
I'll call the office and pay tomorrow

Letter did go out to your address



Text Message • SMS



Regards

[REDACTED]

Of [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone or