

ANNUAL REPORT ON DOG CONTROL POLICY AND PRACTICES

Upper Hutt City Council 2006/07

1. Purpose

This report fulfills the obligation under the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003 (DCAA) to provide a report on the administration of Council's dog control policy and practices.

2. Dog Control Policy and Practices

The policy in force during the 2006/07 financial year was approved in Council in August 2004. This policy complied with the Dog Control Act 1996 and all subsequent amendments.

The policy outlines expected standards and behaviours from dog owners and provides information about how Council will administer dog control. The following issues are addressed by the policy:

- Restriction on the Number of Dogs
- Dogs in Public
- Exercise Areas
- Fouling in Public Places
- Confinement
- Diseased dogs
- Impounding or removing dogs from a property
- Minimum standards of accommodation for dogs
- Barking dogs
- Classification of probationary owners
- Disqualification of owners
- Hearing of objections
- Fees and charges
- Revenue
- Infringement notices
- Bylaws
- Classification as dangerous dog
- Classification of menacing dog
- Micro chipping of dogs.

3. Statistical Reporting for the 2006/07 financial year

The Council is required to provide information in regard to several key areas of interest.

Area of interest as at 30 June 2007	Number	Comment
Number of registered dogs:	4254	
Number of probationary owners:	0	Council has found this

		classification to be of limited use as it does not prevent other household members from taking ownership of the dog.
Number of disqualified owners:	0	This follows a successful prosecution under section 57.
Number of dogs classified as dangerous:	11	
Number of dogs classified as menacing:	48	
Under section 33A	26	Classified because of aggressive behaviour.
Under section 33C	22	Classification by breed
Number of infringement notices issued:	157	107 for keeping an unregistered dog. 30 for failure to keep a dog under control. 20 for other offences.
Number of dog complaints received:	3655	
Attack – Bite	46	
Attack – Rush at/Startle	46	
Barking	449	
Straying/Impounding	735	
General complaint	2379	
Number of prosecutions under the Act:	0	This number relates to individual charges not number of individual people prosecuted.