

## **Dog Control Policy and Practices: 2018/19**

1. The policy in force during the 2018/19 financial year became operative on 1 September 2012 following a resolution of Council's Policy Committee on 22 June 2011. This policy complies with the Dog Control Act 1996 and all subsequent amendments.
2. 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
  - Leashing requirements of all dogs in specified public places
  - Fouling in public places
  - Confinement
  - Diseased dogs
  - Impounding or removing dogs from a property
  - Minimum standards of accommodation for dogs
  - Nuisance barking
  - Classification of probationary owners
  - Disqualification of owners
  - Classification as dangerous dog
  - Classification of menacing dog
  - Hearing of objections
  - Micro-chipping of dogs
  - Fees and charges
  - Revenue
  - Infringement notices
  - Bylaws

3. Over this year, Council has seen an increase in the number of registered dogs due to a greater emphasis on compliance/enforcement. It is expected that this will continue in future years to drive greater compliance with the Dog Control Act 1996.

### Statistical Reporting for the 2018/19 financial year

4. The Council is required to provide information in regard to several key areas of interest and this detailed in the table below.

| Area of interest as at 30 June 2019    | Number | Comment  |
|--|--------|--|
| Number of registered dogs              | 5,524  |  |
| Number of probationary owners          | 0      | Council favours the use of disqualification rather than probation.             |
| Number of disqualified owners          | 2      | These both cease at the end of the current registration year.                  |
| Number of dogs classified as dangerous | 6      | There are currently 6 dogs classified as 'dangerous' registered in Upper Hutt. |
| Number of dogs classified as menacing  | 39     | Total number   |
| Under section 33A                      | 26     | Classified due to aggressive behaviour   |
| Under section 33C                      | 13     | Classification by breed  |
| Number of infringement notices issued  | 54     | Total number   |
|  | 6      | Failure to keep dog controlled or confined                                     |
|  | 46     | Keeping unregistered dog   |
|  | 1      | Failure to keep dog under control  |
|  | 1      | Failure to comply with the effects of classification                           |
| Number of dog complaints received      | 1,908  | Total number   |
|  | 39     | Attack - Bite  |
|  | 59     | Attack - Rush at/Startle   |
|  | 762    | Barking  |
|  | 482    | Straying/impounding  |
|  | 566    | General Complaint  |
| Number of prosecutions under the Act   | 0      |  |