



F22/55/04 – D23/30191

To: Policy and Services Committee
 From: Environmental Compliance Officer
 Date: 22 August 2023
 Subject: Dog Control Policy & Practices Report – Year Ended 30 June 2023.

Recommendation

THAT the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices for the year ending 30 June 2023 be received and contents noted.

Recommended Reason

The report is required under section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.

/
Moved/Seconded

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices (**Appendix 1**).

2. Executive Summary

The Dog Control Act 1996 requires Council to report annually on its Dog Control Policy and practices, give public notice of that report after adoption by Council and send a copy to the Secretary for Local Government. This report meets those requirements.

3. Local Government Act 2002

Under section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council’s purpose is to “enable democratic local decision making by and on behalf of communities; as well as promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities now and into the future”

Does the recommended option meet the purpose of the Local Government 4 well-beings? And which:

Yes

Social	Economic	Environmental	Cultural
✓		✓	

The Dog Control Policy contributes to the *performance of a good quality regulatory function and local public service.*

4. Background

The Dog Control Act 1996 requires a Territorial Authority to report annually on Dog Control Policy and practices:

10A Territorial authority must report on dog control policy and practices

- (1) *A territorial authority must, in respect of each financial year, report on the administration of-*
 - “(a) its dog control policy adopted under section 10; and*
 - “(b) its dog control practices.*
- (2) *The report must include, in respect of each financial year, information relating to-*
 - “(a) the number of registered dogs in the territorial authority district:*
 - “(b) the number of probationary owners and disqualified owners in the territorial district:*
 - “(c) the number of dogs in the territorial authority district classified as dangerous under section 31 and the relevant provision under which the classification is made:*
 - “(d) the number of dogs in the territorial authority district classified as menacing under section 33A or section 33C and the relevant provision under which the classification is made:*
 - “(e) the number of infringement notices issued by the territorial authority:*
 - “(f) the number of dog related complaints received by the territorial authority in the previous year and nature of those complaints:*
 - “(g) the number of prosecutions taken by the territorial authority under this act.*
- (3) *The territorial authority must give public notice of the report-*
 - “(a) by means of a notice published in-*
 - “(i) 1 or more daily newspapers circulating in the territorial authority district; or*
 - “(ii) 1 or more other newspapers that have at least an equivalent circulation in that district to the daily newspapers in that district; and*
 - “(b) by any means that the territorial authority thinks desirable in the circumstances.*
- (4) *The territorial authority must also, within 1 month after the adopting the report, send a copy of it to the Secretary for Local Government.”*

5. Information Summary

The attached report is produced to meet the requirement of the Dog Control Act 1996.

The Animal Control team has seen another increase in the number of dogs for the 2022/2023 registration year. Out of 2176 known dogs 97.5% are recorded as registered. The number of complaints, wandering dogs and impounding has also increased.

The number of dogs attacks has also increased. Three of these cases were forwarded to the Council's legal representatives for prosecution. Other cases have resulted in the classification of the dog as either dangerous or menacing and/or an infringement notice being issued.

6. Strategic Alignment

6.1 Direction

The Stratford Community Outcome of having a *“built environment that is attractive, safe and healthy”* is addressed by the collective information in this report.

6.2 Annual Plan and Long Term Plan

The recommendation does not have any implications concerning the proposed Long Term Plan.

6.3 District Plan

The recommendation does not have any implications concerning the Stratford District Plan.

6.4 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications concerning the recommendation.

6.5 Policy Implications

There are no policy implications concerning the recommendation.

Attachments

Appendix 1 - Council report to the Department of Internal Affairs required by the Dog Control Act 1996.

M. Moss

Megan Moss
Environmental Compliance Officer

Blair Sutherland

[Endorsed by]
Blair Sutherland
Director – Environmental Services

Sven Hanne

[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
Chief Executive

Date 15 August 2023

Appendix 1

STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

DOG CONTROL POLICY & PRACTICES REPORT - YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	This Year 2022/23	Last Year 2021/22
DOG REGISTRATIONS		
Total number of registered dogs	2176	2135
Probationary Owners		
Total number of Probationary Owners	NIL	NIL
Number of Probationary Owner declarations this year	NIL	NIL
Number of lapsed Probationary Owners this year	NIL	NIL
Total number of Disqualified Owners	3	3
Number of Disqualified Owner declarations this year	NIL	3
Number of lapsed Disqualified Owners this year	NIL	NIL
Dangerous Dogs		
Total number of Dangerous Dogs	2	NIL
Number of Dangerous Dog classifications this year	2	NIL
Provision(s) (Number)		
31(1)(a)	1	NIL
31(1)(b)	0	NIL
31(1)(c)	1	NIL
Menacing Dogs		
Total number of Menacing Dogs	11	10
Number of Menacing Dog classifications this year	2	2
Provision(s) (Number)		
33A(1)(a)	1	1
33A(1)(b)(i)	0	0
33A(1)(b)(ii)	1	1
Infringement Notices		
Number of Infringement Notices issued	118	154
Infringements forwarded to Court for collection	23	37
Number of Prosecutions obtained	3	2
Number of dogs impounded	52	37
Number of dogs destroyed	3	11
Number of dogs rehoused	10	1
Complaints		
Total Number of complaints	286	237
Barking dogs	63	62
Wandering dogs	192	150
Dog attacks on stock or other animals	5	15
Dog attacks on people	8	1
Dogs rushing	1	9
Miscellaneous*	17	10

*Miscellaneous duties are responses to calls for lost dogs, dog rescue, customer complaints, education and the like.