



**NAPIER**  
CITY COUNCIL  
*Te Kaunihera o Ahuriri*

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# ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

## Open Agenda Supplementary Item

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Meeting Date: Thursday 25 September 2025

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Time: 9.30am

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Venue: Large Exhibition Hall  
War Memorial Centre  
Marine Parade  
Napier

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*Livestreamed via Council's Facebook page*

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# AGENDA ITEMS

## 13. ANNUAL DOG CONTROL REPORT 2024/25

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Type of Report:</i>                 | Operational and Procedural                  |
| <i>Legal Reference:</i>                | Dog Control Act 1996                        |
| <i>Document ID:</i>                    | 1875705                                     |
| <i>Reporting Officer/s &amp; Unit:</i> | Luke Johnson, Customer & Compliance Manager |

### 13.1 Purpose of Report

To present the territorial authority report on dog control policies and practices for the dog control registration year 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 for adoption by Council as required under section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, prior to being made publicly available.

### Officer's Recommendation

That Council:

- a) **Adopt** the Napier City Council Annual Dog Control Report 2024/25 (Doc Id 1876023).
- b) **Submit** Napier City Council Annual Dog Control Report 2024/2025 to be published and made publicly available in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996.

### 13.2 Background Summary

Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996 requires territorial authorities to report on their dog control policy and activities annually.

The law requires that:

- the report be adopted by Council and made public each year (subsection 1); and
- notice of adoption of the report be made publicly available, as described in section 5(3) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 13.3 Issues

The Napier City Council Annual Dog Control report 2023/24 is shown in **Attachment 1**.

### 13.4 Significance and Engagement

Council officers have prepared the attached report in accordance with the Section 10A reporting requirements provided by the Department of Internal Affairs. No consultation is required for this report as it is a legislative requirement.

### **13.5 Implications**

#### **Financial**

N/A

#### **Social & Policy**

N/A

#### **Risk**

Failure to adopt the report and make it available to the public would put Napier City Council in breach of the Dog Control Act 1996.

### **13.6 Options**

The options available to Council are as follows:

- a. Adopt the report and publish it so that the information is publicly available to meet legislative requirements under the Dog Control Act 1996.
- b. Not adopt the report.

### **13.7 Development of Preferred Option**

N/A

### **13.8 Attachments**

- 1 2024-2025 Annual Dog Control S10A Report (Doc Id 1876023) [↓](#)



# ANNUAL DOG CONTROL *Report*



**NAPIER**  
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*Te Kaitiaki o Ahuriri*

## 1. Introduction

The Napier City Council, as a territorial authority, is required to manage and enforce provisions of the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act). Section 10A of the Act requires the Council to report annually to the Secretary of Local Government on its Dog Control Policy and practices.

This report fulfils this statutory requirement for the dog registration year:

- 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

## 2. The Council's Dog Control Policy and Practices

### 2.1. Policy objectives

The current Dog Control Policy was adopted in 2022 and took effect from 1 October 2022.

The objectives of the current policy are to:

- provide clear guidance to the public and staff in the administration of the Dog Control Act 1996,
- provide a safe and healthy environment for citizens and visitors,
- minimise dog attacks by appropriate enforcement of the policy, bylaw and Act, and
- provide for the general welfare of dogs and ensure dogs kept under human care are well cared for.

The current Napier City Council Animal Control Bylaw was adopted in 2022 and took effect from 1 October 2022.

The objectives of the current bylaw are to:

- enhance the safety of the public and children by minimising the distress, nuisance and intimidation caused by dogs to the community,
- avoid the inherent danger of uncontrolled dogs in public places, and
- provide dogs and their owners with the ability to satisfy their recreational needs.

### 2.2. Summary of Practices

The Animal Control and Regulatory functions now sit within the Urban & Strategy Development Directorate. The operational functions of the Act are carried out by our Animal Control team, while regulatory decisions are made independently by our Regulatory team - both within the same directorate to ensure alignment while maintaining appropriate separation of duties.

A dog pound is operated by Council and acts as a safe holding place for dogs. Those dogs that are suitable to be rehomed are put up for adoption.

The team maintain the Park Island and Taradale dog agility parks, the dog shower at Park Island, and keep the poo-bag dispensers topped up.

A large proportion of their work is responding to public safety issues and taking necessary action to keep people and dogs safe following an incident. To prevent these incidents from



occurring, the Animal Control team proactively patrol reserves and beaches, parks and playgrounds to ensure compliance with the Act and Napier City's Dog Control Policy.

Educating people – of all ages – is a big part of what the team do to promote a culture of responsible dog ownership. The education they provide to schools and kindergartens isn't just to teach children how to be safe around dogs, but how to be better, gentler dog owners themselves.

They also provide advice, help check fences and gates, help install running wires to keep dogs contained, and help dog owners understand their dog's behaviour.

### **2.3. Fees**

The Government has made councils responsible for the implementation of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Councils meet its requirements under the Act by the development of a policy on dog control and by applying appropriate resources to implement and enforce the policy.

Council's dog control services apply to all owners and members of the public and the annual registration fee is the mechanism provided through the legislation to enable Council to fund the share of dog control activities that Council determines are to be funded by owners.

The determination of the portion of costs paid by owners and that funded from rates is a policy matter that is determined by each Council.

The 2024/25 year Animal control was 14% funded by rates, and 86% by fees and charges. This compares to 39% rates budgeted in the LTP - key variances being overheads \$200k lower than budgeted and \$160k savings across other operating expenses.

The revenue and financing policy states that the split should be 50-60% fees and charges and 40-50% rates.

### 3. Dog Control Statistics

The information provided below sets out the statistical information required by Section 10(A)(2) of the Act.

#### Number of Registered Dogs

| Category                             | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Number of dogs registered by Council | 8,532   | 8,120   |

*\*Data counted for the registration year being 1 July through to 30 June*

#### Dangerous and Menacing Dogs

Total number of dogs classified as dangerous (Section 31)

| Category             | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Total Dangerous Dogs | 31      | 26      |

*\*Total number of dogs classified as dangerous at 30 June.*

Total number of dogs classified as menacing (Section 32A and 33C)

| Category            | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Total Menacing Dogs | 165     | 166     |

*\*Total number of dogs classified as menacing at 30 June.*

#### Infringements

Number of infringement notices issued

| Category                    | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Infringement notices issued | 434     | 324     |

*\*The Animal Control team work with dog owners to encourage registration in the first instance rather than issuing infringements. Noting 113 cancelled for compliance.*

### Classification of Dog Owners

#### Number of classified dog owners

| Category            | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Probationary Owners | 0       | 0       |
| Disqualified Owners | 9       | 11      |

\* Total number of classified dog owners at 30 June.

### Prosecutions

#### Number of prosecutions taken for offences under the Dog Control Act 1996

| Category     | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| Prosecutions | 0       | 3       |

### Complaints

#### Number and nature of dog complaints received

| Category                                    | 2023/24      | 2024/25      |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Public Safety related complaints</b>     |              |              |
| Dog attack on people – minor                | 32           | 55           |
| Dog attack on people – serious              | 17           | 16           |
| Dog attack on other animals                 | 87           | 83           |
| Dog attack on stock                         | 3            | 3            |
| Dog worrying stock                          | 2            | 6            |
| Dog chasing                                 | 12           | 10           |
| Dog rushing                                 | 53           | 65           |
| Aggressive dog behaviour other than rushing | 58           | 60           |
| <b>Non-safety concerns</b>                  |              |              |
| Roaming dogs reported by public             | 615          | 674          |
| Roaming dogs contained by public            | 336          | 291          |
| People's dogs that are reported lost        | 199          | 184          |
| Barking                                     | 515          | 495          |
| Fouling                                     | 8            | 7            |
| Bylaws breach                               | 32           | 97           |
| Unregistered dog                            | 15           | 100          |
| Welfare concerns                            | 37           | 25           |
| <b>Complaints/Compliments</b>               | 0            | 33           |
| Licence/Permit                              | 178          | 145          |
| Information requests                        | 169          | 299          |
| Registration Enquiry                        | 44           | 70           |
| Refill Dispenser                            | 215          | 319          |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>2,627</b> | <b>3,037</b> |



### Impounding and Rehoming

| Category  | 2023/24    | 2024/25    |
|---|------------|------------|
| <b>Total dogs impounded</b>   | <b>519</b> | <b>576</b> |
| <b>Outcomes of impounding<sup>1</sup>:</b>                                |            |            |
| Dogs returned to owner  | 261        | 273        |
| Registered dogs returned home without charge (1 <sup>st</sup> impounding) | 50         | 56         |
| Dogs rehomed  | 54         | 39         |
| Dogs surrendered to SPCA  | 0          | 1          |
| Dogs euthanised   | 142        | 181        |
| Other (removed from custody)  | 1          | 8          |
| Alive and in pound  | 6          | 18         |

*\*Of the number of dog's euthanised, **46** were surrendered by owner to euthanise due to attacking/biting, aggression or failure to pass the rehoming assessment. In addition to this, **11** due to poor health (Parvo) on arrival at the pound, **17** dogs were notably aggressive or had behavioural issues and were unable to be rehomed, **41** dogs were classified menacing dogs and not suitable for rehoming. **65** failed assessment due to temperament and **1** was ordered by the court.*

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<sup>1</sup> The outcome date may not have occurred until the next reporting year, however it is reported against this reporting year for completeness.