

**8.1 DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10A REPORT**

**Report To:** Regulatory Committee  
**Meeting Date:** 9 September 2021  
**Report Author:** Ross Connochie, Regulatory Support Officer  
**Report Number:** RRC21-09-1

**1 Summary**

- 1.1 The Dog Control Act 1996 (DCA) Section 10A requires territorial authorities to publicly report on dog control policies and practices for each financial year. This report contains the information required under the DCA for the year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. It is a requirement of the DCA that a copy of this report be made publicly available once adopted.

**2 Draft Resolution**

**That the Regulatory Committee:**

- 1. receives the Dog Control Act Section 10A Report RRC21-09-1;**
- 2. and agrees to forward the annual report to the Secretary of Internal Affairs.**

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**3 Purpose of the Report**

3.1 This report constitutes the annual report that the Council is required to prepare in administering its obligations under the DCA.

**4 Background and Discussion**

4.1 The Council reviewed its Dog Control Policy and Bylaw in 2014 adopting the Dog Control Policy 2014 and Dog Control Bylaw 2014 on 18 September 2014.

4.2 In 2020, the Council conducted a partial review of the Bylaw, specifically two areas covered in Schedule 3 – dog prohibited areas, namely Takaka central business area and Tata Beach. Following public consultation, the Takaka central business area was removed from Schedule 3 and the Tata Beach dog prohibited times were amended to read “*every day from sunset to 8.30am and over the period 20 December to 20 January each year from the hours 10am to 5pm*”. These changes better reflect the view of the majority in Golden Bay who expressed a preference and should effect better protection of the penguin population at Tata Beach.

4.3 The objectives of the Dog Control Policy are:

- To promote responsible dog ownership.
- To minimise any danger, distress or nuisance created by dogs.
- To have regard to the welfare, exercise and recreational needs of dogs, and
- To identify required means of dog control in all public places.

4.4 Control Services (Tasman) Ltd is contracted to implement the Council’s dog control policy and bylaw. Compliance is achieved by:

- Responding to dog-related incidents
- Targeted property visits and patrols of areas with specific issues
- Close liaison and cooperation with external agencies
- Conducting dog safety and bite prevention programmes
- Education programmes delivered to schools.

4.5 The Council uses various media to inform the public of dog-related issues. The Council’s website provides dog-related information, online forms and links to relevant legislation and other websites of interest.

**5 Dog Registration and Enforcement Statistics for July 2020 to June 2021**

5.1 Number of dog owners in the District.

	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
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Number of dog owners in the District	7,546	7,704	8,063
Probationary owners	1	1	1
Disqualified owners	0	1	3

## 5.2 Number of registered dogs in the District

	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Number of registered dogs in the District	11,284	11,399	11,860
Rural dogs	5,886	5,821	5,964
Urban dogs	5,398	5,578	5,896

## 5.3 Dogs classified Dangerous DCA Section 31

	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Sec 31 1(a) due to owner conviction	2	2	2
Sec 31 1(b) due to sworn evidence	18	21	24
Sec 31 1(c) due to owner admission	0	0	0

## 5.4 Number of dogs classified as Menacing under DCA Section 33

	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Sec 33A (Observed or Reported Behavior)	43	50	59
Sec 33C (By Breed)	35	31	23

## 5.5 Infringement Notices Issued

	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Failure to comply with effects of classification	1	2	3
Failure/refusal to supply information	2	0	1
Failing to register dog	164	50	188
Failure to keep dog under control	12	15	19
Failure to keep dog controlled or confined	3	2	3
Failure to comply with barking dog abatement notice	1	3	4
Failure to comply with Bylaw	7	1	0

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Failure to implant microchip transponder	0	0	1
Wilful obstruction of Officer	0	1	2
Failure to comply with dangerous dog classification	0	1	0

**Prosecutions**

- 5.6 Motueka - dogs attack stock. Outcome: Fine \$900 (three offences @ \$300 each), Court costs \$130, Solicitor costs \$260, Service fee \$95 and reparation for \$400.
- 5.7 Takaka - dog attack person. Outcome: Fine \$750, Court costs \$130, Solicitor costs \$131, Service fee \$354 and reparation for \$1,200.
- 5.8 Richmond - dog attack domestic animal, ongoing.

**Complaints**

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Unregistered dog	17	7	14
Attack domestic pet	55	50	36
Attack stock	13	27	14
Attack human	53	47	62
Barking	447	376	474
Fouling	16	5	9
Rushing	29	46	45
Wandering/found	725	734	712
Welfare	52	26	19
Dog in restricted area	11	8	6
Dog not on leash	5	9	5
Dog not under control	28	11	16
Unfenced property	3	2	0
Excess number of dogs	2	0	1

**6 Strategy and Risks**

- 6.1 The Dog Control activity is a function of high visibility to the public and providing for the care and control of dogs contributes to achieving the community outcomes which promote safe and healthy communities.

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**DOG CONTROL ACT SECTION 10A REPORT****7 Policy / Legal Requirements / Plan**

.This report achieves compliance with the DCA.

**8 Significance and Engagement**

8.1 This statistical report is of low significance and is prepared in accordance with an obligation under the DCA. There is no obligation to consult, although the availability of the report must be publicly notified

**9 Conclusion**

9.1 The Council's current level of enforcement meets the requirements of DCA and the expectations of the public, this is shown by the exceptional customer satisfaction results i.e. a Communitrak survey found that the community was 95% satisfied or very satisfied with our performance in dog control.

**10 Next Steps / Timeline**

10.1 On adoption, provide public notice of this report on the internet and in a public newspaper circulating in the District.

10.2 Notify the Secretary of Internal Affairs.

**Attachments**

Nil