



CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Clutha District Council Dog Control Annual Report 2022/23

Dog Control Policy and Practices

The Clutha District Council covers a large geographical area that includes both urban and rural dog owners. As of 30 June 2023, there were 6904 registered dogs in the District.

To deliver an animal control service, Council employs two Animal Control Officers – each Officer has an Animal Control Vehicle, one full-time Animal Control Support Officer

The Animal Control Unit has a close working relationship with key stakeholders in the community including local veterinarians, NZ Police, SPCA and Dog Rescue Dunedin.

Council's Dog Control Policy and Bylaw was reviewed on 1 October 2022

Dog Control Enforcement Practices

The Council provides a 24 hour, seven days a week Dog Control Service. Animal Control Officers work between the hours 8.30am to 5pm, five days a week. After hours services are provided by Council's after-hours contactor, South Otago Security Services, along with the Freedom Camping Officer available for pick up of contained dogs if in area.

Over the last 12 months, the unit has responded to 400 complaints. Complaints included aggression, attacking, barking, wandering dogs and dogs that were "contained" by members of the public. Of the total number of complaints, 191 were in relation to wandering dogs and 97 were in relation to barking. All complaints were followed through to completion.

In addition, 85 dogs were impounded over the review period. 69 dogs were claimed by their owners and 11 dogs were rehomed. 5 dogs were euthanised generally because they went unclaimed and were not suitable for rehoming.

In the course of enforcing dog control legislation and polices, 86 infringement notices were issued to dog owners. No owners were prosecuted for breaches of the Dog Control Act over the last 12-month period.

Dog Registration and Other Fees

Dog registration fees for the 2022/2023 financial year were as follows:

- Urban \$90
- Rural: Non-Working \$65
- Working \$45
- Responsible Dog Owner \$65

To ensure ongoing compliance with owners registering their dogs, the Animal Control Unit is continuing a zero-tolerance policy regarding any known unregistered dogs. Any dogs that were still unregistered after being issued with a reminder were subsequently issued with an infringement notice.

Dog impound fees for the 2022/23 financial year were as follows:

- First Offence \$70
- Second Offence \$105
- Third Offence \$150
- Sustenance \$16.50 per day
- Euthanasia (Actual Cost)
- Microchipping \$32 per dog

All impounded dogs are legally required to be registered and microchipped prior to leaving the pound.

Responsible Dog Owner

The Clutha District Council runs a responsible dog owner programme to recognise and encourage responsible dog ownership. Providing the dog owner has not had any valid complaints in the previous two years regarding the management of their dog, they may apply for responsible dog owner status. If successful, they receive a discount on future dog registration fees.

For dog owner to become responsible dog owners, their properties are inspected to ensure it meets the required standard in relation to adequate fencing.

Currently, 273 dog owners are classified as responsible dog owners. This represents approximately 8% of the total number of dog owners in the District. 13 dog owners were granted responsible dog owner status over the 2022/23 review period.

Pound Facility

The Council maintains a pound facility that provides an excellent standard of kennels.

Security at the facility includes security cameras.

Facility as been upgraded to provide improved sound transmission insulation and effluent disposal has been upgraded.

Dog Control Statistical Information

The following dog control statistics are provided pursuant to section 10(2) of the Dog Control Act 1996:

Number of Registered Dogs in the territorial Authority District (sec 10(2)(a))		6904	
Number of Unregistered Dogs in the territorial Authority District		171	
Number of Probationary Owners and Disqualified Owners in the territorial authority district (sec 20(2)(b))		0	
		New Additions 2022/2023	Total amount of dogs 2022/2023
Number of Dogs in the territorial authority district classified Dangerous under section 31 and the relevant classification under which the classification is made (sec 10(2)(c))	Section 31(1)(a)	0	0
	Section 31(1)(b)	0	0
	Section 31(1)(c)	0	0
Number of Dogs in the territorial authority classified as Menacing under section 33A or section 33C and the relevant provision under which the classification was made (sec 10(2)(d))	Section 33A(1)(b)(i)	7	20
	Section 33A(1)(b)(ii)	1	1
	Section 33C(1)	1	17
Number of Infringement Notice issued by the territorial authority (Sec 33EC (1))		0	
Number of Infringement Notice issued by the territorial authority (Sec 52A)		8	
Number of Infringement Notice issued by the territorial authority (Sec 42) Number of Infringement Notices were waived Number of Infringement Notice issues by the territorial authority (sec 10(2)(d)) Number of Dog Related Complaints received by the territorial authority in the previous year and the nature of those complaints (Sec 10(2)(f))		66	
		12	
	TOTAL	86	
	Dogs/Aggression	36	
	Dogs/Barking	97	
	Dogs/Biting Domestic Animals	7	
	Dogs/Biting Livestock	20	
	Dogs/Biting Humans	5	
	Dogs/Fouling	14	
	Dogs/more than 2 Dogs	5	

Number of Prosecutions taken by the territorial authority under this Dog Control Act 1996 (sec 10(2)(g))	Dogs/Wandering	191
	Dogs/Welfare	25
	TOTAL	400
Number of dogs reunited		69
Number of dogs Rehomed		11
Number of dogs Euthanised		5
Number of dogs Impounded	TOTAL	85
Number of Prosecutions taken by the territorial authority under this Dog Control Act 1996 sec 10(2)(g))		0
Number of Neutered Dog on-time registration fees and neutered dog late registration fees		Stats not available
Total Number of Dogs Microchipped		2,118 (non-working dogs)
Last review of the Dog Control Policy.		1 October 2022
Date it is due to review next		Date has not been set yet