



**CENTRAL
HAWKE'S BAY**
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Dog Control Policy and Practices Report

2020/2021

DOG CONTROL POLICY AND PRACTICES

ANNUAL REPORT 1 JULY 2020 -30 JUNE 2021

Introduction

The Central Hawke’s Bay District Council, as a territorial authority, is required to manage and enforce provisions pursuant to the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act) and subsequent amendments in 2003, 2004, 2006 and 2010.

S10A 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: 1st July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

The Council’s Dog Policy and Practices

The Council adopted its Dog Control Policy in June 2017. The objectives of the policy are to:

1. Provide a practical framework for the care and control of dogs throughout the district while minimising any danger, distress and nuisance to the community in general.
2. Integrate control measures passed through the Dog Control Act and Council’s Dog Control Bylaws together with targeted education to modify the behaviour of both dogs and their owners to avoid nuisance situations.
3. Encourage owners to make better provision for the control and care of their dogs and to clarify why Council undertakes Dog Control functions, the way those functions are undertaken and how Council intends to make changes to continually improve the service

Fees

A \$10.00 early bird discount was offered for the 2020/2021 year. This is not being offered for the 2021/2022 (current financial year).

We also offer a Responsible Dog Owner (RDO) status for owners who have lived in the area for one registration year. This status qualifies you for a discounted registration rate as noted below.

Category	Fees
Urban	\$112.00
Rural/Working Dogs	\$56.00
Responsible Dog Owner (RDO)	\$76.50
Gold Card Holders (Pensioners)	\$38.00
Early Bird Discount	\$10.00

Key Achievements

Community engagement

This year we continue to have a focus on proactive communication around what our animal services and compliance team provide to the Community.

This year we have continued to improve our overall engagement with the community, including holding our annual ‘Doggie Day Out’ event. The ‘Doggie Day Out’ was a great chance for the community to come and see what animal services is all about and for us to provide key messages about safety and the responsibility of being a good dog owner. We had a number of stalls set up on the day, which included a range of animal services.

Customer Service

We got out into the community around dog registration time and offered ‘pop-ups’ in the community to come and register your dog as well as offering microchipping services. These ‘pop ups’ were a great success in the rural communities.

Education

Last year we rolled out our ‘Dog Safety’ messaging to our internal contractors and some external businesses. We have received positive feedback on the quality of the presentation and key messages provided. We continue to offer this to organisations in the community, that are out and about in our community where they may encounter dogs on properties.

We are currently collaborating with our neighbouring districts in regard to a regional roll out of dog safety programmes in our schools. However, we always take any opportunity to provide some key safety messages to our tamariki. Most recently Waipukurau Primary School had a bring a pet to work/school day and our team leapt at the opportunity to provide some key messaging to year 5 and 6 students, which was really well received.



DOG CONTROL STATISTICS

Number of Dogs Registered

2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
5091	5224	5211	5117

Dangerous and Menacing

The number of dogs classified as dangerous (under section 31 Dog Control Act 1996)

Category	2020-2021
Dangerous by owner conviction S31(1)(a)	0
Dangerous by sworn evidence S31(1)(b)	0
Dangerous by owner admitting in writing S31(1)(C)	1
Total number of dogs classified in 2019/20 year	1
Total dangerous dogs in the District	7

The number of dogs classified as menacing (under section 33A or section 33C Dog Control Act 1996)

Category	2020/2021
Menacing by behaviour S33A(1)(b)(i)	4
Menacing by breed characteristics S33A(1)(b)(ii)	0
Menacing by Schedule 4 breed S33C(1)	0
Total number of dogs classified in 2020/21year	4
Total menacing dogs in the District	28

Number of infringement notices issued

2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
33	75	85	24

Probationary owners and disqualified owners

Probationary	Disqualified
0	0

Number of dog owners prosecuted by Central Hawke's Bay District Council

There were no dog owners prosecuted by the Central Hawke's Bay District Council.

Of the 36 dog attacks investigated, 10 dogs were euthanised due to the severity of the attack, and 27 infringements were issued for various offences in relation to the attacks investigated.

Dog-related complaints

Category	2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018*
Attacks on people	7	14	8	3
Attacks on dogs/animals	29	17	11	7
Barking dogs	103	97	85	172
Uncontrolled dogs i.e., rushing	29	33	10	
Miscellaneous/Bylaw breach i.e., not on lead, fouling, general enquiries	390	309	237	
Wandering and/or impounded	219	211	142	68
Total	777	681	493	250

