

Our Reference: ANC-06/240730125202

18 September 2024

The Secretary for Local Government
Department of Internal Affairs
PO Box 805
WELLINGTON 6140

Dear Secretary for Local Government

Waimakariri District Council: Annual Report on Dog Control 2023/24

In accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996, Section 10A, the following is a copy of the annual report for Waimakariri District Council's dog control policy and practices.

Dog Control Policy and Bylaw

A 10-year review of the Waimakariri District Council Dog Control Bylaw was undertaken in November 2019, adopted by Council on the 3 December 2019 and came into force on the 16 December 2019. The objectives of the Bylaw are:

- To encourage responsible dog ownership
- To provide for Dog Access to Public areas
- To enforce dog owner obligations
- To minimise any danger, distress or nuisance from dogs to the community

Education

The Waimakariri Animal Management Team delivers education to schools in the district, encouraging safe practices around dogs, including bite prevention.

Dog Parks

The Council currently maintains four dog parks:

- **Kaiapoi Dog Park** – This dog park was opened in Kaiapoi in November 2019. The park has been built on previous red zone land and has an area of 2.2 hectares (1.6h for large dogs and 0.6h for small dogs). The park features a variety of mature trees, shrubs, water outlets and seating.
- **Southbrook Dog Park** - This 9540m² dog park was established in Southbrook Park, Rangiora, in 2010. Access to the park is either from Coronation Street or the Southbrook Park car park. The park features a pleasant walking circuit leading to a large fenced area where dogs can run and exercise. Information signs, water and seating are provided.
- **Millton Memorial Park Dog Park** - This dog park, at the corner of Millton Avenue and River Road, Rangiora, covers 2.6 hectares and was opened in 2015. The park features a 'large dog area' and 'small dog area'.
- **Gladstone Road Dog Park** – This dog park was opened in early 2018 and covers approximately 2 hectares.

The dog parks have a Facebook community page www.facebook.com/RangioraDogParks/.

Dog Control on parks and reserves

To protect public safety and enjoyment, the Dog Control Bylaw 2019 classifies the district's parks and reserves into three categories: Dog Prohibited Areas, Leash Control Areas and Under Control Areas.

Animal Management Officers routinely monitor reserves and parks to maintain compliance. This is now

rostered and is improving compliance.

The First Schedule of the bylaw lists all the district's reserves and their classifications. Dog owners or any member of the public allowed to own a dog can exercise dogs off leash in Under Control Areas as long as the dog(s) is/are kept under continuous supervision and control.

Reporting Requirement	2022/23	2023/24
The number of registered dogs	14199	14362
The number of registered owners	9511	9684
The number of probationary owners and disqualified owners	0	0
The number of dogs classified as dangerous (section 31).	4	6
The number of dogs classified as menacing (section 33).	47	40

Dog Attacks on People	23	33
Dog Rushing People	32	45
Dog Attacks on Stock	23	38
Dog Attacks on Dogs	58	47
Barking Dogs	406	396
Roaming Dogs	274	255
Dog Welfare Complaints	26	20
Unregistered Dogs resulting in infringements	88	119
Lost / Found	588	636
Callers requesting advice	219	223
Dog Fouling	14	9
Dog Threatening	38	45
TOTAL	1789	1866

The number of prosecutions undertaken.	0	0
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The number of Infringement Notices issued.	96	144
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Yours sincerely



Billy Charlton
Environmental Services Manager