

Reference Number: 2024/1113

16 July 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for email of 17 June 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to the increase in dog registration fees. Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

The balance sheet for animal control showing expenditure/income

Financial figures for the Dog Control and the Animal Control functions for the 2022/23 & the 2023/24* financial year are provided in *Table 1* below.

You will see that the Dog Control and the Animal Control figures have been reported separately, this is because it is the Dog Control figures that relates to the dog control activity which is part-funded by the dog owner and part-funded by rates. The Animal Control figures relates to stock control and animal bylaw related activities.

Table 1

	2022/23 Full Year Actuals	2023/24 YTD Actuals	2023/24 Full Year Budget
Dog Control			
Grand Total	183,858	88,573	230,097
Community Experience and Services	183,858	88,573	230,097
Compliance - Dog Control	183,858	88,573	230,097
Income	(527,019)	(576,177)	(536,302)
Expenditure	710,877	664,750	766,399
	2022/23 Full Year Actuals	2023/24 YTD Actuals	2023/24 Full Year Budget
Animal Control			
Grand Total	301,494	286,015	326,922
Community Experience and Services	301,494	286,015	326,922
Compliance - Animal Control	301,494	286,015	326,922
Income	0	(93)	(829)
Expenditure	301,494	286,109	327,751

*Financial figures for the 2023/24 financial year are still to be finalised. This is because the year only finished on 30 June 2024.

Revenue from dog registration

Dog Control income received for dog registration fees for the 2022/23 financial year was \$489,980. Dog Control income received for dog registration fees for 2023/24 was \$541,730*.

Councils Revenue and Financing Policy sets out how much of the cost to deliver a service is funded by the dog owner and how much is funded by the ratepayer. For the Dog Control activity, the revenue and financing policy informs that 80-90% of the cost to deliver the service should be funded by the dog owner, and 10-20% through rates.

In March/April 2024 Council carried out a consultation process with the community on the Long Term Plan 2024/2044, this is a legal requirement of Councils and is the opportunity for any member of the public to share their ideas, discuss important topics such as what activities should be ratepayer funded and what activities should be funded by the primary user, as well as enable the community to give feedback on policy, planning, and proposed fees and charges. The fees in place are the result following the consultation process.

*Again, financial figures for the 2023/24 financial year are still to be finalized. This is because the year only finished on 30 June 2024.

Expenses/income incurred for wages/impounding fees/running fees for the pound/vehicle costs etc

Total expenses for the Dog Control and Animal Control functions are included in the table above, this includes the costs for wages, running the pound and vehicles.

The total income is also income for dog impound fees collected is in *Table 2* below:

Table 2

Dog Control	2022/23 Full Year Actuals	2023/24 YTD Actuals	2023/24 Full Year Budget
Grand Total	(76,679)	(105,204)	(102,420)
Community Experience and Services	(76,679)	(105,204)	(102,420)
Compliance - Dog Control	(76,679)	(105,204)	(102,420)
Income	(76,679)	(105,204)	(102,420)
Statutory Charges	(76,679)	(105,204)	(102,420)
0087. Animal Fees - Dog Pound	(12,811)	(12,947)	(23,069)
0088. Animal Fees - Microchipping	(922)	(1,013)	(1,678)
0089. Animal Fees - Prosecutions	(51,500)	(72,900)	(57,673)
0266. Infringements Recovered from Court	(11,447)	(18,344)	(20,000)

Any other income/expenditure which is directly associated with dogs within the HDC area

Table 1 above includes all income and expenditure associated with the Dog Control and Animal Control functions.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Brent Harvey (Group Manager Community Experience and Services) on brenth@horowhenua.govt.nz, or LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Ashley Huria
Executive Sponsor