



Ref: s.7(2)(a) - protect the privacy of  
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Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street  
PO Box 645, Nelson 7040, New Zealand

1 July 2021

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nelson.govt.nz

s.7(2)(a) -  
protect the  
privacy of

Dear s.7(  
2)

### OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST REGARDING DOG REGISTRATIONS FEE BREAKDOWN AND EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

I refer to your official information request dated 21 June 2021 requesting the following information regarding dog registrations and a breakdown of the fees, including information related to our education programmes. I also note your complaint received on 15 June relating to the same matter.

Below is the breakdown of the dog registration fees (below) and costs for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 Financial Years (FY):

Dog Control Activity Income	2020-21 FY Budget	2021-22 FY Budget
<b>Dog registration fees budgeted</b>	\$ 473,951.00	\$ 480,000.00
Other income, including impoundments, infringements, fines, court costs, etc, budgeted	\$ 53,392.00	\$ 45,409.00
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>Actuals</b>	<b>2020-21 FY Actuals</b>	
<b>Dog registration fees actuals 2020-21 FY</b>	\$ 484,819.52	
Other income, including impoundments, infringements, fines, court costs, etc, actuals 2020-21 FY	\$ 59,218.00	
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>96%</b>	
<b>Dog Control Activity Expenditure</b>	<b>2020-21 FY Budget</b>	<b>2021-22 FY Budget</b>
Internal Operating Expenses and overheads	\$ 53,065.00	\$ 54,659.00
Staff and administration, pound operation, Doggie doo bags, education programmes, legal expenses, bank fees, insurance, and general expenses	\$ 504,068.00	\$ 521,686.00
SPCA Grant	\$ 7,742.00	\$ 8,003.00
Total	\$ 564,875.00	\$ 584,348.00

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Council's Revenue and Financing Policy requires a public/private split of between 90% (Private) - 10% (Public). The benefits from dog control are mainly private and are directly proportional to the number of dog owners. However, Council recognises there is a degree of public benefit in increased public safety, which is why 10% is provided by the general rate and the community generally.

There have been 6079 dogs registered in the 2020-21 FY. However, Council budgeted for less as we usually have a high number of dog owners that fail to register their dogs. We were very successful this year in getting a higher than usual registration rate. We are uncertain as to why we got a higher than usual uptake on previous years.

The public/private percentage split for the 2020-21 year is 96%. This is partially due to the higher dog registration rate but also includes a higher than budgeted income from fees associated with dogs being impounded, infringements, fines and court costs. There has been a higher than usual number of prosecutions in the 2020-21 FY related to dangerous and unregistered dogs.

Council provides funding for educational activities associated with dogs, including children's education and bite prevention events. This is a requirement that Council must meet under the Dog Control Act 1996 to minimise the danger, distress, and nuisance of dogs to the community generally.

We directly fund the delivery of education programmes via *You and Your Dog* facilitator Vikki Pickering. More information can be found on her website: <https://www.youandyourdog.co.nz/> and have attached a poster below for your information. Do not hesitate to contact *You and Your Dog*, on either phone (027) 513-8879 or [vikki@youandyourdog.co.nz](mailto:vikki@youandyourdog.co.nz), if you wish to arrange an education programme for a community event.

As per above, Council also provides a grant to the SPCA, to assist with some after-hour services.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact myself, on either phone (03) 265 5628 or email [jane.budge@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:jane.budge@ncc.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Jane Budge**

Principal Adviser – Environmental Management

## Dog Control fees and Charges from 1 July 2021

<b>Registration Fees</b>	<b>Fees from 1 July 2021</b>
Rural dogs (properties of 1 hectare or more)	<b>54.50</b>
All other urban dogs	<b>97.00</b>
All dogs classified as dangerous (standard registration fee, plus 50% surcharge as required by statute)	<b>145.50</b>
Police, Seeing Eye and Hearing Dogs	<b>5.00</b>
Replacement registration disc	<b>5.00</b>
<b>Registration discounts (applied annually):</b>	
Neutered dog (proof from a vet is required)	<b>-5.00</b>
<b>Impounding fees (in any 12-month period)</b>	
First Impounding	<b>76.00</b>
Second Impounding	<b>152.00</b>
Third Impounding	<b>228.00</b>
Daily charge (for each day following impounding)	<b>15.00</b>
After hours callout charge (outside normal working hours)	<b>81.00</b>
Insert microchip to impounded dogs where required	<b>38.50</b>

# KEEPING OUR KIDS SAFE AROUND DOGS!



77% of dog bites are on children, and inflicted by the family dog or a dog known to the child. Many of these dogs bites are preventable, it's about educating kids and adults on interacting with dogs in a safer way.

Presented by Dog Behaviour Consultant Vikki Pickering from You and Your Dog

## WORKSHOPS

Fun educational workshops  
for kids aged 4-12 years  
45-60 minutes for a group of  
30-40 kids

Visual photos  
Funky music videos  
Dog tricks & activity display

## NELSON

FREE for all schools,  
childcare centres, community  
groups within the Nelson City  
Region - Thanks to Nelson  
City Council proudly  
supporting this initiative.

 Nelson City Council  
te kaunihera o whakatū

## TASMAN

\$50 per session for all  
schools, childcare centres,  
community groups within the  
Tasman Bay Region.

For Bookings phone Vikki 0275 138 879  
Email: [vikki@youandyourdog.co.nz](mailto:vikki@youandyourdog.co.nz)  
[www.youandyourdog.co.nz](http://www.youandyourdog.co.nz)

