



Ref: [REDACTED]

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16 August 2024

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR COST BREAKDOWN OF DOG CONTROL ACTIVITY

I refer to your request of 20 July 2024 for the following information:

I'd like a complete break down of what the council uses our dog registration fees for. For example costs to run pound, food, wages etc and also money they get in ie fees, dog pound fees on collection etc. Also costs for the so called training you provide. And how many dogs are registered in Nelson.

The information you requested is below.

Budgeted dog control activity income	Year 24/25
Rates	- \$62,501.00
Registration fees	- \$604,000.00
Other income, including impoundments, infringements, fines, recovered court costs	- \$40,860.00
Total	-\$707,361.00
Budgeted dog control activity expenditure	Year 24/25
Internal operating expenses and overheads	\$57,513.00
Provision of dog control services - including staff wages, callouts and responding to complaints, patrols, operation of dog pound	\$573,867.00

Provision of doggy doo bags	\$32,000.00
Other expenses including insurance, bad debts, bank fees, depreciation, and legal expenses	\$31,676.00
Education programme	\$3,500.00
SPCA grant	\$8,800.00
Total	\$707,356.00

Council's Revenue and Financing Policy requires a private/public split of between 90% (Private) - 10% (Public) for the dog control activity. 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 around 10% is provided by the general rate and the community generally.

Council provides funding for educational activities associated with dogs, including children's education and bite prevention events. Providing educational activities is a requirement that Council must meet under the Dog Control Act 1996. The courses are provided by Cat Watson of Canine Knowhow www.canineknowhow.co.nz Cat is a new provider, and her courses are due to commence in September. Please contact Cat if you would like to arrange a session.

At the end of each financial year, we publish an annual report about the dog control activity (including the number of dogs registered) on our website. The report can be found here [Dog Control Activity Report](#) . In 2023/2024, there were 6231 dogs registered in Nelson.

The total number of dogs registered in 2024/2025 is not yet available as this will only be calculated at the end of the year (June 2025). While existing dog owners in 24/25 are required to renew dog registrations by 30 June 2024, Council continues to receive registrations throughout the year including, late registrations from existing dog owners and registrations from people who become dog owners later in the year.

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 or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Mandy Bishop
Group Manager Environmental Management