

I.1 ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

REPORT TO: Grey District Council	
DATE: 27 August 2020	
SUBJECT: Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices 2019-2020	FILE REF: H/6
AUTHOR: M Malloch – Animal Control Officer P Kerr – Animal Control Officer	ATTACHMENTS: Nil
RELATED COMMUNITY OUTCOME(S): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing affordable, quality essential services• The District has access to quality health facilities and regulation.• Personal and property safety.	RELATED COUNCIL ACTIVITY: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal Control.

PURPOSE:

To report on the administration of Council's Dog Control Policy and Practices for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

BACKGROUND:

Section 10A of the Dog Control Act requires territorial authorities to publicly report each financial year on:

- The administration of their dog control policy and their dog control practices (Section 10A(1)); and
- A variety of dog control related statistics (Section 10A(2)).

While not explicitly stated in the Dog Control Act, one of the primary purposes for preparing this report is to allow communities to see how Council is managing its dog control responsibilities.

STAFFING:

Two full-time Dog Control Officers are responsible for a medium residential area and large rural area covering 350,900 hectares with 620 kilometres of roadway (this does not include the two state highways running through the district.)

During the reporting period, the Grey District had a total of 2748 dogs.

POLICY ON DOGS:

The provisions of the Dog Policy has been applied in a consistent, fair and objective manner. Staff at all times endeavoured to assist dog owners wherever possible and to focus on dogs not posing a risk or nuisance to others. The excellent cooperation received from so many dog owners and members of the public is herewith acknowledged.

SERVICES INCLUDED:

Education

The Grey District Council has a website that is used to make educational material available for all dog owners and members of the public.

This website is easy to follow and kept updated with an Animal Management page that outlines responsibilities for dog owners, contains a Dog Owner's Manual, guide to micro-chipping, registration information and the current fees and charges.

Dogs Prohibited and Dog Exercise Areas

The Cobden dog park exercise area still continues to be extremely popular with local dog owners. Many dog owners in the area also attend a regular early morning local community walk on the weekends from the dog park and along the nearby local beach which has been well attended by the locals again this year.

The dog park exercise area on the outskirts of the Central Business District in Greymouth continues to be extremely popular with a lot of use over the wetter winter months as the park has a covered shelter for dog owners to stay dry under. This park has had a lot of use from both local and visiting dog owners to the area.

DOG CONTROL PRACTICES:

All aspects regarding the regulation of dogs has been dealt with in a cooperative, helpful manner with the focus on being pro-active where possible. The following represents a summary of Councils Dog Control function's regulatory performance for the year.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION:

Category	For Period 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020
1) Total # Registered Dogs	2748
2) Total # Probationary Owners	0
3) Total # Disqualified Owners	0
4) Total # Dangerous Dogs	5
➤ <i>Dangerous by Owner Conviction Under s31(1)(a)</i>	0
➤ <i>Dangerous by Sworn Evidence s31(1)(b)</i>	5
➤ <i>Dangerous by Owner Admittance in Writing s31(1)(c)</i>	0
5) Total # Menacing Dogs	39
➤ <i>Menacing under s33A(1)(b)(i) – i.e by Behaviour</i>	10
➤ <i>Menacing under s33A(1)(b)(ii) by Breed Characteristics</i>	10

➤ <i>Menacing under s33C(1) by Schedule 4 Breed</i>	19
6) Total # Infringement Notices	46
7) Total # Complaints Received	651
➤ <i>Barking</i>	195
➤ <i>Dog Attack</i>	116
➤ <i>Bylaws</i>	130
➤ <i>Wandering</i>	210
8) Total # Prosecutions Taken	0

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