

## **KAWERAU DISTRICT COUNCIL DOG CONTROL – POLICY AND PRACTICES REPORT**

1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996 (DCA) requires territorial authorities to publicly report each financial year on:

- The administration of their dog control policy and their dog control practices (s10A(1)); and
- A variety of dog control related statistics

### **PART ONE – ADMINISTRATION OF POLICY AND DOG CONTROL PRACTICES**

#### 1) Dog Control in the District

The Kawerau District Council had 1320 dogs registered at 30 June 2015. Most of the dogs are urban pets with some hunting dogs. There were 2 registered rural working dogs in the District; Kawerau is a compact, predominantly urban territory with only one substantial farm property flanking the north-west and south-west boundaries.

Council's dog control service provides 24/7 coverage to deal with dog attacks, roaming, barking and other complaints. The Dog Control Officer's (DCO) normal working hours are between 8.00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, with the contract ranger's on-call 24/7. The aim is to maintain effective complaint/incident response, but with much greater attention to systems and data management.

Council seeks to foster good working relationships with local veterinarians and the SPCA and networks well with other councils in the Bay of Plenty region and beyond.

#### 2) Dog Control Enforcement Practices

All complaints are dealt with fairly and in accordance with the DCA and Council's Dog Control Bylaw. Infringement notices are issued only where continued non-compliance occurs following a verbal warning and a written warning or where a serious offence e.g. rushing incident occurs.

#### 3) Policy & Bylaw Updates

The Dog Control Bylaw 2011 has been in place for 3 years with a minor review in 2012.

#### 4) Dogs Prohibited, Leash Only and Dog Exercise Areas

The District is fortunate in having a number of varied locations where owners may freely exercise their dogs (providing they are under control and not causing annoyance to others). The exercise areas are all sign-posted and are used daily by members of the public. Feedback from dog owners on the use of these areas continues to be positive.

The dog prohibited areas and dog exercise areas are monitored on a daily basis by the contract rangers.

The following areas are designated dog exercise areas:

- The Ruruanga Stream reserve area upstream from Tamarangi Drive to Valley Road, including those areas of reserve known as the Stoneham Walk and the Ruruanga Gardens.
- River reserves from Tamarangi Drive to Waterhouse Street, other than marked playing areas at Boyce Park.
- Firmin Field, other than marked playing areas.
- Lyn Hartley Reserve.
- Tarawera Park, other than marked playing areas.
- The reserve on the south west side of River Road between the road and the overflow stream, in the vicinity of the Water Supply Pumping Station, excluding Pat Baker Reserve.
- Hilldale Reserve, other than children's playground.
- Stoneham Park, other than marked playing areas.
- Those areas of public reserve being one chain wide (approximately 20 metres) along all waterways.
- The reserve off Porritt Drive, including Roy Weston Walk.
- Prideaux Park other than marked playing areas.
- Delamere Reserve (the neighbourhood reserve between Delamere Drive, Valley Road and Ryder Place).

Where any organised activity is being undertaken on playing fields and reserves, including specified dog exercise areas, dogs must be restrained as if in a public place.

An annual audit of signage is undertaken each year in the designated dog exercise areas. At present “dog exercise area” and “Dogs must be controlled at all times” signs are installed.

Signs are also in the CBD which inform dog owners that no dogs are allowed in the CBD.



## 5) Dog Survey

Each year Council undertakes a door to door survey to detect all unregistered dogs. The Survey started on the 13 October 2014 and finished on 21 October 2014. As part of the survey Council also included extra work to check the health and living conditions of dogs.

A total of 100 situations were identified as requiring more detailed investigation. The following is a breakdown of the outcomes of those follow-up investigations.

A total of 23 infringements were issued, 20 of which were waived.

### **Breakdown:**

<b>Dog Discrepancies – Total:</b>	<b>100</b>
Lost	1
No Dog	50
Relinquished	1
Transferred Out	3
Destroyed	2
GNA	2
Registered	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>* Infringements Issued</b>	<b>23</b>
Waived	20
Not Waived	3

## 6) Dog Registration and Other Fees

Council fees (inclusive of GST) for the 2014/2015 year were:

### Registration Fees

Approved Owner – Sterilised Dog	\$25.50
Approved Owner – Non Sterilised Dog	\$66.30
Other Owners – Sterilised Dog	\$61.50
Other Owners – Non Sterilised Dog	\$102.00



### Impounding Fees

First Impounding	\$77.00
Subsequent Impounding	\$102.00
Sustenance Fee (per day or part thereof)	\$5.00

These fees were unchanged from the previous year.

Dog owners who had registered their dog the previous year, but did not register their dog in the current year were issued an infringement notice with a 14-day diversion option, with the application of penalty (50%) and withdrawal of approved owner status for the following registration year. The infringement notice was withdrawn if payment was made within the 14-day diversion period.

Where unregistered dogs are identified during daily patrols or incident response, these are generally seized and impounded and written notice given to the owner.

## 7) Dog Education and Dog Obedience Courses

Throughout the year DCO setup educational displays in the main foyer which promoted dog attack prevention by ways of keeping ourselves safe around dogs and the damage dogs can do when they attack both humans and other animals. These proved very popular.

Information is available at all times from the Council Office.

Council also provided as required by the DCA a Policy on Dogs brochure that was sent to every dog owner along with their registration notice.

Council also has a range of educational brochures available on:

- Territorial aggression you the victim
- Why dogs should not roam
- Avoid being the victim of a dog attack
- Barking as a result of boredom
- Information on KDC approved dog owner scheme
- Keeping our children safe around dogs – In English & Maori
- Avoiding dog aggression
- Better dog control = safer communities
- Neutering
- KDC Policy on Dogs

## Permission to reproduce 'Avoiding Dog Aggression' booklet

Pat Oliver is the author of a booklet entitled "Avoiding Dog Aggression" and the manual "Practical tips for puppy/dog Owners". The information in these books is on how to understand why dogs behave aggressively and what the dog owner can do to prevent uncontrolled aggressive behaviour. They cover a range of everyday interaction scenarios from the puppy to the adult providing valuable information on how to treat a dog correctly.

Written permission was given to Council from Pat Oliver to reproduce some of the chapters in her book to make into a public display in the office foyer. Chapters approved for reproduction were:

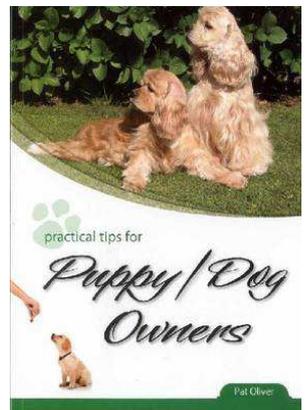
- Games to Avoid
- Toddlers & Children
- Meal Time & the Dog/Man Relationship

## Information Manual for Dogs Classified As Dangerous

A copy of the author Pat Oliver's Manual entitled "Practical tips for puppy/dog Owners" is available to give to all dog owners which dogs are classified as dangerous.

All winners in the kennel run draw also received a copy of this book.

Pat Oliver has more than 25 years experience as a professional dog trainer, this book provides excellent basic training, obedience, nutrition and maintenance advice with easy to follow directions for dog training. Both owner and dog will benefit from the information Pat Oliver shares in this guidebook.



## Keeping our Children Safe around Dogs Booklets

All pre-schools and primary schools (new entrant classes) in the Kawerau District have been sent copies of the booklet "Keeping our Children Safe Around Dogs", published by the University of Waikato.

The booklet has been printed in both English and Maori language and gives a basic understanding of dog behaviour and practical suggestions about how to create a safe and fun relationship between children and dogs.

The booklet is a result of statistics revealing most dogs which bite or attack children are known to the children, so it is vitally important that they learn why dogs bite and how to behave safely around them.

Covering topic including types of aggression, socialising, dog language, and supervision it is hoped that the booklet will significantly reduce the risk to children.



<b>Pre-School</b>	
Kawerau Pre-School Learning Centre	56 River Road
Nga Moko Huia Ote Rautahi Kohanga Reo	117 Onslow Street
Nga Ririki Early Learning Centre	40 Ballance Street
Nga Purapura Hou Kohanga Reo Te Kohanga	129 Valley Road
Putauaki Kindergarten	10 Marshall Street
Te Akoranga Kindergarten	44 Grey Street
Te Manaaki Educational Pre-School Trust	22 Peter Lippa Drive
Tu Manako Kohanga Reo	119 River Road
Te Urunga mai o Te Ra Kohanga Reo	8 Ryder Place
Tu Whakaara o Tae Rautahi Kohanga Reo	36-40 Grey Street

<b>School – New Entrants</b>	
Kawerau Putauaki School	87-89 Fenton Mill Road
Kawerau South School	175-187 Onslow Street
Kura Kaupapa, Te Whata Tau O Putauaki	Galway Street

### **Dog Welfare Community Clinic**

The Kawerau Branch SPCA, Vets 4 Pets and the Kawerau District Council together are preparing to hold a free Dog Welfare Community Clinic on 1 August 2015 for Community Services Card or Gold Card holders.

- Free puppy and dog care advice
- Free flea and worm treatment
- Free dog or puppy de-sexing
- The SPCA have been offered a limited number of microchips and these will be inserted free of charge for your registered dog or puppy plus registration with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register.

### 8) Other Information

The DCO and contract rangers carried out regular daily patrols, during normal working hours and after hours, with specified targets for the number of patrols for the year.

During the year under review, 553 weekday and 376 after-hours patrols (each of one hour's duration) were carried out which meets Council's minimum specified Annual Plan target of 460 weekday and 340 after hours patrols.

## PART TWO – STATISTICAL INFORMATION

### **STREET PATROLS**

Street Patrols (office/day hours)	553
Street Patrols (after hours)	<u>376</u>
Total	<u>929</u>

### **REQUEST FOR SERVICES**

Requests for Dog Control Services (Public)	1651
a) DCO	656
b) Contractor	<b>995</b>
i) Day	779
ii) After Hours	216

### **INFRINGEMENTS/HEARINGS/PROSECUTIONS**

Infringements	206
Hearings	0
Prosecutions	1

### **STATUTORY INCIDENTS**

Barking	240
Roaming	581
General	80
Attacks on Animals	23
Attack on Person (Physical Contact)	21
Unaccounted for	8
Rush or Threaten	39
Fighting	<u>3</u>
Total	<u>995</u>

### UTILISATION OF DOG POUND FOR 2014/2015

Dogs carried forward in pound at 01/07/2014	8	
<b>Dogs Impounded</b>	<b>410</b>	Subtotal
	<u>418</u>	Total
Destroyed (includes 67 relinquished to Council by owner)	195	
Claimed	156	
Re-homed	25	
Dogs referred to the SPCA	25	
Dogs in care	7	
Dogs remaining in pound at 30/06/2015	10	

**OVERALL BREEDS INVOLVED IN INCIDENTS**

(As confirmed by DCO/Ranger, if not confirmed then a “\*” next to the breed description will be entered, this is in-line with the NZIACO national records)

Attack on person		Attacks on Animals		Fighting		Rushing	
Breed Unknown *	5	American Pit Bull Terrier	4	Breed Unknown *	2	American Pit Bull x Mastiff	1
Staffordshire Bull Terrier x	2	American Pit Bull Terrier *	1	Whippet x German Shepherd	1	Breed Unknown *	10
American Pit Bull Terrier	7	Breed Unknown *	6	Mastiff x Australian Cattle	1	Australian Silky Terrier	1
Bull Terrier	2	Border Collie x	1			Bernese Mountain Dog	1
American Bulldog	1	Bulldog x *	1			Border Collie	2
Greyhound x Mastiff	1	American Pit Bull Terrier x *	5			Bulldog x *	1
Whippet cross	1	American Pit Bull Terrier x	1			American Pit Bull Terrier *	2
Shih Tzu cross Maltese	1	Labrador Retriever x	1			American Pit Bull Terrier x *	2
Bull Mastiff	1	Bulldog	2			Bull Mastiff	1
Maltese	1	Crossbreed	1			American Bulldog	1
Fox Terrier	1	Siberian Husky	1			American Pitbull Terrier	6
Corgi Welsh Cardigan x	1					Rottweiler	1
						Whippet cross	1
						Labrador Retriever x	1
						Staffordshire Terrier x	1
						Fox Terrier	1
						Maltese	1
						Bulldog	1
						Bull Mastiff	1
						American Pit Bull Terrier x	3
						Staghound x	2
						Crossbreed	1

Some incidents involved more than 1 dog

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<b>Microchipping:</b>	New	5	<b>Register</b>	<b>1077</b>
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<b>Menacing (issued for the month):</b>	New	2	<b>Register Tot</b>	<b>83</b>
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Menacing under s33C i.e. by Schedule 4 Breed	<b>Total</b>	2	To Date	70
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Menacing under s33A(1)(b)(i) i.e. by Behaviour	<b>Total</b>		To Date	10
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Menacing under s33A(1)(b)(ii) i.e. by Breed Characteristics	<b>Total</b>		To Date	3
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\* Dereena Peri, Dog Boss id 4073

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<b>Dangerous (issued for the month):</b>	New		<b>Register Tot</b>	<b>3</b>
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Dangerous by Owner Conviction under s31(1)(a)	<b>Total</b>		To Date	
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Dangerous by Sworn Evidence s31(1)(b)	<b>Total</b>		To Date	3
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Dangerous by owner Admittance in Writing s31(1)(c)	<b>Total</b>		To Date	
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<b>Disqualified Owner (for the month):</b>	New	0	<b>Register Tot</b>	<b>1</b>
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Disqualified under Section 25(1)(a) – (3x Inf)	<b>Total</b>		To Date	
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Disqualified under Section 25(1)(b) – (Conviction)	<b>Total</b>		To Date	1
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Disqualified under Section 25(1)(c) – (Conviction) under Animal Welfare Act etc.	<b>Total</b>		To Date	
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**\* Kylie Morrison Court Prosecution under s25(1)(b) Dogs Dozer & Lucy**

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<b>Probationary Owners (for the month):</b>	New	0	<b>Register Tot</b>	<b>0</b>
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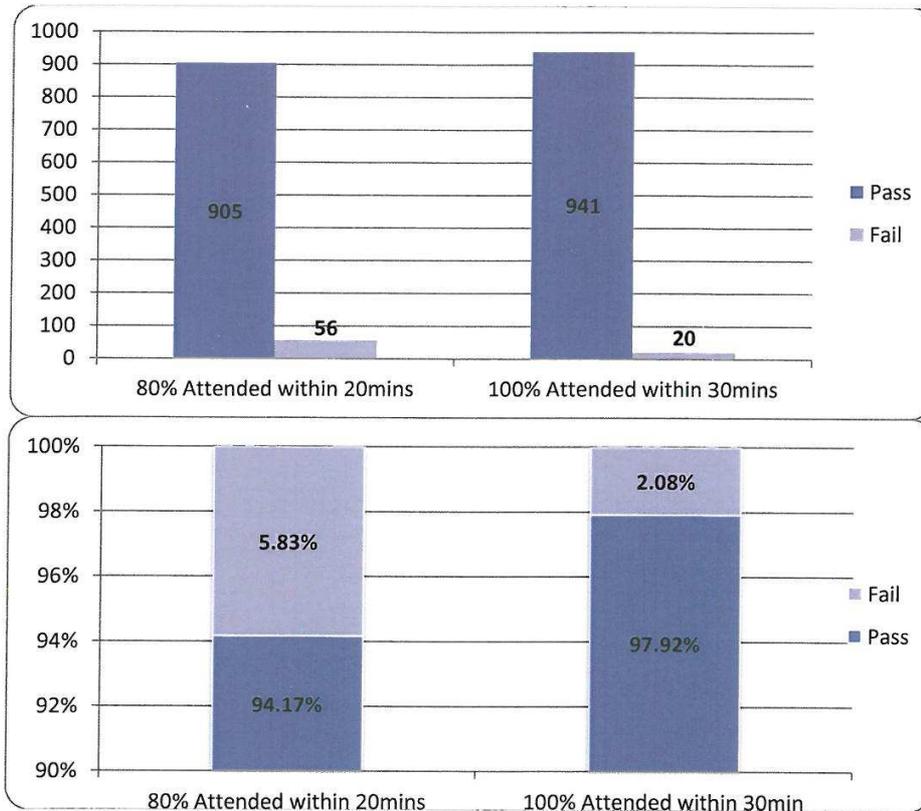
Probationary under Section 21				
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Probationary under Section 21(1) Other Acts	<b>Total</b>		To Date	
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	<b>Total</b>		To Date	
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## Year To Date DCO ISCL Audit Report 2014 – 15 as at 30 June 2015



Situations where failure to attend within the 30 minute timeframe occurred can be attributed to attendance at a previously notified Request for Service (RFS) and therefore attendance is complied.

1. SR#20509 11 Aug 2014 – Ranger dispatched at 1135hrs and attended 2325hrs, target not met (50min) ranger on another job in Awakeri, not council related. DCO raised an email with ISCL requesting a long term solution.
2. SR#20727 25 Aug 2014 – Ranger did not attend to roaming dog held on complainant's property, no response back from ISCL.
3. SR#21469 10 Oct 2014 – Ranger David John dispatched at 2245hrs and attended 2325hrs target not met (40 mins) to date no explanation given, I suspect ranger on another job in Awakeri, not Council related.
4. SR#21682 28 Oct 2014 – Ranger Ricky Winzlick, non-attendance, roaming dog pulling rubbish out of bins. Yet to get a response back from ISCL.
5. SR#21900 8 November 2014 – Ranger David John dispatched 2230hrs & attended 2315hrs, target not met (45min) no explanation given. DCO has emailed Jono of ISCL who is looking at ISCL systems. DCO thinks ranger was out of the District.
6. SR#22735 7 January 2015 – Ranger Keith Galliers dispatched at 1645hrs & attended 1745hrs no explanation given.
7. SR#22873 15 January 2015 – Rangers David John/Tom dispatched at 1045hrs & attended 2320hrs late attending non KDC job (Alarm activation).
8. SR#23086 30 January 2015 – Ranger Keith Galliers dispatched at 1429hrs & attended 1110hrs the next day 20hr delay SR lost/misplaced.
9. SR#23124 2 February 2015 – Ranger David John dispatched at 2240hrs & attended 2330hrs, Ranger on another job in Awakeri. Email from Jono 17/3/15 confirmed Kawerau guards will only be attending to out of town jobs in an emergency.

## Year To Date DCO ISCL Audit Report 2014 – 15 as at 30 June 2015

10. SR#23161 4 February 2015 – Ranger Ricky Winzlick dispatched at 1855hrs & attended at 1930hrs, was in Edgumbe at time of complaint, rang another ranger for back-up who was unavailable. Email from Jono 17/3/15 confirmed Kawerau guards will only be attending to out of town jobs in an emergency, plus Ricky Winzlick no longer warranted for KDC.
11. SR#23162 4 February 2015 – Ranger Ricky Winzlick dispatched at 2230hrs & attended 2330hrs, Ranger on another job in Awakeri. Email from Jono 17/3/15 confirmed Kawerau guards will only be attending to out of town job in an emergency, plus Ricky Winzlick no longer warranted for KDC.
12. SR#23437 25 February 2015 – Ranger Keith Galliers dispatched at 0939hrs & attended 1740hrs late as wanted to catch up with dog owner once she finished work.
13. SR24355 06/05/2015 ranger Stephen dispatched at 1353hrs & attended 1425hrs (32minutes) no explanation given.
14. SR24506 17/05/2015 ranger Mac Koia dispatched 0955hrs & attended 1027hrs (32minutes) no explanation given.
15. SR24428 09/05/2015 ranger Mac Koia dispatched 0751hrs & attended 0838hrs (47minutes) ranger new to job & couldn't remember why he was late, thinks he was cleaning the pound & putting dogs away.
16. SR24916 17/06/2015 ranger Mac Koia dispatched 2.11pm but did not attend until 1.30pm the following day (1 day) explanation not given. Stephen fixed up paperwork when next on shift & followed up to make sure everything actioned & in line with Council processes
17. 24737 05/06/2015 ranger Mac Koia dispatched 10.30am & attended 3.55pm (5.25hrs) ranger Stephen fixed up paperwork when next on shift & followed up to make sure everything actioned & in line with Council processes
18. SR24951 19/06/2015 ranger Mac Koia dispatched 3.56pm & attended 5.10pm no explanation given. Stephen fixed up paperwork when next on shift & followed up to make sure everything actioned & in line with Council processes.
19. SR24913 17/06/2015 ranger Mac Koia dispatched 1.44pm & attended 4.30pm no explanation given. Stephen fixed up paperwork when next on shift & followed up to make sure everything actioned & in line with Council processes.
20. SR24690 03/06/2015 Ranger Mac Koia dispatched 9.26am & attended 10.11am no explanation given.

Lisa Singfield  
**Dog Control Officer**

Chris Jensen  
**Manager, Regulatory & Planning**