



# Dog Registration

## What does my fee cover?

### **Keeping track of your dog**

The Dog Control Act 1996 requires that all dogs over the age of three months must be registered each year. You should ensure your dog wears its registration tag at all times. It's also a good idea to have your name and phone number on a dog tag, so you can be easily contacted if your dog gets lost.

### **Council maintains a pound where lost, stray and abandoned dogs are kept**

Dogs are kept for a minimum of seven days. Registered dogs wearing their tag can be reunited with their owner quickly, sometimes without the need for the dog to go to the pound. This saves money and stress for the owner, the dog and for the Council.

### **Unclaimed dogs are offered up for adoption**

Dogs are temperament tested so that suitable dogs are available for adoption. Council works with the S.P.C.A and other recognised adoption agencies to ensure happy placements.

## **Council provides Dog Control Officers to ensure that dogs and people can live in harmony**

Officers attend complaints about uncontrolled dogs, attacks on people or animals, getting into rubbish, barking etc and they also carry out regular patrols. There is a 24 hour service for emergency situations.

### **Beach patrols**

During the main holiday periods, dogs are banned from most beaches and associated reserves between 9.00am and 7.00pm. Patrols are carried out so that holiday makers can safely go to these beaches in the knowledge that measures are in place to restrict dogs (or by what they may leave behind!).

### **Council maintains a database**

There are currently around 4000 dogs on Council files. This information contributes toward the National Dog Database which assists Councils in tracking and identifying dogs.

### **Survey for unregistered dogs**

Officers carry out random property inspections to ensure that other dog owners have registered their dogs – just like you have.

### **Legal action is taken against irresponsible Dog Owners**

Prosecutions or infringements are issued against owners who do not control or care for their dogs to the standard that Council AND the public have come to expect. In these cases, we will look to recover costs from those owners.

### **Education and advice**

Dog Control Officers provide education and advice to a wide range of people. This can be anything from teaching school children how to be safe around dogs, advising meter readers on how to enter a property safely, or to individuals on better control and enjoyment of their dog

### **Liaison with welfare agencies**

A strong relationship is maintained with the S.P.C.A. and M.A.F. to ensure ALL stock and dogs enjoy a safe and happy life.

### **Costs**

Currently, the cost of these functions is met through dog registration and infringement fees (50%) and the rest is met from the overall district rate (50%). In the draft 2012 Ten Year Plan the proposal is for the costs to be 80%/20% respectively.

### **More Information**

If you would like any information on designated dog exercise areas, dog/owner education or other dog control information, please contact Council's Customer Services team by phoning **07 868 0200** or visiting **[www.tcdc.govt.nz/dog registration](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz/dog_registration)**.