



Invercargill City Council Annual Report Dog Control 2024-2025

Introduction

As a Territorial Authority, the Invercargill City Council is required to manage and enforce the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act). Under Section 10A of the Act, Council must provide an Annual Report that sets out activities that have been undertaken in relation to our dog control policy and practices.

This report fulfils this statutory requirement for the dog registration year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Policies and Practices

The Dog Control Policy and Bylaw were reviewed and came into effect on 1 September 2022.

Animal Services

The Animal Services Team is based within the Consenting and Environment Group and reports to the Community Wellbeing and Regulatory Committee.

The team consists of a Team Leader and four Animal Control Officers. Administration support is provided by Environmental Support Officers in the Environmental Services team.

Animal Care Facility

The Animal Care Facility is open to the public to allow collection of impounded dogs by prior arrangement. Collection of impounded dogs outside of standard hours can be arranged in certain circumstances.

Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm. After hours coverage is provided by a contractor (Armourguard).

Registration Fees

Registration fees are set by Council to provide the service. We currently have four dog owner classifications. These are:

- Working Dog
- Standard Dog
- Responsible Dog
- Menacing/Dangerous Dog.

Dog owners that meet the requirements of a responsible dog owner receive a discounted registration fee. A discounted registration fee is also available for de-sexed dogs.

Registration fees for the 2023/2024 year:

Registration Description	\$
Responsible Owner – Not Desexed	\$75.00
Responsible Owner – Desexed	\$55.00
Menacing/Dangerous	\$165.00
Standard – Not Desexed	\$110.00
Standard – Desexed	\$95.00
Working Dog	\$40.00
Multiple Dogs (Five or more, responsible dog owners and working dogs)	\$340.00
Responsible Menacing (Breed only)	\$90.00

Dog Registration

Total number of dogs registered as at 30 June 2024	8,603
Total number of known dogs as at 30 June 2024	9,230
Percentage of dogs registered as at 30 June 2024	93.2%
Total number of dogs registered during the year	9,044
Total number of known dogs for the registration year	10,338
Percentage of dogs registered during the year	87.4%
Total number of dogs notified as dead during the year	779
Total number of dogs notified as out of the district during the year	278

Dangerous and Menacing Dogs

Dogs classified as dangerous under section 31(1)	7
Dogs classified as menacing by deed under section 33A	66
Dogs classified as menacing by breed under section 33C	31
Total number of dangerous/menacing dogs	97

Probationary and Disqualified Dog Owners

Probationary Owners	0
Disqualified Owners	6

Prosecutions

There were no prosecutions for the period of this report.

Impoundments

Total impoundments	291
First Offence Returned Home with no fees	94
Returned home with fees	137
Rehomed	23
Returned home (out of Invercargill City District)	2
Euthanised	35

Infringements

S19	Fail or refuse to provide information	0
S19A	Fail to supply information about dog	1
S32(2)	Fail to comply with classification as Dangerous	0
S33EC	Fail to comply with classification as Menacing	1
S36A	Fail to implant microchip	4
S41A	Falsely notifying death of dog	0
S42	Fail to register dog	38
S52A/B	Fail to keep dog controlled or confined	0
S53	Fail to control dog	36
S54	Fail to supply proper care and attention	7
S55	Fail to comply with barking abatement notice	0
	Total infringements	87
	Infringements waived	9

Complaints

Dog attacks	67
Rushing/intimidating	72
Wandering	520
Lost/Found	232

Barking	420
Neglect	14
Miscellaneous complaints and enquiries	524
Total complaints	1849

Dog Related Requests

Responsible dog owner applications	77
Multiple dog licence applications	12
Registration related requests	626
Total requests	715

Hearings

In the 2023/2024 year there was one hearing relating to objection to disqualification from dog ownership. The Hearing Panel upheld the staff decision. The owner appealed the decision to the District Court. The appeal was held in the District Court in October 2024, the decision was upheld and the disqualification period was reduced from 5 years to 3 years.

Key Achievements

Ongoing work at the Animal Care Facility to ensure we meet the requirements of the Welfare Code: Temporary Care of Companion Animals.

Staff have noted an increase in positive interactions within the community.