

9 July 2020

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Geoff Stuart
Regulatory Services
DDI: 04 570 6806
geoff.stuart@huttcity.govt.nz
Our reference: DIV/20/5404

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

We refer to your official information request dated 26 June 2020 in relation to dog registration information. The information you have requested is enclosed.

1. How many dogs were registered in the 2019/2020 financial year in the Hutt Valley [Lower Hutt] council area?

Approximately 9750, numbers go up and down subject to deaths and new dogs.
10,100 registrations have been sent out for 2020/21 year

2. What was the total revenue collected from dog registration fees in the 2019/2020 financial year?

\$890,000

3. What was the revenue collected from impound fees in the 2019/2020 financial year? including fines, costs of impound and fees for dogs in the animal services pound.

\$58,686 as at 31 May 2020

4. What new items were purchased for the Animal Control in the 2019/2020 financial year? Including but not limited to new vehicles and equipment needed for Animal services rangers.

Most Animal Services vehicles are leased. So the only capital cost is the fitting out when we get a new vehicle, and that cost is included in the lease cost. No extra cars have been added to the fleet, we have actually reduced the number by one in the last year.

Animal Services has a funding ratio that has been set by Council. For Animal Services that ratio is set between 70-80 percent cost recovery. So the general ratepayer pays for 20-30 percent of animal services. This covers any animal related issues other than dogs that animal services staff may get involved in such as stock, cats, roosters and dotterels.

From budget figures Animal Services cost recovered 65 percent in 2019/20. The increase in fees covers cost increases over the last four years mainly in property rental, running costs and overheads.

5. How many owners (by percentage) have Responsible dog owner status in the Hutt Valley council catchment area.

17%

6. Of the total revenue (including dog registration fees and impound fees) please provide a breakdown of where the spending has been allocated.

Salaries
Overheads
Rental – Buildings
 – Animal Services utes
Building maintenance
Servicing contracts – After hours
 – Cleaning
Advertising eg for Dog registration
Printing
National Dog Database levy

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [details of contact person].

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Stuart', enclosed within a large, stylized circular flourish.

Geoff Stuart
Head of Department Regulatory Services