



5 March 2024

Charlotte Moffat



Dear Charlotte Moffat

**Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (the Act) 1987**

We refer to your official information request dated 26 February 2024 for information about Dog Control Policies. We will answer each of your questions in turn.

1. *How many Animal Control Officers (ACO's) do you current employ to look after dog enforcement?*

**Response:** In total there are 13 qualified ACO's. Two of those are Team Leaders, one is a Principal ACO, and one is a contractor. These resources cover the current contract to provide animal control services for WCC.

2. *How are your ACOs funded? Is this through dog registration fees or general rates? Or a mixture?*

**Response:** As per our Revenue and Financing policy 40-59% is funded through Fees and charges and the remainder through rates.

3. *How do you generally fund physical assets (i.e. fencing, signage, poo bag stations) at dog exercise areas?*

**Response:** These are included in the Open spaces, parks and reserves activity which is funded through General rates.



4. *How do you fund the depreciation of these physical assets?*

**Response:** These are included in the Open spaces, parks and reserves activity which is funded through General rates.

5. *If easily available, do you know how much the councils approximately spends on dog exercise areas per annum?*

**Response:** Approximately \$12,500 per annum is spent by the Parks and Reserves team on maintenance of Les Dalton dog park, which is the only specific dedicated dog exercise area within Lower Hutt.

6. *What is your Revenue and Finance Policy split for animal related activities? (i.e. what percentage is funded from rates and what percentage comes from dog registration fees)*

**Response:** 40-59% is funded through Fees and charges, the remainder is through general rates.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link: [www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases)

Yours sincerely

Philip Rossiter

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