



7 August 2026

26/292



Dear [REDACTED]

Response to Request for Information re Use of Dog Registration Fees

I am writing in response to your official information request dated 30 July 2026 seeking a breakdown of what the Dog Registration fees are used for and where the money goes.

Dog registration fees are used to fund the Council's Animal Control activity and assist the Council to meet its obligations under the Dog Control Act 1996, local dog control bylaws, and associated policies.

The Animal Control activity is primarily funded by dog registration fees, with a smaller contribution from general rates. This funding approach reflects the principle that dog owners should bear the majority of the costs associated with dog control services.

For the 2025/26 financial year, the Animal Control budget is \$644,000, of which \$34,105 is funded from rates. The remaining funding is sourced from dog registration fees.

Dog registration fee revenue is used to support a range of services and activities, including:

- Monitoring and enforcing compliance with the Dog Control Act 1996, Council's Dog Control Policy, and relevant bylaws.
- Investigating and responding to reported dog complaints and incidents.
- Promoting community safety through dog control and education programmes.
- Encouraging responsible dog ownership and providing assistance to dog owners experiencing dog-related issues.
- Providing educational information and resources to dog owners and the wider community.
- Responding to aggressive, dangerous, menacing, and roaming dogs.

- Addressing nuisance dog behaviour and irresponsible dog ownership.
- Maintaining records of registered dogs and ensuring information is uploaded to and maintained within the National Dog Database.
- Issuing infringement notices and undertaking prosecutions where appropriate.
- Operating and maintaining the Council pound and pound facilities, including impounding roaming dogs, notifying owners, and managing unclaimed dogs.

I trust this information addresses your request. If you require any further clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Allie Dunn
Manager – Democracy Services