

TO: The Chairperson and Members
POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

FOR DECISION

PROPOSED DOG CONTROL FEES FOR 2015/16

Background Information

There are 5,584 known dogs within the Masterton District and of these 5,280 are registered. The percentage of registered dogs is 94.5%. Of the 304 unregistered a percentage of these will have left the district without the owners advising the Council.

Section 37 of the Dog Control Act 1996 allows for the Territorial Authority to set fees.

Dog Registration Fees

Costs of operating the animal control in 2015/16 are budgeted to be 6.8% higher than 2014/15, while the rates input into the animal control activity has been increased to nearly 10% of the operating costs. These changes mean a 2.0% increase in dog fee income needed to fund the Animal Control activity. Revenue from dog fees in the 2015/16 plan is \$306,000 (excluding GST.) The fees below will generate this income.

All registration fees not paid by the 1st day of the second month of registration (1st August) will incur a 50% penalty imposed under section 37(2) (f) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Last year all those with previously registered dogs, whose registration remains outstanding on 1 July, were sent a reminder notice advising of the imposition of the penalty and that if their dog is not registered they will also be infringed.

This was very successful and saved many dog owners from having to pay the penalty fees.

Infringement fees are \$300 and are sent to the Court in Upper Hutt for collection.

<u>Dog Control Fees</u>	2014/15	Proposed 2015/16
Urban Neutered	\$79.00	\$80.00
Urban Entire	\$124.00	\$125.00
Urban Menacing Neutered	\$88.00	\$90.00
Urban Menacing Entire	\$135.00	\$140.00
Permit Breeder	\$79.00	\$80.00
Rural 1 st Dog	\$79.00	\$80.00
Rural 2nd and Subsequent	\$18.00	\$20.00
Rural Menacing	\$88.00	\$90.00
Dangerous Neutered	\$122.00	\$125.00
Dangerous Entire	\$190.00	\$195.00

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Other Dog Control Charges

	Proposed Fees (incl GST)
Sustenance fee (per day)	\$12.00
Poundage Fee: First impounding	\$66.00
Second impounding	\$122.00
Third & subsequent impounding (within 12 months)	\$153.00
Surrender a dog for euthanasia	\$31.00
Microchipping of impounded dog	\$43.00
Microchipping of Masterton registered dog	\$20.00
Permit application to keep more than two dogs in urban area including breeder	\$51.00
Breeder permit holder urban registration per dog	\$80.00
Re-homing fee for impounded dog	No charge
Replacement registration tag	\$5.00
Collars	Actual cost plus 10%
Costs & expenses relating to impounding and securing impounded dogs	Actual cost plus 10%

Stock Impounding Fees

	Poundage Fee Per day	Sustenance Fee Per day
For every horse, mare, gelding, colt, filly, foal, mule, ass, ox, bull, cow, steer, heifer or calf	\$13.00	\$13.00
For every ram, ewe, wether, lamb or goat	\$6.50	\$7.00
For every boar, sow or pig	\$12.50	\$13.00

For the second and subsequent impounding in one year of the stock of any particular owner, the above poundage fees are increased by 50%.

Fees for Giving Notice of Impounding

For writing and delivering of any notice or sending any notice by post	\$25.00
For inserting any notice in one or more newspapers	\$40.00 or costs

Charge for leading, driving or conveying stock

Actual cost incurred, with a minimum charge of \$75.00 (GST inclusive).

RECOMMENDATION

That the proposed Dog Registration Fees be approved.

Susan Southey

MANAGER PLANNING & REGULATORY SERVICES

10th April 2015