

Our Reference: ANC-06 / 250806144849

1 October 2025

The Secretary for Local Government
Department of Internal Affairs
PO Box 805
WELLINGTON 6140

Dear Secretary for Local Government

Waimakariri District Council: Annual Report on Dog Control 2024/25

In accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996, Section 10A, the following is a copy of the annual report for Waimakariri District Council's dog control policy and practices.

Dog Control Policy and Bylaw

A 10-year review of the Waimakariri District Council Dog Control Bylaw was undertaken in 2019, adopted by Council on the 3 December 2019 and came into force on the 16 December 2019. The Bylaw was further reviewed in 2023 with amendments adopted by Council and came into force in December 2023. The Bylaw must be reviewed by December 2033 or soon if required.

The objectives of the Bylaw are:

- To encourage responsible dog ownership
- To provide for Dog Access to Public areas
- To enforce dog owner obligations
- To minimise any danger, distress or nuisance from dogs to the community

Education

The Waimakariri Animal Management Team delivers education to schools in the district, encouraging safe practices around dogs, including bite prevention.

Dog Parks

The Council currently maintains five dog parks:

- **Kaiapoi Dog Park** – This dog park was opened in Kaiapoi in November 2019. The park has been built on previous red zone land and has an area of 2.2 hectares (1.6h for large dogs and 0.6h for small dogs). The park features a variety of mature trees, shrubs, water outlets and seating.
- **Southbrook Dog Park** - This 9540m² dog park was established in Southbrook Park, Rangiora, in 2010. Access to the park is either from Coronation Street or the Southbrook Park car park. The park features a pleasant walking circuit leading to a large fenced area where dogs can run and exercise. Information signs, water and seating are provided.
- **Millton Memorial Park Dog Park** - This dog park, at the corner of Millton Avenue and River Road, Rangiora, covers 2.6 hectares and was opened in 2015. The park features a 'large dog area' and 'small dog area'.
- **Gladstone Road Dog Park** – This dog park was opened in early 2018 and covers approximately 2 hectares.
- **Oxford Dog Park** – This dog park was opened on 12 April 2025 and is approximately 0.75 hectares.

The dog parks have a Facebook community page www.facebook.com/RangioraDogParks/.

Dog Control on parks and reserves

To protect public safety and enjoyment, the Dog Control Bylaw 2019 classifies the district's parks and reserves into three categories: Dog Prohibited Areas, Leash Control Areas and Under Control Areas.

Animal Management Officers routinely monitor reserves and parks to maintain compliance. This is now rostered and is improving compliance.

The First Schedule of the bylaw lists all the district's reserves and their classifications. Dog owners or any member of the public allowed to own a dog can exercise dogs off leash in Under Control Areas as long as the dog(s) is/are kept under continuous supervision and control.


Reporting Requirement	2023/24	2024/25
The number of registered dogs	14362	14397
The number of registered owners	9684	9825
The number of probationary owners and disqualified owners	0	0
The number of dogs classified as dangerous (section 31).	6	7
The number of dogs classified as menacing (section 33).	40	42

Dog Attacks on People	33	36
Dog Rushing People	45	37
Dog Attacks on Stock	38	30
Dog Attacks on Dogs	47	57
Barking Dogs	396	439
Roaming Dogs	255	227
Dog Welfare Complaints	20	15
Unregistered Dogs resulting in infringements	119	466
Lost / Found	636	499
Callers requesting advice	223	296
Dog Fouling	9	10
Dog Threatening	45	29
TOTAL	1866	2141

The number of prosecutions undertaken.	0	0
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The number of Infringement Notices issued.	144	499
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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Charlton' with a stylized flourish.

Billy Charlton
Environmental Services Manager