

12 December 2023

[REDACTED]  
Kia ora [REDACTED]

## Dog Names

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 22 November 2023. You requested the following information:

1. Data on the most popular dog names registered in Wellington in the past year.
2. If any dog names have been rejected in the past five years, what the names are, and how many names get rejected per year.

Wellington City Council has partly granted your request for information.

**Question 1 and 2 - Data on the most popular dog names registered in Wellington in the past year and If any dog names have been rejected in the past five years, what the names are, and how many names get rejected per year.**

Thank you for your correspondence on 8 December 2023 confirming that the list of the top 10 dog names reported in our “top of the pops for 2023” media release on our [website](#) satisfies question 1 of your request.

Regarding question 2 of your request, under the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008, [Part 2 Animals](#), there are no restrictions to the naming of dogs when registering. As such, no dog names have been rejected and this part of your request has been refused under section 17(e) of the Act because the requested information does not exist.

The Council’s Dog Team have confirmed that Wellingtonians who register their dogs often pick respectful names which is reflective of the love they have for their canine family members. Whilst no dog names have been rejected, from time to time the Council’s Dog Team do receive registrations for dogs with unusual names, this is also reported in our “top of the pops for 2023” article, with my personal favourite being Bellatrix Fluffy Butt Queen of the Woofs.

## Right of review

If you are not satisfied with the Council’s response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council’s decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

Thank you again for your request,

Kind regards

Ollie Marchant  
**Official Information**