

14 November 2022

Kia ora

Dogs in Council care

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 17 October 2022. You requested the following information:

- The number of dogs that entered into council's care for the past five years? ie 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018.
- The number of dogs that are rehomed, broken down into the past five years?
- How many dogs were classified as menacing dog?
- The number of dogs that have been put down, broken down into the past five years?
- Why were they put down?
- How many menacing dogs were put down?
- The number of registered dog owners?
- How long do you keep a dog for?
- What is the fine for having a dog in the pound?

Wellington City Council has **granted** your request for information, please see the below response.

Additional information is also available on our website under the 'Dogs' section, including our annual dog control reports. The reports include statistics for registrations and complaint investigation, as well as key achievements for the reporting period. [Dogs - Dog control reports - Wellington City Council](#) We also have the guide for dog owners [Capital canines - A guide for dog owners \(wellington.govt.nz\)](#)

As part of a recent LGOIMA response, we have also released information on dog attacks and consequences for the owners. This is available on our website [Dog attack statistics \(IRC-3807\) \(wellington.govt.nz\)](#)

The number of dogs in Council care in the last five years.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Dogs in Care	409	349	329	309	203

The number of dogs that are rehomed in the last five years.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Dogs Rehomed	44	29	23	30	30

How many dogs were classified as menacing dog?

This is available on our website as the result of a recent LGOIMA response [Dog attack statistics \(IRC-3807\) \(wellington.govt.nz\)](#)

The number of dogs that were put down in the last five years

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Dogs Euthanised	54	27	29	25	15

Why were they put down?

There are a number of reasons to put down a dog can vary from aggression or unsociable temperaments, compromised health, menacing breed, requested by owner, and court order.

How many menacing dogs were put down?

We do not keep this type of information. This part of your request has been refused under section 17(g) that the information requested is not held by the local authority.

How long do you keep a dog for?

Dogs that are unclaimed after seven days become the property of Wellington City Council and they can be adopted or put down. Most dogs stay much longer, especially if we consider them a rehome prospect.

What is the fine for having a dog in the pound?

Lost and impounded dogs may be held at the shelter facilities at Moa Point or Seaview. No dog will be released until all costs have been paid. Failure to claim an impounded dog does not relieve the owner from costs. Our fines and fees are also available on our website [Dogs - Lost and impounded dogs - Wellington City Council](#)

Type of fine	Cost
First Impound	\$106
Second and sequential in the same registration period	\$170
After hours fee	\$29
Daily sustenance	\$18.50

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.

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

Thank you again for your request, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards

Asha Harry

Senior Advisor, Official Information