



Ref: [REDACTED]

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2 October 2022

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT DOG CONTROL

I refer to your request of 24 August 2022 for the following information:

The period I would like information for is 1 Jan 2017 – 31 July 2022:

- 1. The number of registered dogs in your local authority, broken down annually and by month*
- 2. The number of dog attacks on people council has recorded, broken down annually and by month*
- 3. The number of dog attacks on people council has recorded, broken down by whichever way you categorise the severity of an attack, annually and by month*
- 4. Among all the possible interventions on the attacking dog following an attack, please list how many of each of those interventions were taken, annually and by month (please also include for how many there was no intervention)*
- 5. Among all the possible consequences for the dog owner following an attack, please list how many of each of those were taken, annually and by month (please also include for how many there was no consequence)*

On 19 September 2022, you indicated that you no longer require the information to be broken down by month.

1. Please refer to the dog control activity report on Nelson City Council's website.
nelson.govt.nz/services/licensing-and-environmental-health/dog-control-3/dog-control-activity-report/
2. Please refer to the dog control activity report, referred to above.
3. Dog attacks are not categorised by severity. Council records and investigates all reported dog attacks on humans and each incident is dealt with according to the facts of the particular incident.
4. and 5. – please refer to the table below. In relation to your question about no interventions or no consequences - where a dog attack on a human has occurred and it is possible to identify the owner of the dog, enforcement action is always taken either against the dog, dog owner, or both. In some cases, an incident might be reported as a dog attack, but upon investigation it becomes clear that no attack occurred. It may not always be possible to identify the owner of the attacking dog for example, because the owner/dog is no longer present at the scene, or the description provided to regulatory staff is too vague for identification purposes.

Year	Number of reported attacks on people	Interventions - attacking dog	Consequences - owner
16/17 (from Jan)	14	3 x menacing classification, 1 x dangerous classification, 1 x dog euthanised by agreement, 1 x dog destroyed by court order	2 x written warnings, 2 x verbal warning, 1 x infringement notice for failing to control, 1 x disqualification as an owner, 1 x prosecution
17/18	20	4 x menacing classifications, 1 x dangerous classification	5 x verbal warnings, 6 x written warnings, 2 x infringement notices for failing to control
18/19	17	1 x menacing classification, 4 x dog euthanised by agreement, 1 x dog euthanised by court order	2 x verbal warning, 4 x written warning, 2 x infringement notices for failing to control, 1 x prosecution
19/20	24	5 x menacing classification, 2 x dog euthanised by agreement	5 x written warning, 7 x infringement notices for failing to control, 1 x fencing instruction
20/21	22	4 x menacing classifications, 1 x dangerous classification, 2 x dog euthanised by agreement, 1 x dog euthanised by court order	6 x written warning, 1 x infringement notice for failing to control, 1 x prosecution
21/22	11	3 x dog euthanised by agreement	3 x written warnings, 2 x infringement notice for failing to control

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Mandy Bishop
Acting Group Manager Environmental Management