



**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & REGULATORY
COMMITTEE**

I hereby give notice that the Resource Management and Regulatory Committee meeting of the Papakura District Council is to be held on:

DATE: Tuesday 13th October 2009

TIME: 1.00 pm

VENUE: Council Chambers
 35 Coles Crescent
 PAPA KURA

T Stratton
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERSHIP:

Chairperson	Clr Conroy
Deputy Chairperson	Clr Jones
	HWM Penrose
	Clr Auva'a
	Clr Catchpole
	Clr Goldsmith
	Clr O'Connor
	Clr Piggott
	Clr Pringle

(Quorum 4 members)

(The reports and recommendations contained in this Order Paper are not necessarily Council Policy and should not be taken as Council Policy, or opinion)

PAPAKURA DISTRICT COUNCIL

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PAPAKURA DISTRICT COUNCIL

**AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND
REGULATORY COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
35 COLES CRESCENT, PAPAKURA ON TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2009
COMMENCING AT 1.00 P.M.**

1. APOLOGIES

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- (a) That the Minutes of the Resource Management and Regulatory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8th September 2009 be confirmed.

3. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

4. PLAN CHANGES

5. OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

6. REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT

**(a) PROPOSED PARKING AND TRAFFIC BYLAW
2009 DELIBERATIONS**

REPORTING OFFICER: Erin Clarke
Policy Advisor

ATTACHMENT: Proposed Parking and Traffic Bylaw 2009
Submissions on Parking and Traffic Bylaw
(1-4)

(Attachment No. 1)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council the results of the submission process in relation to the proposed Parking and Traffic Bylaw 2009 and to seek Council's decision as to the bylaw's adoption.

BACKGROUND

Papakura District adopted the Parking and Traffic Bylaw in 2007. Bylaws must be reviewed every five years and while this bylaw was not required to be for some time, there was a need to tidy up provisions around enforcement and issuing of infringement notices in line with the relevant legislation. Council issues relating to heavy motor vehicle parking, cars for sale on the side of the road and boy racers also were reasons to review the current provisions, and this review provided an opportunity to make the bylaw simpler and more user friendly.

It should be noted that the Transport Act 1962 and related regulations, including the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 provides general authority for the control of parking and traffic matters, for example, parking infringements relating to restricted parking areas. The Government's proposed changes to the Road User rule assists with the issue of parking on the berm.

The LGA 2002 requires Council to follow the special consultative procedure when reviewing an existing bylaw and making a new bylaw. This includes a statutory requirement to consult the community.

At its meeting on 7 July 2009, the Resource Management and Regulatory Committee endorsed the attached proposed Parking and Traffic Bylaw for public consultation.

Submissions were invited from the public from 13 July 2009 until 14 August 2009.

NARRATIVE

During the consultation period four submissions were received in relation to the proposed Parking and Traffic Bylaw.

Submission 1 was received from Mr Hunter and outlines his concerns with regard to motorists parking on footpaths and grass berms in urban areas. The submission identifies particular roads where such activity is prevalent and also highlights concern at his concern about the actions taken by parking control officers.

The issue of parking on grass berms will be able to be dealt with once the proposed bylaw is in place. Mr Hunter's complaints have always been investigated in the past and he has been made fully aware of the extent of the Council's control of this issue. He has also been advised of the policy of parking officers operating in pairs in certain

areas for safety reasons. It is recommended that Mr Hunter is advised of the effect of the bylaw and given a further explanation regarding the safe operating practices for parking officers.

Submission 2 was received from Mr Douglas. His written and oral submission outlined his objections to restricting vehicles for sale on the side of the road. This provision of the bylaw is not intended to be a widespread blanket ban, but rather a targeted mechanism to ban vehicle sales in areas where they cause a particular nuisance or safety concern. Signage will not be erected across the District but will be able to be used in a targeted manner to address these issues. A key impetus for including car sale restrictions in the bylaw, was in response to the plethora of vehicles being sold by car yards along Great South Road Takanini causing nuisance, and clusters of cars adjacent to Kirks Bush causing safety hazards as people pulled over to view them. It is recommended that Mr Douglas be sent a letter which details the reasoning behind Council's stance, along with a copy of the new bylaw once adopted.

Submission 3 was received from Mr van Wijk, asking for clarification on what controls are in place to prohibit vehicles from parking between the footpath and front boundaries of their property; and also suggesting that window washing at controlled intersections be banned.

The proposed bylaw provides that vehicles may not park on the grass verge adjacent to the road or footpath. Vehicles may be parked on the grass where it is within a property owners boundary. The situation hypothesised by the submitter would be unusual given the generally small width between footpath and front boundary; and in any case a vehicle would not be permitted to cause a safety hazard or impinge on the footpath.

Clause 13.1.2 of the proposed bylaw prohibits persons from window washing at intersections. It is recommended that Mr van Wijk be informed of the provisions relating to parking on the grass verge, and also that pertaining to window washing at controlled intersections.

The final submission received (number 4) was from Mr Lacey. His submission expressed support for the proposed bylaw, and particularly for the provisions relating to heavy vehicle parking and parking on the footpath.

CONCLUSION

The public consultation period for the proposed Parking and Traffic Bylaw 2009 was held over July and August 2009. Four submissions were received in relation to this bylaw, the recommendations of which are attached to this report. Committee ratification of the proposed bylaw in its current form is sought. This recommendation will then be forwarded to the next Council meeting for final approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the information be received.
2. That it be recommended to Council that the attached proposed Parking and Traffic Bylaw 2009 be formally adopted.
3. That the Council advise Mr Hunter that parking issues raised in his submission will be able to be managed as a result of the new bylaw and that he be reminded of the previous advice about the safe operating policies for the parking officers.

4. That Mr Douglas be provided with a letter highlighting the background and impetus for Council's stance on cars parked for sale on the side of the road, along with a copy of the bylaw, once adopted.
5. That Mr van Wijk be informed of the relevant provisions contained within the bylaw relating to parking on the grass berm and also the prohibition of window washing at controlled intersections.
6. That Mr Lacey be thanked for his support of the proposed bylaw.

6. REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT

**(b) PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS BYLAW 2009
DELIBERATIONS**

REPORTING OFFICER: Erin Clarke
Policy Advisor

ATTACHMENT: Proposed Speed Limits Bylaw 2009
Proposed Speed Limits Bylaw 2009
Submission 1

(Attachment No. 2)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council the results of the submission process in relation to the proposed Speed Limits Bylaw 2009 and to seek Council's decision as to the Bylaw's adoption.

BACKGROUND

Papakura District Council currently has a Speed Limits Bylaw adopted in 2004. The principal reason for reviewing this bylaw is due to Council's obligations under the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002 to review bylaws made after 1 July 2003 within 5 years.

The bylaw is made pursuant to the LGA 1974, LGA 2002 and the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2003.

The LGA 2002 requires Council to follow the special consultative procedure when reviewing an existing bylaw and making a new bylaw. This includes a statutory requirement to consult

At its meeting on 7 July 2009, the Resource Management and Regulatory Committee endorsed the attached proposed Speed Limits Bylaw for public consultation.

Submissions were invited from the public from 13 July 2009 until 14 August 2009.

NARRATIVE

During the consultation period one submission was received in relation to the proposed Speed Limits Bylaw. The submission outlines concerns with speed limits and general road safety on specific roads on the Hingaia Peninsula. As the issues highlighted by the submitter are outside the scope of the bylaw it is recommended that these concerns be investigated and followed up directly with the submitter.

CONCLUSION

The public consultation period for the proposed Speed Limits Bylaw 2009 was held over July and August 2009. One submission was received in relation to this bylaw but, as this is outside the immediate scope of the bylaw, Committee ratification of the proposed bylaw in its current form is sought. This recommendation will then be forwarded to the next Council meeting for final approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the information be received.
2. That the issues raised in a submission from Mr Maguire be investigated and a response in relation to these issues be provided to the submitter
3. That it be recommended to Council that the attached proposed Speed Limits Bylaw 2009 be formally adopted.

6. REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT

(c) ROAD CLOSURE – DUNLOP TARGA RALLY

REPORTING OFFICER: Teresa Turner
Director Business and Promotion

ATTACHMENT: Map of proposed road closure
Letter to residents

(Attachment No. 3)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report seeks Council approval for a temporary road closure of Ardmore Quarry Road for the Dunlop Targa Rally.

BACKGROUND

Temporary road closures for events within the CBD are able to be authorised by the CEO following the approval of a Traffic Management Plan. Temporary road closures for events outside the CBD currently require Council approval.

The Targa Rally was established in New Zealand in 1995 and now involves an annual three round series of road rallies:

- Targa Bambina (2 day event) in March
- Targa Rotorua (2 day event) in June
- Dunlop Targa (6 day event) Auckland – Wellington in October

Competitive stages of the road rally are held on closed roads and the touring stages on open roads.

NARRATIVE

In previous years, Council have approved the temporary closure of Ardmore Quarry Road for the 'prologue stage' of the Dunlop Targa Rally.

Targa organisers have requested a temporary road closure for Ardmore Quarry Road. The road closure will take place on Sunday 25th October 2009 between 12.30 pm and 5 pm. The closure is the same as has taken place in previous years involving Ardmore Quarry Road, Creightons Road and Jones Road. A map of the proposed road closure is attached.

The Rally was not scheduled to take place within Papakura District this year. However, the organisers contacted Council at the end of September requesting a road closure for a stage of the Rally. The stage was originally scheduled to have taken place at the new Hampton Downs motor racing track – however the Targa Rally organizers were notified at the end of September that this facility will now not be ready in time. Hence the late notice and short time frame of the request.

The road closure has been publicly notified and consultation with affected residents is underway. Feedback from the communication and consultation process will be provided to Council at the Resource Management and Regulatory meeting on the 13th October. Targa rally organisers have advised that they will continue to communicate with residents who are affected by the road closure.

Any road closure request requires a Traffic Management Plan to be lodged and approved in accordance with the Code of Practice for Temporary Traffic Management (COPTTM). The Traffic Management Plan for the Ardmore Quarry Road road closure has been received by Council

CONCLUSION

Council has previously approved temporary road closures for Ardmore Quarry Road for the Dunlop Targa Rally. This road closure request is similar to previous requests and has been publicly notified although, due to unforeseen circumstances, within a shorter timeframe. It is recommended that, subject to a satisfactory consultation and communication process with affected residents, approval be given for the temporary closure of Ardmore Quarry Road to enable the Dunlop Targa rally 2009 to go ahead.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the information be received.
2. That Council approve the proposed temporary closure of Ardmore Quarry Road for the Dunlop Targa rally event on Sunday 25th October 2009 subject to the approval of a Traffic Management Plan and that the Targa rally organisers undertaking a satisfactory consultation process with the residents in the affected area.

6. REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT

(d) PROPOSED GATLAND ROAD LIQUOR CONTROL

REPORTING OFFICER: Tony Kay
Director Infrastructure Management

ATTACHMENT: Consultation Responses
Map of Gatland Road Liquor Prohibition Area
(Attachment No. 4)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council resolution to prohibit liquor on the road reserve on Gatland Road in accordance with the Papakura District Council Liquor Control in Public Places Bylaw 2008.

BACKGROUND

At the 13 May 2008 District Development Committee Meeting, the Papakura District Council Liquor Control in Public Places Bylaw was adopted. This Bylaw gives Council the power to prohibit the possession and consumption of liquor in a public place (including roads).

NARRATIVE

There have been ongoing issues reported to Council regarding anti-social behaviour on Gatland Road including liquor consumption, illegal and reckless driving, drug activity, littering, noise, and vandalism. These issues primarily occur on the section of Gatland Road in front of the Cemetery where 90 degree parking has been provided for Cemetery visitors. Reckless driving has been observed over all of Gatland Road.

Possession and consumption of liquor in the Gatland Road Cemetery is currently prohibited under the Liquor Control in Public Places Bylaw 2008. However, as the angled parking associated with the Cemetery is located on the road reserve, there is no restriction on the possession or consumption of liquor on this parking area or any other location within the road reserve on Gatland Road.

The concerns regarding the anti-social behaviour that is occurring on Gatland Road have been investigated. Considerable time and resource has been expended in investigating, designing and consulting on mitigation measures to reduce the illegal and reckless driving. Notwithstanding that Gatland Road does not meet the minimum requirements for a local area traffic management scheme, the nature and scale of traffic calming measures required make this approach unaffordable. Extending the current liquor prohibition that is in place on the Cemetery to cover the length of Gatland Road is considered likely to be the most effective and affordable solution to mitigate these issues.

Before passing a resolution to control liquor in a public place, Council must be satisfied that:

1. There are sufficient grounds under which to impose the liquor controls, and that the nature and extent of the proposed liquor control reasonably reflects these grounds.
2. The liquor control maintains due balance of public and private rights.

3. The extent of public consultation has been sufficient to gauge the community's views on the proposed liquor control.
4. Police comment has been sought on the proposed liquor control.

Each of these issues is considered in detail below.

Grounds for Imposing the Proposed Liquor Control on Gatland Road and the Nature and Extent of this Control

There has been a history of complaints to Council regarding anti-social behaviour occurring on Gatland Road, particularly in the vicinity of the Cemetery. The complaints have related to liquor consumption, illegal and reckless driving, drug activity, littering, noise, vandalism, parking & loitering and general anti-social behaviour by "visitors" to the street.

Officers have been working with local residents to identify engineering measures to mitigate some of these issues. Recently, raised delineators were installed along the parking spaces in front of the Cemetery in an attempt to discourage illegal driving that was occurring at this location. Apart from these low cost improvements, there are not considered to be any further economically justified engineering solutions that would address the other concerns of the residents.

It is considered likely that a significant proportion of those engaging in anti-social behaviour on Gatland Road either consume alcohol while on Gatland Road or have alcohol present in their vehicles. Hence, prohibiting the possession and consumption of liquor on Gatland Road (as proposed by this report) is likely to mitigate a number of the anti-social activities currently occurring on the road.

Residents have reported that the anti-social activities occur at all times of the day and night. It is therefore proposed that the liquor control on Gatland Road would apply "at all times". This is consistent with the existing liquor control that is in place covering the Cemetery.

The extent of the proposed liquor control was carefully considered. While the problems experienced by residents are primarily occurring in front of the Cemetery, it is recommended that the control apply to the entire length of Gatland Road. This will avoid moving the anti-social activities further along Gatland Road to an area not covered by the liquor prohibition. It is not considered likely that imposing the liquor prohibition on the entire length of Gatland Road will move the anti-social activities onto Great South Road as the significantly higher traffic volumes on Great South Road provides a greater level of passive surveillance, which would deter such activities.

Balance between Public and Private Rights

It is not considered that the proposed liquor control will unreasonably restrict public rights. There is an existing prohibition on the possession and consumption of liquor in the Cemetery on Gatland Road. The parking area on Gatland Road that serves the Cemetery is only excluded from this existing prohibition because it falls on the road reserve as opposed to the Cemetery land.

Extent of Public Consultation regarding the Proposed Liquor Control

Consultation regarding the proposed liquor prohibition on Gatland Road was initiated by Council officers and has been carried out by a member of a local Gatland Road residents group. The consultation process involved the resident visiting every property on Gatland Road to seek support for the proposed liquor prohibition. The consultation response form is included in attachment 4.

All consultation responses supported the proposed liquor prohibition on Gatland Road. Responses were received from 26 of the 33 properties on Gatland Road (79%). No responses were able to be obtained in the consultation period from the remaining seven properties on Gatland Road. Wider public consultation regarding the proposed liquor control on Gatland Road is not considered necessary. Gatland Road is a semi-rural 'no exit' street and the only 'public facility' on the street is the Cemetery where there is already a liquor prohibition in effect. Apart from local residents, the only group that the proposed liquor control is expected to affect are those involved in the anti-social behaviour that the prohibition is seeking to address.

Police Comment on the Proposed Liquor Control

At the Council Police Liaison Meeting held on 25 September 2009, the proposed liquor control on Gatland Road was discussed. The Police indicated that they supported the proposed liquor prohibition and would enforce the control on Gatland Road if it was enacted.

CONCLUSION

There have been ongoing issues with multiple activity anti-social behavior occurring on Gatland Road, particularly on the section of road in front of the Cemetery. Road engineering measures have recently been implemented in an attempt to discourage the illegal driving that occurs at this location. However, engineering measures are minor relative to the scope and scale of traffic calming measures that would be required and cannot satisfactorily address the other issues raised, (drug activity, littering, noise, vandalism, parking & loitering and general anti-social behaviour). Implementing a liquor ban on Gatland Road is considered likely to be the most effective and affordable option to address all issues.

Given the anti-social activities detailed above that have been occurring on Gatland Road in conjunction with liquor consumption, it is considered that there are sufficient grounds to implement a liquor prohibition on the road. It is not considered that this liquor ban will unreasonably restrict public rights.

Consultation has been carried out with residents on Gatland Road who would be directly affected by the proposed liquor ban. None of the residents contacted opposed the proposed liquor prohibition. The proposal has also been discussed with the Police and they have indicated that they support the prohibition and would enforce the liquor ban on Gatland Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the information be received.
2. That pursuant to section 147 of the Local Government Act, the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 and section 7.1 of the Papakura District Council Liquor Control in Public Places Bylaw 2008, Council resolves that a liquor ban (at all times) be imposed on Gatland Road, and that appropriate signage be erected to inform the public of this restriction.

6. REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT

(e) REGULATORY SERVICES REPORT FOR AUGUST 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Graeme McCarrison
Director Regulatory Services

ATTACHMENT: Statistical Data
Food Grading List of Premises
(Attachment No. 5)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with information on Regulatory Services operations.

BACKGROUND

The Regulatory Services operation has seven primary functions being Building Consents, Resource Consents, Environmental Health Inspections, Liquor Licensing, Animal Control, Noise Control and Parking Control and each is reported on separately within this report. Detailed information is provided on each functional area in the attachment to this report. The first section of the attachment provides comparative data for Building, Environmental Health and Liquor and a graph that shows monthly Building statistics dating back to July 2008.

The second section relates to Resource Consents and is divided into four key parts related to the number of applications received and processed, monitoring and compliance, significant on-going matters and applications and finally matters before the Environment Court.

The third, fourth and fifth sections concern Animal Control, Noise Control and Parking Control respectively.

NARRATIVE

Building Consents August 2009

The key building performance statistics for the month are as follows:

- For the month of August 2009 there were 34 consents issued and the average number of days to issue these consents was 11.2 days. There were 10 amendments issued during the month. 100% of consents were issued within 20 working days. In August in the previous year 44 consents were issued with 98% of these being processed within 20 working days. The average number of days to process the consents in the previous year was 9.4 days.
- The total value of consents issued in August was \$4.8 million which compares to \$4.8 million in the same month in the previous year.
- 41 consent applications were received in August 2009 compared to the 51 received in the same month in the previous year.
- There were 47 Land Information Memorandum's issued in August compared to 21 in the same month last year.

Swimming Pools

In August 2009 a total of 51 properties were visited to check swimming pool fencing compliance and 10 failed the initial inspection. The failed inspections generally related to maintenance items such as repairs to gates, fences and window restrictors.

Environmental Health

Details of Current Food Grades

All food premises have had their inspections for re-grading completed. The next round of grading inspections will take place in November/December 2009. All gradings can be viewed on the Papakura District Council website and are attached to this report.

Enforcement Issues

During the month of August 2009, 44 complaints were received. These complaints related to various issues including noisy stereos, pests, food premises and general nuisance from rubbish related matters. The complaints relating to food premises were of a minor nature and have now been resolved.

Liquor Licensing

During the month of August 2009 there were a total of 33 applications received which were made up of the following:

1.	General Manager's Certificate	6
2.	Renewal General Manager's Certificate	5
3.	Off Licence	1
4.	Off Licence – Renewal	1
5.	Club Manager's Certificate	2
6.	Club Licence – Renewal	1
7.	Special Licence	14
8.	Temporary Authority	3
		—
		33

The new Off-Licence applied to an existing premise that has had a change of ownership. Night monitoring is to begin during September and October with the intention of viewing some of the more frequented premises.

Resource Consents August 2009

In August, 22 resource consents were processed and 33 were received. The average number of days to process these consents was 18.7 days. In August, 95% of the consents processed were issued within the statutory timeframes. There was one application which exceeded the timeframes, this related to:

LU 9479 - Proposed construction of church on land at Manna Park Seventh Day Adventist Church, 653 Great South Road, Drury

This was a complicated consent that was subject to a Hearing where Commissioners resolved to decline the application. The applicant has subsequently lodged an appeal against the decision.

Complaints and Resource Consent Monitoring:

During August 2009, 26 complaints were received and 14 of the complaints have been resolved successfully with the remaining complaints being under investigation.

In August 2009, 19 new resource consents became due for monitoring checks and 18 were signed off as completed during the month.

Resource Consent Matters:

201 and 211 Opaheke Road

The matter has been before the court again. A site visit has been arranged for 23 October 2009 with Council representatives, a scrap metal dealer and the owner's lawyers to identify exactly what Council requires them to remove from the site.

155 Hamlin Road

The property is zoned Rural Papakura under the District Plan. The sleepout/storage on this property has been turned into a second household unit contrary to the rules of the District Plan. The owners employed a resource consent planner to apply for resource consent for the non-complying dwelling onsite. The stay on the abatement remains in place until the application has been received and processed by council.

Significant Resource Consent Applications:

Motocross, Ardmore Quarry Road

The Environment Court mediation was held on 22 May 2009. Agreement on the main issues (and in particular on noise and frequency of use) was not reached. Council has undertaken further noise monitoring and the results have been distributed to the parties of the appeal. The parties are currently assessing the noise report and a further report to the Court is required by 23 October 2009. The parties have been asked to consider whether they would like to pursue further Court assisted mediation or go straight to a Court Hearing.

Retail development, Prictor Street/Clevedon Road

The applicant has requested that the application be put on hold. In the meantime it is likely that a new application will be lodged after 1 October 2009. This is so that the new application will be determined with regard to the amendments to the Resource Management Act which come into force on that date.

190 Flanagan Road, Drury

An application for Resource Consent has been received to establish a drilling contractor's depot and engineering/repair operation for farming machinery and equipment on the above land. The application was notified on a limited basis with the period of notification running until 26 June 2009. Following submissions received as part of the notification process, the applicant has agreed to commission a noise assessment. This noise report has been received and is currently being assessed. A Hearing will be arranged once the assessment has been reviewed.

Animal Control

Annual visits to properties have commenced and of the total during August 54 dogs were impounded compared to 84 in August 2008. 41 of the impounded dogs were unregistered and 3 were unclaimed.

Officers visited 175 properties to ensure pressure is kept on dog owners to register their dogs.

Noise Control

Complaints received about excessive noise for August were 217 compared to 172 in July. 51 excessive noise notices were issued in August compared to 47 in July. Four lots of equipment were seized and Police attendance was not required during the month.

Parking Control

627 infringement notices were issued in total for August compared to 643 in August 2008. 28 infringements were issued for disabled parking offences. School patrols were increased this month to 40 and 20 more recreation/reserve patrols were carried out as a result of complaints.

A summary of the parking infringements is as follows:

	August
Registration	166
Warrant of Fitness	82
Footpath	58
Broken Yellow Lines	55
Restricted Parking	19
Disabled	28
Loading Zone	52
Bus Stop	13
No Stopping	66
Facing Wrong Direction	22

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the information be received.

6. REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT

(f) CANINE GOOD CITIZEN PROGRAMME

REPORTING OFFICER: Graeme McCarrison
Director Regulatory Services

ATTACHMENT: Information on the Canine Good Programme
Citizen Programme

(Attachment No. 6)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is firstly to seek a decision on whether Council will support the promotion of the NZ Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen programme and secondly whether dog owners with a Canine Good Citizen certificate should receive a discount in registration fees to the same level as that for those holding a Dog Owner Licence.

BACKGROUND

Under Council's Dog Policy there is an emphasis on dog owners acting responsibly with their dogs. Council has provided education to dog owners via the Dog Owner Licence (DOL) programme, a school programme and presentations at major events. People who complete the DOL programme are eligible for a discount on their dog registration fee.

NARRATIVE

The Manukau Dog Training Club, operating out of the NZ Kennel Club facility at Papakura-Clevedon Road, offer dog obedience training through the Canine Good Citizen programme. The programme was developed by the NZ Kennel Club. The training provides the dog owner with the following:

- Information and education on dog health and potential illness
- Legal/regulatory requirements
- Obedience training and assessment
- Exercise
- Travelling with a dog
- How to train a dog
- Control of barking

The training is offered in four levels:

1. Foundation
2. Bronze
3. Silver
4. Gold

The dog owner is assessed and has to demonstrate that they not only have knowledge in the care of the dog but also are able to handle their dog. The foundation level aims to give a dog owner all the basics in care, managing and handling their dog. If all dog owners in the district completed and passed this course, there would be a significant improvement in dog behaviour in this district and thus a reduction in dog complaints. A copy of the Canine Good Citizen Manual has been placed in the Councillors room.

The Club has requested that the programme is highlighted on the Papakura District Council website and on Council's dog information. There is no request for financial support. It is considered appropriate for Council to support the promotion of this programme to dog owners in Papakura.

As dog owners who pass the Canine Good Citizen programme (foundation level) will have had a higher level of training and assessment than owners who simply pass the Council DOL course, it is appropriate that this training is recognised by the Council through a discount in dog registration fees to the same level as a DOL holder. Furthermore, owners with a Canine Good Citizen certificate have no need to attain the DOL and should be exempt from the DOL requirement to receive a discount in registration. This extension of the discount policy is not expected to have any cost to Council as it is likely that anyone prepared to do the Canine Good Citizen programme will already have a DOL.

Promoting the Canine Good Citizen programme is not likely to reduce the number of unregistered dogs. Owners of unregistered dogs are unlikely to enter into the programme due to cost, the need to attend training sessions and to pass a very strict test. However, Animal Control Services have indicated it would assist good dog owners who are looking for a programme to help them care for their dog or obedience training.

CONCLUSION

Council has the opportunity to be the first Auckland Council to promote the NZ Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen programme. The programme delivers dog owner education and dog obedience training. This is a national education and obedience programme. There are potential benefits to dog owners and residents if dogs receive better training. The programme is unlikely to be attractive to unregistered dog owners. It is considered appropriate for Council to offer dog owners that pass the foundation level of the Canine Good Citizen programme a discount in registration to the same level as DOL. In addition these owners should be exempt from the DOL requirement to receive this discount.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the information be received.
2. That Council agrees to promote the Canine Good Citizen programme on its website and other dog information sites.
3. That Council approves dog owners who pass the Canine Good Citizen programme (foundation level or above) receiving a discounted dog registration fee at the Dog Owner Licence level.
4. That Council does not require dog owners who pass the Canine Good Citizen programme (foundation level) to take part in the Dog Owner Licence programme to receive a discounted dog registration fee.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

8. CONFIDENTIAL