

Presentation of October CEO Report – Issue 101

Question from Councillor Nyaguy:

Has the new animal management officer been hired yet? Can a clarification be provided on how animal management fines are broken down? Do we issue fines for poor behaviour? It seems from the report that the majority of fines are for registration issues.

Response:

Council's new Animal Management Officer commenced full time on 25 October 2023.

During the first quarter, the breakdown of infringements was 5 for non-serious injury by dog, 3 for failing to leash a dog and 2 for failing to register a pet. In the current quarter, the breakdown is 38 for failing to register a pet and 4 for failing to leash a dog. The increase in registration related infringements this quarter is due to a failure to renew annual registrations. Renewals aside, there will often be more registration related infringements per month as our Officers carry microchip scanners while on patrol and can quickly establish whether a dog is unregistered.

The Domestic Animal Act 1994 allows Councils to issue infringements for several poor behaviours for both pets and their owners. These include failure to register, failure to leash, failure to carry waste bags, dog attack (minor), dog rush, dog/cat at large and more.

**Please note: answers to any questions in Public Question Time and Councillor Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*