SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

15 MAY 2013

AGENDA ITEM C1

DOG CONTROL FEES FOR 2013/14

Purpose of Report

To set the Dog Control Fees for 2013/14.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

- 1. Receives the information.
- 2. Adopt the Dog Control fees for 2013/14 (contained in Appendix 1).

1. Background and discussion

The Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act) gives Council the power to set fees for the registration and control of dogs. Section 37 of the Act states that fees shall be made by resolution of Council and that the fees must be publicly advertised once they are set.

In 2011 Council uncoupled the setting of the dog registration and control fees from the Annual Plan process. This has enabled Officers sufficient time to deal with administrative processes (including advertising fees and printing registration forms) before the registration year begins on 1 July 2013, and it also gives dog owners the ability to register dogs before this date.

The proposed fees for 2013/14 are included in Appendix 1.

The fees are in line with the Council's Dog Control Policy (Section 5.8) which allows for dog control activities to be self-funded. There are some minor adjustments to the proposed fee structure. The amount for late fees has been reduced to ensure that the late fees penalty does not exceed 50% of the set fee (this is a requirement of the Act). The fees associated with microchipping are proposed to be actual cost only, while there is a small increase in surrendering a dog for euthanasia to cover Council costs.

It is worth noting that Council does have the opportunity to simplify the registration fee structure process as part of its review of the Dog Control Policy. This review is currently underway but will not be completed until the next registration year 2014/2015.

1.1 Legal Implications

Section 37 of the Dog Control Act states that:

The dog control fees payable to a territorial authority shall be those reasonable fees prescribed by resolution of that authority for the registration and control of dogs under this Act.

1.2 Financial Considerations

Council's Dog Control Policy (Section 5.8) states that the dog control activity is self-funding.

2. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proposed Dog Control Fees for 2013/14

Contact Officers: Bronwyn Johnson, Team Leader Environmental Health, Reviewed By: Vanessa Tipoki, Group Manager Planning and Environment (Acting)

Appendix 1 – Proposed Dog Control Fees 2013/14

DOG REGISTRATION FEES	
Approved Owners	
Desexed	
Urban	\$55.00
Rural	\$32.00
Entire	75-105
Urban	\$78.00
Rural	\$43.00
Late Fees	+ 10.00
Desexed	
Urban	\$82.00
Rural	\$47.00
Entire	
Urban	\$117.00
Rural	\$64.00
General Owners	401100
Desexed	
Urban	\$83.00
Rural	\$47.00
Entire	
Urban	\$117.00
Rural	\$66.00
Late Fees	
Desexed	
Urban	\$123.00
Rural	\$70.00
Entire	
Urban	\$175.00
Rural	\$98.00
Other	
Flat fee for 5 plus Rural Dogs	\$206.00
Late fee for 5 plus Rural Dogs	\$309.00
Surrender a dog for euthanasia	\$40.00
Microchipping a dog	Actual costs
Permit application to keep more than two dogs in an urban area including breeder	\$37.00
Breeder permit holder urban registration per dog	\$69.00
Re-homing fee for impounded dogs	\$69.00
Costs and expenses relating to impounding and securing impounded dogs	Actual costs plus 10%
Replacement registration tag(if tag lost or damaged)	\$5.00
Transfer of registered dog in another Council to SWDC	0
Collars	Actual cost plus 10%
Impounding Fees	
First Impounding	\$66.00
Second Impounding	\$107.00
Third Impounding	\$127.00
Feeding (per day)	\$10.50