



ATTACHMENTS

Ordinary Council Meeting

23 May 2024

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Council’s Proposal

Proposed Animal Control Fees

Highlighted lines are revised fees post consultation.

Fee / charge	2024/25 (Revised)	2024/25 (Proposed)	2023/24 (Current)	Difference (\$)	Revised (%)	Proposed (%)
Dog registration fees (in accordance with section 37 of the Dog Control Act 1996)						
Working dog	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$34.00	\$6.00	18%	18%
Entire dog fee (if paid on or before 31 July)	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$95.00	\$15.00	16%	16%
Entire dog fee (if paid on or after 1 Aug)	\$130.00	\$130.00	\$114.00	\$16.00	14%	14%
Entire dog fee – Responsible Owner	\$75.00	\$80.00	\$70.00	\$5.00	7%	14%
Responsible Owner application fee (payable upon initial application ONLY, unless owner circumstances change)	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$34.00	\$6.00	18%	18%
De-sexed dog discount (off the full-year registration fee; not applicable to working dogs)	\$15.00	\$13.00	\$11.00	\$4.00	36%	18%
Disability assist dog	No Fee	No Fee	No Fee			
Pet therapy dog (as approved by Council Officers)	No Fee	No Fee	No Fee			
Dangerous dog (*percentage of applicable Entire Dog Fee; before penalties are applied)	150%*	150%*	150%*			
Replacement tag	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$12.00	\$3.00	25%	25%

Fee / charge	2024/25 (Revised)	2024/25 (Proposed)	2023/24 (Current)	Difference (\$)	Revised (%)	Proposed (%)
Multiple dog application fee for more than two dogs (urban area only)	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$110.00	\$15.00	1%	14%
Dog Impounding fees (in accordance with section 68 of the Dog Control Act 1996)						
Dog – If registered and 1st impounding in any 12 months	\$95.00	\$90.00	\$80.00	\$15.00	19%	13%
Dog – If unregistered or 2nd or more impounding in any 12 months	\$200.00	\$180.00	\$155.00	\$35.00	23%	16%
After Hours Impounding Fee (5pm to 8.30am)	\$200.00	\$180.00	\$155.00	\$35.00	23%	16%
Sustenance and Care Fee (per dog per day in Pound)	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$17.00	\$3.00	18%	18%
Microchip Fee per Dog	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	20%	20%
Sale of Dog to the Public (including microchipping and registration)	\$125.00 plus desexing cost	\$125.00 plus desexing cost	\$110.00 plus desexing cost	\$15.00	14%	14%
Sale of Dog to Rescue Agencies	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$39.00	\$6.00	15%	15%
Other animal fees (in accordance with section 14 of the Impounding Act 1955)						
Impounding Fee	\$95.00	\$90.00	\$80.00	\$15.00	19%	13%
Sustenance (per animal per day)	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$17.00	\$3.00	18%	18%

Proposed Food Licensing Fees

Fee / charge	2024/25 (proposed)	2023/24 (current)	Difference (\$)	(%)
Registration Fees				
New Food Control Plan Registration – 1 Year Registration (excludes verification)	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$100.00	33%
New National Programme Registration (All Levels) – 2 Year Registration (excludes verification)	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$100.00	33%
MPI Domestic Food Business Levy				
Year One Levy (2025) (per Site)	\$57.50			
Year Two Levy (2026) (per Site)	\$86.25			
Year Three levy (2027) (per Site)	\$115.00			
Miscellaneous Food Registration Fees				
Significant Change Fee (FCPs & NPs)	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	0%
Significant Amendment Fee (FCPs Only) (excludes verification)	\$200.00			
Renewal of Registration				
Late Payment Penalty for overdue invoices	10%			
Verification Fees				
Verification Base Fee (NPs & FCPs) – Includes first two hours then hourly rate applies.	\$500.00	\$340.00	\$160.00	47%
EHO/Verifier Hourly Rate - invoiced in 15 min blocks (includes email close out of corrective actions)	\$220.00	\$185.00	\$35.00	19%

Fee / charge	2024/25 (proposed)	2023/24 (current)	Difference (\$)	(%)
Late cancellation/postponement or failure to attend verification penalty (<48 hours' notice)	\$110.00			
Verification Revisit/failure to complete CARs Fee (second and subsequent visits)	\$200.00			
Enforcement Fees				
Infringement for failing to register a food control plan or national programme with the appropriate authority in accordance with Food Act 2014	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	0%
Other Food Act 2014 infringements in accordance with Food Regulations 2015 Schedule 2 Infringement Offences and Fees	As per schedule (\$300 - \$450)	As per schedule		
Food Safety Officer Hourly Rate (where enforcement action is required)	\$250.00	\$185.00	\$65.00	35%
Request for review of enforcement	\$120.00			

Summary of Submissions Animal Control and Dog Registration Fees

Submission Point	Times Raised	Officers Response
Fee increases penalise good owners not bad owners.	28	Officers have recommended improved discount rates for positive practices like de-sexing and increased penalty fees for impounding.
We don't use Council services/ My dog doesn't need services.	18	<p>Council provides a range of services that people have access to, not everyone uses all these services, but many people pay through rates.</p> <p>Rates cover the majority of the cost of dog control due to the wider community benefits but those who own dogs generate the need for the service.</p> <p>A particular dog may not use all the available Council services, but owners may need to access them. Additionally, there is still a cost to administering the registration system which we are required to operate by law.</p>
Cost of living is already too high.	15	<p>The cost of living has continued to increase in line with the cost of doing business. Council like all organisations has costs it needs to recover to provide its services.</p> <p>We have proposed increases that are lower than the requirements of our 2021 Revenue and Financing Policy in acknowledgement of the cost of living and that making up the difference with a single increase would be unaffordable for many people.</p> <p>This would also potentially drive unintended consequences like more animals being surrendered to the pound or being abandoned.</p>
What do we get for our fees/ Council doesn't provide anything for my fees	12	<p>Registration fees help to cover part of the costs of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing and maintaining facilities for the care, welfare and return of lost, stray, impounded or seized dogs. • investigation, monitoring and resolution of dog issues such as nuisance (barking & roaming), aggressive and dangerous dogs (rushing & attacks). • monitoring and enforcement of the dog control act, bylaws and policy. • installation and maintenance of pooper scooper bags & dispensers. • friendly and professional advice to dog owners, our community and visitors. • education programs. • patrolling public areas, reserves, parks, sports fields and signage in public all aimed at public education, safety and where required enforcement takes place. • standard overheads associated with animal control vehicles, technology, facilities, administration, record keeping of dogs required by central government

		(including the updating of the National Dog Database), staff costs, management etc.
Council already takes enough money from rates.	7	If Council does not increase fees and charges for services, then more money is required from rates or significant cuts in level of service would be required. Cuts to levels of service can only occur through the Long-term plan. Consultation on the Long-term plan will start in June.
Service should be cut back to reduce costs/ Council costs should be justified/ Council services are inefficient/ Council is over staffed.	6	The current level of staffing in the animal control team ensures that level of service is maintained. This is important in the animal control space as unattended or aggressive animals can be a major hazard to our community.
Rural (non-working) Dogs should get a discount because they don't use services.	5	Council previously had a registration category called rural other dogs. We found out that we could not legally offer a reduction in fees under the Dog Control Act for 'rural other' dogs. The Act is quite prescriptive in that registration fees should only be reduced under special circumstances i.e. for working dogs, dogs that are neutered or disability/companion dogs. The 'rural other' category did not meet that test. It is considered that one registration rate for all pet dogs, rural or urban was a fair way to fund the services of animal control regardless of where they reside in the district. This reflects that all dog owners have access to all of our animal management services regardless of location – rural or urban. Following concerns about the removal of the rural dog other category, we sought an independent review of the decision and the reason behind it and that review reaffirmed the right decision had been made.
There should be discounts for those on pensions or benefits.	6	Officers have recommended that Council explore options for rebates in the next registration year.
There are massive problems with stray dogs.	6 (5 Tūrangi)	This feedback has been passed on to the Animal Control team, anyone in the community who see a stray dog should get in touch with Council.
The dog poo bags are always empty.	5 (1 Omori/Kuratau)	The feedback about dog poo bag holders being empty has been passed onto the team.
Have a fixed income and cannot afford to pay with more increases on everything.	4	Officers have recommended that Council explore options for rebates in the next registration year for those on fixed incomes
Increasing fees will increase number of unwanted animals or non-registered animals.	4	Officers are conscious of the relationship between unwanted or un-registered dogs and fee increases. The proposed fees attempt to balance the need for increases and this risk

Support fee increases/ fee increases are appropriate/ fee should increase to not put more pressure on rates.	4	The proposed fees attempt to balance the need for increased fees and the requirement for funding from rates.
Why not register cats? / There are too many cats and they don't have to pay.	4	Council does not currently have a bylaw that mandates the registration, de-sexing or microchipping of cats. This is the only way currently Council could require the registration of Cats.
Bad owners don't pay anyway.	3	Officers agree there are a small number of individuals who have dogs unlawfully. Based on the available data the overwhelming majority of known dogs are registered. There are some dogs enforcement officers aren't aware of and we rely in part on our community making reports to catch the individuals with unregistered, roaming or aggressive animals.
Discounts for positive owner practices like desexing should be higher.	4	Officers have recommended improved discount rates for positive practices like de-sexing and increased penalty fees for impounding.
Council should provide a fenced dog park.	5	This is outside of scope, but Officers have passed feedback onto the relevant teams. We encourage submitters who would like to see funding for a dedicated facility/space to submit through the long-term plan consultation when it opens in June.
Why do we have to register dogs?	2	The Dog Control Act 1996 requires registration of Dogs
System should be user pays.	2	The system is split between users and ratepayers (some may also be users) as the benefits are to both dog owners and the wider community through animal control.
There should be town/area-based discounts.	2	Officers are not recommending town or area-based discounts.
Increases should be higher on fines	2	Officers have recommended improved discount rates for positive practices like de-sexing and increased penalty fees for impounding.
Dog fees are being increased for other reasons like paying for the new Council building.	2	The fees collected from Dog registration are not used for other purposes they are ring fenced.
Council should provide discounts for the canine good citizen programme levels/	2	Officers support positive steps taken by the Dog owning community. However, the canine good citizen programme often requires club membership to participate in. Council can provide a discount to owners for responsible practices

		<p>based on assessment criteria we set which is more accessible.</p> <p>Officers will explore the option for CGC to be a way for owners to qualify as a responsible owner.</p>
Why are dogs microchipped?	1	Dog are required to be microchipped under the Dog Control Act 1996 section 36A
Sale of dog to rescue agency fee shouldn't be increased.	1	The increase in costs reflects the increased costs of taking care of and getting them to rescue agencies.
Owners should be registered not the animal	1	The Dog Control Act 1996 requires dogs to be registered.

Summary of Submissions Food Licensing

Submission Point	Times Raised	Officers Response
Food fees punish small business/they hurt local business/ they pay enough already.	4	<p>We understand that fees have an impact on Businesses however if we don't collect the revenue from the businesses to cover the costs then rate payers will have to cover the costs of licensing private businesses.</p> <p>Officers have proposed that over the next year Council explore options for differential pricing</p>
I agree with the increases but only for well established businesses	1	As above
Food compliance should be better.	1	Officers agree that food compliance can always be better and we work hard to improve our own training and experience and to upskill food businesses to ensure they understand their compliance obligations
TDC should not put these fees up and should charge more on other businesses or events like hotels and motels or Ironman.	1	Council has no means of cost recovery for food fees for non-food registered businesses. Fees for other Council services are also proposed to be increased through the Long-term plan and will be consulted on in June.
Cafes benefit from visitors and events. Rate payers cover most of the costs of this.	1	Thanks for your feedback, Council tries to strike a balance between users and rates across the services we deliver. This is to help ensure we have a safe, healthy, and vibrant community.

Consultation Document

Fees & Charges 2024

Summary of submissions

Statistics Report

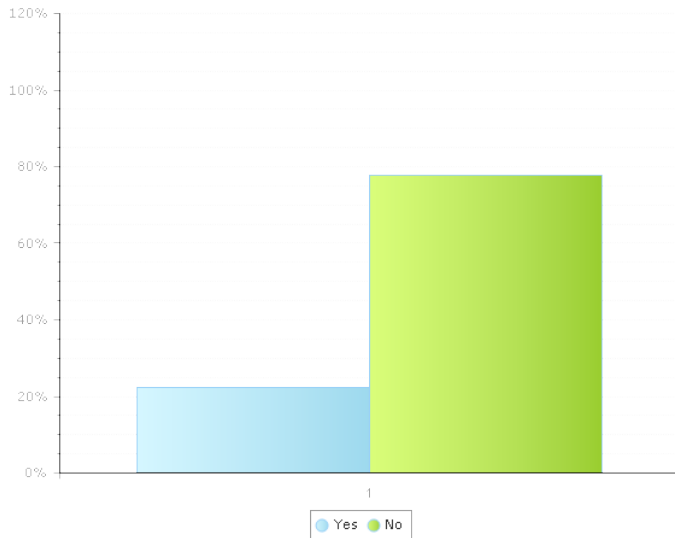
06/05/2024

Report: Fees & Charges 2024 Statistics report

Category Name: Proposed Animal Control Fees
Overview of Category:
Total number of submitters: 131
Total number of points: 130

Response field Number and Name: 1.1- Proposed Animal Control Fees		
Question: Do you support the dog registration fees for the next financial year?		
Total number of responses: 130		
Decision Sought	Number of submitters who selected this option	%
Yes	28	22.22%
No	98	77.78%

Proposed Animal Control Fees



Submitters for this question
Submitters for this question
Response field Number and Name: 1.2-If workflow is no
Question: Please tell us why you don't support them
Total number of responses: 104
Submitters for this question
Submitters for this question
2 - Jill Stanaway: Question Comments: We live on a lifestyle block in Oruanui. Pipi comes to work with me as I am a gardener/landscaper. The only other times Pipi comes to town is when we have takeaways round the lake or something (which is about 3 times a year). I always bring my own poop bags and clean up her mess. She is not a working dog, however she doesn't use the dog park facilities or anything like that. I think that farm dogs who don't use town dog facilities, should pay a lesser fee.
3 - Pamela Soden: Question Comments:

Taupo District Council SUBMISSION REGARDING INCREASE IN DOG REGISTRATION CHARGES

I am a 77-year-old pensioner living on a widow's pension and the owner of 2 small Maltese Terriers: a male dog 15 years old and a female dog 13 years old. Over the years it has become increasingly more difficult to find the money for their Taupo Registration fees, increases in vet bills and dog food. Older people in the Taupo community living on a pension already face Council rate increases, power charges and many other cost of living increases. I, like many other pensioners need the comfort and friendship of our 'fur babies', especially when living alone. I appreciate that Taupo Council have to 'balance the books' with increases across many areas where investment is needed to continue to operate in a sound financial way. Many older members of Taupo Community will not be able to afford to own a dog to motivate them to exercise regularly with walks and fresh air – the perfect way to their good health. Some may deny themselves food in order to meet the new increased registration fee, choosing to feed their dogs and not themselves. Dog Registration Fee increases may become counter-productive I suspect older people make up a large number of owners who regularly register their dogs each year for many years, bringing much needed fees to the Council. Putting up registration fees will put pensioners at a disability as they are not able to earn any extra income. Please consider giving pensioner dog owners a substantial discount when registering their dogs in the future.

Pamela Soden

4 - Melissa Cleverley : Question Comments:

my dog is well looked after never is out of our properties and I have never had interactions with dog control and never see any action taken when have phones about problem dogs in the area, so don't agree that we as owners should be penalized for other people's lack of responsibility with there pets, make the impound cost higher and penalize the ones that are irresponsible.

5 - Jodi Wakelin: Question Comments: You already take enough money from us in rates and are no doubt increasing them again this year so its a no from me

6 - Claire Rowe : Question Comments: I'm a responsible dog owner who cares for all my dogs needs. Charge the people who don't care for there animals correctly not the ones who do! Make them responsible for there own actions.

7 - Fleur Steiner: Question Comments:

everythin is going up and this is just one more to put on the list. It is just too much for all of the community to deal with. Rates in itself is enough. What will i see for this change in fees personally?

8 - Celeste Lourens : Question Comments: i think putting fees up for dog registration especially above \$100 is getting greedy. As someone who also pays rates i feel like im bleeding money out for services i dont require and i believe this will just increase people's inabilities to register their dogs. Not only the fact it seems the only animals to be penalised are dogs.

9 - Rachel Hughes : Question Comments: I feel fair enough I town like Taupo where there is a big issue with wondering dogs etc and turangi I live in whakamaru and pay enough now for registration in feilding district they pay \$35 a year. Maybe breaking them down into prices per town instead of the same price for the whole district. ??

10 - Luke Kirkeby : Question Comments: Absolutely unjustified to consider raising rural dog fees when the vast majority of the time these dogs do not leave their property and hence don't use any of the facilities that the council upkeeps/provides.

11 - Tina Land: Question Comments: As a responsible dog owner, i pay the fee every year - and get what for my money. Im osying merely to comply. I dont use any services, ever. So why would i be in favour of increasing my fees. Apart from a cheap dog tag with a number on it. I get nothing. My is mocrichipped so is traceable with or without a collar. No i do not support an increase in fees

12 - Emma Cairns: Question Comments:

Unfortunately the "good" dog owners appear to be getting punished for those who don't take responsibility for owning a dog. These people:

- a. Don't look after their dog properly by way of securing their dog day and night(constant posts regarding roaming dogs), therefore, the services of such places as the Pound are called upon. Why are these owners not dealt to by way of a fine for this? The dog seems to be the one being punished for bad owners?
- b. Don't Actually register their dog. Again, owners who do not register their dogs should be fined.
- c. Are not responsible owners. Are owners made accountable for the inability to care for a dog under their care?

Due to this, those people like myself, are getting charged more fees, and honestly, don't necessarily see any benefit from this? Where is this extra money going to?

I overheard a Council person(employer at the Taupo Pound), gloating that they SHOT a number of dogs on their watch. Extremely unprofessional, and very offensive and concerning. Could this extra money go towards possibly humanely euthanising(if this is necessary), by way of injection, rather than a BOLT shot through their head? I would also recommend that those employers that work in this line of work, are reminded that their actions/words when spoken out of line (in a public place), is not acceptable. Think before speaking.

13 - Sasha Jassar: Question Comments: i am a responsible owner and make sure my dog never needs those services. If he ever did need them i would rather pay for those services as he uses them and believe everyone should do so. For those dogs who do not have owners theirs should be covered by keeping the fees as is

16 - Lee Drinkrow : Question Comments: i do not support this, the fees used are for mostly unlicensed dogs, why are people who work hard to look after there dogs , register, respect the rules clean up poop in public places, train there dogs to behave I, have paid for fencing etc, why are we footing the bill for other people who don't look after there dogs whom don't register, why should we get punished for something the council and government should do, i believe you should have a license to buy a dog, i think breeding needs to controlled and i could go on for hours, but i think making good people that follow the rules pay is an absolute bad thing because people will just so angry

17 - Aroha French: Question Comments: This country is in a state of Recession dealing with runaway inflation and mortgage rates creeping higher all you will be doing will be sending more dogs on the streets for whanau who are trying to stay above water. You are penalizing ratepayers who don't want roaming dogs, stray cats left attended. You are disadvantaging the elderly and taking money out of their food budgets. You are being unfair when Gang members are repeatedly laughing at ratepayers who abide and pay for registrations. Wholeheartedly disagree.

19 - Samantha Alcaraz: Question Comments: I suggest you leave the fees as they were for the average dog (it is already quite a lot of money), however increase the fees for: dangerous dogs, sale of dogs, fines, and impounding fees to make up the extra revenue needed.

20 - Grahame HARRIS: Question Comments:

For GOOD DOG owners, who keep control of their dogs at ALL TIMES - council does NOTHING.

Such is our dog - it's chipped, well trained, not allowed to roam, kept on a leash, kept under full, complete control at parks/reserves etc, or kept in a secure, locked, fenced residential section. WE are GOOD responsible owners.

Council provides NO SERVICES or ACTION for OUR dog. Zip. Zilch. Nada. NOTHING. Tell me I'm wrong.

Why not apportion fees to BAD DOGS and BAD OWNERS who create problems needing council input? NOT the likes of US or OUR Dog ?

21 - Sue Carr: Question Comments:

To say "the fees for dog registration and animal control haven't moved much over the last decade" is totally incorrect. In 2018 they jumped to \$90 from \$25 for a rural dog, and we all know the person behind that increase!

Maybe this is the reason there is a shortfall in dog registration fees? Why should dogs on a farm have to pay that much when they rarely use any public spaces, in fact most of them visit town to go the vet only!

Am totally opposed to putting these fees up - in fact would like to see rural dog fees dropped to a realistic level.

22 - Dale Mayhew: Question Comments:

In my view the council should only charge dog owners for transparent services **directly** provided to dog owners but not for the general bureaucracy concerning regularity or other costs within the community. Reason: there is no transparency and if the council decides to allot resources to these areas this is outside the control dog owners and truly relates to the general operation of council and as such paid by ratepayers.

23 - Richard Baker: Question Comments:

I pay rates. I did apply for a rates rebate to offset this new increase but I am a responsible dog owner and rate payer. dont look a gift horse in the mouth. Cut back service until it disappears back to a sensible sustainable structure

26 - James van Bohemen: Question Comments:

Why have the Dog registration fees for Working Dogs lifted the most?

This group of dogs is least likely to see any payback, contribution or benefit from registration fees?

What is the return on registering a working dog? How does a working dog, or working dog owner benefit from a registered dog vs. non registered?

Rural councillors need to speak up and be a voice for a part of the community who already gets very little payback from the Taupo DC.

27 - Frankie Taituma: Question Comments: The increase is warranted if small increments occur annually, not in the range of a 13% to 25% blanket increase to those that truthly register their dogs. You may want to see the pressure held by our animal care centres due to unwanted animals. Also, the cost of pet food has increased significantly too.

28 - Harawira Wilson : Question Comments: my dogs dont go out in the public they working hunting dog no ranger needed to check on my dogs as they are locked in a fully fenced property and then go hunting on private land it should be cheaper for everything please have a nice day chur Harawira Wilson

29 - John March: Question Comments: Putting up the fee's for all dog owners is not the way forward. In the Food Licensing Fee table you talk about an hourly rate if enforcement is required. Why don't you do the same thing for the dogs? If owners do not keep their dog in a responsible and secure area then they get charged a whole lot more. Stop putting fees up for responsible people. A user pays system. Not everyone else paying for the officers that are required by the irresponsible. Keep registration fees the same and put up the penalty rates so those that are causing the issues are paying big time for it.

30 - Cynthia Mann: Question Comments: The system should always be user pays, it is with most things, as a dog owner of a rural working dog, I would like to know what I'm going to get for my extra \$6, our dog doesnt leave the property, doesnt use the dog parks or poo bags supplied to all by council if requested, or the poo bins we see dotted around taupo, I get that some rural dogs end up lost or stock worrying, but does this not come back to a user pays system, I would be more than happy if my dog was picked up by council to pay a larger fee for release, as would all responsible dog owners, the increase looks to be a penalty for those that do register their dogs, rather than a penalty on those that are not responsible. In my thoughts, times are tough and a increase to cover the deficit is going to cause more of a deficit as less people will register their dogs due to financial constraints.

32 - Paul Sutton : Question Comments: I have never understood the concept of paying dog registration fees. The argument has always been that it's to pay for control of wandering and unregistered dogs. But why are good owners paying for the control of bad owners dogs?

33 - Jenny Nelson: Question Comments:

A 14% price hike is ridiculous especially to rural dog owners, whose dogs do not leave the property or use any town facilities.

At the last increase, several of us met with the Mayor to explain why we reject price increases for rural dogs. The reasons still stand

34 - Wayne Wilson : Question Comments:

I own 2 small dogs, both desexed and fully fenced residence. Always registered and never subject to any complaints.

Apart from supplying a plastic tag yearly when I pay for my registration, what service does Council do for me and my dogs. I am registered as a responsible owner and take care of my dogs. It is unethical to suggest I should subsidise any other dog owner who may not comply with Dog rules set by Council. Please supply a full list of services you supply to me, Apart from my plastic tags and justify any increase in dog fees.

Thank you.

36 - Richard Mabin: Question Comments: as usual the law abiding people have to pay for the unlawful dog owners, law abiding dog owners should be rewarded with cheaper registration, been a responsible dog owner should be rewarded as we will pay it cos we love dogs and the same irresponsible will not pay , i don't think the current system is very good and the continued harassment of the law abiding dog owners

37 - Julie Waitai: Question Comments: Responsible dog owners pay. There is really no incentive for dog owners that dont use the services like the pound or roaming dogs etc. These owners should be rewarded with an attractive fee to encourage them to continue to be great dog owners. There is also no fee for rural dogs that arent working. Desexed dogs should have a bigger discount to encourage less unwanted pregnancies.

38 - Lynne Bowyer: Question Comments:

I understand that due to the way our society is structured, the council generates funds via the users of its various services. This means that it is the individual person that has to shoulder the burden of cost increases. I also note that costs associated with every facet of life have gone up, all of which are passed on to and carried by individuals. So unless structural changes take place, the council has to navigate a fine line so that it does not over-burden individuals and run the risk of people not paying because they can't afford to pay. "Well they shouldn't have a dog if they can't afford one", you might say. But this ignores the fact that people may have had their dog when life was affordable, and the continual erosion of affordability might just tip them over the edge of non-compliance.

Even if we acknowledge that some increases for dog services are necessary under the current social structure, there are two areas that need to be re-thought. The first is micro-chipping. What is the purpose of this? We have dog registration tags for identifying dogs 'in the system'. We have records kept on registered dogs and dog infringements. What does the microchip add? Anyone not

registering their dog probably won't have them microchipped anyway. When I have come across wandering dogs in Turangi I have had them quickly identified by their dog registration tag and I have been able to reunite them with their owner. On the two occasions I came across dogs without a collar and/or tag, there was no one available with a microchip scanner to be of help. Again I ask, what is the purpose of the microchip? Is this something that could be rendered obsolete? Just because a technology exists, it is not imperative that we use it.

The other instance is the fee increase for the sale of a dog to rescue agencies. This strikes me as extremely callous. The fact that rescue agencies work to care for and re-home dogs who would be otherwise destroyed if they were left with council, means that rescue agencies should not have to pay at all for the service they provide. These agencies rely on volunteers and donations to enable them to do their work. Council should not be preying on benevolent agencies in order to generate funds.

The council cannot hide behind claims of the "associated legislation" or "policy" in regard to these issues. People make legislation and policy, and people can change legislation and policy if they no longer makes sense and are not fit for purpose.

39 - Mary Keane: Question Comments: Because the cost of living has gone up, our rates have increased also, put another drinking fountain for the dogs by the bmx track up the top parking instead of seeing bowls from rice cookers and heaps of bottled water there, if you can pretty up all the lakefront you can pretty up the top if spa park for all our dogs, theres never any bags at the top field where we start our walks, just a bloody joke if you ask me, ill do a better job and get things done along with other like minded dog owners like myself

41 - Nichola Mansfield: Question Comments: i live rural and my dog does rural work . You wont allow me to register my dog as working because of its breed yet breed does not determine wether its capable of being a working dog , its how they are trained / taught. I do not accept the fee increases its ridiculous as it is , families can barely afford to pay the fee now let alone an increase , the council has increased its rates and now animal registration fees to , its appalling to say the least and im sure the rest of Taupo would say the same .

44 - Philippa Lintott: Question Comments: I believe that they are already enough for those that follow the law and register their dogs. Much more effort needs to go on getting those many 1,000's that do not. You only have to look at the social media pages for Taupo on a daily basis to see wandering dogs (often repeat offenders) being tagged to see how bad the problem is. You penalise those that are honest and law abiding. Many of these dogs that are tagged are bull terrier types and are very menacing to those that walk their dogs responsibly on a lead. Make it easy to become a responsible dog owner under the scheme, fine those or impound those obvious potentially dangerous dogs wandering, this includes the spate of 'labradors' out in packs of 2 or 3 - as dangerous as any.

45 - Harry Bailey: Question Comments:

Absolute bullshit I say

47 - sarah Collins: Question Comments:

the animal protection services are already over run with strats unwanted animals. The cost of living and husing crisis means pets are being surrendered. rentals dont allow pets and pets are becoming a 'luxury' oeople cant afford.

those that font register their pets and let them roam will still not pay or contain animals.

another tax on the competent. Those that pay, pay and now at a higher rate for services they dont use

48 - Sophie Blick: Question Comments: Rural dogs do not use any of the facilities provided by the council for dogs. They are not going to be inpounded in your facilities so increasing working dog fees will just encourage more owners to be irresponsible and not to bother registering dogs as

49 - T Lawless: Question Comments:

I believe you should scrap this idea and focus on registering Cats? Look forward to your response.

This will be a major help towards conservation

51 - Kelly Stevens: Question Comments: i live rurally. My dogs are never in town and never off the property. There should be a separate category for pet dogs that dont live in town.

52 - Katrina Flett: Question Comments: 1. Currently it is a struggle to pay the fees you already charge. Due to costs I am already trying to rehome one of my dogs.
2. My dogs and I have no benefit at all from the fees we pay now. Generally I don't walk my dogs in public because they are likely to be attacked by other dogs straying about. While my dogs have not been attacked I have seen others dogs attacked.
3. It seems to me you are penalising those who are responsible owners.

I suggest:

1. You look at how you can be more responsible with the money you already collect from dog owners. Given the number of dogs in Turangi this must be thousands of dollars.
2. Put steps in place to have the MANY unregistered dogs registered.
3. Even better stop dog registration altogether. Done in the current 'ad hoc' manner (some dogs registered, many not) basis it seems a bit pointless. Dog registration was introduced to support the Hydatids eradication program. Hydatids has been eliminated in New Zealand many years ago so the registration program has fulfilled its meaningful purpose.

In summary dog registration money for me is currently a tax which "flushes my money down the toilet" as there is nothing show for it. People are employed as "dead wood" where nothing productive is produced.

I deeply resent the suggestion of being asked to pay more. The most likely outcome is that I will have to euthanise my oldest dog- Smokey. I'm sure i wont be the only one but I may be one of the few to openly admit it.

Heart breaking.

57 - Steve Punter: Question Comments: Responsible Owner application fee should be wiped - the idea is to encourage and motivate, not charge people to qualify.

58 - Miriama Tungia: Question Comments: Not only is the price for dog registration fees high enough as it is, increasing the price plus dealing with the day to day living cost will not only put pressure on the average home but could cause alot of dog owners to either abandon their animals or yet not register them all together. Most rural dog owners don't even use the facilities provided from council, yet we still pay the same amount as someone in town, not only is that unfair but rural owners should receive a reduction in fees, we shouldn't have to bare the cost of something we do not use.

59 - matt burton: Question Comments: especially as a rural person, we do not see ANY reason to register a dog whatsoever, as we get nothing for this money, no facilities or services that I am aware of. So to see it increased - is this just more managers justifying their existence?

60 - Debbie Bond: Question Comments: As a responsible dog owner I'm not happy with the proposed increase. My reason being We are classified as responsible dog owners as section is fully fenced and door accessible by visitors without dog present. She is always registered
We abide by dog policy laws if we happen to take her out Our dog is very old and frail and hardly leaves property as she can't walk far My question is why should I have to pay more when others don't pay at all. Their dogs roam the streets here in Mangakino and can be very intimidating sometimes. Not to mention doing their business everywhere This does not seem fair. Hardly ever see anyone around from council checking up on these dogs We are on a pension and this is just another expense we will have to bear. Where is the justice when we are doing the right thing and others aren't.

<p>61 - Marianne Schroder: Question Comments: I am vehemently opposed to the proposed increases.</p> <p>I live in Tokaanu, am on superannuation as my source of income (and you are correct - EVERYTHING has gone up (and I believe rates are up for a significant increase too).</p> <p>Plus, there is nothing provided for dogs in my area. Walking areas, bags etc.</p> <p>Please add my dismay at these increased costs, and reasons why, into this proposal.</p>
<p>62 - J Rang: Question Comments:</p> <p>Personally I do not think its necessary, I register my dogs to avoid big fines if yous pick them up. My dogs do not use any of the facilities like doggy bags etc.</p> <p>If yous built a fenced dog park, specifically made just for dogs then that would be most understandable as other BIGGER towns that charge more for registration has fenced dog parks all around their towns, why doesnt Taupo?</p> <p>I dont trust the TDC Animal Control anyways</p>
<p>64 - Peter Kidd: Question Comments: My NO to increased fees is conditional not absolute. I note that the increase in fees which would apply to dogs which create the control workload is less than the standard registration fee increase. I would like to be satisfied that there is sufficient deterrent in these fees so all owners apply the same essential husbandry which comes with dog ownership. Accordingly I would like to see the increases for dog control costs, requiring Council officers attendance, increasing at least the same as working dogs if not more. The impounding fee is a 13% increase, the lowest.</p>
<p>65 - Leyla Wilson: Question Comments: I do not support this its already so expensive. I think with all the price rises in pet food and fees the registration should not increase and if they need to cover costs for parks and council control then up the fines for the people who dont follow the rules, great way to get people to be responsible and if they choose not to then the increased fine surely will cover for the costings of pound fees paperwork etc.</p>
<p>67 - Rob Elvin: Question Comments: I appreciate you contacting me regarding a potential Dog Registration Fee increase and yest it is tough out there for everyone and a \$10/\$15 increase on this fee will make some people consider no longer having a pet Dog.</p> <p>In my view you need to consider what type of Dog does anyone own – I accept you consider working dogs as being different and that is reasonable however like me there are 100'2 if not 1000's of pet owners who own a small (Lap) dog many for companionship and MOST of these dogs will most likely NEVER cause the Council any issues.</p> <p>They are unlikely to be allowed to roam.</p> <p>They certainly are unlikely to be dangerous.</p> <p>Most owners will ensure they are neutered and vaccinated against all the nasties that can be caught.</p> <p>Many of these dogs WILL be micro chipped.</p> <p>The owners of these small dogs should not be subject to the same fee as a Rottweiler, Bull dog, German Shepherd, Staffi or other potentially dangerous dog that at times even the owners cannot control.</p> <p>In addition the fees we pay should be used to get out to those dog owners who DO NOT register, Neuter or control their animals and its these people who cause most of the issues with roaming dogs, no collars, not micro chipped.</p> <p>I own a Lap dog (used to be two – one since passed) she is always in a controlled fenced area, she sleeps on my bed, she couldn't maul a sausage and she is neutered and fully vaccinated – WHY am I going to be paying more when I am DOING everything you want and all you have to do is know who I am, my address and my dogs name, sex and breed – how hard am I to keep records for???</p> <p>I object to paying more!!</p> <p>I am a pensioner – I've just received a wage rise that oh wow it has also just been taken for a rent increase – one step forward 3 steps back.</p>
<p>68 - Debra Forster: Question Comments:</p>
<p>70 - Fernie Sanders: Question Comments: Gotta pay for that huge and unnecessary council building somehow, haven't you???</p> <p>Surely the dog fees could be offset by all the money collected from those antisocial and dangerous E-scooters that nobody but drunks and lazy teenagers wanted!</p>
<p>71 - Cam Tarrant: Question Comments: I cant see why an increase is needed? What does the council even do for my dog that my rego pays for?</p>
<p>72 - Georgia Smith: Question Comments: We have two dogs who live in a fully fenced section, we are responsible for our dogs and dont feel a raise in fees is necessary dogs dont use anything and council cant even keep the dog poo bags restocked along the lake paths, We always take our own clean up after OUR dogs.</p> <p>rasing the fees is just another way to get money out of locals who already pay alot of the ever increasing property rates.</p> <p>Taupo also doesn't have a designated fully fenced dog park like every other city in the country, the council does nothing to support dog owners apart from charging disgusting fees.</p> <p>So why should responsible dog owners be charged extra when our dogs are taken care off and not using council services.</p>
<p>73 - Sherryll Worthington: Question Comments: Regarding your request for feed back here are my thoughts on an increase in Dog Registration fees. For time immemorial it has always been a case of Good Owners paying for neglectful owners. Absolutely nothing has changed and that is evidenced by daily sighting of un collared roaming dogs here in Turangi. Take a look at the local Facebook noticeboard and the multiple postings each week acting as the default lost and found communication. Ad to that the demands on the local Animal Care facility through which endless numbers of both dogs and cats continue to roll , and frankly the situation is beyond depressing.</p> <p>A pathway out of this and the cycle of increasing demand on services , the ghastly practice of euthanasia and general animal wellbeing might be to start some conversation around the privilege and responsibility that goes with pet ownership. Some frank conversation around de sexing is also well overdue and should be facilitated by both Council and the Veterinary community .</p> <p>A pathway to owners , rather than the animals, being registered to enable ownership would be no bad thing. Continuing with the present practice of maintaining the status quo will only perpetuate the practice of ever increasing registration fees and solve nothing.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing about a more enlightened approach</p>
<p>74 - John Ridd: Question Comments: Absolutely disgusting to increase the fees. I suggest if you want to make up any shortfall I suggest you look at the overpaid managers you employ and maybe make some redundancies or stop supplying a new car every few years plus free use of petrol wherever they choose to go in New Zealand. There are pensioners struggling to cope with the high cost of living and no doubt they will face a new rate rise shortly.</p> <p>Some times a dog is their only companion.</p>
<p>75 - Simon Owens: Question Comments:</p> <p>Thank you for the heads up about increased proposed fees....the only question I have to put forward is: 'How much money do you thing you can squeeze out of people in this cost-of-living-crisis's?'</p> <p>PS...if we are tightening our belts more and more then don't you think you should to???</p>
<p>76 - Tim Logan: Question Comments: Increase, what for I have 2 dogs at home we don't go out, except in the car.</p> <p>Why should I pay anything.</p> <p>You say times are tough And you guys want to make it harder.</p> <p>Born in Taupo, myself So you guys pay my bill.</p>
<p>78 - Hermann Geister: Question Comments: Guten Tag</p> <p>my guess would be that your shortfall of fees is because not every dog owner pays the registration fee, not by a long shot and you will not be able to enforce it.</p>

So the honest and responsible people have to pay more.
Thanks for the information

80 - Larry Parton: Question Comments: I disagree with this proposal. In consideration of the exorbitant increases in rates suffered by the community over the past few years through increases in RVs, most of which are far in excess of current market values, AND the wasteful vanity-project spending inflicted upon the ratepayers, perhaps consideration could be given to curtailing expenditures and letting the resultant cost-savings be employed to reducing fees.

81 - Dorian Lloyd: Question Comments: Living in Turangi and having 2 companion dogs, I live Alone. Most of the comments I've heard over time make reference to the question asked. What do we get for our participation and cost.
Most sincere and good dog owners voice their concern as to what service they get and the availability of dog rangers. When roaming dogs or incidents occur, it often takes ages for a ranger to show up.
My personal experience is - yes a genuine concern that rangers have to respond from Taupo.
However I can say from a personal point of view the rangers I have had experiences with, have been excellent and very professional.
My other question is why the council does not offer an incentive and discount re pensioners. My Gold card has come into good use recently as more businesses and organisations support this provision.
Presently, Increases in everything continue to plague us but we get very little support to deal with this. Pensioners seem to be the forgotten sector.
Before anyone says- they've just got an increase in line with the inflation figure, remember, for me- single gent it'll mean about \$18 a week more, but ha- about, \$5 of that goes directly back in tax and the rest in continued price increases. Bit of a joke really Rgds lyn Lloyd Sent from my iPhone

83 - Nicole Martin: Question Comments: Hello, I strongly oppose the council's decision to entertain this idea. It's unfair to shift the burden from negligent owners onto those of us who already uphold our responsibilities.

Instead, the council should enforce fines for owners who fail to clean up after their dogs or allow them off-leash when they show aggressive behaviour and pose a threat to other small dogs, or small children. There seems to be no recourse for the owners who's dogs have attacked or threatened to attack small dogs or children and this needs to change!!!

The approach of holding owners for bad/dangerous behaviour responsible financially, would ensure that the council gets what they need and everyone pays something....

84 - Tracey Wheeler: Question Comments: Hi team.

I would like the fees to remain the same or less. Our rates are rising which differently effects our pockets. We own 2 dogs which cost us a lot of money to feed let alone vet bills which are extremely expensive too. But I feel safe with my dogs as my husband works nights shift. With everything rising we are really feeling it. We are trying to meet all these cost but times are really getting hard, rates money that we pay doesn't seem to help our suburb much goes towards all the flash suburbs or areas just been built.
Regards

89 - Anna McNaughton: Question Comments: I am writing to express my thoughts on the proposed increase in dog registration fees. While I understand the need to such increases, I believe it is important for the council to be transparent about the services that will be provided in return for these higher fees. One specific concern I have is the lack of rubbish bins for disposing of dog waste in the Jarden Mile area. Dog owners in this area, myself included, currently face difficulties in responsibly disposing of out pets' waste. Providing rubbish bins in this area would be a small but meaningful service that the council could offer to dog owners. In addition to this, I would like to know what other services or facilities the council plans to provide for dog owners. This could include amenities such dedicated fenced exercise area for dogs. In Wellington, for example, four of their exercise areas are fenced and they quickly became favourite destinations for dogs and their owners, and the Wellington council is looking to add more. Taupo, on the other hand, doesn't have one. Another example could providing educational programmes to promote public safety and responsible dog ownership including dog welfare, dog safety, presentations to schools and community groups on dog behaviour and how to be safe around dogs. I am also interested to learn about the council's efforts to cut spending in other areas. It is important to explore all avenues for cost savings before resorting to fee increases. As a ratepayer, I expect that any increase in fees will result in tangible benefits, such as new or improved services. I hope you will demonstrate how these additional funds will be utilized to benefit our community.

90 - Campbell Speedy: Question Comments: If you are going to put fees and charges for our dogs up, then you better improve your service. We live just out of Turangi (20 Te Awamate Rd) and we have lost ALL our livestock in the past year or so. 10 sheep/lambs (\$1,500 worth) and now 12 chickens (which we paid \$520 for in February 2024). No one along Hiranui Road is able to keep sheep, those that keep pigs have ongoing dog attack issues, and now our chickens are getting murdered by local dogs, in the dead of night. Drive around Turangi at 10.00pm any night and see how many roaming dogs there are.

That is on top of a 15% rate increase last year.

I would gladly pay more for dog control - as long as we get some service!

More action, less bureaucracy.

91 - Genevieve Van Eden : Question Comments:

Dear Members of the Taupo City Council

I am writing to formally express my disagreement with the proposed increase in dog registration fees for Semi - rural dogs in Mangakino. As a resident of this community, I am concerned about this increase's potential impact on our already struggling economy.

I would like to address the fact that our community is located 30-45 minutes away from the main city centre. While this may not seem significant to some, it means that we do not have easy access to certain services such as animal control. This raises questions about the frequency and effectiveness of animal control services in our community. How often do they respond to calls or complaints?. How many times have they visited our community in the last two years? These are important factors that should be considered before making a decision about increasing dog registration fees.

I respectfully request that the council provide a detailed list of animal control services in our community over the last two years. This should include the reasons for their visits, such as responding to stray animals or addressing complaints about aggressive dogs. It should also mention any outcomes or actions taken during those times. This information will not only clarify the level of service provided but it will give insight into the responsibilities and effectiveness of animal control in our village.

I understand that the councils reasoning for the fee increase is to cover the cost of animal control services. However, I assure you that our community is capable of handling our own dogs. We have three Jack Russells who are contained by a high wooden fence at all times. Additionally, if need be we have invested in bark collars to prevent any disturbances to our neighbours. Our annual vet and food bill is approximately \$5500-\$6000. Therefore, it seems unfair to ask us to pay an additional \$45 for a service that may not be necessary for our community.

Let me be clear, I am not against paying for necessary and beneficial services for our community. However, I strongly believe that the proposed increase in dog registration fees is unwarranted and could have a negative impact on our community. I urge the council to reconsider this decision and instead focus on finding more effective ways to utilise the funds already available.

In conclusion, I kindly request that the council carefully consider the potential impact of this increase on our community before making a final decision. I also urge you to provide us with the necessary information and evidence to justify this increase. Let us work together to find a fair and reasonable solution that benefits both the council and our community.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission

With Kind Regards

Genevieve Van Eden

92 - Alan aldridge: Question Comments:

i havent seen any wild dogs roaming around taupo but there are stray cats everywhere, infact my neighbour has 21 of the mongrel things at this moment.Why am i as a responsible dog owner

paying to control all other animals

Please make cat owners pay to control their own problem pests

93 - Lisa Wanger: Question Comments:

We live rural, and even though our dogs are not required to work on farm, they are still rural dogs. We do not need to access any services that may be provided by the council for "town" dogs and frankly I think that rural dog owners should pay much less for registration of their dogs than town folks.

Thanks

Lisa

94 - Vince Udy: Question Comments:

I am opposed to the increase in dog registration fees proposed by the Taupo District Council for the 2024/25 year.

The council has a history of incremental increases in fees with no tangible benefit to dog owners. If there is a benefit to the wider community, then the wider community should fund that aspect of animal control. The council should be managing the funds collected from dog registration for the benefit of the dog owners who pay the registration. I suggest that one would struggle to find a dog owner who can identify any benefit from registering a dog apart from avoiding noncompliance with legislation.

The action of Central Government to reduce the number of bureaucrats and spending in government departments is strongly supported by the majority of the voting population, as is the government's intention to remove bureaucracy from people's life's. The council should follow that same national direction and operate further operate a business model based on cost benefit to the person paying the fee. Rather than increasing fees, reduce internal costs by undertaking the council functions within its fiscal limits, reduce staff numbers, services and improving the efficiency of the organisation.

95 - Sheree Drinkow: Question Comments: increase the charges for those that are getting their dog impounded, not thr people who are doing the right thing and keeping their fencing in good condition and keeping them on lead when out. We cant handle this on top of all the other costs going up.

98 - Kylie Holford: Question Comments: I see that there are costs to maintain dog control but why punish people that have their dogs under control & already pay fees for the individual dog?

We have rural dogs.

I think the dog control maintenance should be part of the overall rates increase rather than target the individual dog owners.

99 - Susan Cathro: Question Comments: Just having my say regarding the proposed increase to dog registration. I have two dogs and find registration fees at the moment a big expense.

Everything has gone up in price. Increases like this hurt the average working person. Rates have increased, petrol to get to work, insurances and food all with big price tags. Everyone thinks it's only a few dollars but reality is minimum wage went up maybe \$20.00 per week to help with costs and straight away everyone taking those extra dollars. The tax is 30% too, lucky if you get an extra \$14.00 per week and that is not exactly life changing.

Working dog fees should probably increase as most are either pets getting a cheap rate or are helping their owner create an income and their expenses etc can be put against their tax unlike townies.

I'm a working 50+ year old and at a stage in life where I should be able to enjoy being a bit carefree but instead scrimp and worry that I have enough to cover the basics god forbid I need dental, medical, veterinary or car repairs and no I don't qualify for any assistance. I should be able to provide for myself and my pets and I'm sorry but with increases at a home when the economy is down is harsh!

I am in favour for townie dog registrations remaining as they are for now and for it to be reviewed when the economy is a little better!!

Understandably we are all cutting costs and maybe there's room for the council to do that too!

Just my say but I hope the fees are kept down !!

102 - Vicky Rice: Question Comments:

Why does this council insist on punishing the law abiding citizens to make up the shortfall for those who don't register their dogs and let them roam the streets??

You and I know there are certain dogs that are left to roam the streets and I'm inclined to think the council would have a good idea where they live. Try starting getting some revenue from them first. I'm sick of working my butt off to pay for those who can't be bothered to do the right thing! There - I've had my say. And no, I'm not happy at paying more. It would also be a nice touch is the home check was free!

103 - Alexandra Walters: Question Comments:

Fees should not be raised more than 8% to 10% percent across any service the council MUST deliver.

Council has failed to listen to TDC rate payers. An extraordinary amount of TDC household income is being dumped into the eye soar of a new council building which most people wanted placed in the park to replace the aged public building rate payers will have to continue to upkeep. Council staff do not need wage increases to deliver their work or power the council owned vehicles.

105 - Rachael Glending: Question Comments:

This basically implies that impounding fees have increased by at least 15%. My dog has minimal impact on the council services apart from a small plastic tag, the small pooh bags in compacter bins perhaps 250 days of the year weighing no more than 100g and the wear on tear her feet supporting max 9kg frame have on the Lake Terrace surface/ footpaths around the town.

I see no consideration for breed in terms of impact or environmental footprint - every dog will have a vet verified weight if they are up to date with vaccinations and desexed so get this in on the game and let us pay for our impact

106 - Jessemy Evans: Question Comments:

Because getting a dog is a well thought out event for me, including budgeting not just for registration fees but for vets fees, costs of feeding, cost of kennels for vacation etc.

Fee increases will make it harder to remain being a resposibke dog owner - ensuring they are registered, vaccinated, fed well, exercised etc.

registration fee changes should only be applicable to those getting a registration for a dog for the first time.

Discounts should also be available for those who have found themselves supportdd by WINZ.

107 - Deseree Ormsby: Question Comments: increases for dog registrations are truly unfair I own two dogs I'm currently unemployed we don't receive anything for our payments towards owners of dog's when my dogs get sick or hurt the vet bill itself is a huge amount that is then determined of what my shopping for the week looks like

i then have to get my dogs wormed/flee tablets which cost me \$70 for one dog \$140 for two dogs reasons i have two dogs is predominantly for the security and safety of my family since i have had my dogs my house does not get broken into and my clothes from my clothes line no longer get taken (daylight-arvo) my sleep has improved since i have been a dog owner and i no longer worry so much these are the safety aspects of owning dogs on another note i love dogs please consider what i have said i say this on behalf of everyone in the same situation and circumstances as myself

109 - Margaret Howard: Question Comments: No discount for multiple dogs. Higher discount for de-sexed dogs.

110 - Damian Collard: Question Comments: as a dog owner that registers his dog, walks him on a lead (as required) picks up after him, has had him microchips and desexed, and does everything I'm supposed to, I struggle to understand what benefits I receive in paying the council to register my dog. There are no dog parks I can take him to, that are fenced so he is free to run, there are no bins to put his waste into. Can you explain to me what benefits I get from paying you? Surely costs should be passed on to people who break the rules, not those that abide by them. There are several cats near my property that constantly crap in our garden and yard and kill native birds yet apparently that is OK and there is no fee for that. How about introducing a fee for cat owners?

112 - Helen Marshall : Question Comments: Every year I pay dog Fees for my Chihuahua.i am a responsible dog owner like many more. Why don't you get your paid people out in the community and grab these owners and dogs who never pay a fee. Year after year this happens and they get away with it. Why should I have an increase in fees. I am elderly and live pension to pension but pay my way without the help of anyone.i too go without to make sure I pay the important things. Get onto this and get some fairness for us.

114 - James Simpson: Question Comments:

We do not support them because there appears to be no clarity around the increase other than -

"These increases are required to address the increasing costs of animal control over the last few years and to help move revenue collected from animal control fees back towards the bands set in our revenue and financing policy."

- What are the increased costs?
- Why have they increased?
- What has been done to minimize the costs to date and subsequent increases?
- What rules and regulations have been put in place by council that has meant cost increases are escalated through enforcement etc. and are a product of council's own decisions?
- Which of those rules and regulations can be removed to mitigate costs through good decisions, leadership, governance and common sense?

From a public perspective, we are sent an auto generated letter, we provide details into a data base, pay a fee and are sent a tag. Granted, there are costs for having a system, but how do those costs escalate for responsible dog owners?

We would not have a problem with impounding fees, dangerous dog fees and non-compliance fees escalating substantially.

115 - Aimee Simpson: Question Comments:

I believe that the fees are high enough already. I don't foresee any benefits to dog owners if fees are increased. In fact I think it will have an opposite effect. People are already affected with the rising cost of living and many are struggling to afford to care for their animals as it is. I think increasing the registration costs will lead to more people having to surrender their dogs which will, in turn, create a bigger problem for council. Pointless revenue gathering in my opinion.

116 - Megan Fitton: Question Comments:

Megan would like to be called as she doesn't like that the dog registration is going up, she asked why she has to pay when all she uses are the poop bags but her dog is pretty much a cat.

Admin Note> SR 2406765

118 - Kelvin Higgs: Question Comments:

Our dog is in his 16th year. We have diligently paid his annual registration fees in Wellington and now Turangi during this period. The dog is kept inside and in a fenced section. We have never had our dog running loose on the street. I don't see what benefit we receive by paying dog registration fees at all.

If "These increases are required to address the increasing costs of animal control over the last few years and to help move revenue collected from animal control fees..." then these increased costs should be borne by the people who own the delinquent dogs. I might be more inclined to agree with the fees in general, and the increase in same, if there was more action being taken of the many roaming dogs on Turangi streets and the irresponsible owners were penalised more. All dogs picked up and impounded should automatically be de-sexed and the owners charged accordingly.

The same should apply to all cat owners as well.

120 - Christopher Aurisch: Question Comments:

The proposed fee increase does nothing to recognise the training achievement of dogs who have successfully achieved CGC standards . Council currently offer a discount to Responsible owners which stipulates dogs have a secure yard , not be too vocal etc etc etc.

This policy is ludicrous as it does nothing for the importance of training but only offering the basic wellbeing of our dogs which for the most part is overseen by The Taupo dog club.

It is my opinion that any discount in fees will have greater relevance by recognizing the amount of effort that goes into CGC and reward and encourage those that obtain that standard thus having less to deal with under councils animal service activities.

Personally I see little need of the responsible dog programme and the inherent cost of the eight bullet points forwarded to myself by Apiha Tautoko Umanga Mahi . Many of which are covered by the Taupo Dog Club.

During 4 years of dog ownership I have little evidence of the animal services activities outlined in councils policy. I am aware of the pound and on occasion we see get poo bags distributed therefore I am against any arbitrary fee increase as in my opinion Council should be focusing more on the cause and not the effect.

I agree that Taupo is relatively 'dog friendly' but we should look at Napier for example , whose emphasis is on training and recognising good behaviour rather than 'shutting the stable doors' and the inherent cost in doing so.

so a big NO to fees increase

122 - Seth Bell: Question Comments:

It is difficult to support an increase in Animal Control fees when there is inadequate information to verify the opening comment to the table showing the proposed fee increase, specifically:

These increases are required to address *the increasing costs of animal control over the last few years and to help move revenue collected from animal control fees back towards the bands set in our revenue and financing policy*

1) The increasing costs of animal control - there is no indication of where these increased costs have originated from? In terms of financial management were they caused by an unrealistic budget being set in the previous financial year or some other factor that needs to be explained. Without this knowledge there is no guarantee that we won't be facing a similar increase in 12 months time. New Zealand's CPI increased by 4.7% in the 12 months to December 2023 according to figures released by Stats NZ - this is less than a third of the 15% average increase proposed by Council for animal control fees.

2) To help move revenue collected from animal control fees back towards the bands set in our revenue and financing policy

I have attached an excerpt from Council's last LTP 2021-23 (page 122) which fails to identify the percentage of revenue derived from fees and charges for all of Community Services including animal control. The funding policy for Community Services appears to be incomplete. I cannot determine what the funding split should be for animal control between rates and fees? This makes a nonsense of the comment of "moving the animal control fees back to the bands set in the current revenue and financing policy" when the funding policy in the LTP for Community Services appears to be incomplete.

123 - Jane Gamble: Question Comments: Hi, While I don't have a huge issue with these increases I can't help feeling that you are punishing the honest dog owner to increase revenue to be able to deal with the dog owners that quite frankly don't care.

124 - Fiona Denton: Question Comments: I am a responsible dog owner and never since owning dogs for over 20+ years, have I ever had a dog impounded or a complaint for owning dogs. I follow all the rules for containing my dogs also when out and about always pick up after my dogs, my dogs are always on lead in areas that require them to be and when off lead they are always under control... it seems the ones that are the good owners always get penalized for the ones that don't and never will. They never register their dogs and leave their dogs to roam... put all these prices up not the good owners that play by the rules.

125 - Katie Barrett: Question Comments: It's a struggle already, don't make it harder for everyone

127 - Devlin Anderson : Question Comments: it's a silly idea to raise all the fees. Let's use myself here as an example, I have 3 dogs, none of which are working dogs and we live rural (we live on a farm) but because they're not working dogs, I can't claim the working dog fee, so I have to pay the normal fee everyone else pays. Why? I live on a farm and don't use any of the facilities these fees cover like someone in town does? That's not fair. Why not introduce a reduced fee (no fee would be better, but I understand that's not entirely possible) for people like myself who live rural and don't have working dogs (or don't qualify for that fee) but own dogs. I have a 840ha farm I work on to run my dogs, I don't need to run them in town at dog parks etc. So why should someone like me have to pay the whole fee?

128 - Sharon Trass: Question Comments: I would like to see a gold Card discount for pensioners to keep the registration fees at the current fee. Our pension is a fixed income and cost of living is crippling a lot of us.

129 - John Hutchison: Question Comments: These fees are still too cheap. I see far too many dogs roaming, off lead but not under control or in areas where they shouldn't be. Taupo needs more compliance officers. I understand that it's responsible owners that pay. Hopefully higher fees leads to less irresponsible owners

130 - Lynda Gulbransen : Question Comments:

I am a dog owner and a very responsible one.

I do object to having to pay more to cover the irresponsible Dog owners!

I am aware that you must have incredible costs, Perhaps if Council cut their cloths accordingly we wouldn't require an increase. Just saying, many rate payers continually see huge wastage of money from Council and Hair brain schemes!

I think if the money that was being used on many council projects was coming out of Councillors personal pockets some of these things would never come to fruition.

I absolutely love lots of things that are implemented by Council, but we are seeing costs skyrocketing in all areas and council has to cut back as well!

I have an almost 14 1/2 year-old dog. He should qualify for exemption.

I pick up other people's poop.

I supply my own bags and rarely use council bags.

I feel that there needs to be a reduced fee for good dog ownerships not just a blanket cost

It makes it more of an incentive to have a preferred ownership fee.

Perhaps different Dog coloured tag for good ownership, perhaps if you qualify you can pay five dollars for example to get a different coloured tag for an extra tag that sets you and your dog out from the crowd and you are rewarded for good ownership

My dog is a Canine Friend (just retired)and we have done voluntary work for seven years, I have also put myself and my dog through CGC “Canine good citizen” (he passed at 10 years of age!) exams which I think should be compulsory for all Dog ownership (that’s never going to happen is it!)

Good ownership needs to be rewarded not penalised.

In this country it is a squeaky wheel that always gets heard and I think it’s time that those that quietly pay their job registrations without complaining and are good dog owners get rewarded.??

I actually think my Dog being a retired Canine friend there should be no fee again this year at 14 1/2 I think he’s earned his reward \$0.00 fee

131 - Amanda Simpson: Question Comments:

It is not so much that I do not support an increase in dog registration fees. However, I believe that with an increase in the fees should come an improvement in services to responsible dog owners. Such improvements could include a return of 'street patrols' to collect roaming dogs. When I had senior dogs, it got to the point where I no longer felt that I could keep them safe if I was to take them for a walk on the street due to off-lead and roaming dogs.

In addition, it would be wonderful to have a bookable fully fenced (for example, chain link or deer fencing) paddock with agility-type equipment. I am sure that many responsible owners would be as willing as I am to pay a fee to book a space where we could enjoy time with our dogs without the risk of encountering other dogs and people. At the moment, the safest place we have access to, as club members, is the Taupo Dog Training Club grounds. The 'dog exercise areas' currently provided are not always safe and one of our senior dogs, no longer with us, was attacked by another dog at Spa Park). Such a space would allow responsible owners with fearful or reactive dogs a place to enjoy.

It would appear that the increase in dog registration fees is to cover increasing costs resulting from irresponsible dog owners. These costs should not be passed on to responsible owners without providing some new or improved benefits to responsible owners. Providing safe spaces to enjoy our dogs would make a fee increase seem fairer.

Thank you for reading.

132 - Alex Thompson: Question Comments:

Although I agree dog owners should pay the majority of fees for animal management I do not agree they should pay all of it.

The entire community benefits from the the animal management team keeping the community safe. They also all benefit from the other compliance work they do.

The entire community is getting a service and therefore should pay their share towards it. Just as everyone's money is put towards the events team and the parks even though many people may not be going to events or visiting parks.

People with and without animals can lay complaints about dogs and use up time and money on used resources dealing with their complaints.

We are in an economic crisis right now and the added cost of extra registration will make it harder for people to pay meaning more enforcement will have to be taken costing more in the long run and making the increase in price counter productive

133 - Sebrina Tomkinson: Question Comments: more dogs will not be registered and dumped on the spca

134 - Adeline Southwick: Question Comments: This fee has doubled? Why? For a dog owner myself and who has a RDO (Responsible Dog Owner) classification, have had no violations with the Council in any way and Annual registration is paid on time in full, this is not at all fair. I jumped through all the hoops the council put out to have that classification, only for it to be increased? The fee should atay as it is especially for others like me who have a RDO classification and no prior violations with the Council. Otherwise, what's the point in promoting RDO? I pay enough rates for the council to pick that up somewhere else.

136 - Elizabeth Parnell: Question Comments: I have been a member of Taupo Dog Training club since 1997 and am a Life Member. During this time I have trained various dogs, ranging from German Shepherds to the smaller terrier breeds, namely Cairn Terriers. I have instructed different codes, Obedience, Agility, Rally-O and am currently involved with a programme called Canine Good Citizen, a nationally trained programme endorsed through DogsNZ. I have also served on the Club Cttee in various roles and am currently the secretary. My current Cairn Terrier is CGC Gold qualified. Canine Good Citizen or CGC, is a programme aimed at teaching dog owners to be more responsible, develop a better relationship with their dog(s) so the dog is then more sociably accepted within the community. CGC is split into four levels, Foundation, Bronze Silver and Gold which is the highest. I would like to see the council come on board with this programme, recognise people who have qualified at any level, and reward them with a reduction in

dog registration fees. Perhaps a tiered system, for example, with Gold qualifiers receiving a higher reduction than a person who has only, say Foundation. I am also the holder of a special owner policy but there is absolutely no training involved here, the owner just has to comply with the rules and regulations. Whilst I understand the policy may be revoked, due to excessive barking for example, the holder of a CGC Gold qualification can also be taken away in the event of a complaint against the dog which is then deemed to be unworthy of said accreditation. Many hours of training goes into these dogs so isn't it time council recognised this and gives something back to those who take the time to train their dogs!

137 - Diane Houghton: Question Comments:

Whilst I am aware that some sort of Registration process is necessary to try to curb the ever-increasing cost of dog control. I believe, that penalising those that are already responsible dog owners at this time is morally wrong. Many responsible dog owners are elderly and their dog is their companion. These people are struggling, on a pension and can ill afford an increase.

The responsible owner application fee again penalises 'responsible owners' these people do the right thing by registering their dogs, securing their property to ensure their dog is unable to escape however, to apply for this there is a fee.

I would like to see a discount for pensioners and at least hold the Responsible Owner Application fee at the current rate.

138 - Raewyn Beattie: Question Comments:

As a resident in Southern Lakes - Omori/Kuratau we do not have any "dog only" fenced areas, we lack consistent filling of dog poo bag receptacles. Could this be allocated to a community member so that we do not have the "poo" issue that occurs when we are at peak - holiday time - and council offices are closed.

What would the councils position be, towards reduced fees for any dogs that have gone through a DogsNZ recognized program - Canine Good Citizens. You allow free registration for Therapy dogs and for Canine Friends. Please can some consideration be made for people who spend time, money and energy training their dogs to be responsible citizens of our area, who go through a 4 step testing program which is nationally run and recognised.

Your responsible dog owner program does not consider any training that has been completed by owners - so I struggle to see how a "responsible owner" program is what it says - yes good to provide shelter, fencing and feeding but what about the actual manners of the dog.

I would like to know what the stats are around dogs that are collected from this area - that are registered and not registered. I would be interested also to ask how many times does the dog control officer visit the outlying areas - and not just Taupo and Turangi.

139 - Ann Howard: Question Comments:

The dog fees are too high for many superannuants. There is no discount for "pensioners" there is no discount for registered Dogs NZ members and no discount for owners who partake in obedience and training of dogs. This should be recognised as these owners are looking after their dogs in all aspects.

I am a "Responsible Owner" paid a fee but have no discount for the fact I keep my dogs in a secure section and they don't roam.

Please reconsider the increase or at least offer some form of discount to superannuants and owners that look after their dogs .

Ann Howard

140 - Gary Houghton: Question Comments: Responsible dog owners do not get any benefit from the registration fees charged for their dogs nor do they generate any need for animal control measures as they care for their dogs and ensure that they are safe and unable to roam. Increasing registration fees is simply penalising these owners for the transgressions of irresponsible dog owners. Increasing the fees at the this time in the midst of economic hardship for a lot of ratepayers is very likely to put people off registering their dogs at all.

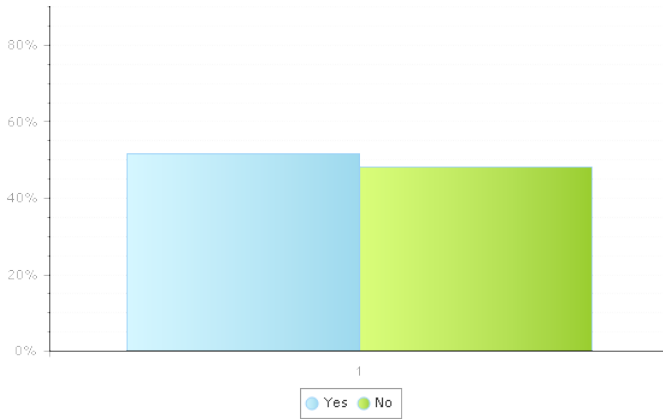
Category Name: Proposed Food licensing Fees
Overview of Category:
Total number of submitters: 58
Total number of points: 57

Response field Number and Name: 2.1-Proposed Food Licensing Fees		
Question: Do you support the proposed food licensing fees for the next financial year?		
Total number of responses: 57		
Decision Sought	Number of submitters who selected this option	%
Yes	29	51.79%
No	27	48.21%

Proposed Food Licensing Fees



Created by T24Consult Page 13 of 18



Submitters for this question
Submitters for this question
Response field Number and Name: 2.2-Workflow - If no
Question: Please tell us why you don't support them
Total number of responses: 16
Submitters for this question
Submitters for this question
6 - Claire Rowe : Question Comments: I'm a responsible dog owner who cares for all my dogs needs. Charge the people who don't care for there animals correctly not the ones who do! Make them responsible for there own actions.
17 - Aroha French: Question Comments: This country is in a state of Recession dealing with runaway inflation and mortgage rates creeping higher all you will be doing will be sending more dogs on the streets for whanau who are trying to stay above water. You are penalizing ratepayers who don't want roaming dogs, stray cats left attended. You are disadvantaging the elderly and taking money out of their food budgets. You are being unfair when Gang members are repeatedly laughing at ratepayers who abide and pay for registrations. Wholeheartedly disagree. Rediculous fines when people are only managing to feed themselves.
22 - Dale Mayhew: Question Comments: council should be fighting / advocating the necessity of these costs or at least the quantum of them and not just pass them on.
27 - Frankie Taituma: Question Comments: These increases are significant for small business owners whereby we are in a current recession.
28 - Harawira Wilson : Question Comments: my dogs dont need it they got there own food
37 - Julie Waitai: Question Comments: i dont know about these fees to say they ste fair. Not relevant.
39 - Mary Keane: Question Comments: same as above
41 - Nichola Mansfield : Question Comments: with the increase of products and high demand i would say that they pay enough also
43 - Susan Smith: Question Comments: This is out of control regulating dog food. There seems to be more regulations around dog food than what a person can feed a child. How about you start with fining parents for giving kids sugar and move on to dogs once kids are healthy.
69 - Mike Hughes: Question Comments: We fully understand that fees have to be increased from time to time and support that. We have always registered our dogs but there are many in the community that don't (and probably never will) The number of dogs roaming certain streets in Turangi without collars and therefore tags is on the increase but very little ever seems to be done about it. Again we can understand why dog control officers would be reluctant to challenge owners there. But we feel it's unfair for responsible dog owners to yet again be subsidising those that couldn't care less.
103 - Alexandra Walters: Question Comments: No fee increases should be more than 8% to 10% for any services the council MUST deliver. Most of these fees are dumped on small business owners. Another TAX on individuals who choose to be self employed and providing great products and service options to the TDC community and visitors to the region. Maybe TDC should increase hotel and motel taxes!!!!!! Oh and charge more for events like CYCLE Challenge, and Iron man to be held on public grounds!
106 - Jessemy Evans: Question Comments: I agree with them but only for the well established places that can afford such an increase. I do not support them for small and new businesses trying to establish.

122 - Seth Bell: Question Comments: See comment below

123 - Jane Gamble: Question Comments:

Hi- I am a member of the New Zealand Registered Cake Business group. We are mostly small businesses- 80% work from home based registered kitchens- most with income under 10K annually.

Below is a response to MPI's proposal to implement a new cost to registered food producers and also addresses rising costs from councils forced on us to be compliant with the food act.

Here's where we stand- go onto any Facebook market place on any given day and you will find a person openly and illegally advertising food for sale – fact! From seafood, Hangi, to full on non-registered folk producing vast amounts of baking and cakes weekly. To put it simply- it's a joke! Frustratingly so.

Most in the baking profession want to comply- and are happy to do so for the protection of their customer and their business- but skyrocketing costs are giving many second thoughts about doing so- renew their registration or not? Operate legally- or not?

By increasing fees or adding more fees- you will encourage even more in the profession to flout the law and operate without a food licence. Less members will comply- less income for councils to operate the system under- making it even more expensive for those that do comply. Less that comply- less control over food safety. Food safety compliance- isn't this what the system is supposed to be all about?

With the proposed new MPI levy-small business will be hit harder in the pocket- every item we purchase will have the levy factored into the cost of our purchases plus the proposed MPI levy charge directly to us. If you are operating illegally- these costs will not factor into pricing of products - therefore you are able to undercut legally operating businesses. Again an unfair advantage- penalizing the registered honest operator. There are so many advantages for not registering it seems.

With fast increasing and explosive rising costs most councils are predicting- what protection does registration offer compliant people? To keep a level playing field- most who are registered want some sort of accountability from their council- they pay to be legally operating- why shouldn't others- at least make some sort of attempt to catch and fine people who are not complying, or you are simply making the honest pay and the dishonest laughing all the way to the bank, undercutting honest people. The current system is failing miserably both food safety and the small operator.

As subscribers to council registration- there is no protection offered for those that do comply- so what is the point of registering in the first place? Be registered- pay a crippling yearly fee to do the right thing- or work underground and have no crippling and ever increasing fee base without the threat of being fined because councils will never prosecute you anyway. Many in our particular profession are now taking the latter option to survive. Councils have repeatedly said they are not able to trawl FB pages to catch these people out and ask to be notified of illegal operator's presence- but when information is passed onto council you can practically hear their eyes roll- and most complaints are brushed off as a nuisance to council- sitting time constraints and expensive costs to chase these complaints up. Yes it's the way the system works- or is supposed to- but just how many illegal operators have council prosecuted for repeatedly flouting the law? Very few- if any. How does this protect businesses that pay and comply? It doesn't!

An idea we offer - to keep rising costs down for the small business- why not implement a tiered system- many of our operators are working from home registered kitchens with the ability to earn little more than 10K per year. Councils charge a flat rate for registration whether you are earning 1K or 900K, all charged the same as rate. Some councils charge their audit inspections as an hourly rate on top of their base rate- yes a small home based business will take less time to audit than a large restaurant so this audit cost will differ- but a small home based businesses with the earning ability far less than a big restaurant, is still charged the same base fee to register at their council. How is this "one size fits all" base fee fair? Use this as a percentage of operating costs and you have a crippling fee to someone on a very low cottage industry income who is willing to comply. A suggestion would be council offering a tiered based charging system- income or size of premises ratio to accommodate this vast difference to promote even more to be registered- it is all about food safety after all. A fact- in the UK it is actually FREE to be registered and this includes your audit- they want you to comply and don't penalize the honest with hefty fees! How do they do this?

Please do not suggest that as low risk based businesses we are able to make a certain quantity of cakes per year without the need to register- or that we may not need to register under current specific MPI guidelines- none of us fall into that category. It seems nonsense to us that someone is able to make 20 cakes per year without being registered (this can be from a filthy kitchen with no hygiene or practical food safety processes) but if you make 21 cakes per year you need to be registered! How does this keep the public safe? Who is monitoring how many cakes you make per year? Councils certainly don't.

To conclude- many in our industry are fed up with rising fees to simply comply when they see non complying people operating without penalty. If fees keep increasing- or new fees are introduced- more people will be forced to operate without registering. If fees keep going up or extra fees are piled on top of what is already a huge cost to many of us- then as an industry, we are going to want accountability from our councils to give some sort of protection for our complying businesses.

Regards

Jane Gamble

Calamity Cakes

128 - Sharon Trass: Question Comments: hospitality is doing it really hard

132 - Alex Thompson: Question Comments: Small businesses are already struggling. This should be charged based on the size of a company

Category Name: Is there any other feedback want to give us about the fees and charges

Overview of Category:

Total number of submitters: 33

Total number of points: 33

Response field Number and Name:

3-Is there any other feedback want to give us about the fees and charges

Question:

Is there any other feedback you want to give us regarding the fees and charges?

Total number of responses:33

Submitters for this question
Submitters for this question
6 - Claire Rowe : Question Comments: don't increase fees for people who care for these animals correctly. Your not making the others responsible for their actions. Reward good owners instead of penalties for bad owners.
11 - Tina Landl: Question Comments: i would like to see much more food compliance and food hygiene compliance. so often purchase food that is sitting in a warmer for hours st lukewarm heats. Literally growing bacteria before your eyes
15 - Caitlin Henderson: Question Comments: Coming from a cat and dog owner myself. Perhaps its time to start charging to have a cat, may not be a big fee but enough to try alleviate the constant breeding and attitude toward kittens. If there is suddenly something to pay for having your pet (this would be linked to microchip which every cat is required to have) it may help our kitten/cat problem with our over run animal rescues. Just something worth thinking about. I'd be happy to pay for my cat.
18 - Roy Goddard: Question Comments: I can see the need to increase the dog registration fees, but I also expect to get some value for my money. On numerous occasions, when I've gone to get a dog bag from the dispenser it's been empty.
23 - Richard Baker: Question Comments: Local traffic problems over Easter demonstrate where money needs to be spent.
24 - Cam Speedy: Question Comments: I would gladly pay more for dog control - as long as we get some service! We live just out of Turangi (20 Te Awamate Rd) and we have lost ALL our livestock in the past year or so. 10 sheep/lambs (\$1,500 worth) and now 12 chickens (which we paid \$520 for in February 2024). No one along Hiranui Road is able to keep sheep any more, even those that keep pigs have ongoing dog attack issues (we no longer do as a result of dog attacks and theft), and now our chickens are getting murdered by local dogs, in the dead of night. Drive around Turangi at 10.00pm any night and see how many packs of roaming dogs there are. Happy to pay for SERVICE, but not more bureaucracy. Fix the Turangi roaming dog problem!!!!
28 - Harawira Wilson : Question Comments: needs to be cheaper you are ripping us off
29 - John March: Question Comments: I know....lets gouge small businesses of more money by putting up fees. Don't increase fees for an already struggling industry. Put the fines up for not meeting the requirements. Then its the ones not adhering to rules that will be paying a big price.
31 - Ryan Waugh: Question Comments: prices go up, thats just the way it is. What im tired of is being a responsible dog owner, having owned my dog for 8 years and not once has he escaped. Not once has he been an issue to the public and prices go up to own a pet that is no inconvenience to anyone. However, twice this week i have had to rescue / call the pound on dogs roaming the streets of Taupo, every day there is another dog posted on taupo Facebook page being lost or found, i believe these fees should increasr dramatically, make owners become more responsible for there pets, and if they cant afford nor keep control of their animals they shouldnt own them. Raise the price of impounding fees and daily fees at impound.
39 - Mary Keane: Question Comments: stop robbing us when times are hard enough wirth this stuid government
42 - Katy Dean: Question Comments: I have no comment to make on food licensing charges, but I support an increase in dog-related fees. Dogs are important members of many families and treasured companions, but owning one is a personal choice. The costs relating to managing dogs in the district should not be borne by ratepayers that do not choose to own a dog.
43 - Susan Smith: Question Comments: We are in a recession businesses are closing the cost of living has gone up, but wages have not gone up at the same rate to match the increase. This is just an attempt to make sure that only rich people can afford a dog. A futher attempt to divide the rich from the poor in my own town. Everyone should be able to own a dog no matter their socio economic status.
53 - Tim Robinson: Question Comments: Good proposals Council. If these help offset rate increases and reflect more accurately the actual Council costs in managing these activities then great - I support.
56 - John Wymouth: Question Comments: I'm fine with the increase
63 - Hannah Townley : Question Comments: I honestly think you could be charging more for the dogs. Especially those that are found roaming. This seems to be an issue in Taupo with many posts on notice boards about roaming dogs. A higher fee would be a better incentive for people to make sure their animals are safe. I would also like to see some sort of cat regulation /registration as in other districts.
68 - Debra Forster: Question Comments: Good afternoon, I have read the new fees intended for the next financial year and think they are quite fair considering the times we live in. You have a range of fees to encourage dog owners to be responsible dog owners which is great. Talking to other dog owners in other parts of the country, this is not always the case. I support the new fees.
77 - Rachael McCartan: Question Comments: How about some fenced in dog only park in Turangi and Taupo
79 - Christine Noble: Question Comments: Hi team Thanks for your request for input on dog registration fees. Overall, I'm supportive of the fee changes. However, may I suggest a \$15 reduction for neutered dogs rather than the proposed \$13. All of the other amounts are tens or fives ... the three is the odd figure out ... just a matter of consistency. Also, I'm a great believer in encouraging people to make changes by rewarding them. Dogs should be desexed for health benefits and to help prevent roaming. A \$15 enticement also reduces the overall impact of the increases. Good luck.
82 - Caroline Van Lubeck: Question Comments: Fees Why keep putting fees up? Why not do cat registration? Most of us dog owners control are dogs, can't say the same about cats. Cats roaming everywhere. And just an other question. I live on my own, why do I pay the same rates as a family of 6 or 4. I use a lot Les then what a family does? Maybe shift the packages around like buy less art for town but spend more for what we really need in town. One example a sufficient hospital. It's a disgrace, the mistakes they make(specially the nurses). Me being an ex RN nurse can't believe what I have experienced first hand.

<p>85 - Ann Howard: Question Comments:</p> <p>Thank you for the notice and I understand that the cost of dog registration is to rise to meet shortfall.</p> <p>I feel that the rise is hard on the lower economic families and superannuants. Taupo does not give credit for pensioners which I feel should be given, as does Rotorua.</p> <p>When increasing fees please take into account the hardship that will be facing some people who love their canine companions.</p> <p>Will Council provide a service where owners can pay weekly for registrations as we do with rates?</p>
<p>86 - Vicky Malden: Question Comments:</p> <p>You charge enough for damned dog registration . So you can build a 30 plus million council building and now you put that into the residents. This will not go down well.</p> <p>Thanks for nothing council.</p>
<p>87 - William McLean: Question Comments: That's fine thanks</p>
<p>88 - Shane Hancock: Question Comments:</p> <p>Hi Team Fees are supported for the dogs</p> <p>Sorry I have a conflict for the food licensing fees and cannot change answer please disregard food licensing answer.</p> <p>For the dogs please increase as proposed and keep providing a good service including filling up the dog poo bags at the usual places. They are great.</p> <p>Kind regards Shane Hancock</p>
<p>100 - Candace Graham: Question Comments:</p> <p>I would be supportive of the suggested changes in relation to the dog registration fees, IF more compliance was conducted in the Turangi Town Area.</p> <p>I travel through the township on a daily basis. It is almost a guarantee, to see at least one roaming/uncontrolled dog walking the streets PER DAY.</p> <p>My children walk to the school bus, and I bike with my family. I often cross paths with uncontrolled dogs.</p> <p>Active compliance is a required in this area of the District.</p>
<p>104 - Julianne Henare: Question Comments:</p> <p>I am 70yrs old with my pension at \$360 a week all your increase charges with rates as well will see me living in the streets soon.</p>
<p>109 - Margaret Howard: Question Comments:</p> <p>I understand that the council needs to recoup costs associated with animal control. My recent experience is that a neighbour had a dog that barked excessively on occasion (mostly in the middle of the night). I phoned council and went through the process of phoning back in half an hour. Senjo was then sent out to the property (at a minimum of \$60 per call out). The dog often wasn't barking at the time of arrival so nothing happened. On the occasion that someone was home, still nothing happened. I believe that the dog's owner should have to pay the call out fee, and if they don't the dog should be uplifted until the fee is paid, incurring additional costs for their care while at the council facilities.</p> <p>I have a dog and it is contained in my section and if it barks I tell it to be quiet. If I go out, the dog is put inside the house so it doesn't bother my neighbours. This is a no cost solution.</p> <p>There should be no discount for multiple dogs. If you choose to have more than one you should pay for each one.</p>
<p>113 - Les Owens: Question Comments: no</p>
<p>117 - Rachel Hurae: Question Comments:</p> <p>im fine with the change in fees. But it would be nice to have a dog park that is dogs only and is fully fenced. Most the dog parks around are shared. Spa park was great but disc golf was added.</p>
<p>119 - Teresa Wilson: Question Comments: If you are going to charge more for dog fees - can we please have a fenced off-leash dog exercise area in Taupo consistent with many other areas in NZ. Seacombe park has vehicles (not slow either) which is a hazard and Spa Park has become an issue with all the frisbees. Not everyone had a dog that is 100% obedient when distractions arise hence the need for a fenced area.</p>
<p>122 - Seth Bell: Question Comments:</p> <p>My submission focuses on animal control fees but the same comments can apply to the other proposed fee increases in Community Services. Specifically, why have fees have increased significantly more than the annual rate of inflation. In addition there is no transparency or disclosure in reconciling the proposed fee increases back to Councils revenue and financing policy.</p> <p>My comments are not a reflection of the tremendous work being done by Councils animal control and food safety staff</p>
<p>126 - Rebecca Hughes: Question Comments: cafes benefit from the increased amount of visitors and events in this town. Rate payers have been taking the brunt of it with the increases.</p>
<p>134 - Adeline Southwick: Question Comments:</p> <p>i</p> <p>Food is important and needs ti be kept safe for sale. All procedures are in place to ensure thjs is happening.</p>
<p>135 - Sue Barlow: Question Comments: please could you install bins and have bags available for dog waste at the off leash dog walking area in the stormwater gully on Acacia Bay Rd. This would encourage more peopel to pick up afetr their dogs</p>

