GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

ATTACHMENTS

Ordinary District Dog Control Committee Meeting

19 August 2025

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TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY DISTRICT DOG CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON MONDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 1.00PM

PRESENT:	Cr Kevin Taylor (in the Chair), Cr Anna Park, Cr John Williamson
IN ATTENDANCE:	Acting General Manager Strategy and Environment (J Rollin), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Compliance and Regulatory Manager (R McDonald), Communications Team Lead (D Beck), Governance Quality Manager (S James)
MEDIA AND PUBLIC:	Ms Kate McBreen, Solicitor representing the Objector

1 KARAKIA

Cr John Williamson recited Taupō District Council's opening karakia.

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

DDC202309/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor, David Trewavas and Cr Kylie Leonard be accepted.

CARRIED

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 ORDINARY DISTRICT DOG CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING - 2 FEBRUARY 2023

DDC202309/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That the minutes of the District Dog Control Committee meeting held on Thursday 2 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING

5.1 MENACING DOG CLASSIFICATION OBJECTION - BODKIN - 232048

Chairperson Cr Kevin Taylor thanked Ms Kate McBreen for her attendance, representing the Objector Ms Susan Atkins. Cr Taylor outlined the process to be followed, explaining that the District Dog Control Committee was a quasi-judicial committee of Council empowered to hear matters under the Dog Control Act 1996 ("the Act").

The Compliance and Regulatory Manager addressed the Committee. The following points were noted:

- A menacing dog classification could be imposed under the Act as a result of observed or reported behaviour. The threshold was low so that dogs could have their behaviour managed before it escalated.
- Since early 2021, four incidents concerning the behaviour of Ms Atkins' dog "Bodkin" (232048) had been reported to Council. These incidents included Bodkin being uncontrolled and aggressive towards members of the public. Warning letters and infringement documents had been attached to the agenda.
- No further incidents had been reported since the objection had been made. It was common for dog owners to comply when awaiting a hearing.
- Section 33E(5) of the Act enabled Council to specify circumstances in which menacing dogs need not be muzzled. Staff acknowledged that Bodkin did not pose much of a threat when being actively controlled while on a lead, so if the Committee were to uphold the classification, it could specify that Bodkin need not wear a muzzle while on a lead under direct control of a person.

In answer to questions, the Compliance and Regulatory Manager advised that:

- The issues with Bodkin related to times when she was uncontrolled. There were no suggestions of any issues when the dog was on a lead.
- If the muzzling exception was approved, Bodkin would still be required to be on a lead in off-lead areas, for example Seacombe Park and Spa Park.
- It was common practice for Council staff to give advice to dog owners whose dogs had been found uncontrolled, for example on how to secure their property, and effective use of leads to control dogs.

The Environmental Services Manager added that staff were happy and willing to have conversations with dog owners at any time, and another example of support was recommending dog behaviouralists to owners.

In answer to further questions from members, the Compliance and Regulatory Manager advised that:

- In relation to the advice from the complainant that this dog had bitten another of his children a few months ago (service request 2221524, page 26 of the agenda), historical anecdotes were difficult to verify in the absence of other evidence for example veterinarian or hospital reports, so were simply noted.
- The scores on the Dog Classification Evaluation matrix were not all rated 0-5; there were different ratings for the different criteria. The maximum victim impact criteria score was 2. The maximum restraint (dog at large) score was 3 for a known dog; 4 for an unknown dog.

With the leave of the Chairperson, Ms McBreen asked whether earlier evaluations had been done, to which the Compliance and Regulatory Manager advised that no earlier evaluations had been completed. Warnings and infringements had been issued prior to the matrix being completed. The evaluation matrix was usually only completed once the threshold for menacing had been reached; there may have been a suggestion in an earlier document of Bodkin being menacing, before the threshold had been reached to undertake the evaluation. Ms McBreen expressed the view that the evaluation was punitive if based on just one incident.

Two videos were played on the screens in the Council Chamber (A3422989 and A3422990). The videos were recorded at different times and each video showed the dog Bodkin rushing at a child.

In conclusion, the Compliance and Regulatory Manager advised that in addition to the aggressive behaviour of the dog, another factor to take into account was control. When a dog was chasing a member of the public (in this case a child) out onto the road, the risk needed to be mitigated/controlled. Although Bodkin had not bitten the child in the incidents captured on video, the implications arising from the dog's behaviour could be serious.

With the leave of the Chairperson, Ms McBreen asked for clarification on reports of injury as a result of Bodkin's behaviour (referring to page 44 of the agenda). The Compliance and Regulatory Manager advised that no substantiating evidence had been obtained to corroborate the assertion in the handwritten statement that Bodkin had caused injury. He acknowledged that while 'bites' could start as 'grazes', Council did not have any photographs or medical reports relating to the incident referred to in the handwritten statement.

The Chairperson referred to the matters the Committee must have regard to in making its determination, being the evidence which formed the basis for the classification; the matters relied upon in support of the objection; and any other relevant matters. The degree of relevance was a matter for the Committee to determine.

Ms Kate McBreen addressed the Committee on behalf of her client, Ms Susan Atkins. She advised that she was representing her client because she could not represent herself. She asked why a sentence in the objection letter dated 11 May 2023 had been redacted, to which Chair Cr Taylor advised that it had been redacted to protect personal privacy for the public copy of the agenda, but that Committee members did have a complete copy of the letter.

Ms McBreen tabled a medical report issued by Taupō Memory Clinic and dated 20 September 2023 but requested that the report be kept confidential to the Committee. Members questioned the relevance of the medical report and how it would support Ms Atkins' cause. Ms McBreen advised that it was problematic for her client to decipher the notices sent by Council in relation to her dog, and Council staff should have known they were dealing with a vulnerable person, and taken that into account.

Members read the tabled information. A member remarked that the tabled information could raise concerns regarding the capability of Ms Atkins as a dog owner, it was understood that the dog was a source of great comfort, but it was unclear whether the dog would have therapy dog status.

Ms McBreen continued to address the Committee and answer questions, with points noted below:

- The issues with Bodkin would have been resolved earlier if Council staff, realising Ms Atkins was a vulnerable person, had recommended she have a qualified support person present during interviews.
- Ms Atkins needed prior warnings of conversations and interviews, especially when it got serious. That would have helped.
- Ms Atkins did have some very supportive neighbours. One had contacted Council but at that point, Bodkin had already been classified as a menacing dog so no more could be done.
- The neighbours had 'rallied around' Ms Atkins and put in place a system that would work. This included more fencing on the front side of Ms Atkins' house.
- Ms Atkins' medical history had impaired her ability to liaise with Council. She had paid the infringements. There was no problem with her controlling the dog.

A member expressed sympathy for Ms Atkins and concern that her lack of capacity to reach out, and seek and take on board advice, could also affect her capability to manage the dog if showing signs of aggression.

Chair Cr Taylor read out part of the tabled medical report, concluding that based on his reading of the document, there were no concerns with Ms Atkins' comprehension or ability to interpret situations. Therefore limited weight could be put on the report. Ms McBreen stated that she disagreed with this view and that her client did have issues with verbal processing, understanding and responding to speech.

In answer to another question from a member, Ms McBreen advised that Council staff had visited her client a few times, but they had spoken to her like any other person. She did understand her obligations now.

Ms McBreen continued to address the Committee and answer questions:

- A builder had installed a barricade in front of Ms Atkins' front door, to make it easier to ensure Bodkin could not get out.
- Ms Atkins would never go outside these secure spaces without the dog being on a lead.
- The dog had not been 'at large' since the processes had been put in place and should not escape again.
- There were other ways to solve the problem apart from classifying the dog menacing.
- If Ms Atkins' neighbour and/or Solicitor could have been present during discussions with Council staff, then the menacing classification could have been avoided, but systems were now in place.

- In the interests of fairness, Council staff should have taken into account that Ms Atkins was a vulnerable person.
- The back of Ms Atkins' property was all fenced. The front of the property and driveway were not fenced because the contour made it difficult to do so. However, an additional fence had been installed between the doors and the front yard, along with the barricade to help in case Ms Atkins momentarily forgot. So reminders were now in place and it was also more difficult for the dog to be at large.
- Neighbours were aware of the issue with the dog, but they did not realise the repercussions.
- If the incident resulting in the menacing classification was isolated, the facts did not justify the classification. However, if all the incidents resulted in the classification, then the Committee should reconsider in light of the actions taken to stop the dog being at large. If the Committee were to uphold the menacing classification, then there was a problem with the dog wearing a muzzle, because Ms Atkins had not been able to find one to fit the dog's small mouth.

Members advised Ms McBreen that muzzles for small dogs were available for purchase online.

Ms McBreen continued:

- The menacing classification had been applied punatively.
- The main problem was Bodkin being at large. The dog was not aggressive. Yes the dog had chased children, but measures had been taken to stop that happening, so that problem had been solved.
- Because the dog would no longer be at large, no problematic behaviour would be exhibited.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Compliance and Regulatory Manager explained that the Committee could remove the muzzling requirement in certain circumstances. The behaviour of this particular dog had only happened when uncontrolled by a person, when the dog was by itself, running. If this dog was on a lead under the control of a person in a public place, then the threat would be minimised and the muzzle requirement could be waived. The dog could be pulled away by the lead if necessary.

The Chair asked Ms McBreen for her view on whether if the classification was upheld by the Committee, a s33E(5) exception should be made. She advised that her client wanted the classification removed because it was for life and would apply if the dog moved between districts. She had not obtained instructions on the s33E(5) exception, but it would be better than nothing if the classification was upheld.

Copies of the tabled medical report were returned to Ms McBreen at her request.

Ms McBreen invited Committee members to Ms Atkins' property to see changes made to contain the dog. Chair Cr Taylor advised that that was an evidential matter which could have been considered, along with photographs, had it been raised earlier. The hearing had been postponed a number of times and the Committee was not going to adjourn and come back again.

Cr Taylor then summarised the matter and evidence before the Committee for consideration:

- The Committee had been asked to consider an objection to a menacing dog classification for a Chihuahua-Boston Terrier cross named Bodkin.
- Members had received and read the Council file, and heard from Council staff in support of the classification.
- There had been multiple incidents of Bodkin leaving her property and approaching young children either walking or on scooters or bicycles in the public space on Holland Grove, Taupō.
- Evidence of Council staff contact with the owner of the dog had been provided. This included letters written, infringements sent and engagement with staff.
- The most recent incident resulted in completion of the Dog Classification Evaluation matrix, with a score of 26, which put Bodkin in the menacing dog category.
- The Committee had heard from Ms Kate McBreen, representing the dog owner, in support of the objection. A medical report had been tabled, read and referred to, but not retained. That report referred to medical issues relating to the dog owner. Limited weight was placed on that report, as it related to issues beyond the ability to comprehend what was occuring in terms of the obligations of a dog owner.
- The Committee had received evidence in relation to additional fencing around the dog owner's property, including the securing of a barricade. No photographs had been supplied.

- Ms McBreen had suggested the process had not assisted the dog owner in terms of her obligations. The obligations were universal to all dog owners, whether or not someone understood or comprehended them, there were opportunities to learn, particularly with multiple engagements with Council staff.
- In relation to logistical issues finding muzzles small enough to fit Bodkin, internet searches had returned results for small muzzles, so not much weight was placed on that point.
- Ms McBreen had suggested the dog would no longer be at large and therefore any other issues relating to the dog's behaviour had been resolved. It was however not a safe assumption that the dog would stay behind doors for the rest of its life.

Members decided to uphold the classification without an exception to the muzzling requirement.

DDC202309/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That the District Dog Control Committee upholds the menacing dog classification for "Bodkin".

CARRIED

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 2.22pm with a karakia recited by Cr John Williamson.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary District Dog Control Committee Meeting held on 19 August 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON

Menacing dogs

Heading: inserted, on 1 December 2003, by section 21 of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003 (2003 No 119).

33A Territorial authority may classify dog as menacing

(1) This section applies to a dog that—

(a) has not been classified as a dangerous dog under section 31; but

(b) a territorial authority considers may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife because of—

(i) any observed or reported behaviour of the dog; or

(ii) any characteristics typically associated with the dog's breed or type.

(2) A territorial authority may, for the purposes of section 33E(1)(a), classify a dog to which this section applies as a menacing dog.

(3) If a dog is classified as a menacing dog under subsection (2), the territorial authority must immediately give written notice in the prescribed form to the owner of—

(a) the classification; and

(b) the provisions of section 33E (which relates to the effect of classification as a menacing dog); and

(c) the right to object to the classification under section 33B; and

(d) if the territorial authority's policy is not to require the neutering of menacing dogs (or would not require the neutering of the dog concerned), the effect of sections 33EA and 33EB if the owner does not object to the classification and the dog is moved to the district of another territorial authority.

Section 33A: inserted, on 1 December 2003, by section 21 of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003 (2003 No 119).

Section 33A(3): amended, on 1 November 2004, by section 10 of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2004 (2004 No 61).

Section 33A(3)(c): amended, on 28 June 2006, by section 13 of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 23).

Section 33A(3)(d): added, on 28 June 2006, by section 13 of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2006 (2006 No 23).

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

Phone +64 7 376 0899
30 Tongariro St, Taupō 3330
Private Bag 2005, Taupō 3352

25 June 2025

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Notice of Classification of Dog as a Menacing Dog - Section 33A, Dog Control Act 1996
Customer ID: [redacted]
Animal ID I Description [redacted] Dog | Domestic Dog | Terrier, Fox (Smooth) | Tri-Colour | Lacey

This is to notify you[1] that this dog has been classified as a menacing dog under **Section 33A (2)** of the Dog Control Act 1996.

This Taupō District Council considers this dog may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal or protected wildlife because of the incident that has occurred on the 12th of April 2025 involving an attack on a young girl.

A full summary of the effects of the classification and your right to object is provided on the following page.

If you have any enquiries regarding this letter, please contact the Compliance Team on 0800 ASK TDC (0800 275 832) or email info@taupo.govt.nz.

Kind regards

Compliance Team Leader
Taupō District Council
CO-109

[1] For the purposes of the Dog Control Act 1996, you are the owner of a dog if—

- you own the dog; or
- you have the dog in your possession (otherwise than for a period not exceeding 72 hours for the purpose of preventing the dog causing injury, or damage, or distress, or for the sole purpose of restoring a lost dog to its owner); or
- you are the parent or guardian of a person under 16 who is the owner of the dog and who is a member of your household living with and dependent on you.

EFFECT OF CLASSIFICATION AS MENACING DOG

Section 33E 33F and 36A, Dog Control Act 1996

Section 33E Effect of classification as a menacing dog

(1) If a dog is classified as a menacing dog under section 33A or section 33C, the owner of the dog—

(a) must not allow the dog to be at large or in any public place or in any private way, except when confined completely within a vehicle or cage, without being muzzled in such a manner as to prevent the dog from biting but to allow it to breathe and drink without obstruction; and

(b) must, if required by the territorial authority, within 1 month after receipt of notice of the classification, produce to the territorial authority a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying—

(i) that the dog is or has been neutered; or

(ii) that for reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be neutered before a date specified in the certificate; and

(c) must, if a certificate under paragraph (b)(ii) is produced to the territorial authority, produce to the territorial authority, within 1 month after the date specified in that certificate, a further certificate under paragraph (b)(i).

(5) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply in respect of any dog or class of dog that the territorial authority considers need not be muzzled in any specified circumstances (for example, at a dog show).

Section 33F Owner must advise person with possession of dangerous or menacing dog of requirement to muzzle and leash dog in public

(1) This section applies to an owner whose dog has been classified as—

(a) dangerous under section 31; or

(b) menacing under section 33A or section 33C.

(2) If the dog is in the possession of another person for a period not exceeding 72 hours, the owner must advise the person of the requirement to comply with section 32(1)(b) or section 33E(1)(a), as the case may be (which relate to the requirement to muzzle and leash the dog in public).

(3) Every person who fails to comply with subsection (2) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding $500.

Section 36A Microchip transponder must be implanted in certain dogs

(1) This section applies to a dog that—

(a) is classified as dangerous under section 31 on or after 1 December 2003; or

(b) is classified as menacing under section 33A or section 33C on or after 1 December 2003; or

(c) is registered for the first time on or after 1 July 2006.

(2) The owner of the dog must, for the purpose of providing permanent identification of the dog, arrange for the dog to be implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed manner.

(2A) Subsection (2) does not apply to a dog as defined in paragraph (b)(ii) of the definition of working dog in section 2 registered as a working dog under section 46(1) and wearing a collar, label, or disc as provided in section 34(4)(b).

(3) Subsection (2) is complied with by the owner,—

(a) for a dog that is classified as dangerous or menacing, by making the dog available, in accordance with the reasonable instructions of the territorial authority, for verification that it has been implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location:

(b) for a dog that is registered for the first time on or after 1 July 2006, by—

(i) making the dog available, in accordance with the reasonable instructions of the territorial authority, for verification that it has been implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location; or
(ii) providing to the territorial authority a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying—
(A) that the dog is or has been implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location; or
(B) that, for the reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location before a date specified in the certificate.

(3A) A certificate issued by a veterinarian under subsection (3)(b)(ii) must include the following information:
(a) the unique identifier of the microchip transponder (if subsection (3)(b)(ii)(A) applies); and
(b) the name and sex of the dog; and
(c) a physical description of the dog, which may include the breed, the colour, and any distinguishing marks; and
(d) if the dog is registered, the registration number of the label or disc issued for the dog; and
(e) the name, date of birth, and address of the owner of the dog.

(4) If a certificate under subsection (3)(b)(ii)(B) is produced to the territorial authority, the owner must produce to the territorial authority, within 1 month after the date specified in the certificate, a further certificate under subsection (3)(b)(ii).

(5) The owner must comply with subsection (2)—
(a) within 2 months from 1 July 2006, if the dog is classified as dangerous or menacing on or after 1 December 2003 but before 1 July 2006; or
(b) within 2 months after the date on which the dog is classified as dangerous or menacing or is registered (as the case may be), in any other case.

(5A) Subsection (2) does not apply if—
(a) as a requirement of this Act, the dog has been previously implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location; or
(b) in any other case, the territorial authority has verified that the dog has been implanted with a functioning microchip transponder of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location.

(6) Every person commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding $3,000 who fails to comply with subsection (2) or subsection (5).

Full details of the effect of the classification of a dog as menacing are provided in the Dog Control Act 1996.

RIGHT OF OBJECTION TO CLASSIFICATION UNDER SECTION 33A
Section 33B, Dog Control Act 1996

Section 33B Objection to classification of dog under section 33A

(1) If a dog is classified under section 33A as a menacing dog, the owner—
(a) may, within 14 days of receiving notice of the classification, object in writing to the territorial authority in regard to the classification; and
(b) has the right to be heard in support of the objection.

(2) The territorial authority considering an objection under subsection (1) may uphold or rescind the classification, and in making its determination must have regard to—
(a) the evidence which formed the basis for the classification; and
(b) any steps taken by the owner to prevent any threat to the safety of persons or animals; and
(c) the matters relied on in support of the objection; and
(d) any other relevant matters.

(3) The territorial authority must, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the owner of—
(a) its determination of the objection; and
(b) the reasons for its determination.

Taupo District Council

72 Lake Terrace, Taupo
Private Bag 2005, Taupo
Telephone (07) 376 0899
Facsimile (07) 378 0118

Request: 2506743
To: Animal Management & Compliance
Attn: [redacted]
Priority: 3:High-24 Hours
Deadline: 19/08/25

Caller Information

Name [redacted]
Address
Phone
Email

Request

District Turangi
Received by After Hours
Recd date/time 12/04/25 - 10.00
How received After Hours
Incident date/time 12/04/25 - 09.55
Action required Complaint
Type Attack on person/animal/wildlife
Details RFS 1195479 New After Hours RFS
12/04/2025 0938 [redacted] Dog attack.
Occurred on 12/04/2025 at 9:25am Dog were at the
front of the Turangi Town centre where the markets are. Customer states here were two dogs tied in a portable kennel. When customers daughter walked past the dogs both dog scratched and bit. Age of child - 6 years. Customer witnessed attack. Dogs are back in the kennel - still there. Dogs are still there - owner is sitting with the dogs now. Extent of injury - bite mark (blood has been drawn) on the right inner thigh and scratch marks on left ankle. No medical treatment has been seeked yet. Customer is planning to go to a doctor to make sure there is nothing wrong. Owner refused to provide name or contact details. Description of dog: Both dogs are Jack Russel type. small to medium sized. Colour - black, white and brown. One dog attacked, and one scratched. Gender unknown - one might be a female. Witness details. [redacted] (father of the daughter who was attacked) - [redacted] Called Senjo at 0955 and spoke to

Issue/Service Restored

Date & Time :

Location

Street Te Rangitautahanga Road, Turangi

Actions

Request 2506743

Actions cont..

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Arrived: 12/04/25 - 10.05 - Completed: 12/04/25 - 11.46

Details Received call from Senjo regarding attack in Turangi. Rang C straight away to discuss, she said daughter is injured and hubby went to supermarket to get cleaning stuff and will be heading to the doctors. She explained that the dogs are still there, at the stall by the grass verge just off the roundabout and she would like them removed from the market. I explained that senjo are attending to keep an eye on the situation but nothing will occur till I was in Turangi. I asked if she would be willing to give a statement about the event, she said yes, that she was still there and that she could do it now, I said I would be a while as I live in Taupo.
Meanwhile, [redacted] got in touch with [redacted] who was going to attend the situation. He got the information of the lady running the markets, for us to get in touch with DO if they left while I was travelling down. [redacted] is DO. [redacted] runs market [redacted]

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 12/04/25 - 11.52

Details Arrived in Turangi and rang [redacted] for assistance in case I needed to seize the dogs.
Walking over, [redacted] (DO) was set up on the grass verge by the round about. [redacted] called her over and explained who I was. No dogs were there. I then asked [redacted] to explain the situation.
She stated that the dog was tied to a peg, with the puppy in the kennel. She said the puppy has had less socialising than the mum, so is timid but has never attacked and was not malicious.
She said that the family were sitting on the other side in the corner, when the little girl came running over to pat the mum. She did not ask if this was okay, just went in with a lot of energy. She said that no injuries were caused and there was no blood or anything.
I asked where the dogs were now, she said that they were in her car.
I asked if I could get some details of her and the dogs, and if there were any witnesses.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 12/04/25 - 12.01

Details Details are as follows;
[redacted]
Dogs: two fox terrier females, mum is 4 named Chemi, pup is 1 named Lacey. They are both black and white, with some brown spots.
Witness: [redacted]
I asked if she had registration information for the dogs, such as the tags, and she said they are wearing. I asked if it was okay if i sighted the dogs, and got a photo. She agreed and we walked to her car.
continued...

Request 2506743

Actions cont..

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 12/04/25 - 12.01
Details While walking I asked if she would be willing to give a statement, she said yes and i explained that it would likely be over the phone as she lives in Taumaranui.
I sighted the dogs in her vehicle, got photos of them and tags (Attached to SR)
We discussed possible outcomes and I explained that it can range from just a warning, to a prosecution but that it is unlikely that it will get this far. I made the decision not to seize dogs as they are registered, live in Taumaranui and she had done the right thing by removing them from the premises.
I thanked her for her cooperation and left.
t.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Arrived: 12/04/25 - 12.06 - Completed: 12/04/25 - 12.43
Details Rang C and asked if she was available to give a statement. She said yes.
I arrived at property and met [redacted] (Husband) and [redacted] and sat down for a talk. I explained that I had spoken to DO and that the dogs were no longer there, she said she had seen the dogs being taken away so she knew that.
Statement given. I explained that I will be in touch to fill in any holes if there were any, and asked if she was available to sign it later in the week. SHe explained that she works in [redacted] up the top and she was happy for me to come there to get it signed.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 12/04/25 - 12.46
Details Attempted to ring second witness, no answer. No VM left.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 15/04/25 - 09.34
Details Attempted to ring [redacted]
No answer, did not allow VM

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 16/04/25 - 09.13
Details Rang dog owner. She asked if she could send me an account by email as this would be easier for her. I agreed.
She has also given me an email for [redacted] as another route of contact as I have no been able to get in touch with her.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 16/04/25 - 09.51
Details Received email from [redacted]. I have responded with out Dog owner sheet for her to fill out the account.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 16/04/25 - 15.14
Details Corresponding with [redacted]. I have organized to call her after 11am to go through the document together

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 17/04/25 - 11.32
Details Have just completed phone call statement with [redacted] Will do full write up and send this to her for signing.

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 17/04/25 - 15.25
Details Statement written up and sent off to [redacted] for signing

Status Complaint - [redacted] - Completed: 23/04/25 - 08.29
Details BS can you please make a dog owner folder for [redacted] in Objective?

Request 2506743

Actions cont..

Status Complaint - Business Support - Completed: 23/04/25 - 11.32
Details OBJ did not allow me to create a new folder - have sent this to IT

Status Complaint - Business Support - Completed: 23/04/25 - 11.45
Details Folder has been created in OBJ

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 23/04/25 - 12.05
Details Sent back with 1 hour - push time

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 23/04/25 - 12.38
Details Matrix completed. Score 22.
Notes: Two dogs were tied to a peg with a dual lead in Turangi town centre. [redacted], a 6 year old girl, was playing on the grass verge where they were tied. The dogs were in the small kennel and the girl did not see them. The smaller dog, Lacey has rushed out, scratching at [redacted] legs and bitten her right leg. [redacted] has run away from the dogs, and as they were tied up, they were unable to chase after her. I recommend an infringement under Section 57 and a warning under Section 20(5). The dogs are from out of district and [redacted] may have missed the signs saying the dogs were prohibited (S20). While the dogs have no history nor did they show any aggression when I sighted them, it is evident in the video that the dogs have attacked the girl. Owner has admitted to the main dog involved (Lacey) being less socialised than Chemi.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 23/04/25 - 14.00
Details Objective folder created : fA292941
Reassigning to senior CO for review

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Arrived: 01/05/25 - 12.12 - Completed: 01/05/25 - 12.12
Details push

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Arrived: 08/05/25 - 13.50 - Completed: 08/05/25 - 13.50
Details Push

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Arrived: 12/05/25 - 13.08 - Completed: 12/05/25 - 13.08
Details Senior Compliance Officer recommended action is, that owner [redacted] receive and warning dog incident letter and an infringement for each dog under section 20(5) of the Dog Control Act 1996.
Summary of facts and matrix uploaded to objective. Reassigning to CRM

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Arrived: 20/05/25 - 09.19 - Completed: 20/05/25 - 09.19
Details In review.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Arrived: 23/05/25 - 11.33 - Completed: 23/05/25 - 11.33
Details Video analysed, smaller fox terrier with larger black saddle is the offending dog that bit the child. SR back to investigating CO for additional information from victim regarding which dog was the offending dog.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 23/05/25 - 14.45
Details Have attached scene and body diagram.
Waiting on a call back from [redacted]. I attempted to ring twice, both went to VM. Left VM on second reply.

Request 2506743

Actions cont..

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 27/05/25 - 09.44
Details Email has been sent to [redacted] regarding getting photo looked at

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 27/05/25 - 14.12
Details Back and forth correspondence with [redacted] via email is occurring.
Trying to organise a time to speak to both [redacted] and [redacted], however [redacted] doesn't finish work till 5 and doesn't get home till 6.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 27/05/25 - 16.38
Details Pushing out time as I will be going away and [redacted] has not returned with a time/date for the chat. Will follow up when I am back on the 8th of June

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 10/06/25 - 14.43
Details Still waiting on response from [redacted]

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 16/06/25 - 14.16
Details rang [redacted] No answer, VM left asking to respond to previous email or give council a ring asking for me.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 24/06/25 - 14.23
Details Spoke with [redacted] and showed her the two photos with both dogs. She could not remember, she did clarify that it was definitely the smaller dog. I informed her about trying for menacing classification and said that I would update her once everything is processed.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 24/06/25 - 16.35
Details CRM has given okay to move ahead with classification and infringement.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 25/06/25 - 11.24
Details Reassigning to CRM for direction on actions needed. Menacing classification has been processed in Ci.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Arrived: 25/06/25 - 11.58 - Completed: 25/06/25 - 11.58
Details The incident has been investigated and the outcome is:
1. Issue infringement: Dog Control Act 1996 Section 53 Offence of failing to keep a dog under control for "Lacey".
2. The dog "Lacey" is to be classified as menacing IAW section 33A(1)(b)(i) DCA 1996, Territorial authority may classify a dog as MENACING.
3. Issue a Warning dog Incident letter for "Lacey".
4. The dog "Lacey" is to be neutered or a certificate from a registered veterinarian verifying the dog has been neutered is to be supplied within 1 month.
Back to investigating officer for action.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 25/06/25 - 13.47
Details BS, I accidentally put the wrong DOB in when I first entered [redacted] into Ci and have only just realised when I have made an infringement. This has all been changed on her account. However, I need the DOB changed on the infringement... Do I need to reverse the infringement to change this? DOB is [redacted] but I didn't change the year so it says 2025 instead of [redacted] (hahah oops).
Owner: [redacted] (Ci: [redacted])
Infringement number: [redacted]

Request 2506743

Actions cont..

Status Enquiry - Business Support - Completed: 27/06/25 - 10.07
Details Rang [redacted] yesterday (26/06) @11.23am, no answer and no VM system so I have asked her via email to let me know when is best to chat, she has said anytime today (27/06).
Have just got off of the phone with [redacted]. She was shocked with the outcome, however I mentioned we have CCTV footage from the day and so she has now requested the footage. I said I would speak to my manager about whether than is okay but that I believe a LGOIMA is required. Otherwise she understood what was required of the classification. She was more upset with the infringement. (Classification and warning are in mail, waiting to hear regarding mistake on the infringement)

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 27/06/25 - 10.52
Details Have sent email to BS regarding LGOIMA request. Awaiting action.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 02/07/25 - 16.26
Details Received updated infringement. Will email letter tomorrow.
Received an email from [redacted] on Saturday (have only just seen it) regarding the time and fee and feeling like the decision is unfair. I will ring her tomorrow and discuss this. She has also requested the photo of injuries as well.

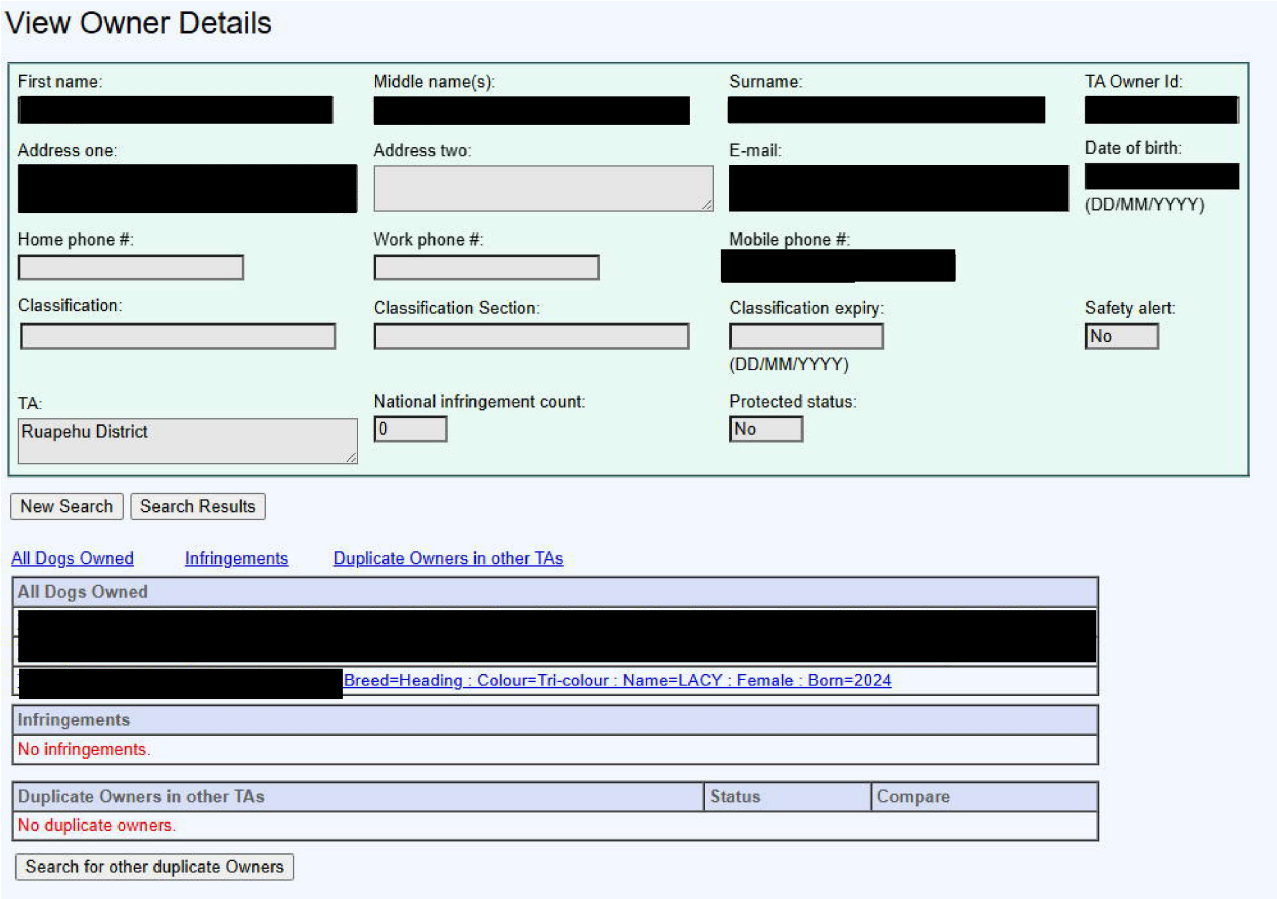
Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 03/07/25 - 09.28
Details Have emailed [redacted] Attached screenshot of this to SR.

Status Enquiry - [redacted] - Completed: 08/07/25 - 12.05
Details [redacted] has put in a formal objection and requested all evidence through LGOIMA via email. This has been forwarded to BS. Awaiting further action.

This Action

Arrived	Completed	Further action required?

Officer **Complainant advised?**



View Owner Details

First name: [redacted]
Middle name(s): [redacted]
Surname: [redacted]
TA Owner Id: [redacted]
Address one: [redacted]
Address two:
E-mail: [redacted]
Date of birth: [redacted] (DD/MM/YYYY)
Home phone #:
Work phone #:
Mobile phone #: [redacted]
Classification:
Classification Section:
Classification expiry: (DD/MM/YYYY)
Safety alert: No
TA: Ruapehu District
National infringement count: 0
Protected status: No

New Search | Search Results

All Dogs Owned | Infringements | Duplicate Owners in other TAs

All Dogs Owned

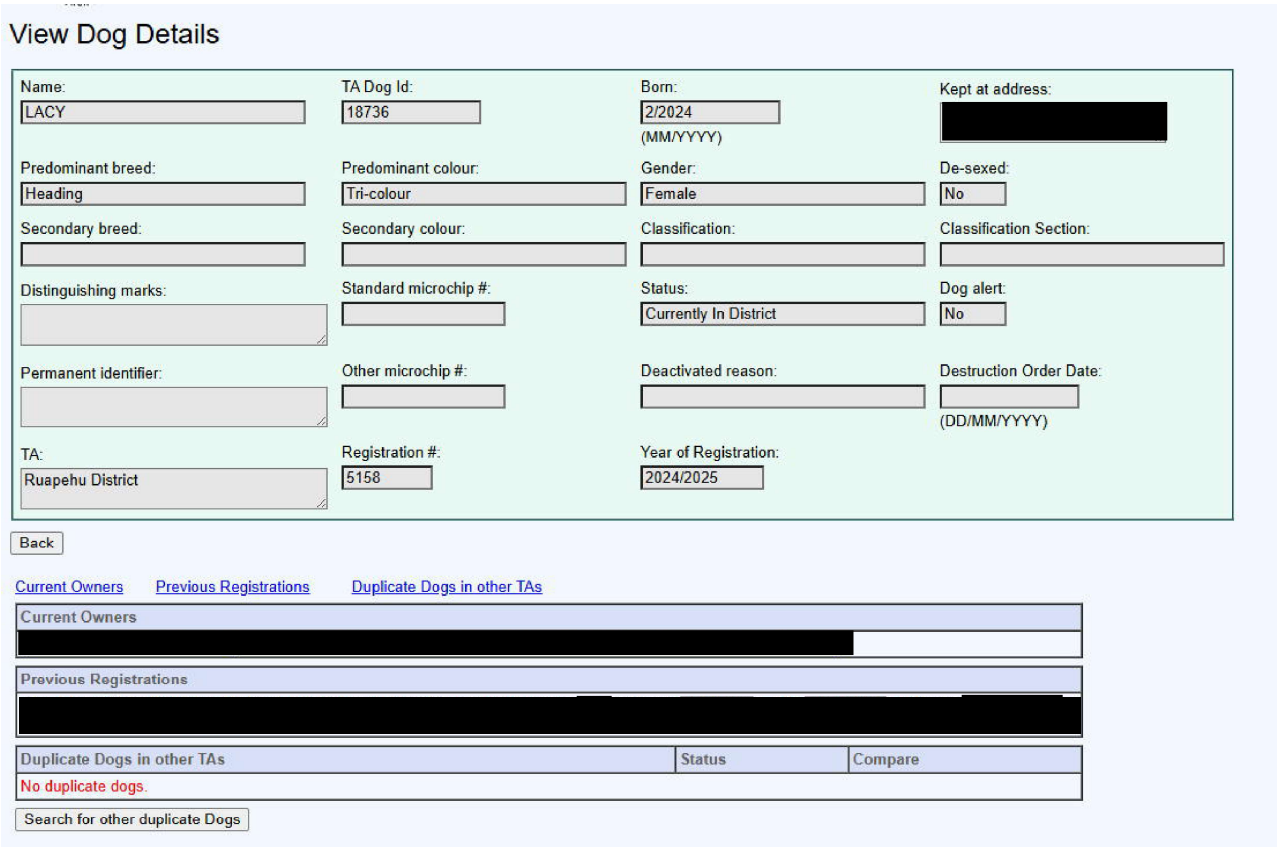
[redacted] Breed=Heading : Colour=Tri-colour : Name=LACY : Female : Born=2024

Infringements

No infringements.

Duplicate Owners in other TAs	Status	Compare
No duplicate owners.		

Search for other duplicate Owners



View Dog Details

Name: LACY	TA Dog Id: 18736	Born: 2/2024 (MM/YYYY)	Kept at address: [redacted]
Predominant breed: Heading	Predominant colour: Tri-colour	Gender: Female	De-sexed: No
Secondary breed:	Secondary colour:	Classification:	Classification Section:
Distinguishing marks:	Standard microchip #:	Status: Currently In District	Dog alert: No
Permanent identifier:	Other microchip #:	Deactivated reason:	Destruction Order Date: (DD/MM/YYYY)
TA: Ruapehu District	Registration #: 5158	Year of Registration: 2024/2025	

Back

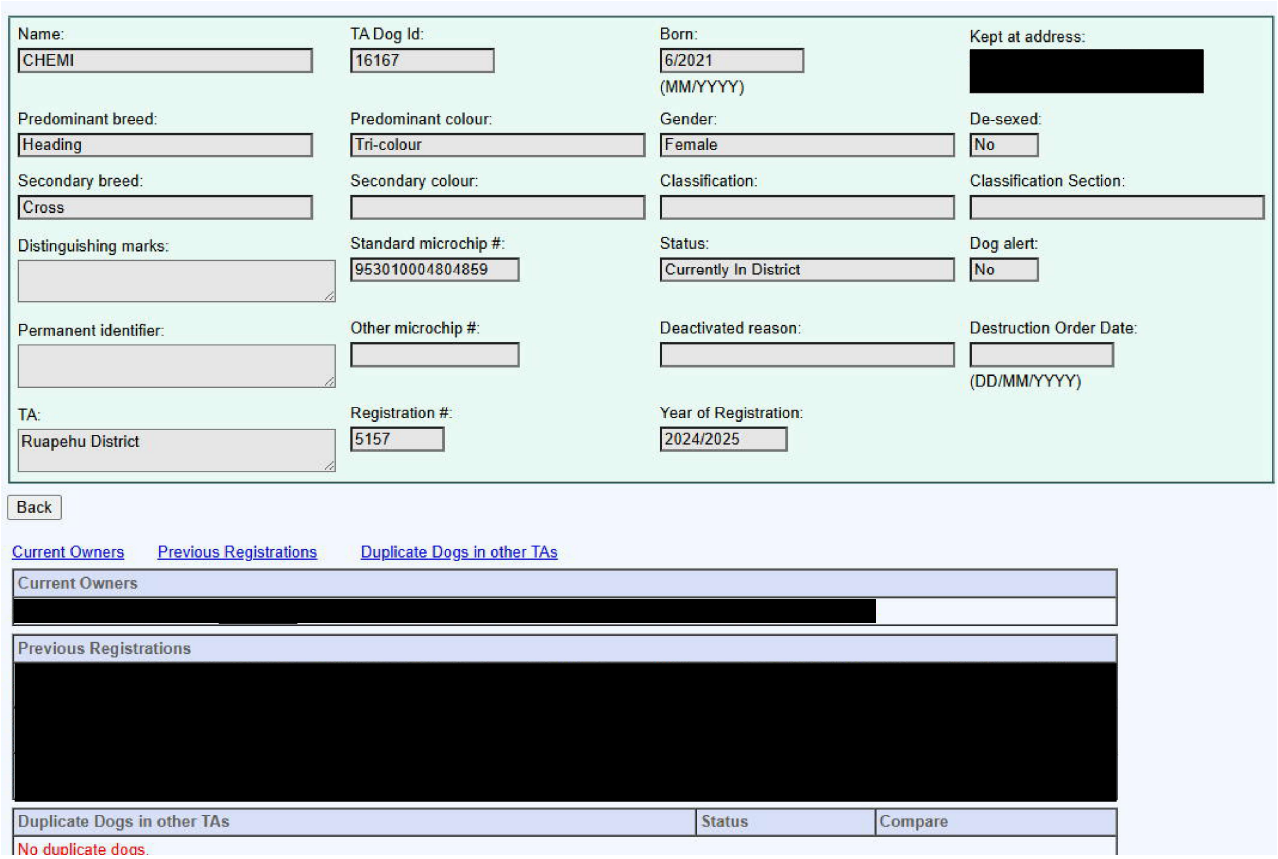
Current Owners Previous Registrations Duplicate Dogs in other TAs

Current Owners
[redacted]

Previous Registrations
[redacted]

Duplicate Dogs in other TAs	Status	Compare
No duplicate dogs.		

Search for other duplicate Dogs



Name:	TA Dog Id:	Born:	Kept at address:
CHEMI	16167	6/2021 (MM/YYYY)	[redacted]
Predominant breed:	**Predominant colour:**	**Gender:**	**De-sexed:**
Heading	Tri-colour	Female	No
Secondary breed:	**Secondary colour:**	**Classification:**	**Classification Section:**
Cross			
Distinguishing marks:	**Standard microchip #:**	**Status:**	**Dog alert:**
	953010004804859	Currently In District	No
Permanent identifier:	**Other microchip #:**	**Deactivated reason:**	**Destruction Order Date:** (DD/MM/YYYY)
TA:	**Registration #:**	**Year of Registration:**	
Ruapehu District	5157	2024/2025	

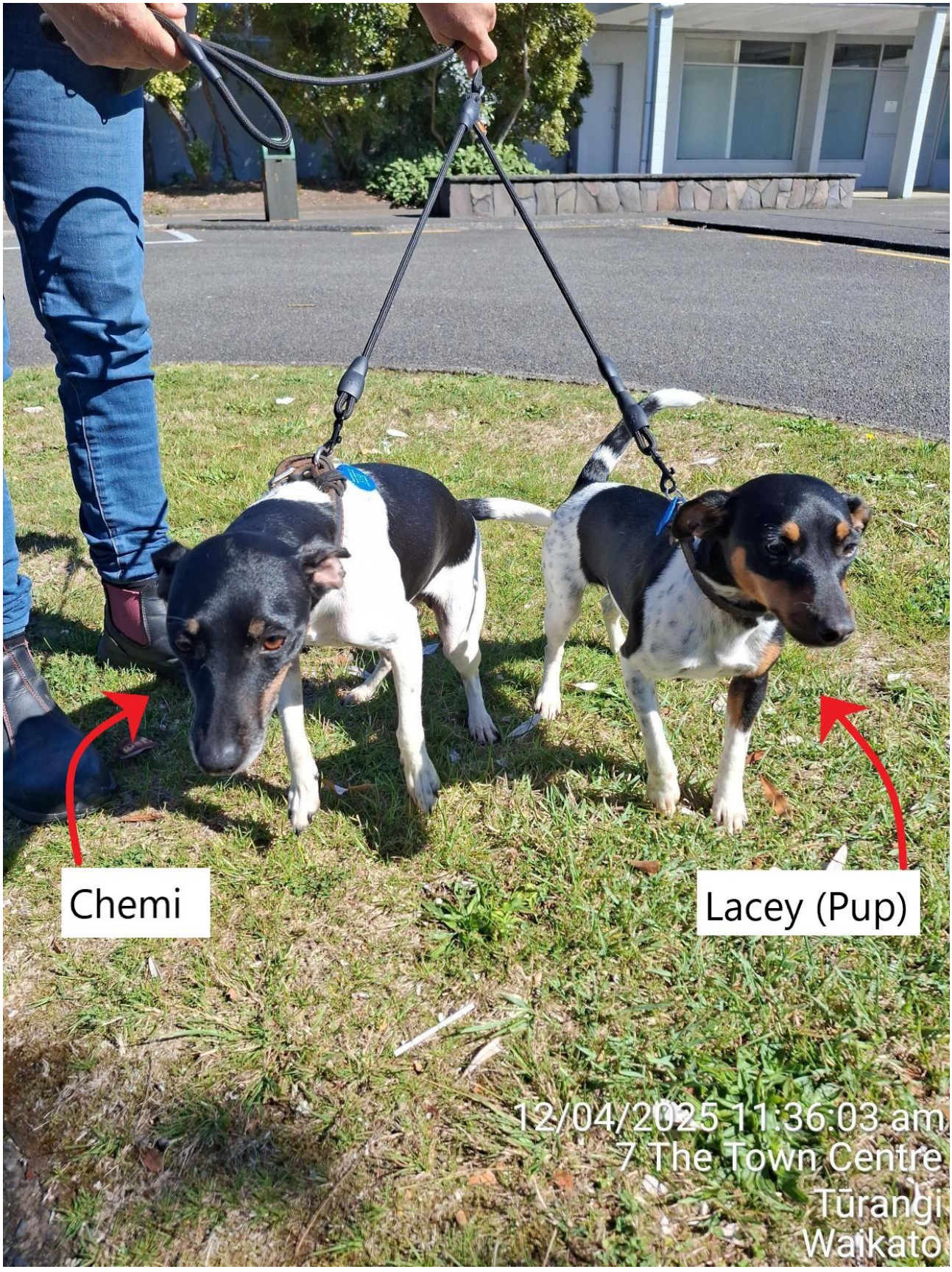
Back

Current Owners Previous Registrations Duplicate Dogs in other TAs

Current Owners
[redacted]

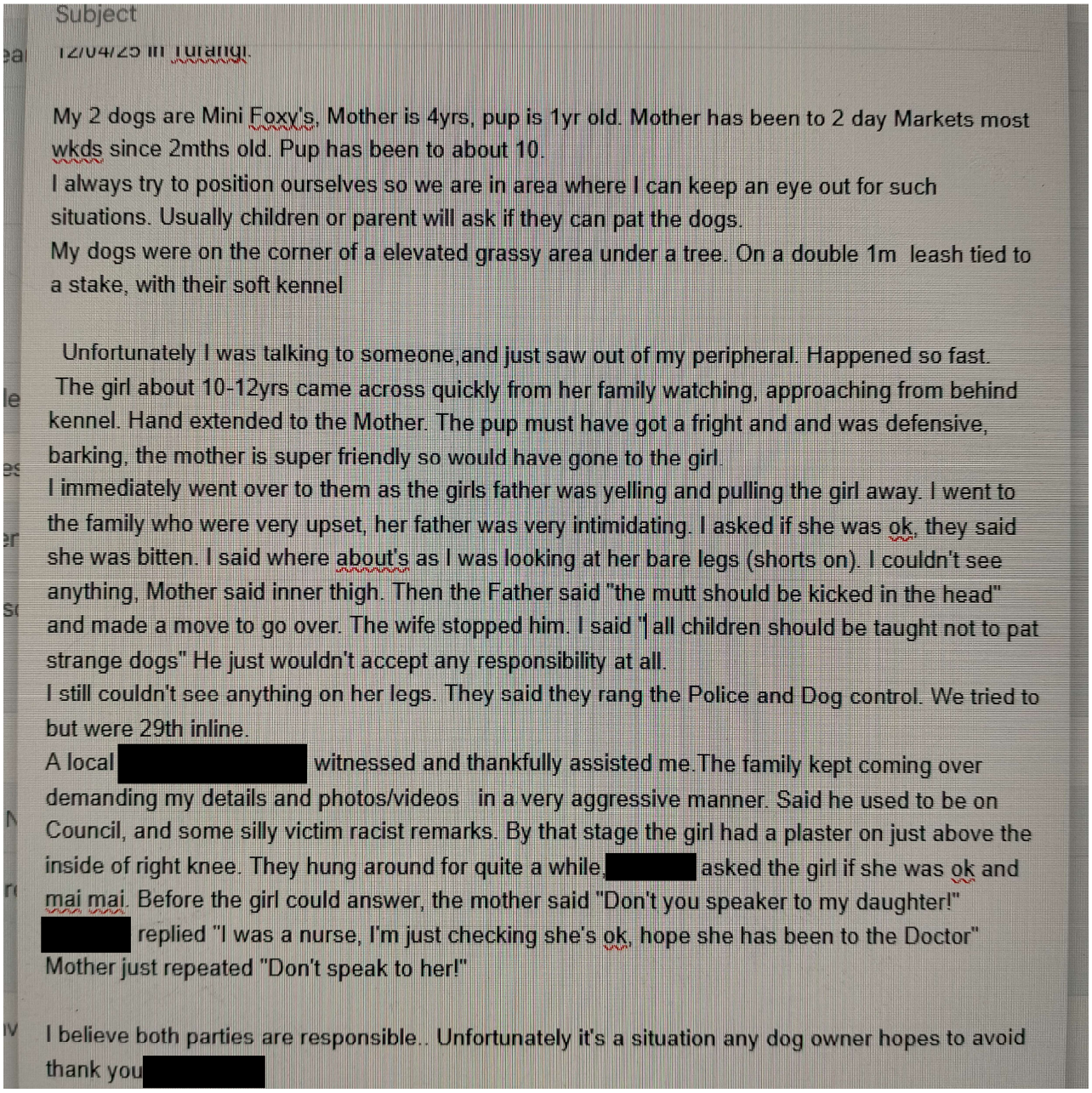
Previous Registrations
[redacted]

Duplicate Dogs in other TAs	Status	Compare
No duplicate dogs.		


Chemi
Lacey (Pup)
12/04/2025 11:36:03 am
7 The Town Centre
Tūrangi
Waikato


EXP 30/6/25
5158
PH 07 8958188
RUAPEHU D.C.
12/04/2025 11:36:25 am
7 The Town Centre
Tūrangi
Waikato


12/04/2025 11:36:44 am
7 The Town Centre
Tūrangi
Waikato



Subject

12/04/25 in Turangi.

My 2 dogs are Mini Foxy's, Mother is 4yrs, pup is 1yr old. Mother has been to 2 day Markets most wkds since 2mths old. Pup has been to about 10.
I always try to position ourselves so we are in area where I can keep an eye out for such situations. Usually children or parent will ask if they can pat the dogs.
My dogs were on the corner of a elevated grassy area under a tree. On a double 1m leash tied to a stake, with their soft kennel

Unfortunately I was talking to someone,and just saw out of my peripheral. Happened so fast. The girl about 10-12yrs came across quickly from her family watching, approaching from behind kennel. Hand extended to the Mother. The pup must have got a fright and and was defensive, barking, the mother is super friendly so would have gone to the girl.
I immediately went over to them as the girls father was yelling and pulling the girl away. I went to the family who were very upset, her father was very intimidating. I asked if she was ok, they said she was bitten. I said where about's as I was looking at her bare legs (shorts on). I couldn't see anything, Mother said inner thigh. Then the Father said "the mutt should be kicked in the head" and made a move to go over. The wife stopped him. I said "I all children should be taught not to pat strange dogs" He just wouldn't accept any responsibility at all.
I still couldn't see anything on her legs. They said they rang the Police and Dog control. We tried to but were 29th inline.
A local [redacted] witnessed and thankfully assisted me.The family kept coming over demanding my details and photos/videos in a very aggressive manner. Said he used to be on Council, and some silly victim racist remarks. By that stage the girl had a plaster on just above the inside of right knee. They hung around for quite a while, [redacted] asked the girl if she was ok and mai mai. Before the girl could answer, the mother said "Don't you speaker to my daughter!"
[redacted] replied "I was a nurse, I'm just checking she's ok, hope she has been to the Doctor"
Mother just repeated "Don't speak to her!"

I believe both parties are responsible.. Unfortunately it's a situation any dog owner hopes to avoid
thank you [redacted]

Where were you standing? and [redacted].
- about three metres away
- In the middle, with side on to the dogs.
back to the round about.

Saw in your peripheral
- movement coming towards. Didn't click till she was right by the dogs.
- Did she make contact? Maybe with front foot but didn't see.

little timid. But just not as many growls.

Describe dogs behaviour.
During. rrrr "growly, somethings come into her turf
Spaced because of yelling and cause of the fight.
Certainly not aggressive.

How did it end.
They just kept barking ago trying to get details and then just disappeared.

[redacted]. - Said last time came over.
Asked if she was alright.
Dont you talk to my daughter.

Straight after
→ Standing in alcove.
→ Sat next to dogs.

Dog Incident - Dog Owner (Offender/Offending Dog)

Dog Owner

Name: [redacted]

Residential address:

Contact phone number: [redacted]

Owner Number:

Dog(s)

Dog Registration Tag Number:

Dog name:

Breed:

Sex:

Colour:

Any distinguishing marks:

Any other relevant details:

Dog Registration Tag Number:

Dog name:

Breed:

Sex:

Colour:

Any distinguishing marks:

Any other relevant details:

Incident

Date and time of incident / Date and time you became aware of incident: around 10am Saturday 12th/04

Location where incident occurred / allegedly occurred: Entrance of Turangi shopping mall

Where were you when the incident happened? elevated grassy area as above, 3-4 metres away.

Where (walking on lead next to me, running in exercise area etc.) was your animal?

Where was the animal / human victim when you first noticed it/ him / her?

corner of the grassy area. Stake in ground double leash. Soft kennel. Fairly certain, lacey would of been in the kennel. Chami just outside of the kennel.

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

Taupo District Council
Incident Statement

Name: [redacted]

Date of birth: [redacted]

Residential address: [redacted]

Telephone number: [redacted]

Email address: [redacted]

Incident: Dog attack on the 12th of April at Turangi Markets

Caution:

My name is [redacted], I am Compliance Officer number 109. I am warranted by council (produce warrant card) under Section 13 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

I have been informed that you may have information relating to an offence I am investigating.

I am speaking to you about (give reason).

You are not being detained.

You do not have to make any statement.

Anything you say will be recorded and may be given as evidence in court.

You are free to leave at anytime

Do you understand what I have just told you? **YES**

This statement is being made to Compliance Officer: 109

SR2506743

Initial: [redacted]

Date: 27/04/25

Place: Over the phone

Time and Date: 17/04/2025 at 11.00am

- The incident occurred around 10am on Saturday the 12th of April
- It occurred at the entrance of the Turangi shopping mall, on the elevated grassy area
- I was standing about 3-4 metres away in the middle of the area turned slightly away from the interaction. My back was to the roundabout, so side-on to the dogs.
- The dogs were at the corner of the elevated grassy area, tied to a stake with a double leash. Lacy would have been in the kennel and Chemi (Mum) just outside
- I was talking to someone when it happened and saw it briefly in my peripheral vision
- There was just this movement coming towards us and I didn't click on what was happening till she was right by the dogs.
- Next thing I heard Lacy barking. She would have got a fright as the kennel was facing me, away from where the girl came from.
- It all happened so quickly.
- The girl must have had her hand out. Lacy is a little timid, she hasn't been to as many markets as Chemi
- I don't know if Lacy made contact, maybe with her paws but I didn't see fully.
- The Father was yelling and pulled the girl away back to the family who had been watching in the alcove under the trees.
- Afterwards, I went straight over into the alcove where the family were standing to see if she was okay, check she was alright
- I asked, "Where is she bitten?", I was looking as she had little shorts on, I didn't see all of her legs, but I didn't see any marks. They never showed me any marks at all.
- As I was trying to see, the father said "That mutt needs a kick in the head". He moved towards Lacy; his wife stopped him.
- I told the family they need to teach their children not to go up to strange dogs, but they weren't listening
- They came back trying to take photos and videos of the dogs, coming very close as to intimidate them.

SR2506743

Initial [redacted]

Date: 27/04/25

- [redacted] (Witness) told me not to give my details. We tried to ring the police, but were 29th in line, kept trying. [redacted] asked the girl "Are you ok, are you mai mai?"
- The Mother snapped back "Don't talk to my daughter"
- [redacted] replied, "I was a Nurse, I'm just checking she's ok, I hope she's seen a doctor" The Mother again just snapped "Don't talk to my daughter".
- They kept coming back and having a go, trying to get details and then they just disappeared
- This has been a regrettable situation. I always try to position myself and my dogs out of the way to prevent this sort of situation. Just unfortunate that I was momentarily distracted, and they hadn't asked to pat the dogs.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.

[redacted] (Name of declarant)

[redacted]
(Signature of declarant)

Date: 27/04/25

[redacted] (Name or CO number of witness)

SR2506743 Initial:

Date:

_____ (Signature of witness)

Date:

Time interview finished: 11.30

SR2506743

Initia [redacted]

Date: 27/04/25

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

Taupo District Council
Incident Statement

Name: [redacted]

Date of birth: [redacted]

Residential address: [redacted]

Telephone number: [redacted]

Email address: [redacted]

Incident: Dog Attack SR2506743

Caution:

My name is [redacted], I am Compliance Officer number 109. I am warranted by council (produce warrant card) under Section 13 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

I have been informed that you may have information relating to an offence I am investigating.

I am speaking to you about (give reason).

You are not being detained.

You do not have to make any statement.

Anything you say will be recorded and may be given as evidence in court.

You are free to leave at anytime

Do you understand what I have just told you? **YES**

This statement is being made to Compliance Officer: 109

Place: [redacted]

Time and Date: 9.25am, 12th of April 2025

SR2506743

Initial: [redacted]

Date: 14/4/25.

- We arrived by car, parking in those five parks out front of the main bakery
- We got out to walk towards the market, past the bakery.
- "Who is we?" It was me, my hubby and two daughter, [redacted], 6 year old, and [redacted], 8 year old.
- I was walking holding hands with my 8-year-old, while youngest daughter walking along the grassy area. They could see her but didn't notice the dogs.
- The grassy area was behind the kennel, so we were walking from towards the area from behind the kennel.
- As she got closer to the kennel, the two dogs came rushing out, it all happened very fast.
- The dogs came out barking.
- My daughter froze, one of the dogs rushed out faster than second one and snapped at her. The other rushed towards, snapped and pawed at her feet.
- When they were going at her, they wouldn't stop.
- Daughter was frozen and had a delayed scream.
- Hubby grabbed her and passed her over to me. I was a bit frozen myself.
- He walked back and started talking to owner, who got up on the grass verge.
- Owner apologised, saying dogs don't like strangers. Husband said to the dog owner, that they shouldn't be in town then, this is a public space.
- The other women came over and said no daughter went in for a pat, but she didn't even see the dogs for a pat.
- (Q. can you tell me what was said?). I didn't say anything at that time, it was my husband talking to the lady, trying to get her name.
- The lady made her way to us, myself and my daughters, asking if [redacted] was alright and for her name. I said no, give my husband your name so we can report you.
- Other women was butting in here and there but I did not speak to her myself. It was only my husband.
- I then noticed the blood on [redacted] leg and picked up my daughter.
- My hubby was quite wound up and emotional. So was the other lady, she was also getting quite wound up.
- I said to hubby, "Babe, he bit my baby, let's go".
- We walked into town and sat in the middle to ring council while hubby rung police.
- We were asking for processes about a complaint and follow up.
- Police said to try get details. ~~DO~~ Dog owner wasn't willing to share information.

SR2506743

Initial: [redacted]

Date: 14/04/25.

- [redacted] approached women and said she doesn't want this to happen again and tried to talk to her.
- The dog owner said, "I have apologised leave me alone".
- I asked to take photos of the dogs, but other lady told her to say no, saying she had no right.
- I said "No, I do have a right, I need this information".
- The other women came in and blocked the dogs.
- She must have rung her friends because before we left, there were more elderly showing up and hanging around

Where abouts is [redacted] injured

- Bitten on inside on left leg and scratching at legs.
- First one bit her

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.

[redacted] (Name of declarant)

[redacted] (Signature of declarant)

Date: 14 April 2025.

[redacted] (Name or CO number of witness)

[redacted] (Signature of witness)

SR2506743

Initial: [redacted]

Date: 14/04/25.

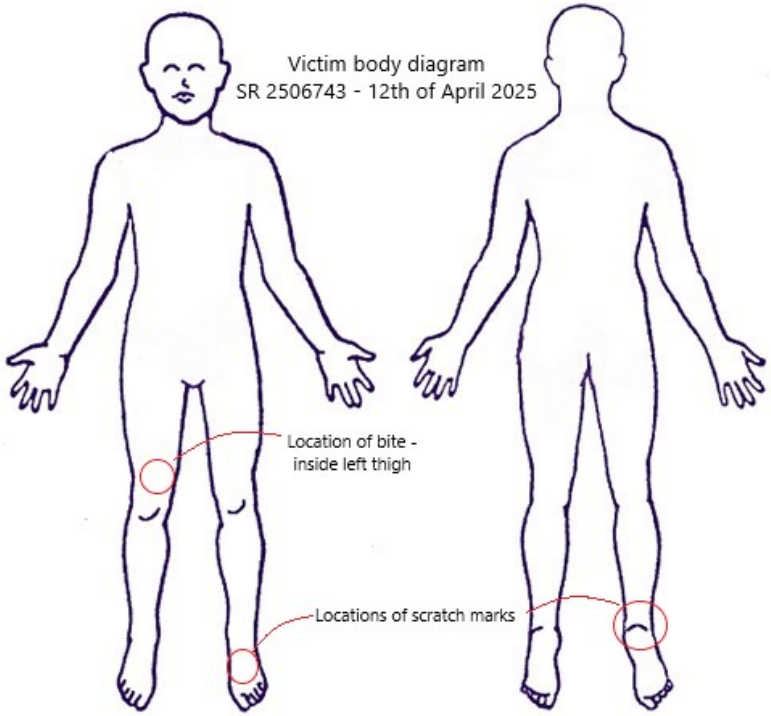
Date:

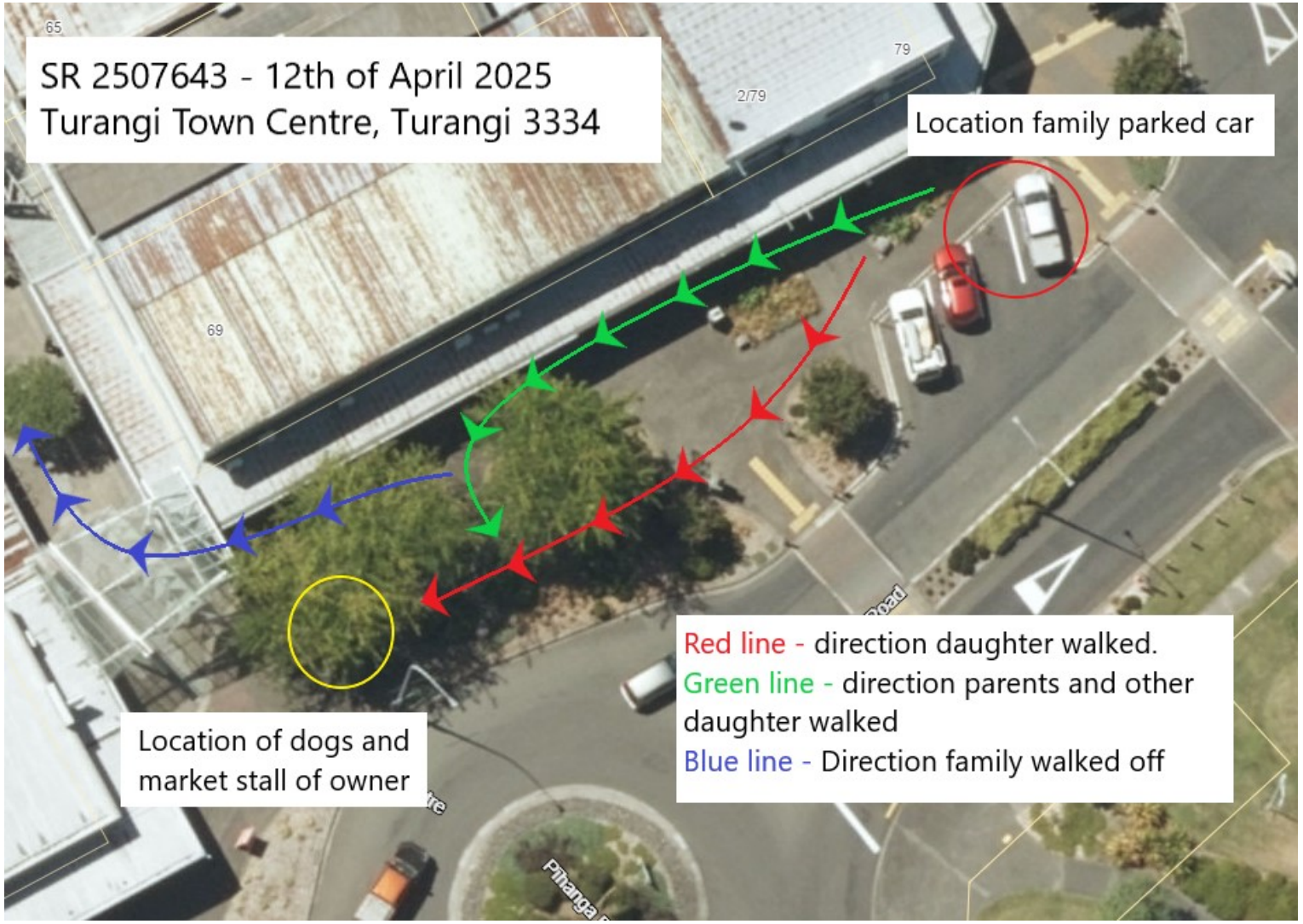
Time interview finished: 12.40pm 12th of April 2025

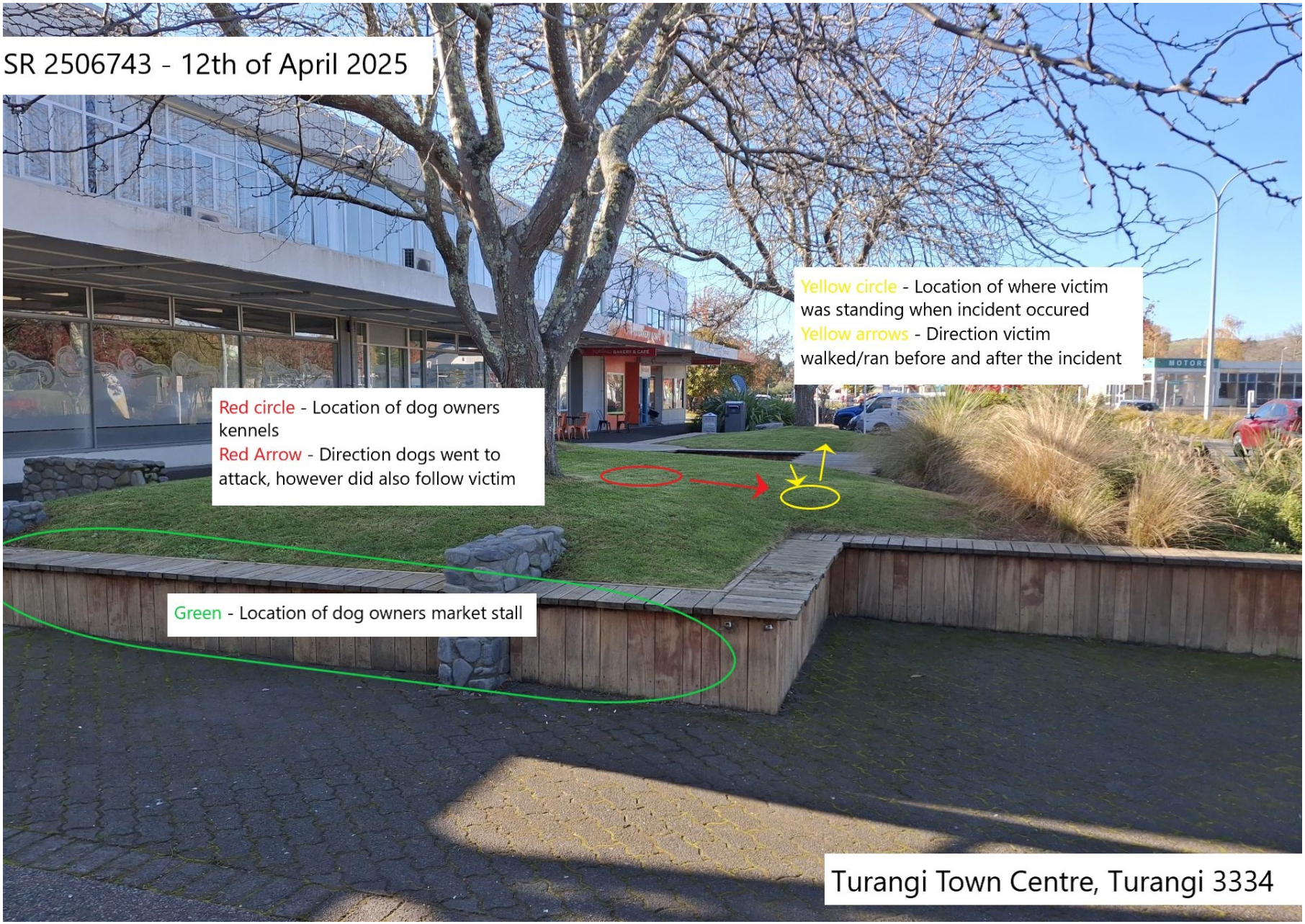
Initial:

Date:


12/04/2025 12:42:11 pm
[redacted]


Victim body diagram
SR 2506743 - 12th of April 2025
Location of bite -
inside left thigh
Locations of scratch marks


SR 2507643 - 12th of April 2025
Turangi Town Centre, Turangi 3334
Location family parked car
Red line - direction daughter walked.
Green line - direction parents and other daughter walked
Blue line - Direction family walked off
Location of dogs and market stall of owner
65
79
2/79
69


SR 2506743 - 12th of April 2025
Yellow circle - Location of where victim was standing when incident occured
Yellow arrows - Direction victim walked/ran before and after the incident
Red circle - Location of dog owners kennels
Red Arrow - Direction dogs went to attack, however did also follow victim
Green - Location of dog owners market stall
Turangi Town Centre, Turangi 3334

Taupo District Council
Dog Classification Evaluation

This matrix is a GUIDELINE document only . It is used simply to find a benchmark of where the complaint sits in relation to the classification spectrum (i.e. No action/Warning/Infringement/Classification/Prosecution). The outcome may reflect a lesser or higher score than the final enforcement action taken due to factors that may not be obvious within the matrix process. If the enforcement action is not equal to the matrix outcome an explanatory note will be made at the bottom of the document.

DATE MATRIX COMPLETED: 12/5/25			
Service request number:		2506743	
Owner Name record #, name and address:		[redacted]	
Dog name and registration number:		245158 (Ruapehu District) Lacy	
1	**NATURE OF INCIDENT**	Attack on a person with minor injury	13
2	**PUBLIC INTEREST**	Public interest is factored into report, remains constant	2
3	**LEGISLATIVE INTENT**	Legislative intent factored into report, remains constant	2
4	**CLASSIFIED DOG**	Dog not classified	0
5	**VICTIM IMPACT**	The victim is concerned about the outcome	2
6	**DOG SURRENDERED or SEIZED**	No requirment for the dog to be surrendered for destruction	0
7	**DOG AGGRESSION**	Complainant/Witness attest to aggression under caution	2
8	**NEGLIGENCE**	The incident is the direct result of carelessness	4
9	**OWNER CO-OPERATION**	Co-operative and forthcoming with information	0
10	**DOGS PREVIOUS HISTORY**	No history	0
11	**DOG REGISTERED AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT**	The dog is currently registered	0
12	**RESTRAINT**	The dog was not under control of a person or secured	1
13	**KNOWLEDGE OF AGGRESSION**	Not known by the owner or council to have shown previous aggression	0
14	**RECURRENCE LIKELIHOOD**	Unable to determine	1
15	**TRAINED AGGRESSION**	Not trained to be aggressive	0
16	**DAMAGES**	No damages or damaged paid voluntarily	0
17	**BREED CHARACTERISTICS**	Not known for its aggression	0

TOTAL		**27**
OUTCOME	**Menacing dog classification and/or infringement: 24 - 27**	
CLASSIFICATION	**MENACING**	

NOTES:	Score 27 - Minor scratch to childs leg. Infringement recommendation
OFFICER NUMBER:	Officer 82

NOTE:
When saving in owner file ensure you have chaged to save as **PDF.**
The file name should be as follows:
TDC Dog Classification Evaluation Matrix SR111111 CO 00

Taupo District Council
Dog Classification Evaluation

Service request number:	2506743
Owner number, name and address:	[redacted]
Dog name and registration number:	280478 - Lacey, 280476 - Chemi

1	**NATURE OF INCIDENT**	Attack on a person with minor injury	13
2	**PUBLIC INTEREST**	Public interest is factored into report, remains constant	2
3	**LEGISLATIVE INTENT**	Legislative intent factored into report, remains constant	2
4	**CLASSIFIED DOG**	Dog not classified	0
5	**VICTIM IMPACT**	The victim is concerned about the outcome	2
6	**DOG SURRENDERED or SEIZED**	No requirment for the dog to be surrendered for destruction	0
7	**OBSERVED AGGRESSION**	No sign of aggression	0
8	**NEGLIGENCE**	A lack of understanding of the true nature of dogs	2
9	**OWNER CO-OPERATION**	Co-operative and forthcoming with information	0
10	**DOGS PREVIOUS HISTORY**	No history	0
11	**DOG REGISTERED AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT**	The dog is currently registered	0
12	**RESTRAINT**	The dog was under control of a person or secured	0
13	**KNOWN TO BE DANGEROUS**	Not known by the owner or council to have shown previous aggression	0
14	**RECURRENCE LIKELIHOOD**	Unable to determine	1
15	**TRAINED AGGRESSION**	Not trained to be aggressive	0
16	**DAMAGES**	.	0
17	**BREED CHARACTERISTICS**	Not known for its aggression	0

TOTAL	**22**
OUTCOME	**Warning notice and/or infringement: 9 - 23**
CLASSIFICATION	**NONE**

NOTES:	Two dogs were tied to a peg with a dual lead in Turangi town centre. [redacted], a 6 year old girl, was playing on the grass verge where they were tied. The dogs were in the small kennel and the girl did not see them. The smaller dog, Lacey has rushed out, scratching at [redacted] legs and bitten her right leg. [redacted] has run away from the dogs, and as they were tied up, they were unable to chase after her. I recommend an infringement under Section 57 and a warning under Section 20(5). The dogs are from out of district and [redacted] may have missed the signs saying the dogs were prohibited. While the dogs have no histroy nor did they show any aggression when I sighted them, it is evident in the video that the dogs have attacked the girl. Owner has admitted to the main dog involved (Lacey) being less socialised than Chemi.
OFFICER NUMBER:	Officer 109

SUMMARY OF FACTS AND FURTHER ACTION FOR DOG INCIDENT

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

Taupō District Council v [redacted]

Service Request: 2506734

Reviewed 12 May 2025

Name: [redacted]

Dog Owner Number: [redacted]

Dog Details: (Ruapehu) 245158 – Lacy – Tri-Colour – Fox Terrier - female

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Offence: **Dog Control Act** Section 57 Dog Control Act 1996

Dog Control Act Section 53 Dog Control Act 1996

Dog Control Act Section 20(5) Dog Control Act 1996

SUMMARY OF FACTS

On the 12th of April at approximately 9.25am, [redacted] was walking with her partner and two children at the Turangi Town Centre. Her 6-year old daughter [redacted] walked on the grass bank when two dogs owned by [redacted] ran out toward [redacted]. One of the dogs, later identified as "Lacy" caused an minor injury to [redacted] right leg. The incident was caught on CCTV camera. [redacted] was operating a market stall and the dogs were located in an area where dogs are prohibited under Schedule 1 of The Taupo District Council Control of dogs Bylaw 2021.

SUMMARY OF FACTS AND FURTHER ACTION FOR DOG INCIDENT

Conclusion and Decision

On the completion of the investigation, a critical analysis of the investigation file has been conducted considering the:

- Clarity of Objectives*
- Procedural Integrity*
- Analytical Depth*
- Stakeholder Engagement*
- Transparency and Accountability*
- Adaptability and Flexibility*

**See the Explanatory Note at the bottom of this document.*

Facts that can be relied upon:

1. The date and time of the attack are established.
2. The location of the incident is correct.
3. The offending dog has been identified,
4. The ownership of the offending dog has been established,
5. The offending dog was not under the direct control of a person when the incident occurred.
6. The location where the dogs were was in an area prohibited to dogs under the Taupo District Council Control of dogs bylaw.

Upon thorough evaluation of all the above points the following offence has been proven:

Dog Control Act 1996, section 57, Dog attacking persons or animals

Dog Control Act 1996, section 53, Failure to keep dog under control

Dog Control Act 1996, section 20(5), Failure to comply with any bylaw authorised by the section.

SUMMARY OF FACTS AND FURTHER ACTION FOR DOG INCIDENT

Senior Compliance Officer Recommendation

Senior Compliance Officer recommended action is, that owner [redacted] receive a warning dog incident letter and an infringement for each dog under section 20(5) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Compliance and Regulatory Manager Decision

The investigation into the complaint has concluded and a comprehensive review has been conducted by the Compliance Team Leader and myself.

The evidence has been interrogated and the facts that can be relied upon have resulted in a clear determination of an outcome which is outlined in the below enforcement actions.

The file will be returned to the investigating Officer to complete the enforcement actions and inform the parties concerned of the outcome.

Cameron Tait

Compliance and Regulatory Manager

SUMMARY OF FACTS AND FURTHER ACTION FOR DOG INCIDENT

Enforcement Action

The following Enforcement actions are to be carried out as soon as practicable:

1. Issue infringement: Dog Control Act 1996 Section 53 Offence of failing to keep a dog under control for “Lacey”.
2. The dog “Lacey” is to be classified as menacing IAW section 33A(1)(b)(i) DCA 1996, Territorial authority may classify a dog as MENACING.
3. Issue a Warning dog Incident letter for “Lacey”.
4. The dog “Lacey” is to be neutered or a certificate from a registered veterinarian verifying the dog has been neutered is to be supplied within 1 month.

SUMMARY OF FACTS AND FURTHER ACTION FOR DOG INCIDENT

***Explanatory Note:**

Guide to the Critical Analysis:

Clarity of Objectives:

The investigation file establishes clear objectives from the outset. It delineates the scope, purpose, and desired outcomes of the investigation, providing a roadmap for subsequent decision-making.

Evidential Rigor:

The robustness of the investigation file is its commitment to evidential rigor. Decision-making appears anchored in factual data, witness testimonies, and consideration of the offence ingredients. This evidential foundation lends credibility to the decisions rendered, instilling confidence in its validity and impartiality.

Procedural Integrity:

The investigation is conducted with procedural integrity using known practice/methodology, protocols, and ethical standards. Such transparency enhances accountability and mitigates the risk of procedural lapses or bias.

Analytical Depth:

Decision-making within the investigation file reflects a commendable depth of analysis. It demonstrates an understanding of the multifaceted factors at play, including legal precedents, organisational policies, and the relevance of all the information gathered. This analytical rigor enriches the decision-making process, fostering robust and defensible conclusions.

Stakeholder Engagement:

Decision-making appears informed by consultations with relevant parties, including victims, witnesses, and subject matter experts. This inclusive approach fosters legitimacy and ensures that diverse perspectives are duly considered.

Transparency and Accountability:

A hallmark of effective decision-making is transparency and accountability, both of which are evident throughout the investigation file. All decisions are documented, and show the rationale used, any dissenting opinions are duly noted. This transparency enhances trust in the process and facilitates constructive feedback and scrutiny.

Adaptability and Flexibility:

In navigating the complexities of the investigation, the file demonstrates adaptability and flexibility in its decision-making approach. It adeptly adjusts course in response to emerging evidence, legal developments, and stakeholder feedback. Such agility enhances the resilience and relevance of the investigative process.

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

25 June 2025

Phone +64 7 376 0899
30 Tongariro St, Taupō 3330
Private Bag 2005, Taupō 3352

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Dog Control Warning Notice - Section 57 and 57A, Dog Control Act 1996
Customer ID: [redacted]
Animal ID I Description: : 280478 I Dog | Domestic Dog | Terrier, Fox (Smooth) | Tri-Colour | Lacey

On the 12th of April 2025 on Te Rangitautahanga Street, Turangi your dog was involved in an incident involving a young person at the Turangi Market.

As a result of the investigation carried out in relation to the incident above, this letter is a **Warning Notice** that further complaints may result in the following action:

1. Prosecution under the Dog Control Act 1996 Section 57 - if convicted you would be liable for a fine not exceeding $3000 in addition to any liability that may incur for any damage caused by the attack.
2. If convicted of an offence under the Dog Control Act 1996 Section 57 you may be disqualified as an owner in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996 Section 25 for a period up to 5 years.

You will receive the following:

- The dog identified above will be classified as Menacing in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996.
- Infringement in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996 Section 53.

If you have any enquiries regarding this notice, please contact the Compliance Team on 0800 ASK TDC (0800 275 832) or email info@taupo.govt.nz.

Kind regards

Compliance Team
Taupō District Council
CO-109

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

Animal Control Infringement Notice

In relation to an infringement notice issued under the Dog Control Act 1996

To: [redacted]	**Infringement number:** DOG00000696 **Date of birth:** [redacted] **Animal Gender:** [redacted]

DETAILS OF ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OFFENCE

Offence Date: 12-Apr-2025	**Offence Time:** 09:00:00	**Day of the Week:** Saturday
Place where alleged infringement offence was committed: Te Rangitautahanga Road Turangi 3334	**Locality:** Turangi	**Issuing Officer's Warrant Number:** CO109

Act or omission you are alleged to have committed: Failure to keep dog under control This is an offence against 53(1) of the Dog Control Act 1996	Infringement fee payable: **$200.00**
Tag number:	**Description:** Dog | Domestic Dog | Terrier, Fox (Smooth) | Tri-Colour | Lacey

PAYMENT OF INFRINGEMENT FEE

The infringement fee is payable within 28 days after:	**25-Jun-2025**
Infringement fees can rise quickly if they are ignored or left unpaid. We recommend you deal with this promptly to avoid court action and extra costs being imposed.	
WAYS TO PAY: **Internet Banking** **Bank Account Name:** Taupo District Council **Bank Account Number:** 02-0428-0220004-000 **Particulars:** 410156734 **Code:** 00105012 **Reference:** DOG **Pay Online** Do everything online at: www.taupo.govt.nz/pay	**Pay in Person** **Taupo Office** 30 Tongariro Street, Taupo **Turangi Office** 1 Ngawaka Place, Turangi **Mangakino Office** 71 Rangatira Drive, Mangakino See our website for opening hours: www.taupodc.govt.nz

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION ABOUT INFRINGEMENT OFFENCES

NOTES TO DEFENDANT
INFORMATION ABOUT DOG CONTROL ACT 1996 - INFRINGEMENT OFFENCES

1 This notice sets out an alleged infringement offence. In terms of section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996, you are liable as the
owner of a dog if—

- you own the dog; or
- you have the dog in your possession (otherwise than for a period not exceeding 72 hours for the purpose of preventing the
dog causing injury, or damage, or distress, or for the sole purpose of restoring a lost dog to its owner); or
- you are the parent or guardian of a person under 16 who is the owner of the dog and who is a member of your household.
living with and dependent on you.

Payments

2 If you pay the infringement fee within 28 days of the issue of this notice, no further action will be taken. Payment may be made at places indicated on the front of this notice.

Defences

3 You have a complete defence against proceedings if the infringement fee was paid to the Taupo District Council at any of the places for payment shown on the front page of this notice before or within 28 days after you were served with a reminder notice. Note that late payment or payment at any other place will not be a defence.

Further action

4 If you wish to—

(a) raise any matter relating to the alleged offence for consideration by the Taupo District Council; or

(b) deny liability for the offence and request a court hearing (refer to paragraphs 5 and 9 below); or

(c) admit liability for the offence, but wish to have a court consider written submissions as to penalty or otherwise (refer to paragraphs 6 and 9 below), —

you should write to the Taupo District Council at the address shown on the front page of this notice. Any such letter should be personally signed.

5 You have a right to a court hearing. If you deny liability for the offence and request a hearing, the Taupo District Council will serve you with a notice of hearing setting out the place and time at which the matter will be heard by the court (unless it decides not to start court proceedings).
Note that if the court finds you guilty of the offence, costs will be imposed in addition to any penalty.

6 If you admit the offence but want the court to consider your submissions as to penalty or otherwise, you should in your letter—

(a) ask for a hearing; and

(b) admit the offence; and

(c) set out the written submissions you wish to be considered by the court.

The Taupo District Council will then file your letter with the court (unless it decides not to commence court proceedings). There is no provision for an oral hearing before the court if you follow this course of action.
Note that costs will be imposed in addition to any penalty.

Non-payment of fee

7 If you do not pay the infringement fee and do not request a hearing within 28 days after the issue of this notice, you will be served with a reminder notice (unless Taupo District Council decides otherwise).

8 If you do not pay the infringement fee and do not request a hearing within 28 days after being served with the reminder notice, Taupo District Council may file the reminder notice, or provide particulars of the reminder notice for filing, in the court and you will become liable to pay **costs in addition to the infringement fee**, under section 21(5) of the Summary Proceedings Act 1957.

Queries/correspondence

9 When writing or making payment please include—

(a) the date of the infringement; and

(b) the infringement notice number; and

(c) the identifying number of the alleged offence and the course of action you are taking in respect of it; and

(d) your address for replies.

Notice of liability for classification as a probationary owner or a disqualified owner

If you commit 3 or more infringement offences (not relating to a single incident or occasion) over a period of 24 months, Taupo District Council may classify you as—

- a probationary owner; or
- a disqualified owner.

You will be treated as having committed an infringement offence if you—

- have been ordered to pay a fine and costs under section 78A (1) of the Summary Proceedings Act 1957, or are treated as having been so ordered under section 21(5) of that Act; or
- pay the infringement fee specified in the infringement notice.

Probationary ownership starts from the date of the third infringement offence in the 24-month period. Unless terminated earlier by Taupo District Council, probationary ownership runs for a period of 24 months.

Disqualification as a dog owner starts from the date of the third infringement offence in the 24-month period. The length of disqualification is determined by Taupo District Council but may be no longer than 5 years.

Consequences of classification as a probationary owner or disqualified owner

During the period a dog owner is classified as a probationary owner, the person—

- must not be or become the registered owner of any dog except a dog that the person was the registered owner of at the time of the third infringement offence; and
- must dispose of every unregistered dog the person owns.

During the period that a person is classified as a disqualified owner, the person—

- must not own or become the owner of any dog; and
- must dispose of all dogs the person owns; and
- may have possession of a dog only for certain purposes (e.g., returning a lost dog to Taupo District Council.

A person may object to being classified as a probationary or disqualified owner by lodging a written objection with Taupo District Council. There is a further right of appeal to a District Court if a disqualified person is dissatisfied with the decision of Taupo District Council on his or her objection.

Full details of classification as a probationary owner or a disqualified owner, and the effects of those classifications, are provided in the Dog Control Act 1996.

Note:

Full details of your rights and obligations are in section 66 of the Dog Control Act 1996 and section 21(10) of the Summary Proceedings Act 1957.

All queries and all correspondence regarding this infringement notice must be directed to Taupo District Council at the address shown.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2025 1:11:54 pm
To: [redacted]>
Subject: Objection and request

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links, open attachments, or respond unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [redacted]
this is my witten objection and request regarding the incident with my dog Lacy.
I hereby authorise Brian Berquist from Kiwi legal to represent me and authorise all relevant information to be accessed by him.
regards [redacted]