

Engagement Plan

Proposed Control of Dog Bylaw Amendment

Project description and background

Rangitikei District Council is consulting on a proposed amendment to its Control of Dogs Bylaw. This Bylaw provides the primary enforcement mechanism for dog management in the Rangitikei District. The current bylaw does not restrict any property in the District have any amount of dogs they wish. The amendment proposed is that any residential property that has more than two dogs would need to apply for a multi-dog permit.

A special consultative procedure is required for the consultation process because the proposed change is likely to have a significant impact and interest of the public.

Engagement objectives

The purpose of the engagement is to seek the views of the community and other potential effected stakeholders on the proposed amendment to the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

Timeframe and completion date

The period of community engagement will be one month for written submissions, followed by oral submissions, analysis and reporting back to Council for final adoption.

Key project stages	Completion date
Recommendation from Policy/Planning Committee to Council to carry out consultation on the proposed amendment	10 September 2020
Documents for community engagement prepared	14 September 2020
Documents approved for community engagement	24 September 2020
Council decision on consultation process	24 September 2020
Written submissions open	25 September 2020
Letters notifying residential properties with more than two dogs and key stakeholders of Councils intent to amend the bylaw	28 September 2020
Written submission close	25 October 2020
Oral submissions to be heard by Council	29 October 2020
Deliberations and final decision by Council – if there are oral submissions (Consultation closes on the Monday of a if there	26 November 2020

are no oral submissions this will be 29 October 2020 as a tabled report)

Communities to be engaged with

- Rangitikei residents
- Residential properties with more than two dogs (that Council is aware of through registration)

Engagement tools and techniques to be used

Engagement Spectrum position desired: Consult

Community group or stakeholder	How this group will be engaged
Residents	Notification through appropriate channels
Properties with more than two dogs	Letter sent to residential properties with more than two dogs registered

Resources needed to complete the engagement

Resources beyond staff time required for this engagement are:

- Printing costs
- Public notice
- Mailing

Communication planning

Key messages

- That when owning more than two dogs a multi-dog permit would need to be applied for.
- That when owning more than two dogs there still needs to be ample provisions e.g shelter, water, food, size of section, adequate fencing etc. When apply for a multi-dog permit Animal Control would inspect properties making sure this is the case.
- Current residential properties with more than two dogs would have the multi-dog permit fee waived so long as they apply within the first six months of the amendment being adopted. Monday

Reputation risks

- That the community thinks council are undertaking a money making exercise.
- Council may end up with a number of dogs in the residential areas not being registered so as to avoid paying the multi-dog permit fee.

Basis of assessment and feedback to the communities involved

Council officers will prepare a letter outlining the community’s views, Council’s response and any proposed amendments to the Control of Dogs Bylaw. This letter will be sent to each person who makes a submission.

The feedback to the community will occur after Councils decision on the proposed amendment.

Project team roles and responsibilities

Team member	Role and responsibilities
Michael Hodder/Carol Gordon	Project sponsor
George Forster	Project leader
George Forster	Community point of contact
Leah Johnson	Website