

**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

**15. PROPOSED DOG REGISTRATION AND RELATED FEES  
FOR THE 1998/99 DOG LICENSING YEAR**

RR 2366

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Corporate Plan Output: Animal Control	

A discrepancy has been noticed in the fee schedule to be considered by the Council at its meeting of Wednesday 15 March 1998.

The discrepancy relates to the Council's ability to set fees to which a maximum fee increase is imposed by Section 37 of the Dog Control Act.

The fee schedule as previously provided shows a late penalty fee of \$30.00 for each category of dog for which a fee is payable.

With some categories of dogs having a lower recommended fee during the 1 July to 31 July period than has been the case in recent years, a \$30.00 penalty fee would exceed the limit set under Section 37 (3) of the Act. It would be illegal for the Council to set the \$30.00 penalty fees in these instances.

Two categories of dog are affected:

- **Hearing Ear Dogs:** The fee schedule previously provided shows a recommended fee of \$28.00 for registration by 31 July 1998. Under the Dog Control Act 1996, the maximum penalty fee that may be set for this category of dog is \$14.00 (50% of the \$28.00 fee payable on 1 July 1998) making a total fee of \$42.00 for payment on or after 1 August 1998.
- **Responsible Dog Owner Status dogs:** The fee schedule previously provided shows a recommended fee of \$50.00 per dog for registration after 30 June 1998, but before 31 July 1998. Under the Dog Control Act 1996, the maximum penalty fee that may be set for this category of dog is \$25.00 (50% of the \$50.00 fee payable on 1 July 1998) making a total fee of \$75.00 for payment on or after 1 August 1998.

The revised fee structure is attached for your information.

15 Cont'd

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF THESE CHANGES**

There is not expected to be an appreciable reduction in the revenue from registration fees for the 1998/99 registration year as a result of these changes.

- **Hearing Ear Dogs:** The Council currently has only 25 of these dogs on its records and it is expected that given the fee concession, few of the owners will have failed to register their dogs by 1 August 1998. There would however be a reduction in actual revenue of \$16.00 for each dog in this category registered late, as a result of the changed penalty fee.
- **Responsible Dog Owner Status Dogs:** With the fee concessions recommended for payment by 30 June, it is expected that perhaps only 150 of this category of dog will remain unregistered one month later on 1 August 1998. There would however be a reduction in actual revenue of \$5.00 for each dog in this category registered late, as a result of the changed penalty fee. Estimated impact to revenue \$750.00 decrease.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That pursuant to the provisions of the Dog Control Act 1996 the Council adopt the attached amended schedule of dog control fees for the registration year commencing 1 July 1998.

**CONSIDERED THIS 25TH DAY OF MARCH 1998**

**MAYOR**