

6. PROHIBITED DOG AREA (CATHEDRAL SQUARE) DISPENSATION

Officer responsible Environmental Services Manager	Author Mark Vincent, Team Leader Animal Control, DDI 941-7041
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The purpose of this report is to consider a request from the RSPCA for a dispensation from the Christchurch City Dog Control Bylaw 1997.

The dispensation is sought to allow an animal parade in Cathedral Square as part of "World Animal Week", during which many events will be celebrated around the world. A parade is planned for Sunday 3 October 2004, in conjunction with a service and blessing by the Dean of Christchurch to celebrate Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. Approximately 60 dogs as well as other animals and their owners will participate in the parade.

The Christchurch City Dog Control Bylaw 1997 prohibits dogs from entering or remaining upon any part of a prohibited dog area except as authorised by the Council by resolution. Cathedral Square is one of the prohibited dog areas. Clause 16(1) of the Christchurch City General Bylaw 1990 provides that the Council may grant a dispensation from any bylaw to any person.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Canterbury Branch of the RSPCA be given dispensation in accordance with clause 16 (1) of the Christchurch City General Bylaw 1990 to allow dogs to enter and remain in the prohibited area of Cathedral Square.
 2. That the dispensation apply only on Sunday 3 October 2004 from 2pm until 3.30pm.
 3. That dogs entering the prohibited area be under control by restraint of a leash at all times and each participant be given appropriate 'doggy do' bags and required to remove all dog faeces forthwith to ensure the area is kept clean.