

7. PROHIBITED DOG AREA (CATHEDRAL SQUARE) DISPENSATION

Officer responsible
Team Leader Animal Control

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The purpose of this report is to seek a decision as to whether an extended dispensation should be granted for an activity in the prohibited area of Cathedral Square.

At the 8 March 2001 the Environment Committee received a letter from Mr Phillip Robinson requesting dispensation for his dog to be allowed in the prohibited area of Cathedral Square. The committee's recommendation was as follows:

- That the Council grant Mr Robinson a six month dispensation trial period in accordance with clause 16 of the Christchurch City General bylaw 1990 to allow his dog "Miss Polly Ester" to enter and remain in the prohibited area of Cathedral Square.
- That the dispensation apply for three days per week only, between the hours of 12.30pm and 3.30pm on the same days.
- That his dog be kept under control by a leash at all times between the hours of 12.30pm and 3.30pm, unless actively involved in the entertainment act with Mr Robinson and that Mr Robinson ensure that all the dog faeces is removed forthwith to ensure the area is kept clean.
- That the Team Leader Animal Control monitor the Act's effects through the Environment Committee and assess the long term implications of Mr Robinson's request, upon the completion of the six month trial period.
- That the trial dispensation cease immediately should the Team Leader Animal Control have any concerns as to the acts continuation.

Mr Robinson in his recent letter requests that the period be further extended for another six months and that the time that his dog is allowed to be kept in the area of the Cathedral Square also be extended from 12.00 noon (currently 12.30pm) until 4.00pm (currently 3.30pm).

The Team Leader Animal Control has observed and monitored the act presented by Mr Robinson and his dog "Miss Polly Ester" and advises the committee that there are no adverse effects the dog or the act creates in this area. One of the long term implications maybe that other dog owners who have seen "Miss Polly Ester" perform in the Cathedral square may consider this an opportunity to take other dogs into the area creating a enforcement issue or further requests of the Committee for dispensation.

The dispensation period requested from Mr Robinson be extended for another six month period between the hours of 12.00 noon and 4.00pm three days a week depending on the weather. There is no specified period of time however, Mr Robinson has suggested for the entire year.

The Cathedral Square is one of the prohibited dog areas.

The Council may grant dispensation in accordance with clause 16 of the Christchurch City General Bylaw 1990.

- Recommendation:**
1. That Mr Robinson be granted a further six-month dispensation period in accordance with clause 16 of the Christchurch City General Bylaw 1990 to allow his dog "Miss Polly Ester" to enter and remain in the Prohibited area of Cathedral Square.
 2. That the dispensation apply only for three days per week between the hours of 12.00 noon and 4.00pm on the same days.
 3. That his dog be kept under control by a leash at all times between the hours of 12.00 noon and 4.00pm unless actively involved in the entertainment act with Mr Robinson and that Mr Robinson ensure that all the dog faeces is removed forthwith to ensure the area is kept clean.

4. That the Animal Control Team monitor the act effects and assess and consider the long-term implications requests of Mr Robinson upon the completion of the six-month period.

Chairman's

Recommendation:

That the dispensation be granted.