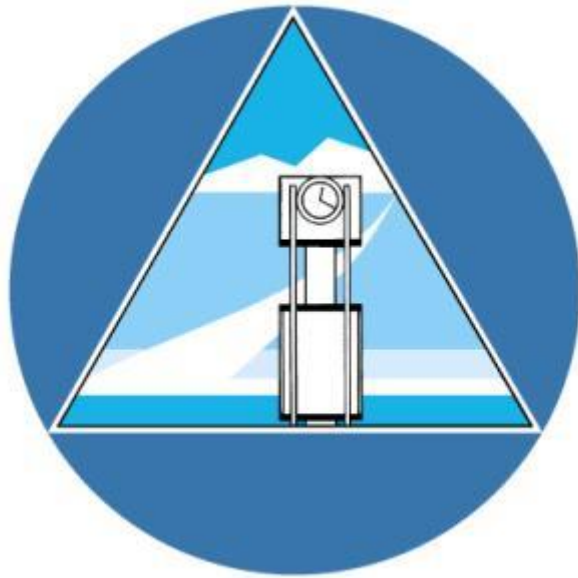


Animal Control Activity Management Plan



Ashburton District Council

January 2013

Quality Information

Document Animal Control Activity Management Plan

Ref

Date January 2013

Prepared by Richard Wade

Reviewed by Jane Donaldson

Draft

Revision History




Revision	Revision Date	Details	Authorised	
			Name/Position	Signature
1	Dec 2009	Review & update	Adrian Humphries Regulatory Manager	
2	Jan 2011	Update work programme	John McKenzie	
3	Nov 2012	Review for LTP	Richard Wade	
4	Jun 2012	Update budgets etc. to align with LTP	Policy Advisor	
5	Jan 2013	Review and update	Richard Wade	

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Executive Summary

What We Do

There are currently approximately 7000 registered dogs in the Ashburton District registered to around 4700 owners.

Council maintains a dog registration system linked to the national dog database. Dog licensing, maintenance of the dog register and Council's responsibilities with respect to the national dog database are carried out by Council's Animal Control Systems Officer, reporting to the Regulatory Manager.

Animal control and impounding is contracted out to an independent service provider who provides a 24/7 365 day animal control service for council. Impounded dogs are held by the Animal Control contractor briefly and then transported for longer term to a temporary pound facility in Ashburton. Wandering stock is impounded at the nearest practicable site utilising the temporary pound provisions of the Impounding Act 1955.

Infringement notices are issued to offenders by Council's Animal Control Systems Officer or by the service contractor. More serious cases such as dog attacks on persons or stock are usually prosecuted through the courts.

Why We Do It

The activity of animal control protects the community from problems associated with poorly controlled animals, whilst allowing owners to keep animals within specified guidelines. Territorial authorities have numerous responsibilities relating to the control of animals deriving from the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Impounding Act 1955, as well as local bylaws.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

The protection of the community from problems associated with poorly controlled animals contributes to achieving the following community outcome:

A safe and healthy community

- b. Environmental threats to our community's health are minimised.

Rationale and Levels of Service

Rationale

To protect community safety while allowing residents to enjoy animal ownership.

Levels of Service

- a) We maintain an accurate district record of dogs and their owners
- b) We provide an effective and responsive animal control service

Current and Future Issues

Legislative Requirements: The Dog Control Act 1996 and amendments in 2003 and 2004 introduced stringent requirements and responsibilities for dog ownership. The amendments have allowed for increased fines for dog owners whose dogs are involved in serious incidents. Under the Act, Councils are required to report annually on their dog control policies and practices. The report contains information such as number of dogs registered, number of dogs declared dangerous, and number of disqualified owners.

Micro-chipping: Dogs first registered on or after 1 July 2006 are required to be micro-chipped under the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003. Working dogs are exempt from this requirement.

Enforcement: Stricter enforcement of the Dog Control Act and the Impounding Act has proved unpopular with a minority of the population. It is believed that the "exacerbator pays" principle should

be used i.e. dog and stock owners who fail to control their animals effectively should be fined and the funds channelled back into the animal control activity.

Dog Exercise Facilities: Council budgeted \$12,000 in 2009/10 for development of a fenced dog exercise area in Ashburton. This facility is in use and will allow dog owners to exercise their dogs off the leash while limiting the risk of them becoming out of control. Following requests from the public, Council has installed suitable receptacles for the collection of dog faeces.

New Dog Pound Facility

Council has approved the construction of a new dog pound facility to be built on Council owned land at a cost of approximately \$295,000. This facility will be owned by Council and will be operated by the appointed Animal Control Contractor.

Other: Other issues identified as potentially having an impact on changes in demand and standards of service in the future are:

- a. Increasing population is likely to lead to more animals in the district
- b. New residents to the district need to be informed of local animal control processes and requirements.

These issues have been considered and provided for in the future planning for provision of this service.

Capital Expenditure – 2012 – 2022

Description	2009/10 \$000s	2010/11 \$000s	2011/12 \$000s	2012-22 \$000s
Council Dog Pound			295	
TOTAL	12		295	

Operational Expenditure – 2012 - 22

Operational expenditure for this activity is included in the group of activities budget for Regulatory Services.

1.0 Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this Activity Management Plan is to outline and to summarise in one place, the Councils' strategic and management long term approach for the provision, administration and maintenance of Council provided Animal Control services and facilities in Ashburton District.

Background

Why the Council carries out this activity

Territorial authorities have numerous responsibilities relating to the control of animals. These responsibilities derive from the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Stock Impounding Act 1955, as well as local bylaws. Animal control protects the community from problems associated with poorly controlled animals, whilst allowing owners to keep animals within specified guidelines.

How this Activity is carried out

There are currently approximately 7000 registered dogs in the Ashburton District which are registered to around 4700 owners. Council maintains a dog registration system which links to the National Dog Database. Animal control and impounding for the district is contracted out to an independent service provider. The contract covers the entire district.

Refer to Appendix I for relevant legislation/strategic linkages/bylaws.

Community Outcomes

Ashburton District Council's community outcomes were developed in 2011/12 and provide high level goals for Council to work towards achieving. All Council activities contribute to achieving one or more outcomes for the community. Supporting the community outcomes are more detailed strategic objectives.

The Animal Control activity: primarily contributes to the following outcome.

Community Outcomes	Contribution
A safe and healthy community b. Environmental threats to our community's health are minimised	Provide animal control activities to contribute to create a safe environment for our community

Rationale and Levels of Service

This section outlines why Council engages in a particular activity, and what Council aims to achieve in relation to that activity. Performance measures and targets (see over) provide a mechanism to monitor how well this is achieved.

Rationale

To protect community safety while allowing residents to enjoy animal ownership.

Levels of Service

- a) We maintain an accurate district record of dogs and their owners
- b) We provide an effective and responsive animal control service

2.0 Service and Performance

Performance Reporting

Reporting enables the performance of an activity to be considered through performance measures. These measures can detail level of service information, ongoing operational information and the activity's impact on community outcomes. The following performance measures have been defined to provide performance information at three levels:

1. Levels of Service performance measures identified in the Community Plan and Annual Plan are shown in the first table below – 'Performance Measures from Community Plan 2009-19'
 - These measures will be reported in Council's Annual Report
2. Operational Performance measures relating to service delivery are shown in the second table below – 'Operational Performance Measures'
 - These measures will be reported to Council through the standing committee to which this activity reports
3. Performance measures for monitoring progress to achieving community outcomes
 - These measures will be reported in Council's State of the Community Report and have been shown with a # in the tables below

Note: Some measures may be used for more than one of the above reporting processes.

Council produces two statutory public performance reports:

- **Annual Report** - Includes performance measures targets and results (as set out in the Community Plan) for each activity
- **State of the Community Report** – A three yearly report which uses indicators to monitor progress towards achieving community outcomes. The first report was produced in 2009. Note: this activity does not directly impact on community outcomes

Performance Monitoring & Reporting

Performance Management Framework

The linkages and flow between Community Outcomes, Council Strategic Objectives, Levels of Service and performance measures are shown in the diagram below.



Performance Measures from Community Plan 2012-22

Performance measures and targets will be reported each year in Council's Annual Report.

Level of Service	Measure of Performance	Results 2011/12 Actual	Target			
			2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 - 2021/22
We maintain an accurate district record of dogs and their owners	Known dogs are registered or otherwise accounted for	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
We provide an effective and responsive animal control service.	Required response times for animal control incidents are met	Not Measured	95%	95%	95%	95%
	Residents are satisfied with Council's animal control services (Annual Residents Survey)	83%	85%	85%	85%	85%

Metadata

We maintain an accurate district record of dogs and their owners

Measure 1 of 1		Known dogs are registered or otherwise accounted for			
Targets	Base (2010/11)	2012/13	2013/14	2014-15	
		98%	98%	98%	98%
Strategic Links					
How this measure signposts performance	By knowing which dogs remain unregistered we can target these, so as to improve dog registration and thus community safety. This will enable Council to clearly demonstrate compliance with its statutory obligation to enforce the Dog Control Act 1996.				
Service contracts	Animal control contract – update once tendered				
Legislation	Dog Control Act 1996				
Responsibility					
Data provision	Regulatory Services Staff				
Activity Manager	Regulatory Services Manager				
Senior Manager	Environmental Services Manager				
Monitoring Performance					
How	Property and Rating				
When	Monthly				
Methodology	Each month Property and Rating generates a “Registered Dog Report” that shows dog registrations, as well as the number of dogs on file in the district. Environmental Services staff then calculates which of these dogs are “otherwise accounted for” (which includes those who are deceased or who have left the district.)				
Reporting Performance					
Channel			Timeframe		
TPR			All		
Annual Report			October		
Improving Performance					
Responsibility	Regulatory Manager				
Reviewing and improving performance	Performance information is used to enable improvement identification. This can include amending patrol schedules. Improvements are monitored by staff and evident in future known dog rates.				
Additional Information					

We provide an efficient and responsive animal control service

Measure 1 of 2	Required response times for animal control incidents are met Urgent incidents – 1 hour Non-urgent complaints – 2 hours Routine complaints – 3 days			
Targets	Base (2010/11)	2012/13	2013/14	2014-15
	NEW	95%	95%	95%
Strategic Links				
How this measure signposts performance	We can establish whether the service that we are providing is suitable and sufficient. It will enable us to demonstrate to the public that we have a structured and prioritised approach to dog control within the District.			
Service contracts	Animal control contract – update once tendered			
Legislation	Dog Control Act 1996			
Responsibility				
Data provision	Council Animal Control Contractor/Customer Services			
Activity Manager	Regulatory Services Manager			
Senior Manager	Environmental Services Manager			
Monitoring Performance				
How	CRMS; Dog and Stock Report			
When	Ongoing; Monthly			
Methodology	Customer service operators enter the details of each request into the CRMS as they are received. The details for these requests are forwarded to the contractor and Regulatory Services. Regulatory Services staff close off the request when notified by the contractor that the job has been completed. The CRM system will be amended to enable the accurate recording and reporting of contractor responses. <i>Dog and Stock Report</i> Each month the Contractor will generate a report that shows whether animal control-related incidents were responded to within the minimum response times.			
Reporting Performance				
Channel	Timeframe			
TPR	All			
Annual Report	October			
Improving Performance				
Responsibility	Regulatory Manager			
Reviewing and improving performance	Regulatory staff monitor response times and act to rectify delays where necessary.			
Additional Information				

Measure 2 of 2		Residents are satisfied with Council's animal control services			
Targets	Base (2010/11)	2012/13	2013/14	2014-15	
		86%	85%	85%	85%
Strategic Links					
How this measure signposts performance	This measure will allow members of the public to show their satisfaction in the services that we are providing				
Service contracts	Animal control contract – update once tendered				
Legislation	Dog Control Act 1996				
Responsibility					
Data provision	Community Planning				
Activity Manager	Community Planning Manager				
Senior Manager	Democracy and Community Services Manager				
Monitoring Performance					
How	Annual Residents Survey				
When	Annual				
Methodology	The Annual Residents Survey asks a sample of residents <i>"How satisfied are you with animal control, i.e. dogs and wandering stock?"</i> Results are analysed and reported to the Finance and Community Services Committee and the community				
Reporting Performance					
Channel	Timeframe				
Finance and Community Services Committee	July				
TPR	July				
Annual Report	October				
Improving Performance					
Responsibility	Regulatory Manager				
Reviewing and improving performance	Where we find that residents are not satisfied with our services we will strive to outline measures to improve the perception of the public by increased activity (if permitted within the contract) or public relations activity. Improvements can be monitored by an increase in public satisfaction at the next reporting period.				
Additional Information					

Operational Performance Measures

There are no operational performance measures reported for this activity.

3.0 The Existing Situation Described

Territorial authorities have numerous responsibilities relating to the control of animals. These responsibilities derive from the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Stock Impounding Act 1955, as well as local bylaws. Animal control protects the community from problems associated with poorly controlled animals, whilst allowing owners to keep animals within specified guidelines.

There are currently approximately 7000 registered dogs in the Ashburton District registered to around 4700 owners.

Dog Registration

Council maintains a dog registration system which links to the National Dog Database. Dog licensing, maintenance of the dog register and Council's responsibilities with respect to the National Dog Database are carried out by Council's Animal Control Systems Officer, reporting to the Regulatory Manager.

Animal Control

Animal control and impounding for the district is contracted out to an independent service provider, currently 1st Security, who provide a twenty-four hour animal control service every day of the year for Council. The contractor reports to Council's Animal Control Systems Officer on a daily basis and provides a consolidated monthly return to the Regulatory Manager. In cases where there is a likelihood of prosecution the council may request additional reports i.e. witness statements.

Calls from the public are either answered by Ashburton District Council Customer Services or by the Answering Service outside of hours. They are then forwarded to 1st Security in Ashburton by a Customer Request Management email. Urgent enquiries are passed to the contractor by telephone.

Impounded Dogs are held at the Council's temporary pound.

Wandering stock is impounded at the nearest practicable site utilising the Temporary Pound provisions of the Impounding Act 1955. Work is being carried out by the Regulatory Manager and the Property Manager to fence an appropriate stock pound in Ashburton.

Infringement Notices

Infringement notices are issued to offenders by Council's Animal Control Systems Officer or by the service contractor. The notices are entered in to the Ministry of Justice electronic system for easy tracking. More serious cases such as dog attacks on persons or stock are usually prosecuted using council legal services.

Education

Education of dog owners is carried out using the media and a schools education programme is currently carried out by local vets. A Council monitored education programme will also be developed.

Key Current and Future Issues

Animal Control Contract

The animal control contract was put out to tender in 2012. The incumbent contractor was successful in retaining the contract.

A Council Dog Control Policy was adopted in February 2010.

Legislative Requirements: The Dog Control Act 1996 and amendments in 2003 and 2004 introduced stringent requirements and responsibilities for dog ownership. The amendments have allowed for increased fines for dog owners whose dogs are involved in serious incidents. Under the Act, Councils are required to report annually on their dog control policies and practices. The report contains

information such as number of dogs registered, number of dogs declared dangerous, and number of disqualified owners.

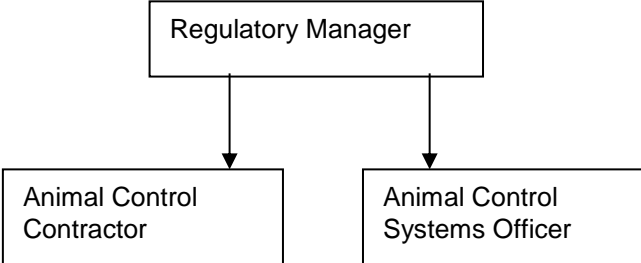
Micro-chipping: Dogs first registered on or after 1 July 2006 are required to be micro-chipped under the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003. Working dogs are exempt from this requirement.

Enforcement: Stricter enforcement of the Dog Control Act and the Impounding Act has proved unpopular with a minority of the population. It is believed that the “exacerbator pays” principle should be used i.e. dog and stock owners who fail to control their animals effectively should be fined and the funds channelled back into the animal control activity. The overall popularity of the service has increased since the introduction of stricter enforcement.

Future Issues: Future issues identified as being likely to have an impact on future demand and standard of service are:

- Increased population leading to more animals in the district
- Changes in demographics resulting in a need to educate new comers to the district in animal control issues.
- Changes in legislation

Structure and Staffing



4.0 Maintenance and Operating

Asset Ownership and Valuations

No significant assets are held by the Council for this activity.

How Managed and Controlled

Not applicable

Maintenance and Operating Issues

Not applicable

LTP 2012-22 Forecast Activity Costs

2011/2012		2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
	INCOME										
20,000	Infringement Fees	20,000	20,640	21,300	22,024	22,794	23,568	24,346	25,150	26,056	26,968
16,000	Impounding Fees	40,000	41,280	42,600	44,048	45,588	47,136	48,692	50,300	52,112	53,936
20,543	Interest	820	774	758	692	670	649	632	615	597	580
40,000	Licences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	General Rates	19,149	19,814	20,529	21,108	21,833	22,681	23,351	24,210	25,242	26,102
175,000	Registration Fees	305,432	315,206	325,285	336,342	348,101	359,921	371,802	384,081	397,917	411,844
271,543		385,401	397,714	410,472	424,214	438,986	453,955	468,823	484,356	501,924	519,430
	OPERATING EXPENDITURE										
47,487	Salary / Wages	57,591	58,973	60,389	61,962	63,574	65,100	66,598	68,331	70,174	72,069
570	ACC Levies	691	708	725	744	763	781	799	820	842	865
150	Staff Training	2,000	2,048	2,097	2,152	2,208	2,261	2,313	2,373	2,437	2,503
277	Indemnity Insurance	220	227	234	242	251	259	268	277	287	297
10,000	Printing (External)	6,500	6,708	6,923	7,158	7,408	7,660	7,912	8,174	8,468	8,765
1,000	Stationery	2,000	2,064	2,130	2,202	2,279	2,357	2,435	2,515	2,606	2,697
2,000	Postages	2,500	2,580	2,663	2,753	2,849	2,946	3,043	3,144	3,257	3,371
2,000	Photocopiers/Printers	1,620	1,672	1,725	1,784	1,846	1,909	1,972	2,037	2,111	2,184
400	Telephone / Tolls	2,400	2,477	2,556	2,643	2,735	2,828	2,922	3,018	3,127	3,236
0	Licencing Costs	3,700	3,818	3,941	4,074	4,217	4,360	4,504	4,653	4,820	4,989
11,000	Legal Expenses	15,000	15,480	15,975	16,518	17,096	17,676	18,260	18,863	19,542	20,226
250	Refunds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	Insurance	2,100	2,167	2,237	2,313	2,393	2,475	2,556	2,641	2,736	2,832
1,000	Promotions	1,000	1,032	1,065	1,101	1,140	1,178	1,217	1,258	1,303	1,348
1,000	Advertising	1,000	1,032	1,065	1,101	1,140	1,178	1,217	1,258	1,303	1,348
3,000	Grants	3,000	3,096	3,195	3,304	3,419	3,535	3,652	3,773	3,908	4,045
0	Sundry Expenditure	1,000	1,037	1,072	1,109	1,149	1,191	1,238	1,290	1,345	1,404
100,000	Contractors	170,000	176,290	182,291	188,496	195,279	202,504	210,409	219,249	228,684	238,748
12,000	Animal Impounding	12,000	12,444	12,868	13,306	13,784	14,294	14,852	15,476	16,142	16,853
3,500	Veterinary Fees	4,000	4,148	4,289	4,435	4,595	4,765	4,951	5,159	5,381	5,618
0	Security	2,000	2,058	2,118	2,181	2,249	2,312	2,377	2,448	2,529	2,612
143	Depreciation - Office Equipment	210	218	225	233	241	250	260	271	282	295
0	Rental	2,652	2,737	2,824	2,920	3,022	3,125	3,228	3,335	3,455	3,576
195,777		293,184	303,013	312,606	322,730	333,638	344,945	356,982	370,359	384,739	399,880
	OVERHEAD COSTS										
9,979	Depreciation Recoveries	6,539	6,748	6,964	7,201	7,453	7,706	7,960	8,223	8,519	8,817
41,012	Overhead Recoveries	38,083	39,782	42,656	42,380	43,893	47,328	46,892	48,539	52,297	52,124
42,273	Environmental Services Recoveries	45,179	46,746	48,355	49,857	51,676	53,636	55,195	57,081	59,290	61,228
93,264		89,801	93,276	97,975	99,438	103,022	108,670	110,047	113,843	120,106	122,168
289,041	TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	382,984	396,289	410,581	422,168	436,659	453,615	467,029	484,202	504,844	522,049
	CAPITAL INCOME										
0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE										
5,000	Other Asset Purchases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5,000		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	LOANS RAISED										
0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	LOANS REPAYED										
0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	RESERVE MOVEMENTS										
22,338	Separate Reserves	-2,627	-1,642	-116	-2,278	-2,568	-590	-2,054	-424	2,638	2,324
22,338		-2,627	-1,642	-116	-2,278	-2,568	-590	-2,054	-424	2,638	2,324
	FUNDING										
-271,543	Operating Income	-366,252	-377,900	-389,943	-403,106	-417,153	-431,274	-445,472	-460,146	-476,682	-493,328
289,041	Operating Expenditure	382,984	396,289	410,581	422,168	436,659	453,615	467,029	484,202	504,844	522,049
0	Capital Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5,000	Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
-143	Depreciation Funding	-210	-218	-225	-233	-241	-250	-260	-271	-282	-295
0	Loans Raised	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	Loans Repaid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
-22,338	Increase / Decrease in Reserve	2,627	1,642	116	2,278	2,568	590	2,054	424	-2,638	-2,324
0	Funding Required from Rates	19,150	19,814	20,529	21,108	21,833	22,681	23,351	24,210	25,242	26,102
0	General Rates CV 100%	19,149	19,814	20,529	21,108	21,833	22,681	23,351	24,210	25,242	26,102

2013/14 Activity Costs

BUDGET 2012/2013	Description	Notes	BUDGET 2013/2014	LTP 2013/2014	Variance 2013/2014
INCOME					
20,000	Infringment Fees		20,640	20,640	0
40,000	Impounding Fees		40,000	41,280	-1,280
820	Interest		0	774	-774
19,149	General Rates		0	19,814	-19,814
305,432	Registration Fees		323,817	315,206	8,611
0	Interest Allocation		440	0	440
385,401			384,897	397,714	-12,817
OPERATING EXPENDITURE					
57,591	Salary / Wages		54,666	58,973	-4,306
691	ACC Levies		656	708	-52
2,000	Staff Training		1,500	2,048	-548
0	Professional Fees		200	0	200
220	Indemnity Insurance		220	227	-7
6,500	Printing (External)		6,708	6,708	0
2,000	Stationery		2,064	2,064	0
2,500	Postages		2,580	2,580	0
1,620	Photocopiers/Printers		1,962	1,672	290
2,400	Telephone / Tolls		2,477	2,477	0
3,700	Licencing Costs		3,818	3,818	0
15,000	Legal Expenses		10,000	15,480	-5,480
2,100	Insurance		94	2,167	-2,073
1,000	Promotions		1,000	1,032	-32
1,000	Advertising		1,000	1,032	-32
3,000	Grants		3,000	3,096	-96
1,000	Sundry Expenditure		2,000	1,037	963
170,000	Contractors		170,000	176,290	-6,290
12,000	Animal Impounding		12,000	12,444	-444
4,000	Veterinary Fees		4,000	4,148	-148
2,000	Security		2,000	2,058	-58
210	Depreciation - Office Equipment		598	218	380
2,652	Rental		2,652	2,737	-85
293,184			285,195	303,013	-17,818
OVERHEAD COSTS					
6,539	Depreciation Recoveries		7,237	6,748	488
38,083	Overhead Recoveries		40,749	39,782	967
45,179	Environmental Services Recoveries		46,906	46,746	160
89,801			94,891	93,276	1,615
382,984	TOTAL OPERATING COSTS		380,087	396,289	-16,202
CAPITAL INCOME					
0			0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
0			0	0	0
LOANS RAISED					
0			0	0	0
LOANS REPAYED					
0			0	0	0
RESERVE MOVEMENTS					
-2,627	Separate Reserves		-5,408	-1,642	-3,766
-2,627			-5,408	-1,642	-3,766
Funding					
	Depreciation		598		
	Capital		0		
	Increase in reserve		598		
Revenue					
			384,897		
Expenditure					
			380,087		
Surplus					
			4,810		
Transfer to reserve					
			4,810		

5.0 New Capital Expenditure

Capital Works Programme 2012 - 2022

New dog pound to be built at an approximate cost of \$295,000

How Capital Works Are To Be Funded

Through dog reserve account.

Development and Financial Contributions

Not applicable.

6.0 Renewals, Capital Expenditure and Depreciation

Cyclic Renewals Programme 2012 – 2022

Not applicable.

How Cyclic Renewals are to be Funded

Not applicable.

7.0 Funding the Annual Net Cost – “Who Pays”

Council’s Revenue and Financing Policy for this Activity

The Revenue and Financing Policy contains Council’s approach to funding operating and capital expenditure from available sources, determining who pays for Council’s activities and on what basis.

Animal Control	
Who benefits / creates need?	<p>Private benefit accrues to both dog owners, through being able to meet the legislative requirements for dog ownership; and owners of wandering stock by having their animals contained and looked after.</p> <p>The community as a whole benefits from Council’s provision and ability to respond to and deal with wandering stock in a timely manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private benefit 95% • Community-wide benefit 5%
Period of benefit	Ongoing.
Other considerations	-
Funding	<p>Operational Expenditure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees and charges 95% • CV general rate 5% <p>Capital Expenditure: Capital expenditure for this activity is funded in the same way as operational expenditure.</p>
Other funding	<p>Note regarding fees and charges: Council sets its fees for this activity based on recovering actual and reasonable costs. The revenue from fees depends on demand for service. Any budgeted shortfall will come from the general rate while any budgeted excess will go in to the reserve.</p>

8.0 Future Demand

Predicted Changes to Future Demand

Forecast Population Growth

Usually resident population 2006 census	27,372
Urban population	19,278
Rural population	8,094
Increase in District population 2001-2006	1,929
Percentage population increase since 2001 census	7.6 %

Statistics New Zealand produces population estimates in non-census years. The estimated population as at 30 June 2010 was 29,400.

Statistics New Zealand has forecast population growth out to 2031, using 2006 forecast population figures as a baseline (updated). The forecast provides low, medium and high projections based on varying migration, fertility and mortality forecasts. These forecasts are shown in the table below.

Ashburton District Projected Population, 2006 (base) - 2031 update.								
Series	Year as at 30 June						Population change 2006-2031	
	2006 (base)	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	#	Average Annual %
Low		29,300	29,300	29,000	28,400	27,600	-400	-0.1
Medium	28,000	30,000	31,000	31,700	32,200	32,600	4,600	0.6
High		30,800	32,600	34,400	36,100	37,700	9,700	1.2

Ashburton District Council uses the “high” population forecast series in its growth modelling for the future. The “high” series is used because it best reflects:

- current strong population growth in the district
- continued change in land use with increased on-farm residences
- expected migration from Christchurch due to the recent earthquakes (based on current anecdotal evidence)
- consistency with Ashburton District residential building consent trend analysis over the past five years (which indicates the district’s population has grown by approximately 2,500 people since 2006 – closest to the high series forecast).

It is considered that the “high” series provides a prudent assessment of future increased demand through population growth. Ashburton District’s population looks set to continue this growth over the next ten years, reversing earlier trends of low or no growth.

Growth by Area

The rate of projected growth varies across the district, with Methven expected to be the fastest growing urban centre over the next 20 years, growing at an average rate of 2.7% per year. The rural population is also projected to grow at a faster rate than the Ashburton urban area.

Projected Population by Area Unit, 2006 (base) - 2031 update. ¹								
Area ²	Year as at 30 June						Population change 2006-2031	
	2006 (base)	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	#	Average Annual %
Ashburton	16,680	17,860	18,540	19,090	19,570	19,970	3,290	0.8
Methven	1,360	1,640	1,810	1,970	2,130	2,280	920	2.7
Rakaia	1,090	1,200	1,260	1,310	1,360	1,410	320	1.2
Rest of the District	8,900	10,050	10,900	11,740	12,570	13,390	4,490	2.0

1: Using "high" series projection data.

2: The projected population of towns within the Ashburton District is based on Statistics New Zealand's census area unit boundaries. 'Ashburton' comprises the following area units: Allenton, Ashburton Central West, Netherby, Ashburton Central East, Hampstead, Fairton and Tinwald.

Impact of Forecast Population Growth: It is anticipated that population growth will cause a commensurate increase on the demand for services in the Animal Control activity in general. It is expected that increased population will result in increased urban dog ownership. Increased population is not expected to require a change to the current levels of service provided by the Council or to noticeably increase the cost of providing this activity.

Demographic Change

In addition to a growing population the demographics of Ashburton District are changing, a trend expected to continue in the future. In particular:

- The population, like that of New Zealand as a whole, is ageing. This trend is forecast to continue, with the over 65 population in the district expected to nearly double between 2006 and 2031. This age group is expected to account for almost one-quarter of the total district's population by 2031.
- The ethnic make-up of the district is changing with increased Maori and Pacific populations and an increasing proportion of international migrants.

Impact of Demographic Change: Demographic change is not expected to significantly change the demand for service or how Council delivers this activity.

Community Expectations

Council monitors resident satisfaction with the services and facilities it provides through an Annual Residents Survey undertaken by the National Research Bureau (NRB). Resident satisfaction is used as a guide to prevailing community expectations – i.e. if satisfaction drops while levels of service have remained the same there could be some shift in community expectations behind that change. Council will, when the situation requires, undertake more detailed research to ascertain whether this is the case.

Results from the NRB survey over the past three years that relate to this activity are included below.

Residents are satisfied with Council's animal control activities (target satisfaction rate 85%+ - don't know responses excluded)	2012	83%
	2011	86%
	2010	84%

Impact of Changes in Community Expectations: Resident satisfaction with Council's role in the Animal Control activity has remained relatively consistent over the past three years at around 85% satisfaction.

Legislative Requirements

The Dog Control Amendment Act has increased requirements for Council to record information about dogs and has increase monitoring and other requirements intended to improve public safety.

Impact of Changes in Legislative Requirements: The additional expense involved in micro chipping newly registered dogs does not seem to have had an adverse effect on registration numbers, though it is difficult to predict how much of an impact this will have in the future. In light of this uncertainty, Council has assumed that future dog registrations numbers will not increase but remain at similar levels to those today.

Other

Stricter enforcement of the Dog Control Act and increased publicity may have an effect on the numbers of registered dogs.

Changes to farming in the district are likely to have some impact on dog ownership where farming practices involving dogs for stock management change.

9.0 Significant Forecasting Assumptions and Risk Management

Assumptions

Organisational Assumptions

Issue	Information Source	Assumptions
Inflation	Berl Price Adjuster	Inflation is budgeted for the years 2013/14 onwards. The level of inflation has been derived from the forecasts prepared for Local Government New Zealand by BERL and deal primarily with areas of expenditure local authorities are exposed to through their business.
Interest Rates	Council Analysis	Assumed interest rates for new loans and investments in this Long Term Plan have been calculated on an average of Council's current and expected interest costs and returns. The interest rate, using this method, is assumed to be 6%.
District Population Growth	Statistics NZ Population Forecasts	Population growth is assumed to be in line with Statistics New Zealand's population forecasts for Ashburton District (using 2006 as the base year), using the "high" series of figures. See section 8 of this document for further details on population growth assumptions.
Natural Events/ Disasters	Council Analysis	Natural events such as storm or earthquake damage can happen at any time but have been assumed not to happen for the purposes of preparing this plan. This plan has, therefore, been prepared on the basis that no unforeseen natural events will affect Council's assets and business.
Climate Change	Council Analysis	Climate change impacts have been assumed to not impact on Council business scope or cost of business in a material way over the next 10 years.
Nature of Council Business	Council Analysis	Legislative requirements may change the nature of Council's business from time to time. No potential legislative changes have been identified that might impact on this activity. Council monitors community expectations through its annual resident's survey, community consultation processes and working with community organisations. It has been assumed there will be no changes in the general nature of Council's business.

Activity-Specific Assumptions

Issue	Information Source	Assumptions
Community expectations/ levels of service	Council Analysis	<p>Council monitors community expectations through its annual resident's survey, community consultation processes and working with community organisations.</p> <p>It has been assumed there will not be significant changes to the levels of service expected through this activity.</p>
Animal Control Contractor can no longer provide the service	Council Analysis	<p>The existing contract requires two month notice of termination. In reality there is a risk that the contractor could go out of business at short notice. This creates some uncertainty around Council ability to provide the service. The assumption is that the contractor will maintain the service according to its contractual obligations.</p>
Change in legislation	Council Analysis	<p>Animal control, particularly dog control tends to be a very political topic. It is possible that central government may introduce new or amended legislation that significantly impacts on Ashburton District Councils role in animal control. The assumption is that new legislation will not occur.</p>

Risk Management

Risk	Likelihood/ Impact	Potential Impact/ Mitigation
Inflation is significantly different from Berl Price Adjusters	Low/ Low	<p>A change in the inflation rate tends to affect all areas of the economy and not just Council rates. The impact of a variance in inflation is therefore not considered to have a serious effect on Council's business.</p> <p>Annual Plan budgets will reflect the prevailing rate of inflation on annual basis. Forecast rate requirements may therefore vary from those stated in the LTP.</p>
Interest rates vary significantly from assumed levels	Medium/ Medium	<p>A change in interest rates impacts on the cost of capital and the return on capital.</p> <p>Council uses a range of measures to mitigate the impact of a rise in interest rates. As Council's level of external borrowing increases this risk rises.</p> <p>Council has imposed a borrowing limit through its financial strategy as detailed in the Long Term Plan 2012-22.</p> <p>Annual Plan budgets will reflect interest rates on annual basis. Forecast rate requirements may therefore vary from those stated in the LTP.</p>
District population growth varies from assumed level	Low/ Medium	<p>It is considered unlikely population growth will differ from the Stats NZ forecasts to an extent that causes material difficulties for Council.</p> <p>Most projects potentially impacted by population changes tend to be of a long-term nature that can be adjusted in terms of timing and scale to suit population projections.</p>
Natural Events/ Disasters	Low/ High	<p>Council manages risk associated with natural disasters through insurance.</p> <p>No specific measures have been included in this activity for any such event.</p>
Climate Change	Low/ Medium	<p>The risk of any event impacting materially on this activity over the next 10 years is considered low. No specific provisions have been made in this activity for any impacts.</p>
Animal Control Contractor ceases to maintain service	Medium / Low	<p>If the Animal Control contract was unable or unwilling to maintain the service Council has some capacity to provide service in the short term. The Animal Control Systems Officer is a trained Animal Control Officer and the EHOs are appointed as ACOs. In the longer term there may be difficulty finding a suitable contractor. The most likely solution would be to take the function back "in house".</p>
Change in legislation	Low / Medium	<p>In the event that the assumption is incorrect existing resources supplemented by contractors would provide for additional service. Funding requirements would depend on the nature of the change</p>

10.0 Demand Management

Council's Demand Management Approach

Council believes there are no issues relating to future demand that would mean it cannot undertake this activity as it currently does. There are no demand management approaches in place or planned.

Sustainable Development Issues

There are considered to be no sustainable development issues related to this activity

Significant Negative Effects

There are considered to be no significant negative effects

11.0 Plan Review/Public Consultation

Overview of Consultation Undertaken

Consultation processes that have informed the development of this Activity Management Plan are:

1. **Annual Residents Survey:** Commissioned annually by the Council and conducted by National Research Bureau the survey covers resident satisfaction with the delivery of Council facilities. The information is used to consider the level and quality of service provided.
2. **Community Plan / Annual Plan:** Annual consultation regarding any proposed Community Plan or Annual Plan. Consultation involves circulation of plan statements of proposal (ie, the plan) and summaries of the statement for community evaluation. It includes community presentations and open days to provide community discussion of the proposal.

This consultation meets the requirements of ss83-85, and s89 of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. **Dog Control Policy:** A Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) was held prior to the adoption of the reviewed Dog Control Policy in February 2010.

Proposed Future Consultation

The Animal Control Bylaw will be reviewed in 2013 and a full consultation process will be implemented.

Activity Management Plan Review

- All Ashburton District Council *Activity Management Plans* will be reviewed and updated annually as part of the development of the Community Plan or the Annual Plan – whichever is applicable.
- This process takes place by December of each year.
- Plans may be updated during the year where there have been significant changes to asset values or business plans.

12.0 Resource Consents/ Property Designations

There are none that apply

APPENDIX I

Legislative and Strategic Linkages

Legislation Impacting on This Activity

- Dog Control Act 1996 (amended 2004, 2005)
- Impounding Act 1955
- ADC Bylaws

Strategic Planning Documents with Links to this Activity

- Ashburton District Community Plan 2009-19

Other Organisations with Links to this Activity

- 1st Security – service contractor
- NZ Police
- SPCA

Other Significant Linkages

- Ashburton Dog Owners
- Federated Farmers
- Neighbouring Councils Animal Control Officers

Council Policies

- Dog Control Policy – Council Policy Manual; Section B; Environmental Services
Environmental Services General Policy

Bylaws

Ashburton District Council Bylaws

Chapter 6 of the Ashburton District Council bylaws specifically deals with dog control.

Chapter 3 deals with keeping of animals, bees and poultry and has a limited effect on this activity.

All enforcement is normally carried out under either the Dog Control Act or the Impounding Act, however the Bylaws do cover some areas of animal control that are not covered in legislation.