

11.0 Animal control

Animal control fees are charged under the [Dog Control Act 1996](#). Animal control infringements are determined by statute and can be found in the [Dog Control Act 1996](#). Details of the 'Responsible Dog Owner Status' can be found in [Section 4 of Council's Dog Control Policy](#).

The Dog Control Act 1996 only requires dogs classified as Menacing to be dealt with by way of muzzling and neutering. However, the Act does allow for increased registration fees to be applied to dogs classified as Dangerous, as well as the muzzling and neutering requirements.

Note: Dogs must be registered by three months of age.

1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026	
11.1 Dog registration fees*	
Disability assist dogs	Free
Micro-chip fee per dog ^(E)	\$21.00
Rural dogs**	
Rural (per 1 st and 2 nd dog)	\$75.00
Rural (per subsequent dog)	\$35.00
Late registration penalty - rural	\$35.00
Menacing dog – rural	\$75.00
Dangerous dog – rural	\$112.00
Urban dogs	
Urban un-neutered dog	\$112.00
Urban de-sexed dog (<i>urban de-sexed dog fee reductions will only be given at the commencement of the registration year and upon receipt of a veterinarian's certificate</i>)	\$75.00
Responsible dog owners (per dog) – urban only	\$68.00
Late registration penalty - urban	\$52.00
Menacing dog - urban	\$112.00
Dangerous dog – urban	\$169.00
Penalty for late registration of urban de-sexed dogs	\$35.00
Licence to keep three or more dogs (urban)	\$61.00
Renewal of licence to keep three or more dogs	\$31.00
Replacement Tag	\$13.00
11.2 Impounding fees – dogs	
First offence	\$107.00
Second or more offence (per offence)	\$268.00
Microchip fee ^(E)	\$21.00
Daily sustenance fee – charged on impound and every 24 hours thereafter	\$20.00
11.3 Impounding fees – stock	
Stock call-out fee ^(E)	\$154.00
Impounding fee per head (when stock have to be transported to alternative area for impounding)	\$128.00
Daily sustenance fee	At cost

* Dog owners are advised that the fees set out above become due for payment on 1 July each year.

** Rural fees apply to all dogs that are kept on properties within the Rural A, B & C Zones of the Ashburton District Plan. For all other zones the urban dog registration fee will apply.

(E) When the cost of animal control and enforcement and related processes exceeds the stated fee (minimum charge) the Council may recover all additional costs on a time and cost basis.