



# DOG MANAGEMENT

POLICY NUMBER	DATE POLICY ADOPTED	AMENDMENT DATE & MINUTE NUMBER	POLICY TYPE
05:02:2003	25/02/2003	20/06/2017 17/07/2018 – 11.2.1	Regulatory
RESPONSIBLE MANAGER	RELATED POLICIES/ LEGISLTATION	STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE	DATE OF NEXT REVIEW
Manager Engineering Services	Dog Control Act 2000		In accordance with the Dog Control Act 2000

<b>AIM</b>	<p>The aim of the Kentish Council in framing this policy is to provide for the control and regulation of dogs and their owners to establish a harmonious environment which caters to the needs of the community and the dog population and maximises the enjoyment of the animals, their owners and the wider community.</p> <p><b>Council's role in achieving this aim</b></p> <p>Within available resource allocation and consistent with priorities, determined by Council, for service provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide information for dog owners and non-dog owners of their rights and responsibilities under the Dog Control Act 2000;</li> <li>• To administer the provisions of the Dog Control Act 2000;</li> <li>• To provide exercise areas that recognise the needs of dogs and humans, and to consider any impacts on the environment;</li> <li>• To consider the needs of dog owners and non-dog owners in the development of future recreation and urban management planning processes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Direction Statements</b></p> <p>That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of dog companionship and ownership be recognised in achieving the vision of Kentish</li> <li>• Benefits to the health and welfare of dogs, and benefits to the owner, through exhibiting responsible dog ownership, be recognised.</li> <li>• The value of education, for dog owners and non-dog owners be the first guiding principle for dog management issues in Kentish.</li> <li>• Regulatory measures only be used where education has previously been provided and a subsequent offence is detected, or where a serious offence has occurred.</li> </ul>
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# DOG MANAGEMENT

## REGISTRATION AND FEES

All dogs six months of age or over are required to be registered. The full registration fee is due annually by 31 August and may be subject to pro-rata and other reductions as described below.

The Kentish Council will provide reduced registration fees for de-sexed dogs in order to reduce the instances of unwanted or abandoned dogs.

A reduction in fees will also be offered for working dogs, greyhounds, purebred dogs and hunting dogs. A discount will also be offered to pensioners for their first dog only.

All dogs declared dangerous by the General Manager will attract an increased registration fee. This increased fee will not apply to guard dogs which are declared dangerous only on the basis of being a guard dog.

All dogs declared as restricted breeds by the General Manager will attract an increased registration fee.

Registration fees will be increased annually by a minimum of at least the CPI changes. The Kentish Council will liaise with other Councils in the North West Region in an endeavour to ensure registration fees maintain a level of consistency.

As a guide, the costs incurred in delivering the Kentish Council Dog Management Policy objectives, and administering the Dog Control Act 2000, should be met by the dog registration fees.

The Kentish Council will transfer dog registrations from other Tasmanian Councils at a cost to the dog owner, determined by Council in its schedule of fees, provided the registration is for the same registration period.

### EVIDENCE REQUIRED PRIOR TO REGISTRATION OF A DOG IN A PARTICULAR CATEGORY

That the evidence required in each category be as follows:

1. **De-sexed Dog** - Certificate of Sterilisation from a veterinary surgeon that the dog is sterilised or the provision of a statutory declaration.
2. **Guide Dog/Hearing Dog** - Same meaning as provided under the Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs Act 1967 or subsequent relevant legislation.
3. **Pensioner** - prescribed pensioner under the meaning of the Local Government (Rates and Charges) Remissions Act 1991.
4. **Pure Bred Dogs** - Certificate of registration and pedigree issued by the Tasmanian Canine Association (TCA) or equivalent interstate certification, together with a current membership card of the TCA.
5. **Working Dog** - Australian Business Number of the owner in relation to farming business and only to apply to breeds recognised as working dogs by the Tasmanian Canine Association.
6. **Greyhound** - Registration Certificate of the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Council.
7. **Hunting Dog** - Evidence of current financial membership of the North West Hunting Dogs Association or any other organisation determined by the General Manager to have similar goals and objectives.



# DOG MANAGEMENT

## **REDUCTIONS AND REIMBURSEMENTS**

### Applications for registration made after 31st December

1. A 50% reduction will be applied to the discount registration fee provided the dog has attained the age of six months in the preceding four weeks, or the dog is registered within four weeks of purchase, and the registration application is made voluntarily.
2. Where application is made four weeks or more after the dog has attained six months the discount is to apply to the full registration fee.
3. Discounts are to apply to the relevant registration category.
4. Where registration is made for the reason that non-registration has been revealed by an authorised officer, no discount is to apply.

### Reimbursement of Dog Registration on Death of Dog

On receipt of a certificate of euthanasia from a recognised veterinary clinic or submission of a Statutory Declaration, refund of dog registration charges will be provided according to the rates given under:

1. dog deceased within 3 months of date of registration - 75% refund of registration fee paid;
2. dog deceased after 3 months and within 6 months of date of registration - 50% refund of registration fee paid;
3. dog deceased after 6 months and within 9 of date of registration - 25% refund of registration fee paid.
4. dog deceased after 9 months - no refund

Refunds are only to apply if application is made in the same financial year as registration has been paid.

### Reimbursement of Dog Registration Fee in the event of Spayed/De-sexed Dog

This policy is to apply to all dogs registered at the normal registration rate and subsequently spayed or de-sexed, and is based on the difference between the registration rate paid and the spayed/de-sexed rate.

On receipt of a certificate of neutering from a recognised veterinary clinic, refund of dog registration rates will be allowed according to the rates given as under:

1. animal spayed/de-sexed within 3 months registration - 75% refund of difference;
2. animal spayed/de-sexed within 6 months of registration - 50% refund of difference;
3. animal spayed/de-sexed after 6 months of registration - 25% refund of difference.



# DOG MANAGEMENT

## Dogs adopted from the Lost Dogs Home, Spreyton

Dogs adopted from the dogs' home will have free registration until 30th June following the date of purchase. This is in recognition of:

- the responsible behaviour of the owner in adopting a dog that is desexed, wormed, fully vaccinated and microchipped.
- the valuable work undertaken by the Dog's Home in all areas of dog management.

### **REPLACEMENT COST OF LOST TAGS**

No charge will be payable for a replacement tag, to encourage dog owners to have their dog identified at all times.

## **DOG EXERCISE AREAS**

### **OFF THE LEAD DOG EXERCISE AREAS**

The Kentish Council recognises that a well exercised dog is less likely to create a nuisance within the community therefore a number of exercise areas have been designated in each area of the municipality. The areas will be available initially for a twelve month trial period from the time of implementing this plan. Regular monitoring of each area will be undertaken, to ensure there is no increase in dog nuisances such as the fouling of the area with faeces. While in an exercise area, dogs are still required to be under the effective control of the owner at all times.

Dogs declared dangerous under the *Dog Control Act 2000* remain subject to the relevant conditions defined in the Act even when in a dog exercise area.

The following are areas where dogs can be exercised off the lead, provided they remain under the effective control of the owner at all times:

- Railton Recreation Reserve ( designated fenced off area only)
- Sheffield Recreation Reserve (designated fenced off area only)
- Kentish Park
- Wilmot Park
- Gowrie Park Reserve (adjacent to Rodeo Ground)

### **AREAS WHERE DOGS ARE REQUIRED TO BE ON LEADS**

As declared under the Dog Control Act 2000, all road and road related areas in built up areas within the Kentish Council boundaries are areas where dogs must be on leads at all times.

There are some areas of bushland reserves where dog walking is acceptable but only using established tracks and trails with dogs remaining on leads to prevent them from straying into sensitive bushland habitat.

In addition, the following areas have been declared as areas where dogs must be on a lead at all times:

All Council parks and recreation reserves, except those designated as off lead areas.



# DOG MANAGEMENT

	<p><b>DOG RESTRICTED AREAS</b></p> <p><i>The Dog Control Act 2000</i> prohibits dogs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In any grounds of a school, pre-school, kindergarten, crèche or any other place for the reception of children without the permission of a person in charge of the place</li> <li>• Any shopping centre or shop</li> <li>• Any playing area of a sportsground on which sport is being played</li> <li>• Any area within ten metres of a children's playground</li> </ul> <p>In accordance with the Act, the following areas are declared out of bounds to dogs:</p> <p><b>BANNED AREAS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• King George V Park Sheffield</li> <li>• Railton Recreation Reserve (except where otherwise permitted)</li> <li>• Sheffield Recreation Reserve (except where otherwise permitted)</li> <li>• Wilmot Recreation Reserve (except where otherwise permitted)</li> <li>• Park at Wilmot Hall</li> </ul> <p><b>TRAINING AREAS</b></p> <p>No official training area for dogs is currently designated.</p>
<b>SIGNAGE</b>	<p>The Kentish Council will erect appropriate signage sufficient to identify all exercise, training, prohibited and restricted areas, subject to its annual budget allocations</p>
<b>CLEANING UP AFTER YOUR DOG</b>	<p><b>DOG TIDY BINS</b></p> <p>The Kentish Council will locate dog tidy bins within exercise areas and other high usage areas, subject to its annual budget allocations. Council will encourage all dog owners to carry their own dog tidy bags but have provided a dog tidy bin and free dog tidy bag dispenser in the fenced off leash area of the Sheffield Recreation Reserve.</p> <p><b>DOG FAECES</b></p> <p>If a dog , while in control of any person, defecates in a public place or in any private property which is not owned by the person in control of the dog, that person shall immediately remove the faeces and shall dispose of them in a lawful and suitable manner.</p> <p>Failure to comply with the above may see an infringement fine issued.</p>
<b>MICROCHIPPING</b>	<p>Micro-chipping of <u>all</u> dogs was compulsory after 1 July 2011. Microchipping is a permanent way of having your animal identified. A small chip the size of a grain of rice is inserted under the skin at the scruff of the neck. The chip has all your contact details in it, therefore if your animal is found it can be scanned and returned home safely. Microchipping is a mandatory requirement for dogs over 6 months of age with the exception of working dogs.</p>



# DOG MANAGEMENT

## **DANGEROUS DOGS**

### **DECLARATION OF A DANGEROUS DOG**

Any dog that has caused serious injury to a person or another animal will be immediately declared a dangerous dog, unless the attack was of such a minor nature that the declaration is not warranted. In making its decision, Council will consider the input of any victim.

Where the Council has cause to believe that a dog is likely to cause serious injury to a person or another animal, the Council will consider all evidence, before declaring the dog to be dangerous.

As defined in the Dog Control Act 2000, all dogs used to guard non-residential premises will be immediately declared dangerous.

The Kentish Council will keep a register of all dogs declared dangerous under the Dog Control Act 2000. This register will contain the owners name and address, dog registration details and micro-chipping details. Where the Kentish Council is made aware that a dangerous dog has moved to another municipal area, notification will be given to that Council.

Periodically an officer of the Kentish Council will visit the premises on which a dangerous dog is kept to ensure:

- a) the dog is being housed correctly as defined in the Dog Control Act Amendment Act 2009 and
- b) appropriate signage is displayed at every entrance to the property.
- c) the dog is wearing the specified dangerous dog collar and that the collar is still in good condition.

Appropriate legal action will be taken against any dangerous dog owner not complying with the regulations.

### **PURCHASE OF DANGEROUS DOG SIGNAGE AND COLLARS**

To ensure that only those dogs which are declared dangerous under the Dog Control Act 2000 are using the specified collars and warning signage, the Kentish Council will make the required purchases from the appropriate supplier and issue them to the owner of the dangerous dog. The costs associated with purchasing the items will be the responsibility of the dog owner.

### **MANDATORY DESEXING AND MICRO-CHIPPING**

The owner of a dog declared a dangerous dog will have to have the dog de-sexed and micro-chipped as a dangerous dog within 28 days of its declaration. The owner of a dog, that at any time before the commencement of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2009 was declared to be a dangerous dog, must ensure that the dog is de-sexed within 28 days after the commencement of that Act.

The owner must provide the council with a veterinary surgeon's certificate, certifying that the dog has been de-sexed and implanted with a micro-chip, within seven days of the operation.



# DOG MANAGEMENT

## **CHILD PROOF ENCLOSURE FOR DANGEROUS DOGS**

When not under the control of a person, a dangerous dog must be kept in an enclosure that meets certain requirements. Owners of dangerous dogs should refer to the *Dog Control (Regulations) 2010* for the full requirements.

The childproof enclosure must be a full enclosure and:

- have a minimum height of 1.8 metres and minimum width of 1.8 metres
- have a floor area of at least 10 square metres for each dog in the enclosure
- have walls, roof and door or gate made of brick, timber, concrete, iron or mesh, or a combination of those materials, of sufficient strength and durability to prevent the escape of a dog
- have a sufficient weatherproof sleeping area for each dog in the enclosure
- have a sealed, graded concrete floor
- be situated so as not to require a person to pass through it to gain access to other parts of the property
- if fitted with a door or gate, be fitted with a self-closing and self-latching mechanism for the gate, and be locked from the outside when a dog is inside the enclosure, and have a clearly legible sign saying “Dangerous Dog” displayed on the door or gate, and
- be sufficient to prevent any dog in it from escaping.

If the walls, roof or gate of the enclosure are made of mesh, that mesh must be chain mesh of at least 3.15 mm gauge with a maximum spacing of 50 mm, or weldmesh of at least 4 mm gauge with a maximum spacing of 50 mm.

There may be a gap of not more than 50 mm at the top and bottom of a wall or door or gate of an enclosure to provide ventilation and drainage.

## **RESTRICTED BREEDS**

The difference between a restricted breed dog and a dangerous dog is that a restricted breed dog, because of its breed characteristics, is pre-disposed to aggressive behaviour. It also has physical traits that can make the effects of any attack more severe and even life threatening. The Government is therefore committed to increasing dog controls so that the owners can be held accountable for the proper control of their dogs.

### **DECLARATION OF A RESTRICTED BREED DOG**

A Council will declare any dog to be a restricted breed dog if it is satisfied that the dog is of a restricted breed. Dogs will be assessed on the basis of approved guidelines which include key characteristics of dog breeds such as height, weight, coat, colouration, tail carriage and facial and body features. Restricted breed dogs do not include cross breeds.

The following breeds of dogs are restricted breeds:

- Dogo Argentino
- Fila Brasileiro
- Japanese tosa
- American pit bull terrier or pit bull terrier
- Perro de presa Canario or Presa Canario or



# DOG MANAGEMENT

- any other breed, kind or description of dog whose importation into Australia is prohibited by or under the Customs Act 1901 of the Commonwealth.

The Kentish Council will keep a register of all dogs declared restricted breed dogs under the Dog Control Amendment Act 2009. This register will contain the owners name and address, dog registration details and desexing and microchipping details. Where the Kentish Council is made aware that a restricted breed dog has moved to another municipal area, notification will be given to that Council.

Periodically an officer of the Kentish Council will visit the premises on which a restricted breed dog is kept to ensure:

- a) appropriate signage is displayed at every entrance to the property.
- b) The dog is wearing the specified restricted breed dog collar at all times and the collar is in good condition.

The dog must be on a lead and muzzled when in public. Appropriate legal action will be taken against any restricted breed dog owner not complying with the regulations.

## **PURCHASE OF RESTRICTED BREED DOG SIGNAGE AND COLLARS**

To ensure that only those dogs which are declared a restricted breed under the Dog Control Amendment Act 2009 are using the specified collars and warning signage, the Kentish Council will make the required purchases from the appropriate supplier and issue them to the owner of the dangerous dog. The costs associated with purchasing the items will be the responsibility of the dog owner.

## **MANDATORY DESEXING AND MICRO-CHIPPING**

The owner of a dog declared a restricted breed dog will have to have the dog de-sexed and micro-chipped as a restricted breed dog within 28 days of its declaration. The owner must provide the council with a veterinary surgeon's certificate, certifying that the dog has been de-sexed and implanted with a micro-chip, within seven days of the operation.

**DISCLAIMER:** THIS DANGEROUS DOG AND RESTRICTED BREED DOG INFORMATION IS PROVIDED AS A BRIEF GUIDE TO THE MAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION. DOG OWNERS, OR PERSONS IN CHARGE OF DOGS, SHOULD NOT RELY ON THIS INFORMATION AS A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF THEIR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE LEGISLATION.

## **DOG CREATING NUISANCE**

Council recognises the problems associated with nuisance dogs, and in particular, the issue of excessive dog barking. Council's most preferred option is to stop the dog barking *quickly* without the need for lengthy legal proceedings which are costly and time consuming. Therefore the most important issue is for the owner to be made aware of the nuisance and to be advised as to the best methods available to alleviate the problem. Using this approach, these issues can often be settled quickly and without causing conflict amongst neighbours.





# DOG MANAGEMENT

Council will follow the set procedure listed below when investigating nuisance dogs:

## **FIRST STAGE**

A courtesy letter will be sent to the dog owner which makes them aware of the complaint, legal responsibilities as they relate to the Dog Control Act 2000, remedies available to abate the nuisance and penalties for non compliance.

## **SECOND STAGE**

If ongoing, an officer of the Kentish Council will personally visit the dog owner to discuss the issues. The officer in the course of his/her duties may discuss methods to overcome the problem, such as the use of anti-barking collars and dog behavioural training. The ultimate aim of the discussion is to reach an agreement acceptable to both the complainant and the dog owner without the need for formal legal action.

## **THIRD STAGE**

If the nuisance continues, Council will ask the complainant to complete a formal request as defined in the Dog Control Act 2000 and pay the specified dog complaint deposit fee.

Once this formal complaint is submitted, the Council will fully investigate the situation and will endeavour to complete the investigation as quickly as possible. This may include the use of bark diaries and/or a mediation meeting.

Where a formal complaint is found to be of a vexatious nature the application fee will not be refunded.

## **FOURTH STAGE**

Where the complaint is proven, Council will issue a formal abatement notice as defined in the Dog Control Act 2000. **Kennel Licences**

The Kentish Council will administer kennel licences in line with the requirements of the Dog Control Act 2000. In particular, any property with more than two dogs over the age of 6 months (or 4 dogs in the case of working dogs) will be required to submit an application for a kennel licence.

All applications must be submitted with a copy of an advertisement being placed in the local newspaper, advertising the dog owners intention to apply for a licence, and requesting any objections to be made within 14 days.

Before consideration will be given to the application, a Council officer will inspect the premises to ensure it is fit for the number and type of dogs to be kept on the property. Where a property is to be used for breeding purposes, appropriate advice from Council's planning officer will also be sought.

Upon being satisfied that the property meets with the requirements listed in the Dog Control Act 2000, a kennel licence will be issued.



## DOG MANAGEMENT

	<p>Kennel licences will apply for a financial year, and must be renewed annually. During the course of each year a Council officer will inspect every property issued a kennel licence to ensure compliance of the kennel licence conditions.</p> <p>Where a dog owner is not meeting the conditions, appropriate action will be taken in line with the Dog Control Act 2000.</p>
<b>REVIEW</b>	<p>In accordance with the Dog Control Act 2000, the Kentish Council will review this Dog Management Policy at least every five years and more regularly should there be significant changes in community expectations relating to the issue of dog control within the municipal area.</p>
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<p>Code of Responsible Dog Ownership</p>



# CODE OF RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

The Kentish Council is committed to ensuring the responsible ownership of dogs within its municipal area.

All dog owners residing or visiting within the municipality must abide by the provisions of the Dog Control Act 2000.

To promote responsible ownership the Kentish Council will ensure its policies are consistent with community expectations, and are designed to encourage a compatible relationship between dog owners and non dog owners.

The Council recognises the significant contribution a well trained and cared for dog can make within society. Therefore a strong emphasis will be placed on education to ensure that all dog owners and potential dog owners are encouraged to behave responsibly.

## **PURPOSE**

***To provide guidelines for dog owners and prospective owners on actions that will assist in producing healthy and happy dogs and provide a harmonious community for all residents.***

## **OBJECTIVES**

Dogs are an important part of society and many value their companionship. As with any animal, there are standards of care and welfare that need to be observed. The views and concerns of neighbours and other members of the community need to be considered.

Responsible dog ownership requires accepting full responsibility for dogs in terms of their needs and the standards for dog management that are expected by the community.

The following code has been developed to help owners maximise

- Appropriate dog behaviours
- Understanding of dog control regulations
- The health and welfare of dogs

## **ADHERENCE TO CODE**

The code is a voluntary code that defines best practice actions to achieve the aim and objectives of the code.



# CODE OF RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

## GUIDELINES

### Pre-Purchase

Dogs are valuable companion animals that require a commitment to their welfare over their entire lifespan. In order to fully understand this obligation, research should be undertaken prior to making the final purchase decision.

Some issues that need to be considered before purchasing a dog are:

- The breed of the dog and its suitability to the home environment e.g. the number and age of family members, compatibility with other pets, size of the yard, adequacy of fencing, proximity of neighbours, housing of dog.
- Vaccinations and ongoing veterinary requirements.
- Dietary requirements.
- Arrangements if going on holidays - proximity and cost of kennels
- Familiarisation with the community environment - e.g. proximity and location of dog exercise areas, areas in which dogs are prohibited, location of veterinary clinics location of pet shops, availability of obedience classes.
- Initial and continuing costs. – purchase, vaccination de-sexing, veterinary costs, registration costs, dietary requirements, obedience classes, grooming.
- Regulations governing dog management - Dog Control Act 2000, Kentish Dog Management Policy, Animal Welfare Act 1993.

### Post-Purchase (First Six Months)

Having made the decision to purchase a companion animal the following actions are recommended to ensure a healthy and happy dog.

- Socialisation and education of your dog, providing access and exposure to a variety of experiences.
- Appropriate vaccination and veterinary checks.
- Access to training and opportunities for playing
- Identification for the dog prior to registration.
- Desexing, if being undertaken.
- Appropriate diet.
- Registration by six months of age.



# CODE OF RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

## Ongoing

The previous actions are important in the first six months but an ongoing commitment in the following areas is important to ensure the happiness and safety of your dog and to add to your enjoyment. These are:

- Health and welfare aspects
- Ongoing obedience training
- Opportunities for exercise and play
- Adherence to regulatory requirements.

## **CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS**

As members of the broader community, there are obligations for us all in considering the impact of our actions on others. For the dog owner this includes taking action to:

- Ensure your dog does not bark excessively.
- Ensure your dog does not wander off your property.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Keep no more than two dogs (four working dogs) on your property without a kennel licence.
- Ensure your dog is under effective control at all times.
- Not allow your dog to jump at or lick others. (The dog's playful nature might not be accepted by all persons).

## **HUNTING DOGS**

Owners of hunting dogs, when being used for hunting, have a duty to ensure that their dogs do not create a nuisance to the adjoining owners of the property of which they are hunting on by:

- Ensuring the boundaries of the property are known.
- Ensure you familiarise yourself with the area and which paddocks have stock in them.
- Ensure your dogs do not wander onto neighbouring properties i.e. call them back before they get too close to the boundary.

## **LOST DOGS**

If your dog is lost, it may have been collected by the Council's Authorised Officer and transported to the pound. Owners should make every effort to locate missing dogs by contacting the Council or the Pound.



# CODE OF RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

## IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the code and ongoing awareness raising will be provided through the following mechanisms:

- Short-term
  - \* Dog Registration Application and Renewal notice insertion
  - \* Media releases
  - \* Distribution to other stakeholders
- Long-term
  - \* Distribution to owners of newly registered dogs
  - \* Distribution by Council Officers in daily activities
  - \* Distribution through participating organisations
  - \* Education through schools

## MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS

### Fee Structure

- Total Revenue
- Total Costs
- Revenue and costs by cost/revenue category
- The total revenue received through registrations
- The total revenue received per registration category
- General Rate contribution to Dog Management as a percentage of total costs

### Declared Areas

- Usage of declared areas (largely anecdotal)
- Number of complaints received.
- Number of infringements served.
- Changes in registration levels per area.
- Cost of maintaining declared areas.



# CODE OF RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

## GENERAL INDICATORS OF DOG OWNERSHIP IN KENTISH

- Total number of registrations each year.
- The total number of registrations per registration category.
- Number of properties with registered dogs.
- Registration levels per area.
- Number of infringements issued by nature of offence.
- Number of complaints by nature of complaint
- Number of dogs delivered to pound.