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## **Dog Control Hearings Panel**

### ***Te Koomiti Whiriwhiri I Ngaa Take Kuri***

## **OPEN MINUTES**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Dog Control Hearings Panel held in Committee Room 1, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 9:30 am.

#### **PRESENT**

<b>Chairperson</b> <b><i>Heamana</i></b>	Cr Emma Pike
<b>Members</b>	Cr Anna Casey-Cox Cr Maria Huata
<b>In attendance</b>	Anastasia Cox – Legal representative

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*The Chair opened the hearing with a karakia*

- 1. Apologies – *Tono aroha***  
**Resolved:** (Cr Pike/Cr Casey-Cox)  
That the Dog Control Hearings panel accepts the apologies from Cr Bydder and Cr Tauariki for absence.
- 2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***  
**Resolved:** (Cr Huata/Cr Casey-Cox)  
The Dog Control Hearings Panel confirms the agenda noting that *Item 8 (Objection to Menacing Classification of Dog)* has been deferred to a future date of the appropriate committee following the 2025 Local Election.
- 3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipaaanga***  
No members of the Panel declared a Conflict of Interest.
- 4. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Open Minutes 17 April 2025**  
**Resolved:** (Cr Casey-Cox/Cr Pike)  
That the Dog Control Hearings Panel confirms the Open Minutes of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Meeting held on 17 April 2025 as a true and correct record.
- 5. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Open Minutes 12 May 2025**  
**Resolved:** (Cr Casey-Cox/Cr Pike)  
That the Dog Control Hearings Panel confirms the Open Minutes of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Meeting held on 12 May 2025 as a true and correct record.

**6. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Open Minutes 28 April 2025**

**Resolved:** (Cr Casey-Cox/Cr Pike)

That the Dog Control Hearings Panel confirms the Open Minutes of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Meeting held on 28 April 2025 as a true and correct record.

**7. Objection to Menacing Classification of Dog - Ms Malcolm**

The Chairperson noted that the objector would be in attendance with legal representative. The objector provided a written statement to her objection, which was circulated to Members.

Legal Representative and Ms Malcolm spoke to the historical events with the dog, family friendliness and additional letters of support. The Animal Education and Control Manager then spoke to the report in particular the behaviour of different dogs in varying environments and historical incidents reported.

**8. Resolution to Exclude the Public**

**Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

**Resolved:** (Cr Pike/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Public Excluded Minutes 17 April 2025	) Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Public Excluded Minutes 28 April 2025		
C3. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Public Excluded Minutes 12 May 2025		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting persons from improper pressure or harassment	Section 7 (2) (f) (ii)
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| Item C2. | to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting persons from improper pressure or harassment | Section 7 (2) (f) (ii) |
| Item C3. | to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting persons from improper pressure or harassment | Section 7 (2) (f) (ii) |

**The meeting moved into the public excluded session at 10:06am**

During the public excluded session of the meeting the following was resolved to be released to the public via the minutes:

**Item 7: Objection to Menacing Classification of Dog – Malcolm**

*That the Dog Control Hearings Panel:*

- a) receives the report;*
- b) confirms it has considered the mandatory matters specified under the Dog Control Act 1996, and other matters relevant to the objection;*
- c) notes that the Dog Control Hearings Panel in determining any objection can only either uphold or rescind the classification under the Dog Control Act 1996;*
- d) **rescinds** the menacing classification of the dog ‘Cashew’; and*
- e) approves the release of the decision from Public Excluded via the open minutes of this meeting.*

**The meeting was declared closed at 10:37am**