

Additional Information

Ordinary Meeting

Thursday, 26 September 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
8.6	SYSTEMATIC INSPECTION PROGRAM - REGULATED DOGS	
	ATTACHMENT 2 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....	5

Related Report / Additional Information

Meeting:	Ordinary Meeting	Date:	26 September 2024
Requesting Councillor:	Councillor T Bunnag & Councillor J Natoli		
Item:	8.6 – Systematic Inspection Program - Regulated Dogs		
Circulation	Monday 23 September 2024		
Officer :	Coordinator Response Services (Acting)	Approving GE:	Group Executive Customer & Planning Services (Acting)

In response to a question raised by Councillor T Bunnag, please note the following additional information for your consideration.

Question:

What was the cost of delivering the program in 2023/24? What was the average cost per dog?

Response:

The 2023/24 systematic inspection program is still underway, due to conclude mid-November 2024. The cost estimate of the program is **\$70,821**.

- This is based on 129 regulated dogs at a cost of \$549 per dog.
- This covers the cost of the administration, inspection and any required follow up action undertaken by council officers.
- The cost to administer the program is paid for by the registration fees for regulated dogs.

In response to a question raised by Councillor J Natoli, please note the following additional information for your consideration.

Question:

Does anyone who has a regulated dog have to notify the council of their entry to the Sunshine Coast Council Region? Does Council have an advocacy role in improving these requirements?

Response:

Currently the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* requires the owner of a regulated dog to give notice of any change of address. The Act states:

(1) If an owner of a regulated dog changes residential address, the owner must give the relevant local government notice of the owner's new residential address within 7 days after making the change.

(2) If the new residential address is in another local government's area, the owner must also give the notice to the other local government.

Additionally, the legislation requires that a regulated dog must not be usually kept at a place other than the relevant place (registered address) for the dog. This ensure that the dog is being contained in accordance with the strict conditions in the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*.

Failure to comply with either of the above requirements would allow Council to infringe or charge the regulated dog owner with the offence of 'failure to comply with the conditions for owning a regulated dog'. The on-the-spot penalty for this offence is \$2,419.

Council takes an active advocacy role in matters relating to Animal Management working with government agencies, community groups and other parties. This includes but is not limited to providing input to legislative reviews.