



Waipā dogs get a second chance as rehoming hits record highs

Waipā dogs are finding homes in record numbers, while fewer are being euthanised, according to the district's latest Dog Policy Annual Report.

Of the 227 dogs impounded at Waipā's Cambridge and Kihikihi facilities over the past year, 117 were reunited with their owners and 85 found new homes.

That's a 75 percent increase in rehoming from the previous 12 months – the highest number Waipā has recorded. Just 16 dogs were euthanised, 59 percent fewer than in 2023/24.

Despite tough financial times for many people right now, most Waipā dogs are registered and microchipped, with more than 9000 dogs on the district's register.

The report also showed improvements in some of the more common complaints. Wandering dog complaints fell seven percent, while barking complaints dropped 27 percent.

There is still work to do, with 105 menacing and three dangerous dogs on the register. Reported dog attacks increased, including a serious attack on a six-year-old child. The incident resulted in a prosecution.

Council is also looking at improving its facilities, with a new Cambridge dog pound in the pipeline and detailed design work expected to begin in 2026/27.

And because not all dog news needs to be serious, Waipā is also getting creative about what happens after dogs do their business. A trial at five parks will see dog poo collected for composting.

Council has also invested in agility equipment at Legers Grove in Te Awamutu and Wordsworth Street Dog Park in Cambridge.



Tell us how you want us to inform, involve and hear from you

How does Council hear from you? Is it through surveys, drop-in sessions, social media, community meetings, newsletters, or a chat at a local event?

We know everyone likes to have their say in different ways, and we want to make sure our engagement works better for more people across Waipā. That is why we're launching a new community consultation survey, asking how you want to be informed, involved and heard when Council is making decisions that affect our district.

Your feedback will help shape the way we talk with our communities, from the information we share and the channels we use, to the opportunities people have to give feedback on projects, plans and services.

Whether you already take part in Council consultations or have never filled in a survey before, we would love to hear from you. Your ideas can help make future engagement easier, clearer and more meaningful for everyone.

Have your say by completing the survey on the Let's Talk Waipā website. It will only take a few minutes, and your feedback will help us better connect with the people, places and communities that make Waipā a great place to call home letstalk.waipadc.govt.nz/community-consultation-survey.



Feedback closes on Wednesday, September 30.



Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund closing on September 30

The Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund will close on Wednesday, September 30. The fund was set up after the severe weather event in February 2026, which affected many people across Waipā, especially in the western and southern parts of our district.

Since then, it has helped many in our community through a difficult time. A big thank you to everyone who contributed. Your generosity has made a real difference. If you still need support, there is still time to find out more and apply through the Waipā District Council website waipadc.govt.nz/relieffund.

Your Elected Members Get in touch: waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/our-team/mayor-and-councillors

											
Mike Pettit Mayor	Jo Davies-Colley Deputy Mayor	Dale-Maree Morgan	Mike Montgomerie	Clare St Pierre	Marcus Gower	Aidhean Camson	Roger Gordon	Dean Taylor	Shane Walsh	Pip Kempthorne	Les Bennett