



AGENDA

Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting Tuesday, 2 December 2025

I hereby give notice that a Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 2 December 2025

Time: 9:00 am

**Location: Tauranga City Council Chambers
L1, 90 Devonport Road
Tauranga**

Please note that this meeting will be livestreamed and the recording will be publicly available on Tauranga City Council's website: www.tauranga.govt.nz.

**Marty Grenfell
Chief Executive**

Terms of reference – Regulatory Hearings Panel

Membership

Chair	Mary Dillon
Members	Puhirake Ihaka Terry Molloy Alan Tate
Quorum	At least two members
Meeting frequency	As required

Role

- To conduct hearings and make decisions of a quasi-judicial nature on regulatory matters through specific hearings and decision-making.

Scope

Regulatory matters

- To conduct hearings and make decisions of a quasi-judicial nature on behalf of the Council on any regulatory matter that the Council is legally:
 - empowered or obligated to hear and determine;
 - permitted to delegate to a subordinate decision-making body of Council under the Local Government Act 2002, or any other Act.
- To exercise this function in accordance with:
 - the applicable legislation;
 - the Council's corporate strategies, policies, plans and bylaws; and
 - the principles of administrative law and natural justice.
- Regulatory matters include (but are not limited to):
 - dog control matters;
 - matters arising from the exercise of Council's enforcement functions; and
 - regulatory matters that require a hearing under Council's policies (including, without limitation, Council's Gambling Venues Policy) and bylaws.

Matters excluded from scope

- The following are excluded from the scope of the Regulatory Hearings Panel:
 - matters relating to the sale and supply of alcohol;
 - matters under the Resource Management Act 1991; and
 - matters the Council is precluded from delegating to a subordinate decision-making body by the Local Government Act 2002, or any other Act.

Power to act

Regulatory matters

- All powers, duties and discretions necessary to conduct hearings and make decisions of a quasi-judicial nature on behalf of the Council on any regulatory matter that the Council is legally empowered or obligated to hear and determine, including (but not limited to):
 - All powers, duties and discretions necessary to hear and make decisions on behalf of the Council in respect of any matter that the Council is empowered or obligated to hear and determine under the Dog Control Act 1996, the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Act 1974 and any regulatory matters that require a hearing under Council's policies and bylaws.
- For the avoidance of doubt, the above delegation includes authority to hear and make decisions on appeals under Council's Gambling Venues Policy, including to decline an application to appeal.
- The power to establish and amend hearings protocols relating to the general conduct of hearings and hearings related matters in accordance with the applicable legislation and the principles of administrative law and natural justice.
- The power to co-opt expert advice on an as required basis.

Matters excluded from power to act

- For the avoidance of doubt, the Regulatory Hearings Panel does not have the power to hear:
 - matters relating to the sale and supply of alcohol;
 - matters under the Resource Management Act 1991; or
 - matters that the Council is precluded from delegating to a subordinate decision-making body by the Local Government Act 2002, or any other Act.

Power to recommend

- The Regulatory Hearings Panel is unlikely to need to make recommendations to the Council as it has the power to conduct hearings and make decisions of a quasi-judicial nature on behalf of Council as per its powers to act. However, the Panel may make recommendations to the Council if, in the circumstances of a matter, it considers it appropriate to do so.

Note:

The Regulatory Hearings Panel is established as a subordinate decision-making body of Council and delegated the powers specified in its Terms of Reference under clauses 30 and 32 of Schedule 7 Local Government Act 2002 respectively. It is not a committee or subcommittee of Council.

Regulatory Hearings Panel

Summary of hearings procedure



Who is involved in a hearing?

- Regulatory Hearings Panel – these are independent persons who make the decision
- Tauranga City Council staff – staff who write the report and attend the hearing
- Applicant/objector or their representative – those who will present their evidence
- Witnesses/experts – called by staff or applicant/objector



What happens before the hearing?

- The applicant/objector will be given at least seven days' notice of the date, time and place of the hearing.
- An agenda with the staff report and any documents will be sent to the panel members and the applicant/objector before the hearing.
- The applicant/objector can organise evidence and call witnesses in support of their application/objection.
- If the applicant/objector can't be present at the hearing they can organise a representative to attend on their behalf.

What happens at the hearing?

- The hearings will be conducted without a lot of formality and will make sure that all parties and witnesses receive a fair hearing.
- Staff will present Council's case (including evidence and any witnesses) in support of its decision that is the subject of the application/objection.
- The applicant/objector presents their case (including any evidence and any witnesses).
- Council staff have a right of reply but can't submit any new evidence or call any further witnesses.
- The chairperson and panel members may ask questions from any party or witness.
- Other persons may ask the chairperson to put a question to any party or witness on their behalf but that is at the discretion of the chairperson as to whether the question is put.

- No cross examination is permitted.
- The chairperson's rulings on any matter is final.
- The hearing is generally open to the public unless there is good reason to have the hearing with the public excluded.

What happens after the hearing?

- The panel will usually deliberate in private immediately after the hearing and make their decision.
- The panel may, but is not required to, deliver its decision in the open section of a meeting. A notice of decision will be given (or sent) in writing to the applicant/objector as soon as practicable after the panel has made its decision.
- The chairperson will then close the hearing.
- If the chairperson has allowed further information to be provided before the hearing is closed, then the hearing will be adjourned, and the panel will reserve its decision until it has considered the further information.
- Where the applicant/objector has a right to appeal the panel's decision, that will be advised in writing.
- No discussions or communication of any kind will happen outside of the hearing between the panel, the parties or witnesses until a decision is issued, including during any site visits, adjournment or break.
- Minutes of the meeting will be kept as evidence of the hearing.

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- 1 OPENING KARAKIA**
- 2 APOLOGIES**
- 3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 1 May 2025

File Number: A18647496

Author: Anahera Dinsdale, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Anahera Dinsdale, Governance Advisor

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Minutes of the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 1 May 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 1 May 2025



MINUTES

**Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting
Thursday, 1 May 2025**

Order of Business

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5.2	Objection to Retention of Dog in Pound - Miriama Te Wheoro	7
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7	Closing Karakia.....	8

**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
REGULATORY HEARINGS PANEL MEETING
HELD AT THE GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOM 1, 306 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON THURSDAY, 1 MAY 2025 AT 9:00 AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs Mary Dillon (Chairperson), Mr Puhirake Ihaka, Mr Terry Molloy

APOLOGIES: Mr Alan Tate

IN ATTENDANCE: Brent Lincoln (Team Leader: Animal Services) and Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor)

EXTERNAL: Applicants as listed in the minutes.

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Mr Puhirake Ihaka opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

APOLOGY

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RHP/25/0/1

Moved: Mr Puhirake Ihaka

Seconded: Mr Terry Molloy

That the apology for absence received from Mr Alan Tate be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 10 April 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RHP/25/0/2

Moved: Mrs Mary Dillon

Seconded: Mr Puhirake Ihaka

That the Minutes of the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 10 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

5 BUSINESS

5.1 Objection to Disqualification as Dog owner - Lupe Poe

Staff Brent Lincoln

Key Points

- Due to Ms Poe not attending the hearing, the panel unanimously decided to address the matter on the papers.
- The Team Leader: Animal Services provided the panel with a summary of his report and the purpose for hearing the matter.

In response to questions

- The Team Leader: Animal Services confirmed the dog in question was a Shar Pei cross, that complaints about the dog had started a long time ago and there had been night time barking since March 2024. He also advised that the current disqualification expired in August 2027 and could not be extended.

5.2 Objection to Retention of Dog in Pound - Miriama Te Wheoro

Staff Brent Lincoln

External Ms Miriana Te Wheoro

Key Points

- The Team Leader: Animal Services provided the panel with a summary of his report and the purpose for hearing the matter about Ms Te Wheoro's dog Kola.

In response to questions

- Ms Te Wheoro confirmed that she had found the dog as a puppy, badly injured after being attacked by other dogs.
- Ms Te Wheoro advised that her mokopuna left the gate open at her property which allowed the dog Kola to get out. It could also jump fences.
- The Team Leader: Animal Services advised if the dog had been socialised at an earlier age it may have been able to be better socialised with other dogs. The dog was now six years old and attacking other dogs was ingrained behaviour.
- The Team Leader: Animal Services acknowledged it was a sad situation and that it was unfortunate that the dog Kola had imprinted aggression towards other dogs. He advised the prosecution was going ahead and that the dog had been put in the pound in March 2025

Discussion points raised

- Chair Mary Dillon clarified that the only purpose of today's hearing was for the panel to decide if the dog could be released from the pound.

5.3 Jesse Hartley - Objection to Disqualification as Dog owner

Staff Brent Lincoln

External Jesse Hartley and Shannon Dunford

Key Points

- The Team Leader: Animal Services provided the panel with a summary of his report and the purpose for hearing the matter about Mr Hartley's dog, Tuff Cookie. He advised that a dog may remain with its owner when a disqualification had been given and the matter had been disputed.

In response to questions

- Mr Hartley told the panel that his dog had only been in the pound once, and that he had bought a muzzle and his property was now properly fenced. He provided the panel with photos of this.

Discussion points raised

- The Team Leader: Animal Services advised that the dog had been classified as menacing after attacking a neighbour and provided the panel with an explanation as to the process involved to classify a dog as menacing.

At 11.31am the meeting adjourned.

At 11.40am the meeting reconvened.

6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Resolution to exclude the public

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RHP/25/0/3

Moved: Mr Puhirake Ihaka

Seconded: Mr Terry Molloy

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter 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 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
6.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 10 April 2025	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural	s48(1)(a) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

	persons	
5.1 – Lupe Poe - Objection to disqualification as dog owner deliberations	To enable the Panel to deliberate in private on the objections heard.	s48(1)(d) That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the Council to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any proceedings before a Council where the Council is required, by any enactment, to make a recommendation in respect of the matter that is the subject of those proceedings.
5.2 – Miriama Te Wheoro – Objection to retention of dog in pound deliberations	To enable the Panel to deliberate in private on the objections heard.	s48(1)(d) That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the Council to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any proceedings before a Council where the Council is required, by any enactment, to make a recommendation in respect of the matter that is the subject of those proceedings.
5.3 – Jesse Hartley – Objection to disqualification as dog owner deliberations	To enable the Panel to deliberate in private on the objections heard.	s48(1)(d) That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the Council to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any proceedings before a Council where the Council is required, by any enactment, to make a recommendation in respect of the matter that is the subject of those proceedings.

CARRIED

5 PUBLIC SESSION CONTINUED

5.1 Objection to Disqualification as Dog owner - Lupe Poe

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RHP/25/0/4

Moved: Mr Puhirake Ihaka

Seconded: Mr Terry Molloy

That the Regulatory Hearings Panel:

- (a) Receives the report "Objection to Disqualification as Dog owner - Lupe Poe".
- (b) Agrees to:
 - (i) Uphold the disqualification.

CARRIED

5.2 Objection to Retention of Dog in Pound - Miriama Te Wheoro

RECOMMENDATIONS MOVE SECOND

That the Regulatory Hearings Panel:

- (a) Receives the report "Objection to Retention of Dog in Pound - Miriama Te Wheoro".
- (b) Agrees to:
 - (ii) Retain the dog Kola in the pound.

The Panel noted that Ms Te Wheoro was not a disqualified dog owner which gave her the opportunity to acquire another dog.

5.2 Objection to Retention of Dog in Pound – Jesse Hartely

RECOMMENDATIONS MOVE TERRY SECOND PUHI

That the Regulatory Hearings Panel:

- (a) Receives the report "Objection to Disqualification as Dog owner– Jesse Hartely".
- (b) Agrees to:
 - (iii) Terminate the disqualification.

The Panel noted there had been no further infringements with his dog Tough Cookie over the last six months and that Mr Hartley now appeared to have understood his responsibilities and obligations as a dog owner.

At 11.54am, Mr Terry Molloy withdrew from the meeting.

7 CLOSING KARAKIA

Mr Puhirake Ihaka closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 11.57.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Regulatory Hearings Panel meeting held on 2 December 2025.

.....
Mary Dillon
CHAIRPERSON

5 BUSINESS

5.1 Objection to Disqualification as Dog Owner - Natalie Kennedy

File Number: A19053974

Author: Oscar Glossop, Team Leader: Animal Services

Authoriser: Sarah Omundsen, General Manager: Regulatory and Community Services

Please note that this report contains confidential attachments.

Public Excluded Attachment	Reason why Public Excluded
Item 5.1 - Objection to Disqualification as Dog Owner - Natalie Kennedy - Attachment 3 - Attachment 3 - Letters of Support - Redacted	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To hear an objection from Natalie Kennedy, opposing her disqualification as a dog owner

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Regulatory Hearings Panel:

- (a) Receives the report "Objection to Disqualification as Dog Owner - Natalie Kennedy".
- (b) It is recommended that the panel uphold the disqualification however they have three options:
 - (i) Uphold the disqualification; or
 - (ii) Reduce the period of the disqualification; or
 - (iii) Terminate the disqualification.
- (iv) **Attachment 3** is to remain in confidential permanently.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. On 6 August 2025, Natalie Kennedy was convicted in the Tauranga District Court of one offence against section 58 of the Dog Control Act 1996 of being the owner of a dog that attacked a person causing serious injury.
3. As a result of that conviction, Section 25 of the Act states Council must disqualify a person from owning a dog unless satisfied that the circumstances of the offence are such that disqualification is not warranted.
4. A disqualification is for a period not exceeding five years, it is Council's normal practice to disqualify an owner for the full five-year period where there has been a conviction for an attack.

5. A section 58 offence is the most serious offence in the Act and can attract a penalty of imprisonment.
6. On 8 September 2025, Ms Kennedy was served with a notice disqualifying her as a dog owner for a period of five years. *Attachment 1 – Notice of Disqualification*).
7. On 23 September 2025, Council received an objection from Ms Kennedy, together with letters in support of her objection. (*Attachment 2 – Letter of Objection, Attachment 3 – Letters of support*).
8. When considering an objection, the panel may:
 - (a) Uphold the five-year disqualification period; or
 - (b) Reduce the disqualification period; or
 - (c) Terminate the disqualification.
9. If the objector is not satisfied with the panel's decision, they may appeal that decision to the District Court or lodge another objection in 12 months' time. They must rehome the dog during any appeal process.

BACKGROUND

10. On 13 November 2024, Natalie Kennedy was walking three registered dogs in a reserve near the end of Wylie Street, Gate Pa.
11. She was the owner of two of the dogs, Judah a Bull Mastiff Cross and Taika a Staffordshire Bull Terrier. Judah was off lead, the third dog was on a lead and the victim says Taika was also off lead.
12. The victim, a 79-year-old male was walking in the reserve when he saw Ms Kennedy and the dogs about ten metres away. Judah then rushed toward the victim and lunged at him, biting him on the elbow. The victim said Taika also rushed at him aggressively, intimidating him. Ms Kennedy denied Taika was off lead. (*Attachment 4 – Photograph of injury*)
13. The attack led to the victim being hospitalised for surgery and as stated in the Court victim impact statement, the attack has had a life changing impact on him. Not only has the attack left him with physical limitations which means he can no longer undertake some household duties and property maintenance, it has also eroded his confidence so that he feels unsafe to leave his home.
14. When considering Ms Kennedy's objection, her statements about how the attack occurred conflict with the victim's and she continues to blame the victim and not accept responsibility for the serious injuries. She, throughout the process, has blamed the victim for "acting in an alarming manner" "yelling and waving his arms around"
15. The victim has stated he was on the phone to his son when Judah ran at him and bit him on the elbow causing the injury. His son confirms this as he heard the dogs barking and his father yell out "get your dogs under control". He then heard his father say call the Police and an ambulance, he could also hear dogs barking.
16. A dog owner has absolute responsibility to ensure their dog cannot attack. The Court found there were no grounds for a defence and upon conviction, imposed \$1000 in reparation for the victim and ordered the destruction of the dog Judah.
17. The Judge said "*people who own dogs either control them or they do not. If they do not and people suffer serious injury, then consequences flow.... this legislation was enacted to ensure that people who own dogs faced significant consequences if they did not control them*"
18. In considering any objection under this section, the territorial authority shall have regard to—
 - (a) the circumstances and nature of the offence or offences in respect of which the person was disqualified; and
 - (b) the competency of the person objecting in terms of responsible dog ownership; and

- (c) any steps taken by the owner to prevent further offences; and
 - (d) the matters advanced in support of the objection; and
 - (e) any other relevant matters.
18. The attack happened because an owner failed to control their dog as required by the Act, the outcome resulted in the victim having permanent physical and psychological injuries.
 19. It is accepted that the owner had no previous history with Council and that she has provided some positive references about her ability to manage dogs. Unfortunately, these attributed skills were not apparent on the day, and she allowed the dog to attack.
 20. The dog that attacked has been euthanised and the second dog involved, Taika, is now classified as a menacing dog and is required to be muzzled in public. It is accepted that the owner's property is quite secure, however, the attack took place in a public location. Keeping the dog under leash control and muzzled will reduce future risk.
 21. In summary, this was a serious attack which has had a lasting impact on the elderly victim. The attack was preventable and liability for the attack sits entirely with Ms Kennedy, not the victim. Ms Kennedy states that Taika is now muzzled in public which is a requirement of the menacing classification.
 22. If the panel was to uphold the disqualification, Ms Kennedy can either lodge an appeal with the district Court or apply to the panel again in 12 months' time.







SIGNIFICANCE

23. The Local Government Act 2002 requires an assessment of the significance of matters, issues, proposals and decisions in this report against Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. Council acknowledges that in some instances a matter, issue, proposal or decision may have a high degree of importance to individuals, groups, or agencies affected by the report.
24. In making this assessment, consideration has been given to the likely impact, and likely consequences for:
 - (a) the current and future social, economic, environmental, or cultural well-being of the district or region
 - (b) any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the decision.
 - (c) the capacity of the local authority to perform its role, and the financial and other costs of doing so.
25. In accordance with the considerations above, criteria and thresholds in the policy, it is considered that the decision is of low significance.

ENGAGEMENT

26. Taking into consideration the above assessment, that the decision is of low significance, officers are of the opinion that no further engagement is required prior to Council making a decision.

ATTACHMENTS

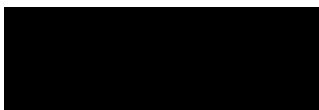
1. **Attachment 1 - Notice of Disqualification. - Redacted - A19331359**  
2. **Attachment 2 - Objection to Disqualification - Natalie Kennedy - Redacted - A19331363**
 
3. **Attachment 3 - Letters of Support - Redacted - A19331365 - Public Excluded**
4. **Attachment 4 - Victim Photo Elbow Injury - A19084268**  

DISQUALIFICATION FROM DOG OWNERSHIP



4 SEPTEMBER 2025

NATALIE KENNEDY



Delivery Confirmation:

Recipient name: *Bone*
Signature: *Bone B*
Date: _____ Time: *3pm*
Served by: *Bone B*
Signature: _____

Notice of disqualification from dog ownership (Section 25, Dog Control Act 1996)

This is to inform you that you have been disqualified under section 25 (1) (b) of the Dog Control Act 1996 from owning any dog.

This follows your conviction for being the owner of a dog, namely a Bull Mastiff Cross named Judah, which attacked a person causing serious injury on 13 November 2024 at a reserve in Gate Pā.

This disqualification will apply from 13 November 2024 and will expire on 12 November 2029.

A summary of the effect of the disqualification and your right to object is provided below.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Brent Lincoln".

Brent Lincoln
Animal Services: Team Leader
07 577 7000
info@tauranga.govt.nz

EFFECT OF DISQUALIFICATION
Section 28, Dog Control Act 1996

You are required to dispose of every dog owned by you within 14 days of the date of this notice. However, you may not dispose of a dog:

- to a person who resides at the same address as you.
- in a way that constitutes of an offence against the Dog Control Act 1996 or any other Act.

You must not become the owner, even on a temporary basis, of any dog while you are disqualified. You may have possession of a dog only for the purpose of:

- preventing it from causing injury, damage, or distress.
- returning, within 72 hours, a lost dog to a territorial authority for the purpose of restoring the dog to its owner.

You will commit an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3000 if you:

- fail to dispose of every dog owned by you within 14 days of this notice.
- at any time while disqualification, become the owner of any dog.
- dispose of a dog owned by you:
 - to a person who resides at the same address as you.
 - in a manner that constitutes an offence against the Dog Control Act 1996 or any other Act.

If you are convicted of the first or second of these offenses, your period of disqualification may be further extended. You will also commit an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3000 if you dispose or give custody or possession of a dog to a person knowing that person to be disqualified from ownership under section 25 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Full details of the effect of disqualification are provided in the Dog Control Act 1996.

RIGHT OF OBJECTION TO DISQUALIFICATION
Section 26, Dog Control Act 1996

You may object to the disqualification by lodging a written objection with Tauranga City Council setting out the grounds on which you object. You are entitled to be heard in support of your objection and will be notified of the time and place when your objection will be heard.

No objection can be lodged within 12 months of the hearing of any previous objection to the disqualification. If an objection is lodged within 14 days after the date of this notice, the requirement to dispose of every dog owned by you will be suspended until Tauranga City Council has determined the objection.

There is a further right of appeal to a District Court if you are dissatisfied with the decision of Tauranga City Council on your objection.

Note: In the event of a Council hearing, the council report and minutes of the hearing will be posted on the Council's website. Any objection heard by the Regulatory Hearings Panel is a publicly notified meeting, and members of the public, including the media, may attend. While your name and your dog's name may be published, your contact details will not be reported.

4/9/25

Objection to Disqualification from Dog Ownership under section 25(1)(b) of the Dog Control Act 1996

Dog Owner: Natalie Kennedy, [REDACTED]

I, Natalie Iris Kennedy of [REDACTED] wish to formally object to my disqualification under section 25(1)(b) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

I would like the Territorial Authority to take into consideration the circumstances and nature of the offence in respect of which I was disqualified:

- I was walking my dogs and a friend's dog in an off-leash area. Two dogs were on lead and my oldest and previously most reliable dog had just been taken off lead so he could go for a swim. The offence that occurred was preceded by the man who was bitten, physically attacking my dog, Judah, punching and kicking him.
- Judah's response was not one of an aggressive dog but of a scared dog defending himself in a physical attack, provoked only by Judah's barking at the man who was acting in an alarming manner while talking/yelling on the phone to someone. He was yelling and waving his arm around in a way that alarmed both myself and my dogs.

I would like the territorial authority to take into consideration my competence as a responsible dog owner: proven by my decades of dog ownership and:

- I own just one other dog, Taika, who at the time of the incident resulting in my conviction, was on lead and under control. I also look after another dog, Marigold, for a friend. It is my usual habit to walk my dogs on lead and to only allow one dog off at a time while we are in "off lead" designated areas. At all other times all of the dogs are on lead.
- My dogs want for nothing.
 - I purchase super premium food for them that is suitable to their individual needs and lifestyles. The type of food I use is decided on after advice from my vet.
 - My dogs visit the vet any time that I am concerned about their health and for yearly checks and vaccinations.
 - My dogs are, and always have been, registered with my local council and microchipped.
 - My dogs are desexed.
 - My dogs receive supplements with their food to ensure they are as healthy as possible.
 - My dogs are fed amounts that keep their weight and condition optimal.
 - My dogs are exercised, adored and happy.
- My dogs attend a doggy daycare for one full day every second week. This allows them good off lead exercise and socialisation with other dogs.
- My dogs board regularly with a trainer when I am away for any length of time.

- My second dog, Taika, was also seized by the territorial authority and impounded. She was not involved in any way with the attack, yet I was charged with it anyway. She was subsequently returned to me and charges relating to her were dropped.

Thank you for your consideration of this objection.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Kennedy', followed by a horizontal line.

Natalie Kennedy.



6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Resolution to exclude the public

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter 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 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
Confidential Attachment 3 - 5.1 - Objection to Disqualification as Dog Owner - Natalie Kennedy	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	s48(1)(a) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter 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 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
5.1 – Deliberations – Objection to disqualification – Natalie Kennedy	To enable the Panel to deliberate in private on the objections heard.	s48(1)(d) That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the Council to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any proceedings before a Council where the Council is required, by any enactment, to make a recommendation in respect of the matter that is the subject of those proceedings.

7 CLOSING KARAKIA