

From: [BDC Lgoima](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Official Information Request for Cat Management Information - Ref: OIA 159/24
Date: Tuesday, 4 February 2025 2:48:13 pm

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your further official information request dated 20 December 2024.

The information you have requested is marked below in red:

1. How long has your Council had either a Cat Management bylaw or included Cat Management in their Animal Management bylaw?
The Keeping of Animals Bylaw was adopted by Council in December 2023.
2. How many complaints about cats has your Council received under your Cat/Animal Management bylaw per year for each year they have had a bylaw?
Total of 6 complaints received in the last 12mths.
3. What have been the outcomes of the complaints received so far?
**The complaints have varied outcomes. 2x relate to information required from staff, 2x referred to SPCA, 1x relates to DOC reporting what appeared to be feral cats at a site near North Beach, we have not seen/found any yet.
1x Reefton resident concerned about excessive cat numbers; another neighbour was dealing with SPCA getting cats desexed with the Reefton Vet.**
4. How are the Council managing complaints about cats in breach of the bylaw?
 - a. What are the cat management processes and potential outcomes? **Complaints are responded to on an individual basis as they are received by Council. Education is a big part of our response.**
 - b. How are the Council planning to manage cats that may have to be seized? **This is not a matter that has been considered to date.**
5. Have the Council had to employ extra animal control staff with the addition of cat management to your bylaws?
No
6. How many prosecutions have been taken against cat owners?
None
7. How many prosecutions do the Council envisage they will undertake in the next 12month?
Five years?
None
8. Are the Council keeping a cat register? If not, how are they tracking cat registrations, microchipping and desexing?
We do not have a cat register; each owner is responsible for chipping and getting that number logged into Animal Companion register.
9. Is the Companion Animal Register sharing information with the Council about cats registered in the area?
No

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision.

Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the Buller District Council by return email to lgoima@bdc.govt.nz.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published at <https://bullerdc.govt.nz/district-council/your-council/request-for-official-information/responses-to-lgoima-requests/> with your personal information removed.

Kind regards,

Simon Bastion | Group Manager Regulatory Services
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DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawaitiri

Grants closing dates

- Community Grants Closes 22/02/2025
- Rural Travel Fund Closes 22/02/2025
- NZ Creative Communities Closes 10/03/2025

[Click here to learn more](#)

The graphic features a light blue background with a large red lightbulb, a green plant growing from a stack of orange coins, and a black upward-pointing arrow. Small figures of people are shown interacting with the elements. A red button with a white cursor icon is at the bottom left of the graphic.