

General Bylaw Submissions

Non-Verbal

Name	Page
Carolyn van Zyl	1
Jessi Morgan	5
Chloe Searle	6
Barry Wansbrough	7
Department of Conservation	9
Diane Perham	12
K H Miller	14
Richard Dukes	15
Carol Balfour-Foord	16
Trevor Hill	17
Leanne Wreakes-Fallen	18
Jill McCartie	21
Rosalie Goldsworthy	22
Barbara Monteagle	23
Carolyn Patrick	24
Alison Brown	25
Jenny Barnett	26
David Hamer	28
Caitriona Prunty	29
Janice & Garry Leitch	30
W Roberts	31
Debbie Brunton	32
Jenny Kitchin	33
Tania Cassidy	34
Mick Butler	36
Predator Free NZ	37
Facebook submissions	39

SUBMISSION FORM

Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

Thank you for taking this opportunity to comment on this draft Bylaw. We welcome your feedback. Please ensure that your submission is with us by **Thursday 3 August**.

Points to remember when making a submission

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- All submissions are considered public under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, and may be published and made available to elected members and the public.

Name: Cardyn van Zyl
 Address: 40 Jessop Street Oamaru
 Daytime phone number: 4330879 Email: cardsandadam@hotmail.com
 Organisation name (if applicable) _____

Comments:

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 2 August)

☐ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

How to get your submission to us

Post: Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017, Waitaki District Council, Private Bag 50058, Oamaru 9444
 Email: consult@waitaki.govt.nz
 Deliver: Council offices in either Oamaru or Palmerston

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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
 TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

General Bylaw Review

Cats

Has this draft General Bylaw relating to cats been formulated using an evidence-based approach or rather is it just follow the crowd and do as other Council's are doing.

What evidence has been used to formulate the mandatory microchipping and desexing to ensure that the policy will address the problems being caused. i.e. if the problem is native bird culling or toxoplasmosis – microchipping will not have any effect whatsoever. How would my microchipped cat know that this means she cannot catch native bird species?

If I microchip my 3 cats, vaccinate and de-sex them – the bylaw leads me to believe that my cats won't cause other "problems too, like fighting, running into traffic, doing their business on neighbour's property and spreading toxoplasmosis, which causes serious illness."

Who will ensure the cats are de-sexed, vaccinated and microchipped? It is a national legislative requirement that all dogs are microchipped, but yet we still have a number of dogs unmicrochipped. At least one of those is determined as being "menacing". If we cannot even ensure that national legislation is being complied with, how are going to ensure a local bylaw is?

Where is the additional funding for staff and resources to carry out the enforcement of the bylaw going to come from? No policy comes without direct and indirect costs, and cat control will be no exception. There are significant financial impacts from some of the proposed interventions, such as mandatory microchipping.

The Taxpayers' Union has calculated that microchipping half of the current cat population – a conservative estimate of the number of animals that would fall under a mandatory regime – would cost around \$56 million, plus a further \$9 million per annum for the replacement population. **It's not clear what benefits would be achieved from this additional economic burden being placed on ratepayers, particularly given that it excludes any compliance or enforcement costs.**

Unless Council can guarantee ongoing staff and resources to ensure compliance of both the legislation regarding dog registration, microchipping, etc., and this bylaw, all will be a sham and a meaningless piece of paper.

How is Council's enforcement officer meant to ensure that out of the three tabbies he has rounded up after a nuisance complaint, which one did the fighting and running into traffic?

Did you know that Council has received 5 complaints re cats in 6 years.

1 was determined as unjustified, 1 requested a bylaw re cats, 2 complaints required further information and this information was never provided. That leaves one valid Customer complaint in the 6 years to 2017.

The draft proposal states that cats cause other problems too, like spreading toxoplasmosis which causes serious illness.

Toxoplasmosis is one of the most common infections in the world. It is more common in some countries than others. Experts estimate that about half of toxoplasmosis infections are caused by eating raw or undercooked infected meat, but you can also get the parasite by eating unwashed contaminated produce, drinking contaminated water, or handling contaminated soil, cat litter, or meat and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.

So will we need a bylaw regarding undercooked, raw, or undercooked infected meat??

Toxoplasmosis doesn't even figure in the New Zealand Public Health Surveillance Report from the Ministry for Primary Industries, presumably because the consequences of the disease are so minor for the vast majority of people.

Google searching has found no single study – reputable or otherwise – that showed a link between cat microchipping and reduced rates of toxoplasmosis in the population.

Keeping of Roosters in Urban Areas.

I agree with the concept, but wonder does the fact that the owner is a breeder and/or exhibitor of pure breed poultry and is a member of a club or society affiliated to the New Zealand (SI) Poultry, Pigeon and Cage Bird Association (Inc) mean their roosters do not crow?

How does Council intend to contact owners of existing roosters in urban areas to encourage the identification/registration of those. Does Council has a list of existing owners?

What's Not Included.

"After discussions with Public Health South, we've decided that the risk associated with these practices is minimal so we're not proposing to regulate them."

I cannot believe that we are putting nuisances such as roosters crowing and cat ownership before the health of our citizens.

Prioritising and constantly improving health and safety bylaw regulations and putting in place Codes of Practice should support the wellbeing of Oamaru citizens. Serious diseases such as hepatitis, HIV, etc which are listed on the Public Health Surveillance Report can be caused by infections from poor hygiene practices in beauty parlours, hair dressers, and tattooists.

Auckland City's Bylaw notes the Risks to clients due to poorly regulated treatments. The bylaw encourages best practice across a range of commercial services, such as tattooing, body piercing, hair removal, indoor tanning and nail services. The Code of Practice supports the bylaw by setting minimum standards for hygienic and safe practices that the operator will provide to reduce risks to public.

Raising standards re health and beauty treatments is need urgently. Any initiatives however, will have limited impact without the support of legislation. In the meantime adverse incidents from unregistered and untrained technicians will likely increase.

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 3 August 2017 10:43 a.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170803-67GQI-10J9

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170803-67GQI-10J9

Attachment: not attached

Name: Jessi Morgan

Email address: jessi@morganfoundation.org.nz

Daytime phone number: 021467122

Address
not supplied

Organisation name
Morgan Foundation

Your comments

The Morgan Foundation would like to congratulate the Waitaki District Council for including responsible cat ownership in the General bylaw review.

Cats are apex predators in New Zealand and unless humans control their population expansion nothing will. They are highly adapted hunters that kill regardless of hunger. Cats are found in New Zealand from sea level to 3000m so they can survive in all habitats. Waitaki river is an important braided river habitat for a number of threatened species that need protection. A number of these birds are ground nesting and susceptible to cat predation.

The Foundation is supportive of compulsory de-sexing, microchipping and limiting the number of cats per household. We have found that most responsible cat owners are quite supportive of these measures, and are happy to keep cats safe.

We would also like the council to consider measures prohibiting the establishment or maintenance of cat colonies. Other councils are addressing cat colonies through various measures including feeding animals in public places.

Compulsory microchipping for owned cats is an important measure in responsible cat ownership. It allows cats to be identified as owned and returned to owners when found wandering in wildlife sensitive areas. Wandering cats undermine good predator control work done by community groups and others, by preying on the species groups they are trying to save.

Once you can clearly identify owned cats it allows control of feral cats without the risk of accidentally harming an owned cat. Cats have huge home ranges of over 2k in rural areas.

Limiting the number of cats per household is quite common in other parts of the country and something we support Waitaki DC adding to the bylaw. Limiting cat numbers allows councils to manage cat owners who have a large number of cats – which become a problem for neighbouring properties.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: No

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 August 2017 7:58 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170802-BNKGM-UT0

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170802-BNKGM-UT0

Attachment: not attached

Name: Chloe Searle

Email address: iluvkombis@hotmail.com

Daytime phone number: 034370127

Address
not supplied

Organisation name
not supplied

Your comments

Good to see cats included in this bylaw review. Cats have a significant environmental impact and it is good to see the Waitaki District Council acknowledge this and taking steps to address the issues associated. I would encourage the Council to consider taking the requirements for people keeping more than 3 cats i.e. desexed, microchipped and vaccinated, and making this the standard for keeping any cats over 6 months of age unless an exemption is granted.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: No

SUBMISSION FORM

Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

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Name: Barry Wansbrough

Address: 6 Loyal Place, Oamaru

Daytime phone number: 4370235

Email: bwansbrough@slingshot.co.nz

Organisation name (if applicable) _____

Comments:

Keeping of Animals, Birds and Bees

This submission is based on my experience of living next to a neighbour who owns a large number of animals (12 chickens and up to 16 sheep) in a residential area of Oamaru.

Clause 55

I oppose Clause 55 of the draft bylaw because it lacks clarity and offers no definitive guidance to animal owners. There should be a straightforward statement that sets out the minimum obligations applying to animal owners. It should be made clear, for example, that it is not acceptable for owners to let their animals wander on to neighbouring properties or damage neighbouring plants or property. These things are such a clear nuisance that they should not be left to the opinion of an Authorised Officer and they should be dealt with explicitly by the bylaw.

Continued on next page

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 9 August)

☐ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

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Waitaki

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I would like to see Clause 55 rewritten along the lines of the following clause from the Marlborough District Council's 2017 animal bylaw:

“Obligations of animal owners, generally

- (1) The owner or person in charge of any animal must at all times–
 - (a) ensure that animal does not cause a nuisance to any other person; and
 - (b) ensure that animal does not cause a risk to public health and safety; and
 - (c) ensure that animal does not damage any property belonging to any other person; and
 - (d) ensure that animal may not roam off the property on which it is kept; and
 - (e) hold and comply with a permit to keep cats or birds in excess of the limits in these bylaws; and
 - (f) otherwise comply with these bylaws in all respects.
- (2) Any person who, in the opinion of an enforcement officer, fails to comply with these obligations, that person, on being required to do so by the officer, must take such measures to come into compliance including, if directed, remove the animals from the property, within a time specified by the officer.”

Clause 55 includes amenity as a matter to be considered by an Authorised Officer when assessing animal nuisance. I support this.

Maximum Number of Chickens

Currently a maximum of 12 chickens may be kept on a residential property. The draft bylaw removes this limit. I oppose this change.

As chicken ownership is becoming more popular, it is even more important to be clear about the maximum number of chickens that can be kept in a residential area. A limit is needed. If the draft bylaw can include a restriction on the number of companion cats and bee hives then surely it is not unreasonable to do the same for chickens.

I think it is important to learn from the Wellington City Council's experience. Prior to 2004 the WCC restricted each household to keeping a maximum of 12 chickens. This limit was removed and replaced with a “nuisance” clause. In 2016 the WCC reviewed its animal bylaw and restored the limit but at a lower level. The “nuisance” clause on its own had not been effective because it did not provide clear enough guidance to animal owners.

Location of Poultry Run

At present a poultry run cannot be erected within 4.5m of a boundary or within 10m of a building. The draft bylaw has no such provision. I oppose this omission.

I think it is preferable to provide guidance before a poultry run is erected rather than having a dispute about its location afterwards.

Clause 71

To be consistent with Clause 55 there should be a reference to amenity in Clause 71.



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

DOC- 3123984

2 August 2017

Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017
Waitaki District Council
Private Bag 50058
Oamaru 9444

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission on Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

Please find enclosed a submission by the Director-General of Conservation in respect of the proposed draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017.

Please contact Marcus Simons 027 408 3348 or msimons@doc.govt.nz if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Andy Roberts
Director Operations
Eastern South Island Region
for Director General

To: Waitaki District Council

Submission on: Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

Name: Lou Sanson, Director General of Conservation

Address: PO Box 5244
Moray Place
Dunedin 9058

Contact: Marcus Simons: msimons@doc.govt.nz

Statement of Submission by the Director General of Conservation

Pursuant to section 83(1)(g) of the Local Government Act 2002 I, Lou Sanson, Director General of Conservation, make the following submission on the draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017.

Responsible Cat Ownership

I support the inclusion of responsible cat ownership in the General Bylaw. My impression is that in giving effect to the Government's Predator Free 2050 initiative, communities want to address the impact that cats have on the environment.

I recommend that the terms "pet, stray and feral cat" should be defined in the Bylaw. The definitions could be taken from the Companion Cats, Animal Welfare (Companion Cats), Code of Welfare 2007 issued under the Animal Welfare Act 1999. Feral cats are not covered by the code, but can be classified as pests under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and may be subject to control under a pest management strategy. I support the council's commitment to promoting responsible cat ownership and working with regional councils to manage feral cats as pests. I suggest that the council develop a process to manage stray cats.

I support the Council's aspirations in terms of de-sexing, vaccinating and microchipping cats, and I encourage it to look at controls over the number of cats at properties and their containment.

Although not proposed in the current new Bylaw, I encourage the council to move forward its thinking on microchipping and registration of pet cats.

I submit that the Bylaw could include "no cat" or "contained cat" zoning for new housing subdivisions and builds in areas adjacent to reserves or areas considered ecologically important.

Advice to pet owners on ways to reduce the impacts of their cat on wildlife is available on the Department of Conservation website at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/conservation-activities/make-your-cat-conservation-friendly/>.

I do not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Dated at Dunedin this 3rd day of August 2017



Andy Roberts
Director Operations
Eastern South Island Region
Acting pursuant to delegated authority

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Name: Diane Mary Perham
 Address: 21 Trent St Oamaru
 Daytime phone number: 43-446-452 Email: N/A (Cell) 027-2666-528
 Organisation name (if applicable) _____

Comments:

We are the owners of 2 cats (vaccinated - ^(becky) ~~spayed~~ ^(brodie) ~~neutered~~)
 I do not feel cats shd be required to be micro-chipped by owners. I welcome a General Bylaw change having lived beside a residential property that has had ~~hens~~ ^{hens} + crowing roosters (disturbed our now deceased much loved cared for - appropriately housed, registered/exercised dogs) at extremely early morning hrs requiring us to tend to dogs by letting out before ourselves needing to arise from bed. I understand neighbour is involved in Cagebird + Poultry Shows so will be regarded as allowed to keep. The same neighbour during their time of residence ^{has} kept: sheep, pigs, bred cats, bred rabbits, cage birds, had cats initially, lambs (that bleated + obviously need more attention than given), now 3 dogs which are under stimulated (no exercise walks), caged in kennels for much too long - we have lived here 45 yrs on Sept 2nd '17

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
 TE KAUNIHERA A ROHE O WAITAKI

Perhaps we should leave for peace in the country/rural area where alot of the animals should have been kept?

We have never used our $\frac{1}{4}$ acre section as a mini-farmlet. Or maybe some of the powers that be may like to swap homes with us?

Sorry- We can't see the proposed law will make any changes to our situation.

We are -
D172 Penkair
(Diane M Penham)
(Des Penham)

General Bylaw - Your Feedback

014

Please give us your feedback by **Thursday 3 August**. You can complete the form below or go to www.waitaki.govt.nz and make an online submission. We'll consider everyone's ideas and opinions before we adopt the General Bylaw on Wednesday 6 December.

Name: K. H. MILLER

Address: 49 IPSWICH ST HAMPDEN

Email: MILLER.K.HAMPDEN@XTRA.CO.NZ

Phone: 034394604

I wish to speak to my submission on Wednesday 9 August ☐ Yes (we'll call you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

Comments:

① I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE COMMUNITY/COUNCIL TAKING ACTION IN RESPECT OF CATS
② IN RESPECT OF BEES; ROASTERS; BIRDS, MY VIEW IS THAT THERE ARE MORE
IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR THE COUNCIL TO SPEND TIME AND MONEY ON
THE HAMPDEN/MOERAI SECTION OF THE MAIN HIGHWAY (ALL 4 DISTRICTS M/H) IS
SHOWN TO HAVE ADVERSE SAFETY FOR ITS RESIDENTS.

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE 'TOURIST TIMES' # NOTHING IN IT TO SAY TO 'TOURISTS'
WE WANT YOU TO ENJOY YOUR NZ EXPERIENCE AND RETURN HOME IN THE SAME
AS YOU LEFT. WHY NOT DEVELOP A SECTION IN T/T ON ROAD SAFETY FOR VISITOR
Waitaki District Council | 20 Thames Street | Private Bag 50058 | Oamaru 9444 | Phone 03 433 0360 | Email consult@waitaki.govt.nz | www.waitaki.govt.nz

General Bylaw - Your Feedback

015

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Name: Richard Dukes

Address: 42 Ure St ; Oamaru

Email: radrich_99@yahoo.com Phone: 021 108 1638

I wish to speak to my submission on Wednesday 9 August ☐ Yes (we'll call you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

Comments:

I would fully support any measures to encourage responsible cat ownership. Our property is surrounded (mostly) by ~ 2m high concrete wall yet we still have cats digging up veggie garden + pooping in it. I would also agree with any measure to encourage native birds. 1 x cat per property, microchipped, de-sexing, + even kept indoors!?. THANKS.

Waitaki District Council | 20 Thames Street | Private Bag 50058 | Oamaru 9444 | Phone 03 433 0300 | Email consult@waitaki.govt.nz | www.waitaki.govt.nz

General Bylaw - Your Feedback

016

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Name: Carol Balfour-Foord

Address: 9 Glendale Cres / Holmes Hill / Oamaru

Email: Zanzie@xtra.co.nz Phone: 03 4345 192

I wish to speak to my submission on Wednesday 9 August ☐ Yes (we'll call you to arrange a suitable time) ☐ No

Comments:

No to Roosters in urban areas / other poultry limited to section size / no loud over
No to 3 cats per house-hold / one only. (birds)
Yes to a limit of 2 beehives per section / conditions apply.
No permits to keep breeding / show Roosters in urban areas.
Yes to busking / not in residential areas / maybe business car parks only / not main st's.
Yes to littering finds /

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Name: Trevor Hill

Address: 13 Reservoir Road Oamaru 9400

Daytime phone number: 0272202888 Email: trehill@vtrg.co.nz

Organisation name (if applicable) Oamaru Poultry Pigeon & Canary Society

Comments:

These comments refer only to the section regarding
the keeping of roosters.

We support the proposed by law as stated in this
document.

Furthermore: Should Council request our assistance in
proposing suitable guidelines for inclusion on their
website experienced members of our society are
happy to be involved

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 2 August)

☐ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

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Waitaki

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Responsible cat ownership regulation proposal:

Across NZ there has been discussion regarding keeping of cats in our fragile Environment and the impact of domesticated predators on our wildlife. As it stands we have great controls for wild predation and have been able to irradiate predators from uninhabited islands and areas of NZ. We also have laws and controls in place on keeping Dogs in these areas and ensuring they are unable to predate on our wildlife as well as ensuring ownership is clear via micro-chipping and registration.

The cat 'issue' in NZ has been left up to the New Zealand Cat Management Strategy Group which is made up of The Morgan Foundation, SPCA, NZ Veterinary Association, Companion Animal Council and Companion Animal Society. This group produced a report calling for the Government to introduce cat management laws. At present there is no law to manage cats and each region is to introduce its own hence the proposed review for Waitaki.

Having read the draft for the new proposed Management of Cat Ownership in the Waitaki District I believe there is an alternate Management Model which could be undertaken and monitored by the district with much more simplicity.

While the reduction in cats per household will reduce the number of wildlife injured and killed it will not however stop this from occurring. The majority of knowledgeable and caring owners have their cats Microchipped, desexed and vaccinated already and will register their pets when necessary. As with responsible dog owners. The new by-law will not however encourage some owners to do this as they do not already.

The Management Model used in Australia is by far superior to the restriction of cats per household. Australia has been able to implement their plan successfully in several states and is looking to introduce law across the whole country.

Australia has introduced a Cat-Curfew and in some areas of highly populated wildlife a total ban of outdoor cats. The Victoria State Government had found:

"Serious problems can occur if cats are allowed to roam outdoors, particularly at night (around 80% of accidents involving cats happen at night). Roaming cats can get hit by cars, injured in fights, catch fatal diseases (eg feline AIDS) or become lost. Roaming cats can also kill native wildlife - even well fed cats will hunt. Roaming cats can annoy neighbours too, by spraying, fighting, yowling and digging in gardens". <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/cats/cat-confinement-enclosures-and-fencing>

A study conducted by the University of South Australia established the roaming patterns of cats:

"....tracked more than 400 cats found nearly all roamed farther than most owners realised. This put the cats at risk of cars, hissy cat spats, annoyed neighbours and poisons, all while endangering native animals and birds. University of South Australia researchers attached GPS devices to the collars of 428 cats for a week. It found the median range the cats travelled from their home was about the size of a football field, while some free-ranged across towns and city suburbs.

Nearly 90 per cent travelled significantly longer distances at night than during the day, said Dr Philip Roetman." <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/councils-to-introduce-cat-curfews-to-limit-prowling-at-night-20170208-gu876v.html>

The research that Australia has conducted indicates positive results with enforcing a Curfew and in some areas indoor only cats. Resources are available to build safe enclosures, keep cats inside and protect our wildlife while still living with our feline companions.

I propose a review with the current Waitaki Bylaw Draft and look further into Managing Cats while still retaining content Feline Owners. There is always a transition period and those anti-change. A feline

curfew in the Waitaki would prevent rather than reduce the threat to Wildlife, causation of traffic incidents, spreading disease and becoming neighbourhood nuisances. A 10 year plan in place to have indoor only cats would become a manageable task timeframe to educate and encourage indoor housing throughout the district.

As an owner of cats who are indoors I support and encourage a change in the district however do not discourage Cat ownership. Cats are able to live an indoor life comfortably without stress. There are many ways to ensure cats are engaged and environmentally stimulated without the need for hunting and roaming.

Please seriously consider this change and I am available to discuss this further.

Kind Regards,

Leanne Wreakes-Fallen, 'Phoebee' and 'Oska'

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Sunday, 16 July 2017 3:02 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170716-8XZSM-1BZ0

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170716-8XZSM-1BZ0

Attachment: not attached

Name: Jill McCartie

Email address: macnjill@xtra.co.nz

Daytime phone number: 434 2098

Address
not supplied

Organisation name
not supplied

Your comments

Fully supportive of proposed changes regarding keeping of bees and roosters in urban areas.

Very disappointed about proposals for more responsible cat ownership. Feel that council is just pussyfooting, (excuse the pun), around the problems that cats can cause their long-suffering, non-cat loving neighbours.

I for one am heartily sick of cleaning up cat poo from my metal driveway and vegetable garden on an almost daily basis, being woken up by their caterwauling and fighting at night and frequently having to chase them away from my bird feeders in order to protect the tuis, waxeyes and bellbirds which frequent them.

If my dog wandered around the neighbourhood leaving her deposits wherever took her fancy or howled at night, I am sure I would soon be held to account.

Whilst having cats de-sexed, microchipped and vaccinated are all worthy aims they are not going to solve the problem of wandering cats and their associated nuisance value. I fail to see why anybody needs to have more than 3 cats and no matter how well they are looked after, unless they are kept on their own property they are going to be a problem.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: No

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 July 2017 1:23 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170712-7V6V6-I2M

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170712-7V6V6-I2M

Attachment: not attached

Name: Rosalie Goldsworthy

Email address: rosalielgoldsworthy@gmail.com

Daytime phone number: +6434394033

Address

390 Lighthouse Road
Moeraki

Organisation name

Penguin Rescue

Your comments

I am proud of the Waitaki District Council for showing leadership in cat control.

Domestic cats are wonderful companion animals but we have a serious wild cat problem here on the coast. I do regular predator control to protect our sea birds and cats are one of the main problem animals. They are attracted to the lighthouse by the plague of rabbits and then eat native birds for variety.

I would like to see the area south of Maori Crossing road on the Moeraki peninsula as a cat free zone. This would protect our penguins and bush birds from predation.

This would give a suitable buffer from the village to prevent pet cats from being killed. I would check all cats in the live traps for micro-chips before killing them.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: ^{No} Yes ~~(we will contact you to arrange a suitable time)~~

Consult

From: Barbara Monteagle <barbaramonteagle3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 9:53 a.m.
To: Consult

Barbara Monteagle
12 Ferguson Street
KUROW WAITAKI 9435

Email: barbaramonteagle3@gmail.com
Phone: 032626143

GENERAL BYLAW - FEEDBACK

I'd love to have a hive of bees. However somebody in Blackwood, Adelaide had a carport packed out with beehives. The bees went mad, with terrible consequences. I can't remember the details after all these years.

A few chooks in the back yard is OK. Roosters are not so good. I do HelpXing here and overseas and I have seen budgies and chooks riddled with birdlice. Not to mention other animal care (and also child care) issues. Owners with poor animal care standards are not good.

Large cages for the night care of cats and complete cat bans in some parts of Queensland and South Australia are law. A licence for the care of more than a minimal number of cats would be a good idea. I have a friend who is a cat collector. She is limited to the ownership of 27 cats and they are very well fed and and hygienically and discretely housed. Neighbours would not know they were there. Fortunately her husband has a very good income.

On the other hand, it is sad to see how increasing the population in response to market demands is causing increasing lifestyle restrictions. The easygoing character of New Zealand is rapidly disappearing. A reflection of the destructive force of the human population on the planet in general. How long before it collapses?

2/34 Avon Street
South Hill
OAMARU 9400

23 June 2017

Waitaki District Council
Thames Street
OAMARU

Attn: Lisa Baillie, Customer Services Group Manager

Dear Lisa

THE DRAFT NATIONAL CAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

I wish to submit the following comments to the Council meeting that discusses the above.

Registration

Is it really necessary for cats?

Microchipping

1. I would vote "No" if:
 - (a) their senses/nervous system/electromagnetics was in any way affected by wi-fi, radio waves, television signals, mobile phone signals, smart meter pulsing signals, or any other devices emitting electrical signals;
 - or
 - (b) if the microchip was affected by the forementioned signals and/or devices.
2. Is (a) or (b) able to be determined prior to voting or making any final decision?
3. We are living creatures, with our own electromagnetics (eg receiving an electric shock from a car door when you have been on synthetic fabric), and would not wish this for ourselves.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Patrick (Ms)

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 3:13 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170705-90C1K-V3D

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170705-90C1K-V3D

Attachment: not attached

Name: Alison Brown

Email address: apb@netspeed.net.nz

Daytime phone number: 0210730796

Address
not supplied

Organisation name
not supplied

Your comments

I wish to submit on the proposed bylaws relating to limiting the number of cats per property.

- there seems to be no intention to distinguish between urban and rural properties, nor any link to size of a property, all of which are relevant factors for consideration before applying any kind of blanket prohibition
- the number of cats (as indeed any pets) per property should be linked to the ability of the owner to care for the animals as well as addressing nuisance effects on neighbours. Is there a proposed limit on dogs per property and addressing barking nuisance?
- cats seem to be unfairly being singled out. Pests are overwhelmingly responsible for any reduction in wildlife/birds
- there are already a number of statutes that deal with pet ownership and welfare; is it really necessary for the district council to extend its remit to pets?

In conclusion I oppose the proposed cat bylaw.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: No

SUBMISSION FORM

Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

Thank you for taking this opportunity to comment on this draft Bylaw. We welcome your feedback. Please ensure that your submission is with us by **Thursday 3 August**.

Points to remember when making a submission

- Please print clearly. The form should be easy to read and be understood, and may need to be photocopied.
- We will acknowledge your submission. Please ensure that you provide appropriate contact details so that our response gets back to you.
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Name: Tenny Barnett

Address: 41 Ritchie Road, RD 3, Palmerston 9483

Daytime phone number: 465 0897 Email: dunbackgroomie@gmail.com

Organisation name (if applicable) _____

Comments:

Cats: Three is too many in Urban areas. I would like to see a maximum of 2 with compulsory de-sexing. This may help to protect our birdlife better.

Bees: 1 or 2 hives in urban areas is fine. See note over →

Roosters: Crowing Roosters are a problem even in Rural areas. I don't agree with keeping Roosters at all in urban areas. They can't help but create a "nuisance" factor simply by the fact that they crow.

Hens: Personally I think 12 hens is too much. Can you limit the number to reflect the size of the property - ie < 6 hens for small sections or > 6 hens for larger. I have a lifestyle property and only 4 hens.

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 9 August)

☐ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

How to get your submission to us

Post: Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017, Waitaki District Council, Private Bag 50058, Oamaru 9444
Email: consult@waitaki.govt.nz
Deliver: Council offices in either Oamaru or Palmerston

If you have any queries regarding the draft Bylaw or about how to make a submission, please contact Alena Lynch on 03 433 0300 or email consult@waitaki.govt.nz.



Waitaki
DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA A ROHE O WAITAKI

Bees

027

I would like to see Council creating "bee strips/gardens" around Waitaki, whereby little areas are left unsprayed and un-mowed & planted out in wildflowers etc which the bees love.

As per Dunedin City Council Assn with National Beekeepers Assn in 2015.

You could maybe even invite rate-payers to create their own "Bee plots" on

Council verges outside their property. This would be suitable for people who like the idea of promoting healthy bees but don't actually want to have hives.



Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Sunday, 9 July 2017 11:13 a.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170709-6MGBC-1BX0

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170709-6MGBC-1BX0

Attachment: not attached

Name: David Hamer

Email address: remahnz@gmail.com

Daytime phone number: 03 434 5230

Address

10 Solway St, Holmes Hill.

Organisation name

N/A

Your comments

CATS. There are far too many cats in urban areas. They are a threat to the native & other birds & wildlife. They are an unwanted nuisance in other peoples gardens, scratching & defecating all over the place. I believe one cat per household is enough. They should be microchipped & de-sexed. The only exceptions would be for "Registered Breeders" of recognised pedigree breeds of cats. I also think the RSPCA should be encouraged to euthanase stray & abandoned Cats & kittens rather than de-sex & return them into the community.

ROOSTERS. Roosters should not be allowed in urban areas with the exception of "Registered Breeders" Of rare breeds of poultry.

POULTRY. Should be well kept & housed in clean conditions to avoid disease & the attraction of Rats & other predators & because of noise & odour. Five birds should suffice in town.

BEEES. I don't have a problem with two beehives so long as they are registered & kept at an acceptable distance from living areas & the people owning them are not allergic to bee stings.

DOGS. Dogs especially dogs whose only exercise is barking are a particular nuisance around town & should be subject to the same conditions that I mention for cats.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: No

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 July 2017 12:51 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170711-7G19K-10FH

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170711-7G19K-10FH

Attachment: not attached

Name: Caitriona Prunty

Email address: cp@kiwibonds.com

Daytime phone number: 0284080299

Address
69 Tyne Street

Organisation name
not supplied

Your comments
Looks like mostly sensible changes.

I would prefer to limit the number of cats per household, even if they have been fixed. Microchipping and such is all very well, but won't stop a cat from killing a bird. A strong program to control feral cats would be welcome.

Good to know that the Council decided not to add more bureaucracy to professions like beautician. Maybe have a place where customers can report dodgy hygiene practices that could be followed up.

As with all of these online forms - could you please have them open in a new tab or page, so that we can refer back to the previous page while making comments. Thanks. :)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: No

General Bylaw - Your Feedback

030

Please give us your feedback by **Thursday 3 August**. You can complete the form below or go to www.waitaki.govt.nz and make an online submission. We'll consider everyone's ideas and opinions before we adopt the General Bylaw on Wednesday 6 December.

Name: Janice + Garry Leitch

Address: 3 Farnham Street Oamaru North

Email: _____ Phone: 4372663

WAITAKI DISTRICT
COUNCIL

19 JUL 2017

I wish to speak to my submission on Wednesday 9 August ☐ Yes (we'll call you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

Comments:

Roosters in the town - a no no

Beehives - really needed but only two at any one location

Cats - a limit of two per household. Should be spayed or neutered.

must be microchipped. Our two are spayed + microchipped + it does

give us peace of mind if anything should happen to them

I think there should also be a curfew on cats. Ours come in by 5pm.

I also think cats should be registered.

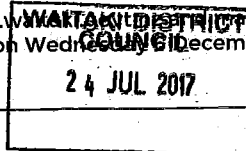
cats get used to it !!!

Waitaki District Council | 20 Thames Street | Private Bag 50058 | Oamaru 9444 | Phone 03 433 0300 | Email consult@waitaki.govt.nz | www.waitaki.govt.nz

General Bylaw - Your Feedback

031

Please give us your feedback by **Thursday 3 August**. You can complete the form below or go to www.waitaki.govt.nz to make an online submission. We'll consider everyone's ideas and opinions before we adopt the General Bylaw on **Wednesday 6 December**.



Name: N. Roberts

Address: 15 Laver St, South Hill, Oamaru.

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I wish to speak to my submission on Wednesday 9 August ☐ Yes (we'll call you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

Comments:
You have obviously made up your mind so why call
for submissions - so much for democracy. Control through
regulation. Whatever the outcome I won't be told by some
fatty beaurocrat how many cats I'm allowed to have. Imagine
a child having to get a permit to have a money by banking
stays to your core business, no wonder W.D.C has a low satisfaction
rating.

Waitaki District Council | 20 Thames Street | Private Bag 50058 | Oamaru 9444 | Phone 03 433 0300 | Email consult@waitaki.govt.nz | www.waitaki.govt.nz

SUBMISSION FORM

Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

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Name: Debbie Brunton
 Address: 357 Thames Highway, Oamaru
 Daytime phone number: 9762644 Email: _____
 Organisation name (if applicable) _____

Comments:

I think responsible cat ownership is worth promoting, ie de-sexing pet cats, vaccinating and microchipping. I am concerned about normal cat behaviour which includes fighting, doing their business in somebody else's yard, being irrationally left up to the owner to control. It's a cat, not a dog. Cats do what they want outside. Are you suggesting cats should be chained up or caged like birds? I hope not. I'm sure the SPCA would have something to say about that. Maybe microchipping could include locator signal so you know where your cat is by downloading microchip locator on your phone.

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 2 August)

☐ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☐ No

How to get your submission to us

Post: Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017, Waitaki District Council, Private Bag 50058, Oamaru 9444
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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
 TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

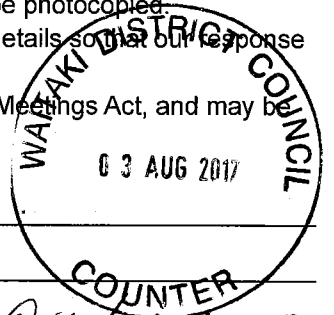
SUBMISSION FORM

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Name: Jenny Kitchen
 Address: 59 Hull St, Oamaru
 Daytime phone number: 4349135 Email: jennykitchen@yahoo.co.nz
 Organisation name (if applicable) N.A.

Comments:

I fully support the WDC's promotion of responsible cat ownership. It is high time we followed Dunedin + Wellington Councils in calling for control of the cat population.

My reasons are environmental.

- I want to see NZ predator free by 2050. Cats are hunters - they have evolved as predators. Feral, stray + domestic cats kill our endangered wild life. Besides killing our native birds (100 million a year) cats kill skinks, geckos, native bats + larger invertebrates.

Time is running out to save our endangered native species and we need to act urgently to control cats by ensuring people microchip, de-sex and vaccinate cats. I would also like to see the WDC push the Govt. for national rules that would include cat rangers and shutting cats in overnight.

(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 2 August)

☐ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
 TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 August 2017 4:55 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170802-9US0H-16QR

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170802-9US0H-16QR
Attachment: not attached

Name: Tania cassidy

Email address: tani.cassidy@orcon.net.nz

Daytime phone number: 0279547247

Address
not supplied

Organisation name
not supplied

Your comments

There is a growing amount of animosity in NZ towards introduced species, particularly cats. The predator Free program to rid NZ of pests by 2050, seems to be generating more and more hatred towards cats. I would like to point out the fact that cats may be capable of catching birds, however are far more inclined to catch the easier options, rats mice and rabbits, my own even killing a family of young stoats over the summer.

I realize the Waitaki District Council may be only seeking to enforce microchipping cats and limit the number of cats per household, which on the surface is only responsible pet ownership, however it seems to be the narrow end of an ever increasing wedge throughout NZ which will eventually see cats on curfew, wearing bells or confined to a cage, and a sinking lid policy on pet ownership, which will only serve to increase the rodent population.

Currently the SPCA won't sell kittens unless they are microchipped and desexed, and there is far more positive work that should be supported in the communities throughout NZ for example the Queenstown Cat rescue, which fosters wild kittens, desexes them and finds homes for them. Conversely with the attitudes of pest destruction organizations in NZ we are seeing school children asked to compete in all sorts of sick fund raising events, throwing dead animals, dressing up dead animals and being taught to vilify 'pest' species such as possums and now cats, which leads to cruelty and vigilante behavior, with several pet cats being caught in back yard gin traps in the last few weeks in NZ. Meanwhile In the USA the FBI are increasing cruelty to animals to top tier felony to reflect the findings that young people who torture and kill animals are prone to violence against people later in life.

The current tree harvesting / removal of habitat in the wider Waitaki area, Herbert, Hampden, plus the 1080 drops have a far greater detrimental effect on birdlife than pet cats will ever do. there was a study of pet cats in Stewart Island recently conducted by Predator Free NZ which concluded that cats surveyed did not wander huge distances from home, and caught a vast number of rats and mice and very few birds, stating that the cats may in effect help the ecosystem by reducing rats which are more of a concern to birds.

Regarding Roosters in town, I don't see a problem in the outskirts of towns, where there are paddocks between houses and where the neighbors are consulted or don't have a problem.

Bees should be encouraged in any way possible, maybe assisting anyone interested in getting involved in beekeeping. This would apply to growing bee friendly crops on vacant land and STOPPING pesticides and herbicides such as Glyphosate / Roundup which has been linked to cancer in humans, death of bees and insects.

In summary, when councils can stop herbicide and pesticide poisoning in favour of manual ground keeping, providing jobs, and turning the pest destruction mentality into resource management mentality, consider the impact of tree removal, (and I appreciate a few trees from recent harvesting is to be left for the bird habitat)

Then the question of cats could be addressed. Cats are not the problem, people are.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time)

SUBMISSION FORM

Draft Waitaki District General Bylaw 2017

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Name: MICK BUTLER

Address: 76 REED ST

Daytime phone number: 027 2105 176 Email: MICKEL.B@XTRA.CO.NZ

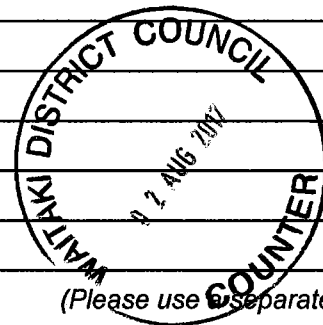
Organisation name (if applicable) —

Comments:

I AM PLEASD TO HEAR YOU A PLANING TO ALLOW UP TO TWO BEHIVES PER PROPERTY IN SAYING THIS I ALREADY HAVE TWO AND DIDN'T REALISE I NEEDED A PERMIT. THESE BEES ARE VERY HAPPY AT THEIR LOCATION AND FORAGE UP & DOWN REEDST TREES THAT LINE THE STREET AS WELL AS UP THE HILL

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UPCOMING CONSIDERATIONS AND WELCOME YOU INSPECTION IF NECESSARY

KIND REGARDS
MICK BUTLER



(Please use a separate page if necessary)

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (Hearings will be held on Wednesday 9 August)

☒ Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time) ☒ No

How to get your submission to us

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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Consult

From: Waitaki District Council <service@waitaki.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 1 August 2017 12:58 p.m.
To: Consult
Subject: Waitaki Website - Submission form ref: WAITAKI-QF-170801-7HHOQ-15HV

Waitaki Website - Submission form

Reference: WAITAKI-QF-170801-7HHOQ-15HV

Attachment: not attached

Name: Rebecca Bell

Email address: rebecca@predatorfreenz.or

Daytime phone number: 0211156450

Address
not supplied

Organisation name
Predator Free New Zealand Trust

Your comments

Firstly we congratulate the Waitaki District Council for addressing the problem of wandering cats in the General bylaw review. The Predator Free New Zealand Trust is supportive of the addition of Responsible Cat Ownership to the bylaw.

The measures that you have recommended sound reasonable and should be acceptable to responsible cat owners.

We are supportive of compulsory de-sexing, microchipping and limiting the number of cats per household. We would also like you to consider prohibiting the establishment or maintenance of cat colonies.

The Waitaki district has a number of important habitats for our native species including a number of braided rivers which are the only habitat and breeding ground for some of our native species.

Cats are highly skilled hunters and hunt regardless of hunger. All cats hunt whether they are owned or not. Reducing unwanted kittens through desexing and enabling clear identification between owned and unowned will help control cats in ecologically sensitive areas.

We would also highly recommend that the council considers introducing compulsory microchipping for owned cats, and allows a sensible lead in period. Wellington City Council have recently introduced this as part of their animal bylaw and had an 18 month lead in period for microchipping. They also ran a number of successful promotions for discounted microchipping and desexing of cats.

Microchipping is important to enable cats to be identified as owned if they are caught wandering in ecologically sensitive sites near populated areas. Currently if a cat is caught in areas close to populations it isn't clear if a cat is owned or not.

Cat are the primary vector for the spread of Toxoplasmosis which is a disease particular harmful to pregnant women. But Toxoplasmosis is also a problem for sheep farmers affecting pregnant ewes and resulting in the early termination of their foetuses. Many farmers immunise against Toxoplasmosis but the vaccine is not 100% effective and can still effect herds.

Limiting the number of cats per household is quite common in other parts of the country. It seems like a sensible thing to have in place. Limiting cat numbers allows councils to manage cat owners who hoard cats such as the infamous Invercargill case (<http://www.newshub.co.nz/nznews/cat-lady-puts-up-a-fight-2014031517>). These cases are easily justified as causing nuisance because a large number of cats in one area are a problem for the surrounding community. Animal hoarders also often pose challenges from an animal welfare perspective. Currently Waitaki District Council and other agencies have limited ability to do anything in cases where there are cats causing a nuisance. The

nuisance may be from:

- Cat defecation in gardens and other private property
- Predation of birds, lizards and invertebrates (weta etc)
- Increased cat fighting
- Spreading of toxoplasmosis

Property owners have no way to stop cats from entering their property to spread disease, kill native wildlife and generally digging up people's gardens. So limiting the number of cats per property can significantly reduce the annoyance to neighbouring properties.

It is worth noting that in the WCC bylaw they received a huge number of submissions and most submissions were in favour of limiting the number of cats per property with the most popular option to impose a limit of one cat per household.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?: Yes (we will contact you to arrange a suitable time)

Facebook Submissions

Responsible Cat Ownership – Tuesday 11 July

Catriona McIvor: A 24 hour curfew would be a good start, meaning cats must be kept on their owner's property at all times. Compulsory de sexing and microchipping should be phased in over a number of years. And of course, there needs to be a strict limit on the number of cats owned per household. 2 would seem reasonable as they keep each other company when their owner is not present.

No, the laws need to be phased in over a number of years which would relate to the lifespan of a cat.

Yes, you are right, extra resources would be needed in order to enforce such by-laws, but wouldn't it be great for Waitaki to show the rest of N.Z. that we are the first local Government area in the country to show that we are serious about preserving what's left of our native bird life.

One of the purposes of a 24 hour curfew is to enable the identification of the roaming cats which are, after all, the major part of the problem.

Larina Smith Nope I.dnt believe in chipping my cats are fix up to date with jabs etc

Waitaki District Council Hi Larina, thanks for your comment. Do you have more than 3 cats? If not, in our proposed Bylaw chipping would not be a requirement.

Larina Smith Got four lol

Waitaki District Council Just to confirm, you think that cats being fixed is enough control? Would you like me to include your feedback as a submission for the General Bylaw?

Larina Smith Do believe there should be cut off point .no chipping.I feed a lot of strays very sad.

Waitaki District Council Do you have a number preference for a limit?

Larina Smith depends on the house hold

Waitaki District Council Do you think this is a similar situation to dogs where we offer a selected owners option?

Larina Smith Yep..All

Kerri-Ann King I kind of feel chipping them would be great more so because my cats wander around the neighborhood and dare I say it if they were to pass away from home at least there info will be on chip and able to returned home .

Amy McCauley My problem with it, is not the bylaw itself, which I think could be reasonable, but the fact that responsible reasonable owners are the ones being penalised. The owners with 5-10 entire (not desexed) cats aren't going to be likely to change. Will there be an annual registration like there is for dogs? Or any actual incentive for owners to comply with the bylaw?? (except to avoid punishment, which we all know doesn't actually provide incentive or no one would speed or break laws!)

I have nothing against the bylaw, we have two microchipped desexed cats. But I have no desire to pay any additional registration or jump through hoops for the sake of all the idiots who don't desex their cats. And probably still won't even if the bylaw changes to say they should.

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your feedback Amy. People would only be required to register their cats if they want more than 3. So in your case there would be no cost implication at this time.

Waitaki District Council Are you happy for me to include your comments as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Amy McCauley So how is that policed then? How does the council know if we have four instead of three? And the vaccination requirement, how is that policed? Our cats won't be getting annual vaccinations just for the council paperwork.

Amy McCauley A thought I had to follow on from this, is; why three? What risk does four have that three doesn't? The owner who currently has five peaceful desexed cats who gets a complaint in spite from someone then has to fork out for registration and microchipping of the pets they've had their

whole lives. And the person with one entire Tom cat who causes fights, litters, noise issues and damage to other pets and property, doesn't have to do anything? Why is more than three have to be held accountable when one can do more damage than those.

Chrystal Fleming I obviously think that if you have 10+ cats then it's a problem, but if they are vaccinated, de sexed and in a loving home why does it matter if you have more than 3?

We have 4 cats, that are all desexed, vaccinated and 3 of them micro chipped, they r...See More

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your feedback Chrystal. People are able to apply for an exemption if they want more than 3 cats. They would be required to have them de-sexed, vaccinated, microchipped and registered with the National register.

Chrystal Fleming What I'm meaning though is that it's not exactly fair saying there is a chance that people will have to get rid of their cats, it's like telling a family they have to get rid of a child because they have more than three.

Why not make it compulsory to de sex, vaccinate and micro chip from now on, and enforce the "3 cats per household " but if family's have more than that, after one passes it just means they can't get another one, until they get down to three.

Waitaki District Council I think you are talking about an existing rights entitlement or grandfathering clause. Would you like me to add your comments as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Chrystal Fleming Yes please.

Jo Verzandvoort I disagree with the chipping... And how will we keep our cats in our property? If this means locking them inside our homes, I'm against that. Yes there should be a limit, but again how will it be policed?

Waitaki District Council Hi Jo, thanks for your feedback. We are not proposing to require people to keep cats on their property as this would be too hard to police. As for policing of the numbers, this is still to be finalised, but we are likely to work on a complaints based approach. Are you happy for me to include your comments as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Jo Verzandvoort well that's a relief about the containment. I like the idea about the complaints, but I imagine it will end up a lot like complaints about dogs from neighbours who dislike eachother, they will have to be fairly investigated... And yes I'm happy for you to include my comments.

Maree Corder In a residential area I think 3 cats is fair, there needs to be a cap on overpopulation in dense areas. Maybe a slightly different cap on Lifestyle/Farming/Country Areas?

And Microchipped definitely! How many cats go wandering etc and then become someb...

Waitaki District Council Thank you for your comment Maree. Are you happy for me to include your comments as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Maree Corder that's no problem at all.

I wanted to add though, there needs to be more support put in place from the council to help with the strays and wildies out there, people get confused as to why Animal Control is just dogs, and it's not the SPCAs area as such either. People don't know where to turn to assistance. Thanks

Doreen Ann Fraser I dont believe that this is going to work. How many years have dogs been supposed to be registered and i believe there are still many unregistered out there. I don't like the idea of chipping.

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your feedback Doreen, would you prefer the status quo, or do you think we need to do more work on the implementation?

Doreen Ann Fraser I do think abit more work has to be done. Some of these people dont like cats. Our cat talks to the birds she prefers proper food. Not all cats are interested in native birds and i just think this is going overboard.

Erica Sime I have 3 cats, I wouldnt microchip them, as I don't see the point. My lab is though.

Waitaki District Council We are proposing that 3 cats are allowed, so if you were within this number you wouldn't be required to microchip them.

Erica Sime all good then. I think if you have a cat it should be fixed to prevent anymore kittens.

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your feedback, are you happy for me to include your comments as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Erica Sime So the council would not be looking at a cat rego fee and also how if this happens do they regulate this

Helen Bachari I believe 3 or 4 neutered cats are not an issue but only where they are confined to their owners' property. Catios are popular in many places. They aren't expensive to build and pets are safe from dog attack, road trauma, they don't go digging up the neighbours' gardens and birds are safe from predation <https://catiospaces.com/>

Waitaki District Council Hi Helen, we are not proposing to require people to keep cats on their property as this would be too hard to police. People are able to apply for an exemption if they want more than 3 cats. They would be required to have them de-sexed, vaccinated, microchipped and registered with the National register. Are you happy for me to include these comments as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Helen Bachari Yes ...I'm happy for my comments to be included but I do wonder how the application of the bylaw would be monitored and enforced.

Lynley Scott totally over the top. next pet birds, horses etc will be also required to be registered. A waste of money monitoring it all. Just my opinion.

Erin Francis Our current cat is desexed and chipped, although he came chipped, not sure we would have done it otherwise. He is happy to be kept inside at night but our previous cat was an outdoor cat by her choice, she would have destroyed the house if we tried to contain her, so I guess my question is what do you mean by "roaming" cats, as they naturally often roam up to 1 km.... I think only desexing should be compulsory. But also agree with Amy McCauley - how will this all be monitored?...

Kelly Paterson My lot are fixed and have their shots but I'm not keen on chipping them

Jo Dowling How do breeders get on then? How do you propose to police this - cat wardens??

Waitaki District Council Registered breeders are exempt from the requirement, but to become a registered breeder there would be some requirements to be met.

Waitaki District Council How we police this is still to be finalised, but most likely we would work on a complaints based approach.

Jo Dowling I have 3 cats on a rural section. More birds die flying into my windows than the cats could ever hope to catch. They do however control mice very effectively. I understand the issue in a built up area however perhaps you could consider rural zoning properties be exempt

Emma Allison-Brewster Nothing wrong with people having 5 cats if all desexed.

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your comment Emma. We were also looking at better ways to align to the predator free New Zealand 2050 goal and to address the general nuisance caused by cats roaming through neighboring properties. Are you suggesting that de-sexing would be sufficient, and would you like us to include this as a submission?

Emma Allison-Brewster Yes I think compulsory desexing would cut numbers a lot but I'm curious to know what the penalties would be for people who didn't comply.

Emma Allison-Brewster I think as long as cats are desexed then there shouldn't be a limit. 😊)

Waitaki District Council Are you happy for me to include your feedback as a submission towards the General Bylaw? Do you think there are other controls needed?

Emma Allison-Brewster Yes happy for that. I don't think other controls would be needed

Liz Moir So what about us who live in the country?

Have neighbors who grow wheat and grains... hay etc...

Right up to people's boundaries??

3 cats is a joke you need more than that for rodent control...

Not to mention the fact that townies dump their cats up this way and we end up feeding them until they get run over or die of some other thing...like the local farmers who shoot them on site...

What is council going to do about that...???

Or is that not your problem as you can't tax it....

As far as I'm concerned unless your going to ensure that all farmers are going to carry out rodent control in their fields. .. then IF I want to have 10 cats then ai will...

Sarah Fox Anna Scott good thing the people who used 2 own your house are gone haha

Natasha Kozik fixed , vac, no more than 3 and chipped aussie and tasmania have this. mine are al that mayb if u pass the law have a mnth of discounted and free spaying etc?, stil doesnt prevent feine aids etc my cat is 15 i try to keep him inside as much as possibe as hes fixed since 5 months and still fights

Gayle Heller What about the cars that hit these birds I have had cats and they were always in at nite now I have one that is inside all the time

Kate Welsh What's the reason for the new proposal re the cats? Thanks

Waitaki District Council Hi Kate, thanks for your message. We are responding to requests from SPCA, the general public, and options to support predator-free New Zealand 2050.

Kate Welsh Ok that's fair. Can you tell me how it will make a difference to the loss of wildlife if a cat is vaccinated, chipped and registered etc ?

Waitaki District Council It is a tool to help us identify owners, and to show that owners are responsible cat owners.

Kate Welsh What has that got to do with loss of wildlife tho?

Waitaki District Council It is to help us determine how many cats people have. Do you have any thoughts on this, and if so, would you like me to include them as a submission to the General Bylaw?

Kate Well for a start is mandatory vaccinating even legal?

Waitaki District Council We understand it is through these avenues, do you not think this is the best approach?

Kate Not at all no. It will become far too expensive and far too much hassle for People when it comes to adopting strays etc there will be more homeless abandoned cats dumped because people won't want to go thru the hassles of it all. Yes I'm sure in principal the spca doesn't want wildlife to be killed but it's not on the top of their priority list either that would be getting enough funds unaided by the government to run many centres throughout nz. To try and rehome animals and neuter them to stop unwanted animals. To try and take animal abusers to court! I am a very responsible cat owner but cats are cats they are going to kill stuff it's the circle of life surely? Cats are also free spirits that wander. You can enclose a dog in a fenced section but that's near impossible for the felines! I just think the proposal is wasted with basically no positive outcome. So the council know how many cats a household has? So ? That can tick some boxes but it's not going to stop wild life getting killed ? Or am I missing a point somewhere?

Enrico Stephan I support the limit of 3 cats per household. However I think that cat owners who already have more than 3 cats by the time the bylaw goes in effect, should only be required to have them desexed and micro chipped. They can keep their cats, but are not allowed to get a new one unless their cat number falls below 3.

Exemption to own more than 3 cats should not be given lightly. All the requirements should be met, as well as a compelling reason given as to why they should be allowed to own more than 3 cats. Rural rodent control as it has been mentioned is not a compelling reason in my opinion. Farmers rodent control in their fields is an entirely different issue and should be dealt with by council.

Micro chipping and desexing: Both should be phased in, using the trade and sale of cats. Every cat given to a new owner, be it through a shelter, a pet store or private change of ownership, can only be given away if it has been micro chipped and desexed.

Every 3 month there should be 24h curfew, where cat owners are required to keep their cats indoors for said 24h. In this 24h animal control officers should try to identify free roaming cats, which are not chipped and appear to have no owners, apprehend them and place them into a shelter, where they can be desexed, chipped and possibly find new owners. Every cat placed into a shelter during the 24h curfew, should be photographed and said photo published on the councils website and social media pages, to give owners a chance to get their cat back if they were not able to keep their cat indoors for the 24h curfew period. Obviously all this would just apply to cat's that have not been chipped.

If council wishes to include my feedback as a submission, feel free to do so.

Tania Cassidy If this is part of encouraging owner responsibility, it's great, if it's part of a slippery slope to Predator Free NZ's maniac policy to rid NZ of introduced species, with curfews and killing of tame cats where a microchip cannot be read or found, I really hope not. Start looking at how much collateral damage to bird life 1080 and broadifcoum poison creates, and look at the study done on Stewart Island by Predator Free NZ that says the prey from the monitored cats was primarily rats ' Given that rats are also significant predators of native wildlife, it is possible that cats may play an important role in controlling rat populations' Cats do a great job on rabbits, rats mice, stoats and ferrets

Maria Motts: Never ever had a cat kill a bird at night. Have killed lots of rats at night tho

Arthur Townsin Andy Yeoman you are correct. Most bird kills by cats occur during daylight hours...nighttime kills are primarily rodents.

Louise Nutbean On the cat subject, surely all cats should be fixed as a minimum, not just when someone owns more than 3?

I strongly believe responsible cat ownership should start with the first cat and that it must include neutering. If it starts on the fourth or subsequent cat, there are three cats merrily going about oamaru producing more cats that will potentially be dumped or murdered or carry on producing yet more cats. This is an unacceptable pressure to put on local animal welfare charities and wildlife. BTW I have two neutered cats. I am not anti-cat, I am pro responsible pet ownership. I would also suggest reform to reduce the numbers of wandering dogs that persistently foul near our local school.

Roosters and Bees – Thursday 20 July

Amy McCauley Why ban roosters? What is the goal of banning roosters? They're a noise control issue, correct? So right now as it stands, they are allowed but not if there has been noise complaints. I don't see why that needs to change! Especially when the likes of kakanui and hampden are classed as urban so will be included in the ban when in reality they are small semi rural township areas, where roosters aren't a problem.

I assume it would be policed by complaints about roosters crowing in order for animal control to then follow it up to find out if the rooster was within urban area and if there was a license or not, and if not to require that be done or the rooster removed. Sooooo, basically exactly the same as it already is, except now the council gets extra revenue from breeders who register themselves?

Roosters are a part of sustainable living; providing meat for those who wish to breed their hens. They also provide protection and guard their flock of hens.

Personally my bottom line is do not change it. Keep it as being allowed AS LONG AS there are no noise complaints. Perhaps implement a registration process and number of roosters to any noise complaint issues, but those backyard roosters who's neighbours are happy to hear crowing and no one has an issue with, why suddenly ban them? They are doing no harm nor causing any nuisance.

Waitaki District Council Hi Amy, the Council finds noise levels hard to assess with wild animals. They can create friction between neighbours. For those looking for an exemption, there is no requirement to register through Council (so no cost) they would just need to prove that are members of any club or society affiliated to the New Zealand (SI) Poultry, Pigeon and Cage Bird Association Inc.

Waitaki District Council We also have a grandfathering clause, meaning if you currently have roosters you can keep them on your urban property as long as you notify Council. How we will identify these birds is still to be established.

Amy McCauley The grandfathering clause is good, I'd hate to have to chop our lovely boy for no reason other than cursory rules changing (I'd have no issue with it if he was being a nuisance though!)

So why will the ban make it any easier to assess the noise level with wild animals? Because the one and only issue with roosters, as opposed to hens which aren't being banned, is their noise. So if the struggle is with identifying the noise, then how will that change by changing the law? The friction between neighbours will still be there if the rooster owner is a club member. Or the lack of friction or issue will still be the same if there are roosters no one is worried about too. I really don't see any reason why this change will help anyone except to discourage more self sustainability amongst urban areas as well as those more rural. I believe Waitaki should be doing all they can to be encouraging more urban sustainability, as long as there is no nuisance issues! And roosters are, and always will be, a noise control issue over and above anything else.

If there is to be no registration with the council, how will club memberships be proven and recorded? Or is it upon every complaint the current club membership must be cited by noise control? And the grandfathering clause too. It sounds like more work, more paperwork, equaling more time and money spent, with no revenue coming back and no change to how things happen day to day with roosters anyway.

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your feedback Amy. You are correct, the noise they can make is the main issue, but trying to gauge noise levels can be time consuming and you can't ensure the rooster will crow when you are there! Thanks for your other feedback, you make some very valid points.

Amy McCauley Yep, I totally understand they are a noise issue (although I could argue the noise of a rooster is no more than the nearby shunting trains, even the booming ocean can be louder. Trucks rumbling by, etc. Heck, my neighbour can make more noise heading off to the freezing works in the early hours than the rooster does! Town is full of noises even at 5am....) but I don't see why a ban, with exceptions and grandfathering clauses, will be of any help or aid in the issues they already are. They are already allowed if there are no issues, so why change it? Why make more work when there is already the ability to follow up noise complaints! Keep the status quo, allow them as long as there are no issues. Encourage sustainability, encourage neighbourhood discussions (we personally consulted all our immediate neighbours before keeping the one rooster) and continue to follow up any issues as they arise as per usual.

Waitaki District Council It sounds like you have taken a very responsible approach! We will add your comments to your submission. Thank you for taking the time to expand on your thoughts, it is very helpful.

Enrico Stephan So, are people just allowed to have bees, or do they need to apply for it in some way?

Waitaki District Council Hi Enrico, thanks for your questions. We are proposing that people will be allowed to have up to two and won't need to apply, unless a health and safety or nuisance issue arises.

Enrico Stephan Waitaki District Council Is there anyway to have the owner of beehives at least inform their neighbors that they are going to start keeping bees on their property?

What about the distance to property lines to keep the hives? If they are kept close to a fence, the bees might feel provoked if a neighbor comes near them while working in his/her own garden.

I personally like the option to allow people beehives, especially with the decrease in the world's bee population 🐝. I just see a couple of issues in terms of safety.

Waitaki District Council At this stage we are not suggesting that people have to notify neighbours, but I can enter that suggestion as a submission if you would like. There are currently no requirements around distance to boundary, only that they don't cause a nuisance. If you would like that added, what distance would you suggest?

Enrico Stephan I would think that informing your neighbors about keeping beehives should merely be a recommendation by council in the bylaw. Responsible beekeepers will follow council's recommendation. Happy to have this added as a submission.

As for the distance, well I am not sure about this myself. But I would hope council will create some recommendation for urban beekeepers to manage their bees, similar to what Auckland council does. Maybe talk to beekeepers clubs or the national beekeepers association to establish some council recommended guidelines.

Waitaki District Council Thanks for your feedback Enrico, we can build that recommendation into our process. We have done a fair bit of work with other Councils, but will look especially into what other areas are doing about distance to boundary.

Robin Williams Yes. To both proposals.

Amy McCauley I am in full support of allowing backyard beekeeping! Brilliant move.