

29 November 2017

D. Dahya

Via: fyi-request-6825-4725f6b5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Dahya

Request for information relating to the keeping of animals in Council properties.

Thank you for your email to the Council received via the FYI website on 10 November 2017 in which you requested information relating to the keeping of animals in Council properties and your subsequent email to City Housing received on 22 November 2017 in which you clarified your request. Your request was forwarded to the Complaints and Information Assurance Team to provide a response.

In your email received on 22 November 2017 you asked: ***“I would like to know WCC's view on the benefits of owning a family pet, in particular, I would like the WCC to confirm that, based on their decision, owning a family pet does NOT directly contribute towards the wellbeing of that person (tenant or resident especially the elderly), and the reasons why, citing factual references.”***

I can advise the Council does not hold a view on the benefits of pet ownership in terms of wellbeing and does not hold any information in relation to this.

The Council's position in respect of keeping animals in Council properties is based on the fact that the rents for the 2000 properties managed by City Housing are set at 70% of the market rate and we are funded only by rental income; there is no rates contribution. Therefore the cost to our service both from any repairs to our properties and resolving tenancy management issues are paid for by our tenants.

Given the number of properties managed by the Council, if we were to permit the keeping of animals in properties there is the potential for costs both in terms of repairs and also animal related tenancy management issues with the cost and staff time required to deal with such issues having a direct impact on the service provided to tenants'.

If you have any further questions please contact me.

Yours sincerely



Ian Hunter

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