

**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

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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](http://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](mailto: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,

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Closes 22/02/2025
- ☒ **Rural Travel Fund**  
Closes 22/02/2025
- ☒ **NZ Creative Communities**  
Closes 10/03/2025

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