

Waitakere City Council

Refer: T. Didovich (Animal Welfare) : LW
Phone 836-7777



10 June 1996

Laura Parrott
5 Atkinson Road
Titirangi
WAITAKERE CITY

Dear Laura

ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT CERTIFICATION

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 31 May 1996.

To date, no prosecutions for cruelty or neglect have occurred. One warning notice has been issued, twenty seven animals have been uplifted. There have been numerous (51) instances in which Officers have investigated complaints where the situations have been resolved through education and personal contact. Animals involved other than dogs include cats, goats, pigs, horses, guinea pigs, ducks and sheep.

I have not doubt that the 'expense' of the warrants is justified and that the warranting process has greatly increased the awareness of Officers regarding animal welfare issues and potential problems thereby resulting in early detection and prevention of negligence and cruelty to animals. The certification has resulted in an improved service delivery to the residents (both human and animal) within Waitakere City and, I believe, that the certification can certainly be justified on that basis. It has to be a good thing.

I am not aware that the roofing of the kennels is a controversial matter following discussions (which I understood clarified the matter) at the "Friends of the Animal Refuge Centre" meeting of May 7th 1996. If there is controversy surrounding this issue then please provide me with details so I may re-visit the issue. I fail to see the relationship between the kennel roofing and the Animal Protection Act certification, perhaps you would like to elaborate?

Private Bag 93109
Henderson
WAITAKERE CITY
NEW ZEALAND

Yours sincerely

Civic Centre
6 Waipareira Avenue
WAITAKERE CITY
NEW ZEALAND

T.S. Didovich
ANIMAL WELFARE MANAGER

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Address all correspondence
to the Chief Executive Officer

31 May 1996

*Received
5/May 1996.*

5 Atkinson Road
Titirangi
Auckland 7

Mr Tom Didovich
Manager
Waitakere Animal Refuge Centre
Concourse
HENDERSON

Dear Tom

re: Warranted Dog Control Officers

Our very efficient 'animal grapevine' tells me that the probationary period has - and I quote - "passed with flying colours", but you know how sceptical I am, so as you will probably expect, I need convincing!

For instance ...

How many prosecutions for cruelty and neglect have been taken under the Animals Protection Act by Waitakere's warranted dog control officers since July 1995?

How many warning notices in respect of cruelty and neglect have been issued under the Animals Protection Act during that same period?

How many animals have been uplifted under the Animals Protection Act?

What other instances have there been of a dog control officer taking action for which a warrant was essential?

What animals, other than dogs, have been involved?

In retrospect, and bearing in mind that ...

- (a) Waitakere was already more animal-minded than most other Councils
- (b) That they already had a good working relationship with SPCA; and
- (c) That the new Dog Control Laws give D.C.O's far greater powers than previously,

was the expense of the warrants justified - particularly as the cost would have more than paid for the controversial roofing of the kennels?

Regards



Laura Parrott