## National dog neutering campaign: Programme summary

#### Overview

The Department of Internal Affairs is administering a nationwide subsidised neutering programme for high-risk menacing dogs. The programme is designed to support the national action plan to reduce the risk and harm of dog attacks, announced by the Associate Minister of Local Government, Hon Louise Upston in September 2016.

Nationally, $850,000 of funding from central government has been allocated to provide grant funding to territorial authorities to carry out neutering programmes in their areas. The programme is targeted to high-risk menacing dogs, which are defined as:

* dogs that have been classified as menacing under the Dog Control Act 1996 due to their breed, type or behaviour; or
* dogs that would otherwise be classified as menacing under the Dog Control Act 1996, but are not currently as they are not known to their local authority.

The grant funding is available to cover the cost of carrying out neutering procedures for these dogs, as well as any advertising needed to ensure successful uptake of the programme, especially among dog owners not currently engaged with their local council.

We encourage prospective applicants to coordinate with other relevant service providers in their area (e.g. local animal welfare groups, veterinarians) prior to applying.

#### Outcomes sought

The programme seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

* a reduction in the population of high-risk menacing dogs;
* an increase in compliance with dog control obligations managed by local councils, such as registration and micro-chipping among previously unknown high-risk menacing dogs;
* a reduction in serious dog attacks caused by high-risk menacing dogs (due to lowered aggression in these dogs where applicable).

#### Eligibility

Funding is only available to territorial authorities to carry out neutering programmes for high-risk menacing dogs in their districts. Programmes must be delivered within ethical standards for veterinary procedures and must consider the health and safety of those involved in delivery.

If successful, applicants must be able to provide regular reports to the Department of Internal Affairs on uptake, number of dogs neutered, registered and micro-chipped.

Applications for this round of programmes must be received by 16 December 2016. There will be a further call for applications in early 2017 for applicants who need more time to develop their proposals.

Priority for the current round will be given to programmes that can start before Christmas 2016.

#### Assessment Criteria

Grants will be allocated using the following criteria to ensure the funding would be used to meet the outcomes sought:

* Identified priority area:
  + High instances of attacks (harm) or estimated high numbers of high-risk menacing dogs (risk) within the district
* Project readiness and detailed programme:
  + Can demonstrate ability to start their programme quickly, and use the funding within six months
  + Can target harder to reach communities
* Extent of co-funding/coordination with other functions:
  + Coordination with other council services (e.g. registration, microchipping)
  + Co-funding of other neutering activities
* Accountability:
  + Can provide detailed estimates for costs of carrying out neutering, the number of dogs planned to be neutered and associated costs.

#### How to apply for and receive funding

To apply for funding from the scheme, complete the attached application form and send it to [dogs@dia.govt.nz](mailto:dogs@dia.govt.nz).

Applications will be assessed as they are received by the Department of Internal Affairs on a case-by-case basis, with input from Local Government New Zealand and the New Zealand Institute of Animal Management. The allocation process may involve requesting further information on your programme. The Department will then make a decision on whether to approve the proposal, and inform the applicant of the outcome. Note that proposals may not receive the full amount of funding sought.

Successful applicants will need to provide a GST invoice for the total amount of funding for the programme. Upon receipt of the invoice, the grant will then be transferred to the recipient from the Department of Internal Affairs. Successful applicants may be required to sign an agreement with the Department in relation to delivery of the programme and reporting requirements.

1. Application form

### Section 1: Proposal and applicant key details

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| 1.1 Proposal key details | |
| Name of project |  |
| Short description of proposed project |  |
| Estimated total monetary cost of project |  |

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| 1.2 Lead applicant key details | |
| Applicant name |  |
| Applicant address, including post code |  |
| Applicant email address |  |

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| * 1. Contact person details   This will be the only person who receives correspondence relating to the proposal.  Fill out fields unless otherwise indicated | |
| Full name |  |
| Job title or role |  |
| Contact phone |  |
| Contact email address |  |
| Contact postal address (if different to lead applicant address), including postcode |  |

### Section 2: Eligibility criteria

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| 2.1 Organisation | |
| 1. Are you representing a territorial authority? | Yes  No |

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| 2.2 Programme readiness and timeframes | |
| 1. Is your programme a new or existing initiative? | New initiative  Existing initiative |
| 1. Will your programme be completed within six months of the funding being approved? | Yes  No |

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| 2.3 Extent of co-funding/coordination | |
| 1. Does your programme coordinate with other dog-related services such as registration and/or microchipping? | Yes  No |
| 1. Are you seeking a one-off programme-specific grant for neutering high-risk menacing dogs in your area? | Yes  No |
| 1. Would a grant from this fund be the sole source of funding for your programme? | Yes  No |
| 1. Will the territorial authority applying for funding or another organisation in your district be contributing to funding for your programme? | Yes  No |

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| 2.4 Accountability | |
| 1. Will you be able to demonstrate the estimated costs of carrying out neutering procedures per dog? | Yes  No |
| 1. Can you provide reporting statistics on the uptake and delivery of the programme? | Yes  No |

### Section 3: Project description

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| 3.1 Programme design and description |
| 1. Describe the programme you propose to undertake including the number of dogs you propose to neuter |
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| 1. Programme timeline: Describe when you would expect the programme to begin and end |
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| 1. Describe the estimated costs for providing subsidised neutering in your area including the total cost and cost per dog |
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| 1. Describe how you will make your community aware of your programme (particularly traditionally harder to reach communities, including estimated costs for advertising/promulgation |
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| 3.2 Priority for neutering services |
| 1. Provide details of the high-risk menacing dogs in your area including the estimated number of these dogs |
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| 1. Provide any relevant details of recent dog attacks in your area |
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| 3.3 Coordination |
| 1. Provide details of any co-funding arrangements for your programme, such as funding from your territorial authority or other organisation |
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| 1. Provide details of how you might coordinate your programme with other dog-related services offered by territorial authorities, such as registration and/or microchipping, or how you may coordinate with not-for-profit organisations in the animal management/welfare sectors |
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| 3.4 Ethical, regulatory and health and safety matters |
| 1. Describe how you will ensure that neutering services are carried out in a way that supports the welfare of high-risk menacing dogs |
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| 1. How will you ensure the grant will only be used for neutering services for high-risk menacing dogs? |
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| 1. Describe how you will ensure the health and safety of those involved in delivering the neutering programme in your area |
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| 3.5 Accountability |
| 1. Describe how you will monitor and report on the number of high-risk menacing dogs receiving neutering services under your programme, and how the delivery of the programme will contribute to the outcomes sought in your area |
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