​Reducing Dog Attacks Survey Questions

**Many people are concerned about the harm caused by dog attacks.**

**Please take the time to share your thoughts with us by 5pm Sunday 14 August.**

**We only publish comments that meet our terms and conditions. Even if your comments aren't published they'll still be included as part of the consultation. Read our** [Terms of Use](https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/consultations-have-your-say/online-consultation-terms-and-conditions/) **and our** [Privacy Statement](https://www.govt.nz/about/privacy-statement/).

**1. Tell us about yourself**

**Name:**

**If you don't want your name published, opt out here.**

**Email address (this is not published):**

**I have:** (select all that apply)

* a dog
* children
* concerns about dog attacks
* been attacked by a dog
* an animal that was attacked by a dog

**2. Why do you think dogs attack?**

Dogs may become aggressive and attack for many reasons, such as:

* protecting their territory or family
* guarding their food or toys
* because they're afraid
* frustrated
* in pain, or
* hunting and chasing.

In 2015 there were 12,817 claims to the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) for dog-related injuries. You can view the statistics for dog attacks from 2006–2015 on the Local Councils website.

[Dog-related injury claims](http://www.localcouncils.govt.nz/lgip.nsf/wpg_url/Profiles-Local-Government-Statistical-Overview-Dog-related-Injury-Claims?OpenDocument)

**What do you think is the biggest contributing factor to a dog attack?** (select one)

* Dog breed
* Dog size
* Dog owner
* Council animal control
* Dog control law
* Education about dog behaviour
* Police enforcement of dog control law
* Parents not keeping children safe.

**Please explain:**

[free text]

**What do you think is the best way to reduce dog attacks?** (select all that apply)

* Ban certain dog breeds
* Require owners to complete dog obedience classes
* Give councils more powers
* Education
* Other:

**If you answered 'Other', please specify.**

[free text]

**3. What can owners do?**

**How do you think dog owners can help to reduce attacks?** (select all that apply)

* Keeping dogs on leash when in public
* Muzzling dogs when in public
* Owners and dogs taking obedience training
* Being more considerate of other people and dogs in public
* Properly fencing off property
* Other

**If you answered 'Other', please specify.**

[free text]

**4. What can local councils do?**

Currently, local councils are able to:

* pass dog control bylaws
* create spaces for exercising dogs
* provide dog control services including registration, education about ownership and safety
* respond to complaints
* pick up stray or aggressive dogs
* return lost dogs to owners.

**How do you think councils can help to reduce dog attacks?** (select all that apply)

* Establish more spaces for exercising dogs
* Patrolling the streets
* Quicker responses to complaints
* Punishing irresponsible dog owners
* Other

**If you answered 'Other', please specify.**

[free text]

**5. What can Government do?**

**Central government is responsible for dog control legislation.**

The government administers dog control law which focuses on improving control, and increasing public safety.

The key dog control tools are:

* registration of all dogs over three months old
* microchipping of all newly registered and nuisance dogs, and
* the National Dog Database.

The law also protects our ability to own dogs.

An overview of dog control legislation and changes can be found on the Department of Internal Affairs website.

[Dog Control](http://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Resource-material-Dog-Control-Index?OpenDocument)

**I think the Government can help to reduce attacks by:** (select all that apply)

* Increasing public awareness about safety around dogs
* Banning certain dog breeds
* Giving councils more powers
* Requiring the police do more to enforce dog control law
* Requiring dog owner licencing
* Other

**If you answered 'Other', please specify.**

[free text]

**6. Dog owner profile**

**Do you currently have a dog?**

* Yes
* No

**If yes, is this your first dog?**

* Yes
* No

**Did you get your dog when it was a puppy?**

* Yes
* No

**Where did you get your dog from?**

* Pet store
* Breeder
* Animal shelter (like SPCA)
* Friend or relative
* Online or newspaper ad (like TradeMe)
* I found my dog as a stray.

**What is your main reason for getting a dog?**

* Companionship
* For protection or as a guard dog
* Assistance with my daily tasks or as a service dog
* Hunting
* Competition (like dog shows)
* Status or fashion
* Work (on a farm, NZ Police, Biosecurity, Search and Rescue)

**Have you and your dog completed a dog obedience course?**

* No, we don’t want to
* No, but we will soon
* Yes, it was really useful
* Yes, but it was useless

**Is your dog:** (pick all that apply)

* Registered with the council
* Microchipped
* Neutered / de-sexed

**If your dog is not registered, why not?**

* Costs too much
* Didn’t know I had to
* Forgot
* No point, I don’t get any benefit
* Other

**If you answered 'Other', please specify.**

[free text]

**What is the primary breed of your dog (according to your breeder/vet)?**

* Beagle
* Bichon Frise
* Boxer
* Cattle, Australian
* Chihuahua, Long Coat
* Chihuahua, Smooth Coat
* Collie, Bearded
* Collie, Border
* Collie, Rough
* Collie, Smooth
* Greyhound
* Heading
* Huntaway
* Maltese
* Poodle, Miniature
* Poodle, Toy
* Retriever, Golden
* Retriever, Labrador
* Rottweiler
* Schnauzer, Miniature
* Shepherd, German
* Shih Tzu
* Spaniel, Cavalier King Charles
* Spaniel, Cocker
* Spaniel, English Springer
* Terrier, American Pit Bull
* Terrier, Fox (Smooth)
* Terrier, Jack Russell
* Terrier, Staffordshire Bull
* Terrier, West Highland White

**What is the secondary breed of your dog (according to your breeder/vet)?**

[same list as above]

**Has your dog ever escaped your property?**

* No
* Yes, once
* Yes, a few times
* Yes, all the time

**Has your dog ever bitten a person or animal?**

* No
* Yes

**If you answered 'Yes', what happened? Was the council informed?**

[free text]

**How old are you?**

* 15 or younger
* 16-25
* 26-35
* 36-45
* 46-55
* 56-65
* 66-75
* 75 or older

**What area do you live in?**

[drop down of territorial authorities]

**If your dog's breed wasn't listed, what is it?**

[free text]