
Agenda for a meeting of the Waikato District Council to be held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngāruawaahia on **FRIDAY, 13 JUNE 2025** commencing at **10:00 AM**.

Information and recommendations are included in the reports to assist the Committee in the decision-making process and may not constitute Council's decision or policy until considered by the Committee.

The meeting will be opened with a karakia.

1. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The register of interests is no longer included on agendas, however members still have a duty to disclose any interests under this item.

3. COUNCIL REPORTS

3.1 Waikato District Council's Animal Control - Menacing Classification - Zoe Monk

4. OBJECTOR'S REPORT

4.1 Objector's appeal of Menacing Classification - Zoe Monk

CL Hobbs
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Regulatory Subcommittee

Reports to: Policy & Regulatory Committee

Chairperson: Cr Janet Gibb

Deputy Chairperson: Cr Peter Thomson

Membership: Deputy Mayor Carolyn Eyre Cr Crystal Beavis
(The composition of any Regulatory Subcommittee for quorum purposes to be determined by the Chairperson)

Meeting frequency: As and when required

Quorum: A panel of three to be appointed in the first instance allowing for a quorum of two once the hearing has commenced.

Purpose

1. To conduct fair and effective hearings and make determinations on the Council's regulatory functions under legislation and other matters as referred to the Committee.
2. To recommend to the Council or relevant Council committee any matters that it considers necessary to enable the effective management of the Council's regulatory functions.

Terms of Reference:

1. Hear and determine any statutory or regulatory hearings under relevant legislation unless otherwise delegated or retained by the Council, including (but without limitation):
 - a. objections under the Dog Control Act 1996;
 - b. matters under the Resource Management Act 1991 and related legislation;
 - c. matters under the Impounding Act 1955;
 - d. matters regarding drainage and works on private land under the Local Government Act 1974 and Local Government Act 2002;
 - e. matters under the Gambling Act 2003, Health Act 1956 and Litter Act 1979;
 - f. matters regarding residential pools under the Building Act 2004.
2. Hear and determine other matters that require hearings or submissions, as referred by Council or other Committees.
3. To convene working groups and carry out the Terms of Reference approved and referred by Council or other Committees.

The Subcommittee is delegated the following powers to act:

- Conduct statutory hearings on regulatory matters and undertake and make decisions on those hearings that fall within the committee's Terms of Reference.
- Appoint additional members, including external members, for hearings where expert advice is required.
- Establish and amend hearings protocols relating to the general conduct of hearings and hearings- related matters in accordance with the applicable legislation and the principles of administrative law and natural justice.
- Approval of activities and expenses relating to working groups consistent with the terms of reference and approved working group budget.

Explanatory Note:

1. The Committee may request expert advice through the Chief Executive when necessary.
2. The General Manager Customer Support, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Regulatory Subcommittee, are delegated the power to determine:
 - a. the composition of any hearings panel to be convened under the committee's terms of reference; and
 - b. the appointment of any independent hearings commissioner within the panel of commissioners approved by the Council, to hear and determine any matter under the Resource Management Act 1991 (and related legislation). An independent commissioner can be appointed to act in his/her sole capacity, or together with appointed councillors who hold the appropriate accreditation.
3. Decisions of a hearing panel shall be made by consensus although if necessary the majority view prevails

To	Policy and Regulatory Subcommittee
Report title	Objection to Menacing Classification

Date:	2 April 2025
Report Author:	Phil Greeves, Senior Animal Control Process and Compliance Specialist
Authorised by:	Roger MacCulloch General Manager Customer Support

1. Purpose of the report

Te Take moo te puurongo

To provide information to the Policy and Regulatory Subcommittee (the Committee) to enable the Committee to hear the objection to a Menacing Classification imposed on the dog ("Storm") belonging to Zoe Monk, and to make a decision on the objection.

2. Executive summary

Whakaraapopototanga matua

Section 33A of the Dog Control Act 1996 ("**the Act**") allows Waikato District Council ("Council") to classify a dog as menacing if the dog is considered to pose a threat to a person or other animal due to observed or reported behaviour (Section 33A and Section B of the Act annexed as **Appendix 1**).

Storm, a black and white, Female, Siberian Husky cross aged 5 years 10 months owned by Zoe Monk (Zoe Monk P&R record annexed as **Appendix 2**) (Storm P&R record annexed as **Appendix 3**) was observed, along with another Siberian Husky, Winter, owned by Zoe's mother, [REDACTED] attacking a sheep in a neighbour's paddock at 10 Byron Lane, Te Kowhai.

The owner of the sheep's daughter, [REDACTED] initially observed the attack and alerted her family. Her parents, [REDACTED] ran to the paddock and observed the two dogs biting on the neck of a sheep that was sitting on the ground in the paddock with visible blood on it. (Photos of the sheep annexed as

Appendix 4) (Typed Statement by [REDACTED] annexed as Appendix 5) (Official statement by [REDACTED] annexed as Appendix 6).

After investigation, Council advised Zoe Monk of the decision to classify Storm as Menacing (Notice of Classification of dog as Menacing annexed as Appendix 7).

In accordance with S33B of the Act, Zoe Monk formally objected in writing to the menacing classification within the statutory time frame (Email Notification of Objection to Menacing Classification annexed as Appendix 8)

Council considers that Storm poses an ongoing threat to small animals but not to persons.

Council understands that Zoe has made amendments to the fence line around her property to mitigate Storm escaping the property again, notwithstanding this, Council submits that for public safety reasons, Storm should remain classified as menacing requiring Storm to be muzzled when in public.

3. Staff recommendations Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

THAT the Policy and Regulatory Subcommittee

- a. receives the report; and
- b. the Classification of Storm under Section 33A(2) of the Dog Control Act 1996 be upheld.

4. Background Koorero whaimaarama

On Tuesday 25 February 2025, at 6:19pm, Animal Control Officer [REDACTED] ("ACO [REDACTED]"), received an email from Zoe Monk from [REDACTED] requesting he call her as soon as possible regarding "a bit of a situation". (Email from Zoe Monk to [REDACTED] annexed as Appendix 9).

When [REDACTED] called Zoe, Zoe informed him that her dog Storm and her mother's dog, Winter, had escaped her property, [REDACTED] in the early hours of that morning and attacked a sheep and killed a chicken, possibly more. Zoe wanted to know what Animal Control's process was in this kind of situation. [REDACTED] advised her to report the incident to Waikato District Council the following morning.

On Wednesday 26 February 2025, Zoe called the Waikato District Council, reported the incident and CRM# DOGS2277/25 was raised. (Service Request annexed as Appendix 10)

On Friday 28 February 2025, [REDACTED] delivered Dog Owner Statement forms for Zoe and her mother [REDACTED] to Zoe. At this stage, there had been no complaints lodged with Council by the owners of the animals attacked. To date, neither [REDACTED] nor Zoe have returned the Dog Owner Statement forms to Council.

On Monday 3 March 2025, [REDACTED] owner of the attacked animals called [REDACTED] to discuss what had happened and to report that the animals killed were 2 Giant Flemish Rabbits and 3 chickens along with one sheep injured.

On Tuesday 4 March 2025, Complainant Statement forms were delivered to [REDACTED]. Both [REDACTED] had yet to decide if they were going to formally report the incident themselves.

On Thursday 6 March 2025, a joint typed statement was received from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in which they described what had happened on the morning of Tuesday 25 February 2025.

In their statement, the [REDACTED] stated that on the morning of the attack, their daughter, [REDACTED] had heard dogs barking outside and when she looked out of her window, observed 2 Huskies attacking a sheep in her parent's paddock. [REDACTED] had alerted her family, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] had gone outside to the paddock where they observed two Huskies biting on the neck of a sheep that was sitting on the ground with visible blood on it. The dogs were known to the [REDACTED] as Winter and Storm and that they were owned by Zoe Monk from [REDACTED]. On their arrival, Storm left the paddock, and Winter had laid down near the sheep. [REDACTED] tied Winter to a fence post.

[REDACTED] called Zoe and her partner, [REDACTED], to inform them their dogs had attacked their sheep. [REDACTED] drove to the [REDACTED] parking his truck at the neighbouring Childcare, [REDACTED] also owned by the [REDACTED] and walked through the adjoining paddocks. Zoe then phoned [REDACTED] to say that Storm was back home.

[REDACTED] transported the sheep to a nearby shed while [REDACTED] and Zoe were actively working to find a vet to treat the injured sheep through contacts they knew.

[REDACTED] then walked Winter back to [REDACTED] Ute at the childcare centre. At the centre, [REDACTED] discovered two Giant Flemish Rabbits, that were pets of the centre, had been killed. There were a lot of scratch marks that appeared to be from dogs at the base of two fences which they had eventually managed to get through to access the rabbits. The wooden entrance to the rabbit's hutch had bite marks around it and there was a large area dug out underneath the hutch where the rabbits had previously formed a burrow. Both rabbits were laid out on the grass with evidence of bite marks on both and intestines separated from one of the rabbits that had meat eaten from it. (Photos of the dead rabbits and hutch annexed as [Appendix 11](#)). No one had witnessed the attack on the rabbits.

[REDACTED] moved the rabbits to shield arriving teachers and children from seeing them.

[REDACTED] then started walking home and discovered three dead chickens in the centre's chicken coop. [REDACTED] then started collecting up the many feathers strewn around the paddock and in the coop to shield teachers and children from seeing them as they had started to arrive at the Centre. No one had witnessed the attack on the chickens.

The vet from Anexa, Ngaaruawaahia arrived at 10 Byron Lane to inspect the sheep. The vet treated the sheep's injuries, spraying the bite marks with Antiseptic blue spray and injected pain relief. (Vet report annexed as [Appendix 12](#))

During the vet's assessment, Zoe also arrived and was very apologetic offering to pay vet bills and any animal replacement costs. She said she had already reached out to a relative who was connected to a rabbit owner's group for help.

Although no one had seen the attacks on the rabbits and chickens, an assumption has been made by both Zoe and the [REDACTED] that Storm and Winter were likely involved in those attacks.

[REDACTED] on a request from a concerned parent, called the Ministry of Education about the attack who informed her that the attack wasn't relevant to them due to the attack occurring outside the premises of the centre and out of operating hours. [REDACTED] called Zoe advising her that parents were pressuring her to report the attack to Animal Control.

Zoe emailed Animal Control Officer [REDACTED] saying she had a bit of a situation and wished to talk to him. (Email from Zoe Monk to [REDACTED] annexed as [Appendix 9](#)). After their conversation, Zoe called Waikato District Council Animal Control to self-report the attack. Animal Control Officer [REDACTED] was assigned the job (Service Request annexed as [Appendix 10](#)).

On 11 March 2025, [REDACTED] in conversation with Zoe, was asked what possible outcome there might be regarding Storm, he advised that there was a possibility that Storm could be classified as menacing. Zoe then sent an email to [REDACTED] asking for confirmation that Storm may be taken to an off-leash exercise area without being on a lead. Zoe also quoted in that email, S33E(5) of the Act which states that Subsection 33E(1)(a) does not apply in respect of any dog or class of dog that the territorial authority considers need not be muzzled in any specified circumstances (for example, at a dog show) (Email from Zoe titled Storm – Classification annexed as [Appendix 13](#)) (S33e(5) of the Act annexed as [Appendix 14](#))

On 21 March 2025, [REDACTED] received a behavioural assessment report about Storm from [REDACTED] the owner/operator of [REDACTED] where Storm is regularly in Doggy Daycare. (Assessment Letter from [REDACTED] annexed as [Appendix 15](#)). [REDACTED] report indicates that she had carried out an assessment of Storm under controlled conditions and found Storm was able to show impulse control and obedience at difference distances to chickens and cats.

After investigation, Council advised Zoe Monk of the decision to classify Storm as Menacing along with the appeal process (Notice of Classification of dog as Menacing annexed as [Appendix 7](#)).

On 24 March 2025, Zoe Monk objected to the Menacing Classification imposed on Storm. On 31 March 2025, Zoe emailed an Acknowledgement of her Objection to the Menacing Classification (Acknowledgement of Objection annexed as [Appendix 16](#)).

5. Discussion and analysis

Taataritanga me ngaa tohutohu

Section 33B(2) of the Act (Annexed as [Appendix 17](#)) provides that in determining this objection the committee shall have regard to:

- (a) the evidence which formed the basis for the classification; and

- (b) any steps taken by the owner to prevent any threat to the safety of person or animals: and
- (c) the matters relied on in support of the objection; and
- (d) any other relevant matters.

As a result of this analysis, the Committee will have the following options:

- A. Uphold the classification of Storm as menacing; or
- B. Uphold the classification of Storm as menacing but allow Storm to go without a muzzle in a public place; or
- C. Rescind the classification.

The Committee must give written notice of its decision and the reasons for it, under section 33B(3)) of the Act to the objector.

The option preferred by staff is option A, and the reasons for this recommendation are discussed below.

5.1 Options

Ngaa koowhiringa

Staff recommend option A because:

- The Act states that the territorial authority may classify a dog as menacing if the territorial authority considers Storm may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife because of any observed or reported behaviour of Storm.
- Storm was free to leave the property and able to access a public place and exhibited observed behaviour which indicates she may pose a threat to small stock or domestic animals. As a result of being able to leave the property, Storm was involved in an attack on a sheep, injuring it.
- The owner was not present at the time of the incident and no one else was in attendance to control Storm physically or verbally to prevent this situation occurring.
- The behavioural assessment regarding Storm was conducted under very controlled conditions.
- A menacing classification ensures that:
 - Storm is muzzled when in public to help mitigate the threat Storm poses.
 - If Storm offends again, a menacing classification allows Animal Control to take stronger measures of enforcement.
 - Zoe Monk will take the appropriate steps to ensure any threatening behaviour is mitigated.

5.2 Financial considerations

Whaiwhakaaro puutea

There are no material financial considerations associated with the recommendations of this report.

5.3 Legal considerations **Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture**

Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements. Legal Counsel will be available to assist the Committee with the matters of law as required.

5.4 Strategy and policy considerations **Whaiwhakaaro whakamaaherehere kaupapa here**

The report and recommendations are consistent with the Council's policies, plans and prior decisions.

5.5 Maaori and cultural considerations **Whaiwhakaaro Maaori me oona tikanga**

There are no wider Maaori, or cultural considerations involved in the exercise of Council's legislative responsibilities under the Act.

5.6 Climate response and resilience considerations **Whaiwhakaaro-aa-taiao**

The matters in this report have no known impact on climate change or resilience for the Council.

5.7 Risks **Tuuraru**

Should the Committee uphold the classification and proceed with the staff recommendation, the classification stands with no further recourse for appeal by the objector.

Should the Committee rescind the classification, there is a risk that further breaches of the Act will occur, and small stock and domestic animals could be further threatened.

6. SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT **AROMATAWAI PAAHEKOHEKO**

6.1 Significance **Te Hiranga**

The decisions and matters of this report are assessed as of low significance, in accordance with the Council's [Significance and Engagement Policy](#).

6.2 Engagement **Te Whakatuutakitaki**

This is a regulatory/operational matter concerning an individual and we do not propose to inform more broadly than necessary to give effect to the classification, if upheld.

7. NEXT STEPS AHU WHAKAMUA

Should the classification be upheld, it will apply at a national level.

Council's role will be to update the relevant records and enforce the requirements of the classification.

8. Confirmation of statutory compliance Te Whakatuuturutanga aa-ture

As required by the Local Government Act 2002, staff confirm the following:

The report fits with Council's role and Committee's Terms of Reference and Delegations.	Confirmed
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The report contains sufficient information about all reasonably practicable options identified and assessed in terms of their advantages and disadvantages (<i>Section 5.1</i>).	Confirmed
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Staff assessment of the level of significance of the issues in the report after consideration of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy (<i>Section 6.1</i>).	Low
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The report contains adequate consideration of the views and preferences of affected and interested persons taking account of any proposed or previous community engagement and assessed level of significance (<i>Section 6.2</i>).	Confirmed
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The report considers impact on Maaori (<i>Section 5.5</i>)	Not applicable
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The report and recommendations are consistent with Council's plans and policies (<i>Section 5.4</i>).	Confirmed
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The report and recommendations comply with Council's legal duties and responsibilities (<i>Section 5.3</i>).	Confirmed
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9. Attachments

Ngaa taapirihanga

Appendix 1 – Section 33A of the Act

Appendix 2 – Zoe Monk P&R Record

Appendix 3 – Storm P&R Record

Appendix 4 – Photos of injured sheep

Appendix 5 – Typed Statement of [REDACTED]

Appendix 6 – Official statement by [REDACTED]

Appendix 7 – Notice of Classification of dog as Menacing

Appendix 8 – Email Notification of Objection to Menacing Classification

Appendix 9 – Email from Zoe Monk to [REDACTED]

Appendix 10 – Service Request

Appendix 11 – Photos of the dead rabbits and hutch

Appendix 12 – Vet report

Appendix 13 – Email from Zoe entitled Storm – Classification

Appendix 14 – S33E(5) of the Act

Appendix 15 – Assessment Letter from [REDACTED]

Appendix 16 – Acknowledgement of Objection

Appendix 17 – Section 33B(2) of the Act

33A Territorial authority may classify dog as menacing

- (1) This section applies to a dog that—
 - (a) has not been classified as a dangerous dog under section 31; but
 - (b) a territorial authority considers may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife because of—
 - (i) any observed or reported behaviour of the dog; or
 - (ii) any characteristics typically associated with the dog's breed or type.
- (2) A territorial authority may, for the purposes of section 33E(1)(a), classify a dog to which this section applies as a menacing dog.
- (3) If a dog is classified as a menacing dog under subsection (2), the territorial authority must immediately give written notice in the prescribed form to the owner of—
 - (a) the classification; and
 - (b) the provisions of section 33E (which relates to the effect of classification as a menacing dog); and
 - (c) the right to object to the classification under section 33B; and
 - (d) if the territorial authority's policy is not to require the neutering of menacing dogs (or would not require the neutering of the dog concerned), the effect of sections 33EA and 33EB if the owner does not object to the classification and the dog is moved to the district of another territorial authority.

Zoe Monk – P&R

Name

Name ID:   Monk Zoe Renee

General

Name Type: Natural PersonStatus: Pending: ☐Surname: Given Names: Title: Gender: Date Of Birth: Preferred Language: ABN: Deceased: ☐Default Postal Address:

Suppression

☐ Suppress Name☐ Suppress Address

Contact Details

Work Phone: Home Phone: Fax: Mobile Phone: Email Address: 

Related Property

☐ Show History

Drag a column header here to group by that column.

Association Type	Description	Address	Property ID	Property Status
Owner	Property Owner	redacted	redacted	C

Storm – P&R

Animal

Animal ID:

150110

FeePayer(s):
 Owner(s):
 Kept At:
 Renewal Date: 01-07-2024, Fee 115.00, Date Paid 25-07-2024, 0.00 outstanding

General

Animal Type: DOG Dog
 Animal Class: Approved Approved Dog Registration
 Renewal Code: Annual Annual Renewal
 Status: Active Active
 Status Last Updated: 26/09/2019 10:45:41

Additional Details

Animal Details

Animal Name: Storm
 Date Of Birth: 26/05/2019 Years: 5 Months: 10
 Primary Breed: SIBE Siberian Husky
 Secondary Breed: GERS Shepherd German
 Primary Colour: BLK Black
 Secondary Colour: WHI White
 Description: Black/white/tan
 Distinguishing Marks: white stripes on nose
 Permanent Identifier:

Gender Details

Gender: Female
 De-sexed ☒
 De-sexed Certified Date: De-sexed Certified By:

Licence Details

Licence Number: ☐ Permanent Tag
Licence Expiry Date:  ☒ Currently Licenced
Pensioner ☐
Date First Licenced: 
Last Year's Licence Number:

External Licence

External Licencing Council: 
External Licence Number:

Microchip Details

Chip Number: Non-standard Chip Number:
Chip Supplier:  Total Veterinary Solutions
Chip Inserted Date: 
Chip Certified Date:  Chip Certified By:  

Training Details

Training Certificate Number:
Training Certified Date:  Training Certified By: 

Notices

Drag a column header here to group by that column						
Notice ID	Date Created ▾	Notice Code	Description	Notice Status	Status Date	Infringement ID
4771081	31/05/2024	DogRegRenM	2023/24 - Animal Licence Renewal Notice Multi Dog	Printed	13/06/2024	
4511956	23/05/2023	DogRegRenM	2023/24 - Animal Licence Renewal Notice Multi Dog	Printed	06/06/2023	
4293684	17/05/2022	DogRegRenM	2023/24 - Animal Licence Renewal Notice Multi Dog	Printed	17/05/2022	
4096568	04/06/2021	DogRegRenM	2023/24 - Animal Licence Renewal Notice Multi Dog	Printed	10/06/2021	
▶ 3897547	18/05/2020	DogRegRenM	2023/24 - Animal Licence Renewal Notice Multi Dog	Printed	25/05/2020	
Count: 5						

Complaint Statement – Dog Attack Photos and Vet Records







Complainant Statement – Waikato District Council – Animal Control



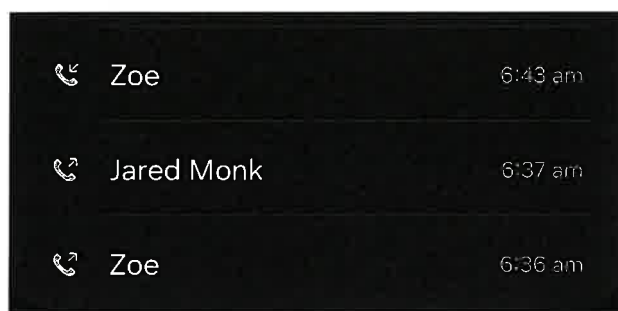
On Tue 25th Feb 2025, our daughters alarm went off at 6.30am she got up and went to the bathroom. She heard dogs barking so opened the window to look out and saw two huskies attacking our sheep in the paddock at our home, [REDACTED]. She yelled and [REDACTED] ran outside to the paddock. (After things had calmed down when I asked her what she had seen she said the sheep was trying to run away and there was a dog on each side of the sheep both biting the sheeps neck. She said she had been woken a few minutes before her alarm went off to the sound of barking.)

When [REDACTED] entered the paddock they observed two husky dogs biting on the neck of a sheep that was sitting on the ground in the paddock with visible blood on it.

On arriving at the scene, one husky (Stormy) departed through the neighbouring fence where it played with the neighbours Rottweiler [REDACTED] briefly before heading home. The other husky (Winter) backed up about 3m's from the sheep and sat down.

██████ told his son ██████ to get a rope and was able to pat the husky who was very calm at that time and tie the husky's collar to the fence, then take some photos.

Recognising the dogs (Stormy and Winter) ██████ called both Zoe Monk (6.36am) and ██████ (6.37am) to inform them. Zoe didn't answer but ██████ answered with a question "are my dogs over there?" so they seemed aware that the dogs had left their property. ██████ informed ██████ that the dogs had attacked a sheep and he came straight over. Parking his truck at the neighbouring Childcare, ██████ and coming through the adjoining paddocks. Zoe then phoned ██████ at 6.43 to say that Stormy was back home.



██████ were able to lift the injured sheep into a wheelbarrow to move it closer to the shed where we got warm water and were able to clean up most of the blood. ██████ and Zoe were actively working to find a vet to treat the injured sheep through contacts they knew. Once cleaned up, we moved the sheep inside the shed as it was a cold morning and we thought that may be less stressful for the sheep to be in a secure warm space.

██████ then walked the tied up husky (Winter - who belongs to his Mum, ██████) back to his ute parked at the Childcare. ██████ own and operate the Childcare at that address and ██████ and Zoe Monk's child attends that Childcare.

██████ then discovered two Giant Flemish Rabbits that were pets of the Childcare had also been killed. There were a lot of scratch marks that appeared to be from the dogs at the base of two fences they had eventually managed to get through to access the rabbits. The wooden entrance to the rabbit's hutch had many bite marks around it and there was a large area dug out underneath the hutch where the rabbits had previously formed a burrow. Both rabbits were laid out on the grass with evidence of bite marks on both and intestines separated from one of the rabbits that had meat eaten from it.

██████ moved the rabbits to a black sack to shield arriving teachers and children from seeing that.

██████ then started walking home and discovered three dead chooks in the Childcare chook pen. ██████ then started collecting up the many feathers strewn around the paddock and in the chook house to shield teachers and children from seeing that as they had started to arrive at the Centre at that time.

At that point, the vet from Anexa Ngaruawahia arrived at 10 Byron Lane to inspect the sheep.

They shaved all bite marks we could find and treated them with a form of Dettol to clean them and then an anti-septic blue spray to help prevent further infection. There didn't appear to be any broken bones although the sheep wasn't putting full weight on a rear leg that had a deeper cut. The vet injected the sheep with pain relief and then an antibiotic and committed to returning the following Thur or Fri to re-assess progress. They said some bite marks had

punctured through the skin, shared photos with their colleague who was a big animal specialist and in consultation, decided against any stitching of wounds.

During the vet's assessment, Zoe also arrived and was very apologetic offering to pay vet bills and any animal replacement costs. She had already reached out to a relative who was connected to a rabbit owner's group for help.

The sheep was returned to the paddock with the other sheep where the vet felt it would be most comfortable.

The vet, [REDACTED] and Zoe left.

A different big animal vet, [REDACTED] returned two days later on 27 Feb 2025 and was pleased with the sheeps progress. She said there was still evidence of swelling from the bites but the wounds were healing well. [REDACTED] caught the injured sheep and [REDACTED] administered further pain relief and antibiotics and said a further visit wasn't required unless I observed a deterioration in the sheep's recovery.

Zoe and [REDACTED] checked in multiple times over the week following the attacks and were genuinely remorseful. They bought donuts for the teaching team at the Childcare with an apology note. [REDACTED] said his Mum [REDACTED] had offered to buy toys for the children which we declined as unnecessary. On Friday 28th Feb Zoe and [REDACTED] then called in person to our house to apologise again and gifted [REDACTED] massage vouchers and the kids movie vouchers together with a card with a written apology.

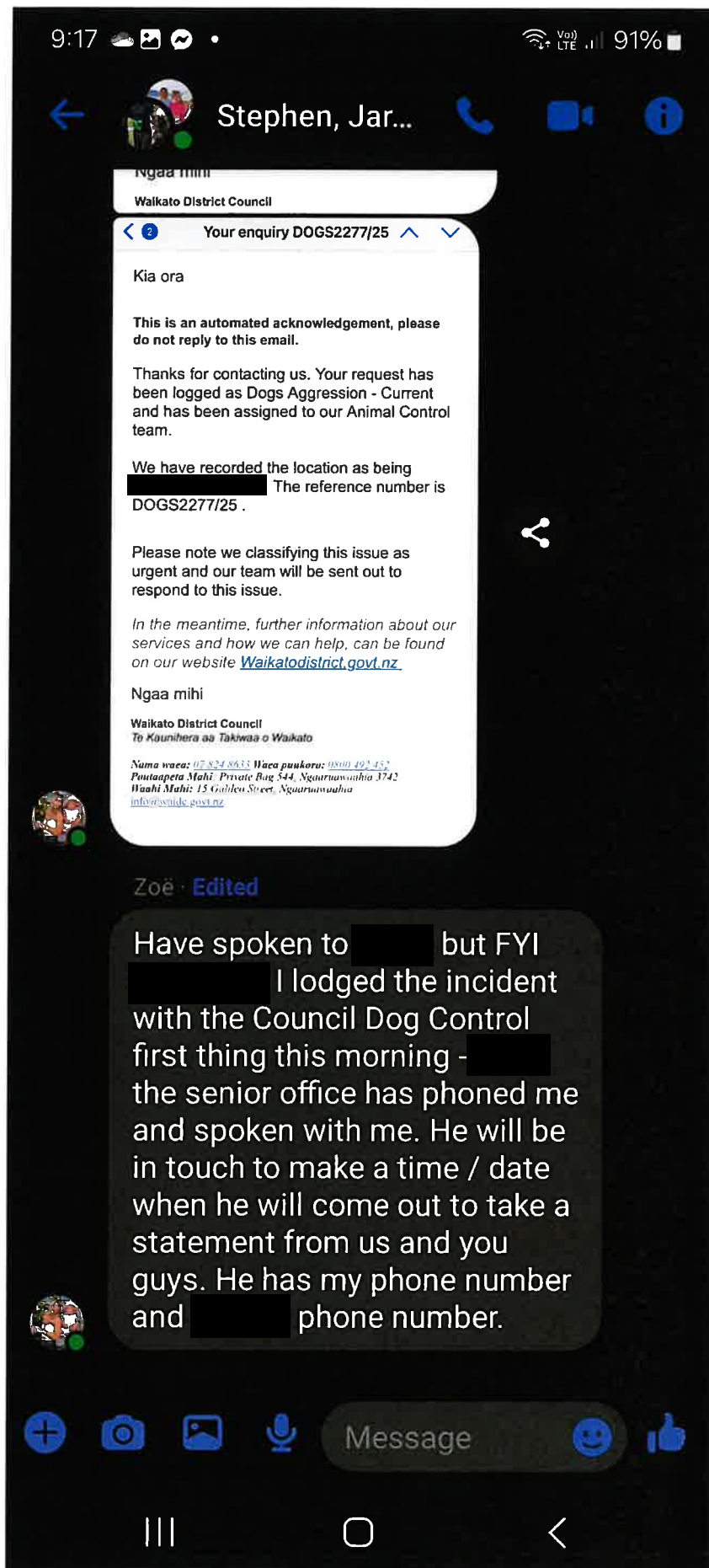
On the day of the attack, [REDACTED] posted an update to Childcare parents via software called Storypark advising that we'd had a dog attack and lost the Childcare Centre's rabbits and chooks and that a sheep had been injured.

[REDACTED] then received an email from a concerned parent requesting that we update her once we'd informed both the Ministry of Education and Waikato District Council.

Catherine phoned the Ministry of Education who advised it wasn't of relevance to them given it was outside of the Centre's operating hours and outside the boundary of our licensed space.

We expressed to [REDACTED] that we'd had pressure from parents wanting it reported to Council, so he agreed to self-report.

We then got a message on 26 Feb from Zoe with a screenshot confirming they had done that with a note to [REDACTED] following that said, "Have spoken to [REDACTED] but FYI [REDACTED] I lodged the incident with the Council Dog Control first thing this morning – [REDACTED] the senior officer has phoned me and spoken with me. He will be in touch to make a time / date when he will come out to take a statement from us and you guys. He has my phone number and [REDACTED] phone number".



██████████ then emailed an update to the concerned parent saying that the Council had been engaged.

The parent then informed ██████████ that she knew the dog Stormy had killed a number of chooks previously. ██████████ confirmed that information and informed ██████████ of that event at a previous address they'd lived at where Stormy had jumped the fence and killed some of the neighbours chooks. Stormy had then been secured on their section, but in subsequent events, some of the neighbours chooks had crossed the boundary and Stormy had killed more.

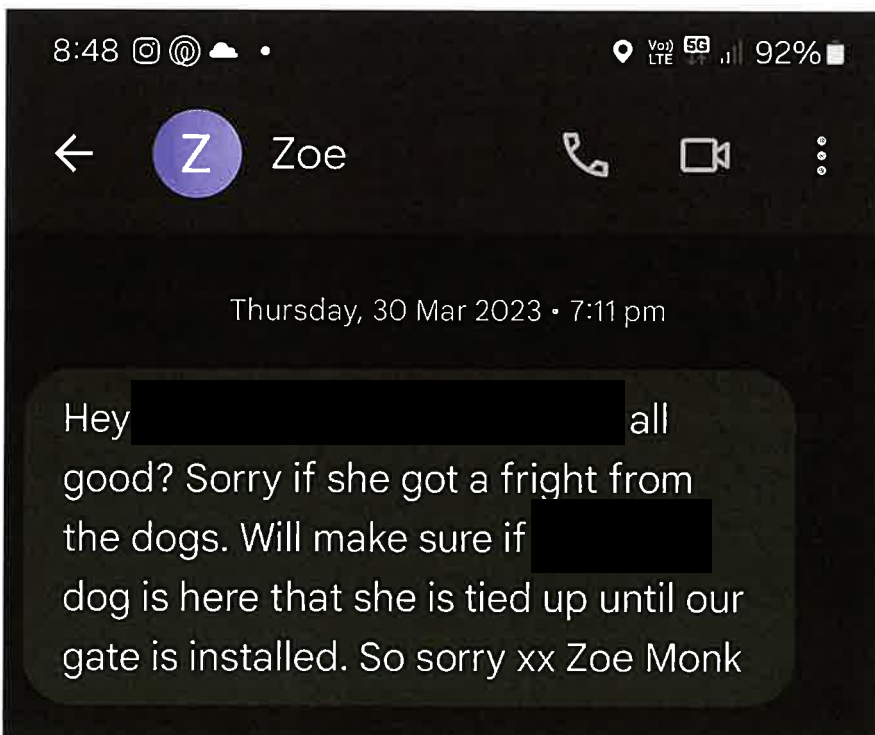
██████████ was told 17 chooks in total were killed.

██████████ then called Waikato District Council Animal Control on Thur 27 Feb and left a message requesting a call back.

When Animal Control Officer ██████████ did call back, there was initially confusion as he thought I was associated with the dog owner and I thought he was calling to take a statement. At that time, ██████████ didn't seem clear that we wanted to make a statement and said no formal complaint had been made. It was my misunderstanding around how the process worked, so ██████████ said he'd take advice from his manager and come back to me.

The following day, ██████████ then arrived at our address with a Complaint Statement form to populate resulting in this file note.

Of relevance, about two years ago, there was also an event where our daughter ██████████ who would have been about 13 at that time was walking our ██████████, ██████████. As they walked on the footpath past the address Stormy is at, both Winter (who was visiting) and Stormy came at ██████████ aggressively and ██████████ put herself between ██████████ and the huskies to try and manage that situation. While the dogs weren't aggressive towards ██████████ she received some scratches on her legs where the huskies were attempting to get to our dog. Zoe was home and came out and called the dogs off. She then texted ██████████ to apologise. ██████████ came home ok, so we didn't report it at that time feeling no damage was done.



To balance that, we've walked our dog passed their address many times without issue when it has been Stormy there alone. We've also been at their house on social occasions with Stormy without issue.

From a relationship perspective, it's a tricky situation for us in that we have a friendship with [REDACTED] and Zoe, they are paying parents at a Childcare we own and we are relatively close neighbours.

However, we also feel a responsibility to be honest about what's happened (not under or overstated) to represent the feelings of other parents in the Childcare Community and neighbourhood.

In terms of outcomes, we are looking for [REDACTED] and Zoe to put mitigations in place that prevent this from re-occurring. We fear we may reintroduce pet rabbits to the Childcare Centre and wouldn't want to lose them to a future attack.

Possible controls we've considered is that Winter shouldn't return to their property given incidents seem to occur when the dogs are together.

Stormy should be securely contained to their section whether that's either contained by dog-run, tied up, perimeter wire with shock collar or alternative.

Stormy should be in a kennel, crate, or locked in the house overnight.



COMPLAINANT STATEMENT

CRM#	<u>DOG 2277/25</u>
Animal ID	<u>150110</u>
Offender ID	<u>169518</u>
Property ID	_____

DOCUMENTS

(Tick all that apply)

- ☒ Statement & Declaration
- ☐ Injury information sheet
- ☒ Photos
- ☐ Consent to obtain medical / veterinary records
- ☒ Medical bills / reports
- ☐ Complainant's dog details
- ☒ Veterinary bills / reports
- ☐ Victim impact statement
- ☐ Correspondence

DOG IDENTIFICATION

- ☐ Dog not positively identified
- ☒ Positive identification of the dog(s) on (date) 25 Feb 2025 at (time) 6:30 am
- ☒ Familiar with the dog(s)
- ☒ Seen it / them confined on property at (address) [REDACTED]
- ☐ Positively identified in Animal Control vehicle
- ☐ Positively identified at Animal Pound at (address) _____
- ☐ Positively identified from photos provided by Animal Control Officer #: _____
- ☐ Photo album (if applicable)

DOG OWNER IDENTIFICATION

- ☐ Does not know who owns the dog
- ☒ Knows the owner of the dog

Description of dog owner (ethnicity, gender, build, approximate age, clothing, vehicle, etc.)	Dog 'Stormy' - Owners <u>[REDACTED]</u> and Zoe Monk
	Dog 'Winter' - Owner - <u>[REDACTED]</u>

PERSONAL DETAILS

☒ Complainant ☐ Victim ☐ Victim's parent / guardian (select all that apply)

Title	Mr	Date of birth	
Name			
Address			
Home phone		Work phone	
Mobile phone			
Email			

DOG DETAILS

Number of dogs involved: ☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3 or more (attach separate sheet)

Dog 1 'Stormy'		Dog 2 'Winter'	
Gender		Gender	
Size	Medium	Size	Medium
Ears	Yes	Ears	Yes
Tail	Yes	Tail	Yes
Breed	Husky	Breed	Husky
Colour	Grey / White	Colour	Grey White
Collar		Collar	Yes with blue tag
ID features		ID features	

Date of Incident: 25/2/2025 Location of Incident:
6:36am

COMPLAINANT STATEMENT

As per attached typed appendix.	
Signature:	

COMPLAINANT STATEMENT *(continued)*

Signature:

COMPLAINANT DECLARATION

This statement is true, and I have made it with the knowledge that it may be used in court proceedings (pursuant to section 82 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011).

Name**Signature****Name of parent / guardian**
(where complainant is less than 16 years old)**Signature of parent / guardian**
(where complainant is less than 16 years old)**Date**

5 Mar 2025

INTERPRETER DECLARATION (if applicable)

- I know (name of complainant / victim)
- He / she (delete one) is my (relationship to person)
- My mother tongue is (language)
- I can read and speak in English because I (give a reason, e.g. attended an English school in NZ, grew up in NZ, etc.)
- On (date), ACO (name) interviewed him / her (delete one) in my presence.
- I interpreted and translated all information and the questions put to and the answers given by him / her (delete one) from (language) into English and vice versa to the best of my skill and ability.
- The officer recorded the information I supplied in writing.
- I translated the completed statement back to (name of complainant / victim)
....., who confirmed that the content is true and correct.

Name of interpreter**Signature of interpreter****Date****ACO VERIFICATION****Statement recorded at** (place)**ACO Full Name****ACO Signature****ACO Number****Date****Time**

INJURY INFORMATION SHEET – PERSON

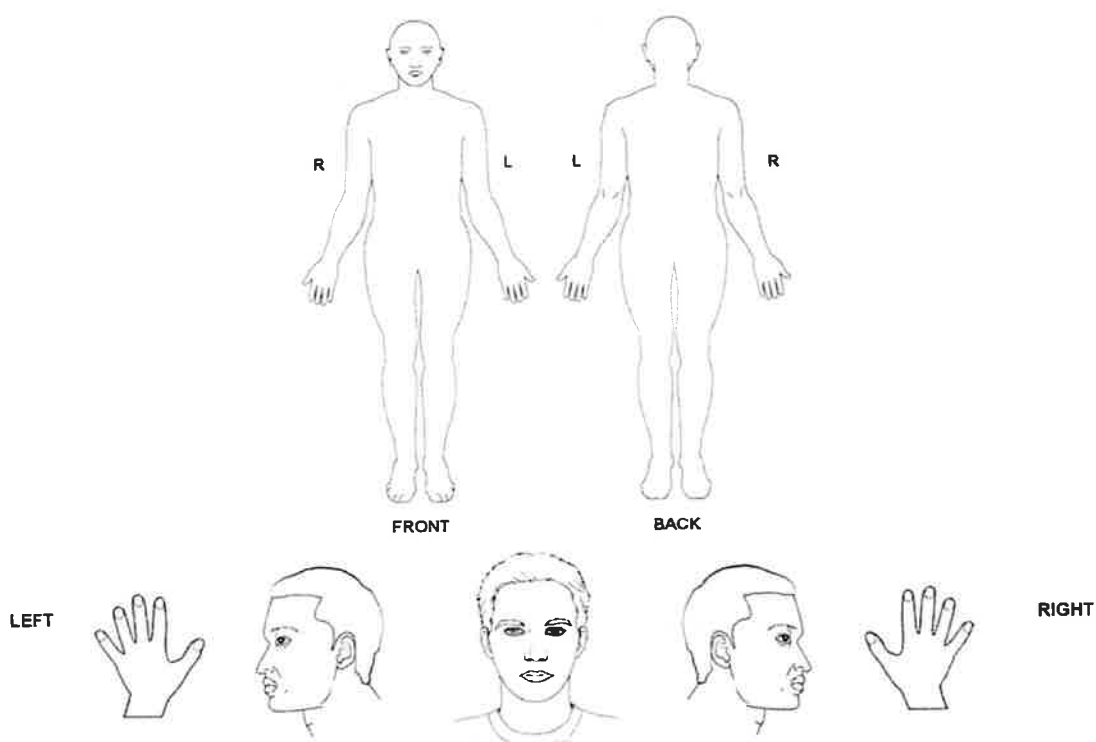
INJURIES

Did you / the victim *(delete one)* receive injuries?

☒ No ☐ Yes *(indicate on the diagrams below which body part(s) is/are injured)*

Describe your / the victim's *(delete one)* injuries

DIAGRAMS



MEDICAL TREATMENT

Did you / the victim *(delete one)* seek medical treatment following the incident?

☐ No

☐ Yes

Date

Time

Where did you / the victim *(delete one)* receive treatment? *(attach medical bills / invoices)*

Medical costs \$

Describe the medical treatment you / the victim *(delete one)* received

INJURY INFORMATION SHEET – ANIMAL(S)

INJURIES

Did your animal(s) receive injuries?

☐ No ☒ Yes (indicate on the diagrams below which body part(s) is/are injured)

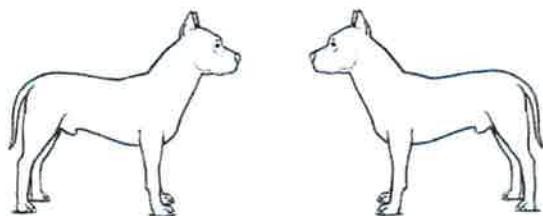
Describe the nature of the animal's injuries

Two pet rabbits - Partially eaten - dead
Three pet chooks - Dead - feathers scattered
One pet sheep - Many bite marks

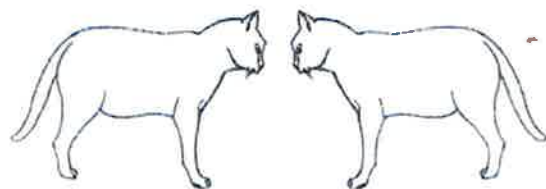
DIAGRAMS (Select the type of animal involved)

Domestic animals

☒ Dog x2



☐ Cat



☐ Other domestic animal(s) (describe the type)

Livestock

Animal type	Sheep x1, Rabbits x2, Chooks x3
Number of animals injured	One Sheep x1
Number of animals deceased	One Rabbits x2, Chooks x3

VETERINARY TREATMENT

Did you seek veterinary treatment for your animal(s) following the incident?

☐ No ☒ Yes Date 25 Feb 2025 Time 7:45am Approximately

Where did your animal(s) receive treatment? (attach veterinary bills / invoices)

Our home [redacted] Veterinary costs \$

Describe the veterinary treatment your animal(s) received

Two visits to assess sheep with multiple dog bites

Appendix A: 6 pages
Appendix B: 7 pages

Zoe Monk

Dog name- Storm
Breed – Siberian Husky X
Gender- Female
Colour- Black/White

per 24/03 request - 24/03 1250hrs

Date of Service: 24/03/25
Name: _____
Signature: _____
Relationship to Dog: _____
Served By ACO: _____
ACO Signature: _____

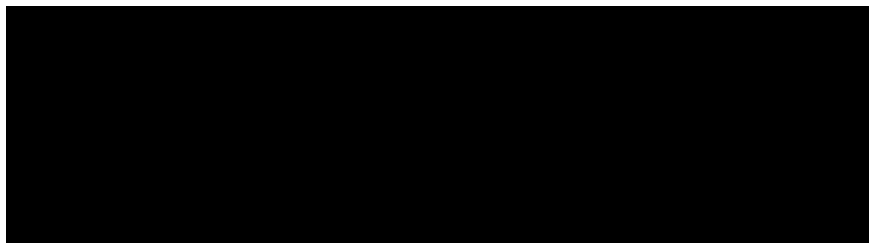
NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION OF DOG AS MENACING DOG

Section 33A, Dog Control Act 1996

This is to notify you that this dog has been classified as a menacing dog under section 33A(2) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

This is because reported behaviour of the dog leads us to believe that it may pose a threat to public safety; being any person, stock, poultry, domestic pet, or protected wildlife.

A summary of the effect of the classification and your right to objection is provided overleaf.



24/03/25
Date

*For the purposes of the Dog Control Act 1996, you are the owner of a dog if-

- you own the dog
- you have the dog in your possession (otherwise than for a period not exceeding 72 hours for the purpose of preventing the dog causing injury, or damage, or distress, or for the sole purpose of restoring a lost dog to its owner); or
- you are the parent or guardian of a person under 16 who is the owner of the dog and who is a member of your household living with and dependant on you

8

From: zoereneemonk@gmail.com

Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 2:01 PM

To: info@waidc.govt.nz
[REDACTED]

Subject: Objection to classification - Dog ID 150110

Hi Waikato District Council,

We have received a 'Notice of Classification of Dog as Menacing Dog' for our dog, Storm (Dog ID 150110) as of 24 March 2025.

We wish to appeal the classification in its entirety however, should this not be agreed to, we wish to specifically object to the muzzling condition that accompanies this classification .

Could you please advise when our supporting documentation for the appeal is required?

Can you please confirm whether there is photographic evidence of Storm at the incident location or with blood on her and provide these to us? We have been advised verbally by Animal Control that this is the case however no photos of Storm were provided in our LGOIMA request ADM0274/25.

Kind regards,

Zoe Monk
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Zoe Monk <zoereneemonk@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 February 2025 6:19 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Dog report

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hi [REDACTED]

Are you still with Dog Control? Would you please be able to call me as soon as soon as possible?

We have a bit of a situation and would really appreciate a conversation with you as soon as possible.

[REDACTED]

Cheers
Zoe Monk

Waikato District Council Request

Request Number: DOGS2277/25
Date Received: 26/02/2025 09:21.55 am
Source: Phone
Status: Current
Group: Animal Control
Category: Dogs Aggression - Current
Sub Categories:

Priority: Medium
Resp Workgroup: Dogs
Raised By: [REDACTED]
User ID: [REDACTED]

Related AR:

Property Number: 2020234
Property Address: [REDACTED]
Property Description: [REDACTED] **Land Number:** [REDACTED]
Caller Name: Monk, Zoe Renee **Home Phone:** [REDACTED]
Caller Address: [REDACTED] **Work Phone:** [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED] **Mobile:** [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

Request Details:

Customer has advised that her dog and her mother in laws dog had gotten out lastnight and attacked her neighbour sheep and killed a chicken or couple. The dogs aren't known for roaming. SHe has spoken with the owners of the victim animals. Caller had an after hours vet come down quickly. Caller is very upset and she does not want her dog to be put down. SHe has let the obehghbour know they will reinstate the shock fence from thher dog from getting out. Can we please arrange a time with the owner to talk about the incident

[REDACTED] gave his contact details, [REDACTED] if you could please contact to take a statement regarding attack when you're available. Preferably he would like it done 28.2.25 - [REDACTED]

Resolution:

NB- had already spoken to caller previous evening regarding this job and advised Zoe to call 0800 number to log a job
 26/02 called Zoe when job received and advised would be in touch tomorrow due to having to deal with an attack today
 28/02/25 dog owner statement forms delivered to Zoe Monk for completion
 03/03 - called [REDACTED] owner of attacked animals- attack appears far worse than caller had let on with several chickens, 2 x giant flemish rabbits killed and 1 x sheep injured- arranged to have statement taken from [REDACTED] 04/03-delivered statement forms and discussed details with [REDACTED] still deciding if he will put a formal statement in
 06/03 Formal statement received from [REDACTED]
 12/03/25 ACOs32 & 13 visited Zoey Monk and advised dogs would be being classified as menacing in the coming days and all rigjts of appeal etc explained
 Menacing classification paperwork delivered 24/03 1250hrs- papers for both dogs left at [REDACTED] per Zoe Monks request.

Comments:

Event Hlstory:

Description	Commenced	Target Date	Role Name
Status Decision	Finalised		User
Notes			

Waikato District Council

Request

Description	Status	Decision	Commenced Finalised	Target Date	Role Name User
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Notes

CRM Created			26/02/2025 09:21.56 am		
	Past	Yes	26/02/2025 09:21.56 am		

Current Dog Classification?			26/02/2025 09:21.57 am		
	Current				

CRM Completed					
	Future				

Waikato District Council Request

Custom Date Fields:

Custom Text Fields:

Date Received	26/02/2025	9:21:56AM	Victim Type?*	Animal
			Dog made contact?*	Yes
			Description of dog?*	Husky
			Incident Location?*	
Respon/Onsite Target	26/02/2025	10:21:56AM	Where Dog from?*	
			Owner Details	Zoe
			Victim Details	

Ani Control Area*	South
-------------------	-------

OnSite Time	26/02/2025	9:22:00AM
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Completion Target	26/02/2025	1:21:00PM	Severity	4
Work Completed			Substantiated?	YES
			Outcome	

Custom Value Fields:

EOC Open?	0.00
EOC GIS Map?	0.00
EOC Impact	
EOC Urgency	
EOC Injury Count	
EOC Fatality Count	

Antenno/SSS Ref





Rabbit Enclosure



date: 25/2/25
 Client: Zoe Monk
 Vet: [redacted]
 Time Arrived: 7:50
 depart: 8:43

One Sheep examined for dog attack.

- clip + clean wounds (red meat withheld)
- Antibiotic: engemycin PA (100ml)
8.5ml given IM
- Pain Relief
- 2.3ml Metacam (100ml) given SQ
- 1bl meat withheld.

Signed
 Vet: [signature]
 Client: [signature]



0800 224 3338 | anexa.co.nz

Client: Zoe Monk
 Species: Sheep
 Date: 25/2/25
 Supplier: [redacted]
 Arrival: 07:50
 Departure: 08:43
 354369
 anexa
 Veterinary Services
 Vet Docket

Animal ID	Item / Diagnosis	Unit / Quantity	Price	Code	Order	Expiry	Frequency	Days	Notes
	Metacam 100ml	1		20059					
	Engemycin PA 100ml	1		20059					
	Metacam 100ml	1		20059					
	Engemycin PA 100ml	1		20059					
	Metacam 100ml	1		20059					
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	Metacam 100								

Storm – Classification

Zoe Monk [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for calling in and giving me a heads up about Storm being classified as a menacing dog.

Just following up a couple things after our previous conversation:

1. Confirming it's okay for Stormy to be taken to an off-leash / dog are without being kept on lead?
2. I saw that Section 33(5) of the Dog Control Act states that a dog doesn't need to be muzzled in specified circumstances where the authority considers it not necessary. In this case, would you be comfortable with Stormy not being muzzled when Jared or myself are walking or running her on lead? Storm has been well trained on lead and I am mindful there is no prior history of her biting or showing any form of aggressive behaviour towards other animals or humans when on lead. She is well-socialised in dog parks and beaches with other dogs and humans and the incident that occurred was not when she was on lead and wouldn't have occurred if she was or we were there.

I really appreciate your consideration of this as we are responsible dog owners and we are doing everything we can to ensure it doesn't happen again.

33E Effect of classification as menacing dog

- (1) If a dog is classified as a menacing dog under section 33A or section 33C, the owner of the dog—
 - (a) must not allow the dog to be at large or in any public place or in any private way, except when confined completely within a vehicle or cage, without being muzzled in such a manner as to prevent the dog from biting but to allow it to breathe and drink without obstruction; and
 - (b) must, if required by the territorial authority, within 1 month after receipt of notice of the classification, produce to the territorial authority a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying—
 - (i) that the dog is or has been neutered; or
 - (ii) that for reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be neutered before a date specified in the certificate; and
 - (c) must, if a certificate under paragraph (b)(ii) is produced to the territorial authority, produce to the territorial authority, within 1 month after the date specified in that certificate, a further certificate under paragraph (b)(i).
- (2) *[Repealed]*
- (3) *[Repealed]*
- (4) *[Repealed]*
- (5) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply in respect of any dog or class of dog that the territorial authority considers need not be muzzled in any specified circumstances (for example, at a dog show).

Cheers

Zoe Monk
[REDACTED]

33E Effect of classification as menacing dog

- (1) If a dog is classified as a menacing dog under [section 33A](#) or [section 33C](#), the owner of the dog—
 - (a) must not allow the dog to be at large or in any public place or in any private way, except when confined completely within a vehicle or cage, without being muzzled in such a manner as to prevent the dog from biting but to allow it to breathe and drink without obstruction; and
 - (b) must, if required by the territorial authority, within 1 month after receipt of notice of the classification, produce to the territorial authority a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying—
 - (i) that the dog is or has been neutered; or
 - (ii) that for reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be neutered before a date specified in the certificate; and
 - (c) must, if a certificate under paragraph (b)(ii) is produced to the territorial authority, produce to the territorial authority, within 1 month after the date specified in that certificate, a further certificate under paragraph (b)(i).
- (2) *[Repealed]*
- (3) *[Repealed]*
- (4) *[Repealed]*
- (5) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply in respect of any dog or class of dog that the territorial authority considers need not be muzzled in any specified circumstances (for example, at a dog show).



21 March 2025

To whom it may concern

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner and Dog trainer. I have a decade of experience working with troubled Canines alongside canine behaviorists throughout the upper north Island. I am also certified in Animal Law, Animal Welfare Investigations, Animal Welfare Prosecutions and Health and Husbandry.

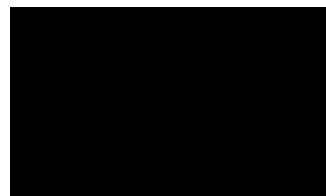
I am writing this letter to relay my experience dealing with Storm whilst attending our Kennels and K9 School facility.

Prior to boarding with us, all dogs are required to undergo a trial visit. Storm completed this assessment in 2021, and the following observations were assessed.

- The ability to display calm behavior and not overly anxious, excited, and/or over stimulated with being in a kennel environment.
- Allow staff to perform a full health check including checking mouth, eyes, ears, paws.
- Assess interactions with other dogs.
- Assess level of obedience.

There have been no concerns with Storm interacting with other dogs of all shapes and sizes. It was clear to us she had been well socialized, generalized and is a well-mannered canine citizen.

Storm has been attending this facility since 2021 and boards with us regularly as well as attending our K9 school facility on a weekly basis.





Waikato Boarding Kennels & Cattery

I have found her to always be obedient and friendly towards the other dogs and staff. I consider her to be a well-trained and friendly dog that does not pose a threat to people of other dogs.

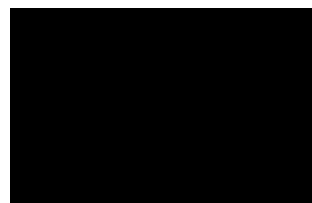
Following the recent events in which Storm was unfortunately involved in we completed two behavior assessments with Storm. The first assessment was in the presence of Chickens and the second involving Cats. Both of which can often be a trigger to many dogs.

Whilst walking past both animals in a proximity of approximately 5 meters Storm initially looked in the direction of the animal when she noticed them, her body language was relaxed, and she did not seem at all bothered by the presence of the animal. As soon as Storm was asked to 'Leave it' and re focus to the handler she did so immediately without hesitation on a standard 1.2m leash.

Storm was able to show impulse control and great level of obedience at this distance. She remained calm and in a neutral head space throughout the entire assessment.

We then decreased the proximity to both the Chickens and Cats to around 1-2 meters in which her behavior did not change. I was able to drop the leash, leave her side and walk away from her reach whilst she maintained a sit or down behavior. Storm continuing to hold focus on myself and had the ability to ignore both the Chickens and Cats even within closer proximity.

Storm was again able to show impulse control and obedience at this distance. She also maintained relaxed body language.





Waikato Boarding Kennels & Cattery

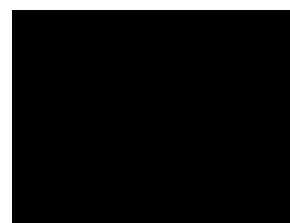
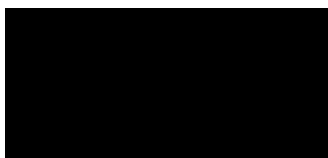
In my professional opinion the behavior that Storm showed towards each of these animals is not consistent with that of a dog who has behavioral issues and does not warrant the lifelong use of a muzzle.

With working dogs with high prey drive and behavior concerns you will often see concerning behaviors such as Hyper fixation, stiff body language, arousal, and frustration often in the form of vocalization and no impulse control. I did not witness any of the above behaviors, whilst working with Storm throughout the assessment. I can also provide videos of the assessment documented.

The preventative measures that Storm's owners Zoe and [REDACTED] have taken thus far are more than adequate given the factors that lead to the unfortunate event involving both Winter and Storm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely



Page 3 of 3

From: Democracy
Sent: Thursday, 3 April 2025 11:32 am
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Acknowledgement of Objection of Menacing Classification

From: Zoe Monk <zoereneemonk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 31 March 2025 2:31 pm
To: Democracy <Democracy@waide.govt.nz>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Acknowledgement of Objection of Menacing Classification

Hi [REDACTED],

Thanks so much for your email. Are you able to let me know when we have to submit any documentation to support our appeal by?

Also are you able to assist with my query - I had asked for confirmation of whether there is any photographic evidence of Storm at the incident location or with blood on her and if so, for these be provided these to us? We have been advised verbally by Animal Control that this is the case however no photos of Storm were provided in our LGOIMA request ADM0274/25.

Lastly could I please ask that you include my husband in any correspondence as I am 40 weeks pregnant and due to go into labour any day now.

Thank you!
Zoe Monk

On 31 Mar 2025, at 2:17 PM, Democracy <Democracy@waide.govt.nz> wrote:

Good afternoon Zoe,

I am just reaching out on behalf of the Democracy Team of Waikato District Council to acknowledge your appeal for the menacing classification.

I will arrange a hearing date with our panel and get back to you with a date.

The agenda for the hearing will be sent to you both physically and via online once completed and at least seven days prior to the hearing.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out.

Ngaa mihi,

[REDACTED]

Waikato District Council

Te Kaunihera aa Takiwaa o Waikato

Nama waea: 07 824 8633 | **Waea puukoro:** 0800 492 452

Poutaapeta Mahi: Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742

Waahi Mahi: 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia



33B Objection to classification of dog under section 33A

(1) If a dog is classified under [section 33A](#) as a menacing dog, the owner—

(a) may, within 14 days of receiving notice of the classification, object in writing to the territorial authority in regard to the classification; and

(b) has the right to be heard in support of the objection.

(2) The territorial authority considering an objection under subsection (1) may uphold or rescind the classification, and in making its determination must have regard to—

(a) the evidence which formed the basis for the classification; and

(b) any steps taken by the owner to prevent any threat to the safety of persons or animals; and

(c) the matters relied on in support of the objection; and

(d) any other relevant matters.

(3) The territorial authority must, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the owner of—

(a) its determination of the objection; and

(b) the reasons for its determination.

In the Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Ngāruawāhia

CRM No: [REDACTED]
Dog ID: [REDACTED]
Person ID: [REDACTED]

Dog Control Act 1996

In the matter of

Objection to Menacing Classification under Section 33B
Dog Control Act 1996

Between

Zoe and Jared Monk
[REDACTED]
Owners of the Dog and Appellants

And

Animal Control, Waikato District
Respondent

Notice of Appeal

Hearing date: 13 June 2025

Territorial Authority: Regulatory Subcommittee

Filed by: [REDACTED]

To the Waikato District Council Regulatory Subcommittee.

Dear Committee Members

1. We, Jared and Zoe Monk, are appealing the menacing dog classification of our dog, Storm, a Husky cross, which was imposed on 24 March 2025. We fully accept responsibility for the incident on 25 February 2025 involving Storm, but we respectfully request that the classification be reconsidered. If the classification is upheld, we specifically object to the accompanying muzzling condition.

Statement of Events

2. On the morning of 25 February 2025, Storm and a relative's dog, Winter, escaped our property and tragically killed chickens and bunnies at a nearby property. A sheep was also injured but has since made a full recovery. Winter had stayed overnight at our house for the first time, and both dogs were left unsecured outside, which was a mistake on our part.
3. We were contacted early in the morning by the owners to advise us of the incident and that Winter was still at their property. Storm returned home shortly after this phone call. At the time, we were informed by the owners that she was seen running around the sheep but fled the scene when they went outside.
4. We believe this was an isolated incident caused by poor management and a series of unfortunate circumstances, including the fact that our e-perimeter fencing had not been operational due to construction on our property. We deeply regret the situation and have taken full responsibility for the events that led up to it. We are committed to ensuring it does not happen again.

Immediate Steps Taken - Responsibility and Remorse

1. We have both a personal and professional relationship with the owners as they are friends and neighbours as well as business clients of ours. Our daughter also attends their daycare..
2. We were devastated and felt sick to hear of this news and upon being notified of this incident, we (together with Rowena), took several steps in the immediate to put things right with the owners as this was our first and primary concern:
 - a. Arranged and covered the cost for an after-hours vet to attend to the sheep right away.
 - b. Assisted the owners in cleaning up the animals and scene as quickly as possible.
 - c. At the owner's request, we agreed Winter will not return to our property.
 - d. Additionally, at their request, we committed to keeping Storm securely confined at night either inside, in a kennel or tied up.
 - e. As a gesture of our apology, we purchased massage vouchers for each of the owners.

- f. Purchased movie vouchers for the owner's four children as a further expression of our regret.
- g. Delivered trays of donuts, a card and a candle to the daycare teachers to acknowledge their loss.
- h. Paid for replacement bunnies for the daycare..
- i. Offered to replace the chickens if and when owners are ready to do so.
- j. We self-reported the incident to Council on the day of the incident.

Self-Reporting and Accountability

9. We have made every effort to be accountable and believe that self-reporting the incident to the council (which we did the same day of the incident) was the right course of action. In hindsight, we recognise that doing so has led to additional stress. We would be surprised if many others would have voluntarily self-reported in a similar situation.
10. Following us self-reporting the incident to council, I received a home visit from the Animal Control Officer (ACO) on 28 February. I explained the situation, outlined the exceptional circumstances, and detailed the steps we were taking to prevent it from happening again. The ACO praised the preventative measures and confirmed that he is familiar with Storm, noting no concerns about her nature or potential threat. Storm was present during the interaction and showed no signs of aggression.
11. The ACO informed me I could submit a statement, though no formal complaint had been made. I asked him to contact the owners to confirm he had visited our property and was satisfied with the measures being put in place and that the situation was being handled between us and the owners.
12. On 11 March, we were unexpectedly informed by two ACOs that Storm was going to be classified as a "Menacing Dog" by deed, following a statement received from the owners (at our request). This was surprising and considerably stressful, given the previous commendation and the lack of clear explanation for the change. The owners had also expressed their satisfaction with our efforts to make amends. We were not served the formal classification papers until 24 March.
13. From the outset, and following the classification, we have consistently cooperated with animal control and adhered to the prescribed procedures and the effects of the classification. This includes promptly notifying our intent to appeal and submitting the sterilisation certificate as required. Despite experiencing delays and flaws in the procedural process, we have remained fully compliant, even during a stressful time when I was heavily pregnant and due to give birth.
14. We have felt that Animal Control has not demonstrated the same level of cooperation. On three occasions during March and April, I wrote to the Council requesting photographic or video evidence of Storm in relation to the incident, which I had been verbally informed existed. However, no such evidence was included in our LGOIMA request and Animal Control has not responded to these inquiries.

Human Error and Poor Management

15. We believe this incident resulted from poor decision making and mismanagement on our behalf. We failed to properly consider the risks of having Winter in an unfamiliar environment and leaving both dogs unsecured outside overnight. This was an isolated incident, driven by exceptional circumstances, and we did not foresee the potential negative influence on Storm, who took advantage of the situation.

Exceptional Circumstances

16. It is our view that the circumstances were exceptional in that:
- a. This was the first time Winter stayed at our property overnight.
 - b. Storm regularly sleeps outside during the Summer months due to the heat, with no prior issues. Winter stays indoors at her property overnight, but this time, she was outside with Storm.
 - c. We failed to secure the dogs outside overnight.
 - d. The incident occurred in the early hours of the morning when the dogs were unsupervised and off-leash.
 - e. At the time, the e-perimeter fencing system had not been working for some months due to ongoing construction at our property.
 - f. The bunnies and chickens were not in a fully enclosed pen, as the dogs were able to jump over the fence into their enclosure which lacked a roof.
 - g. This is not typical behaviour of Storm. She is six years old with no prior reported incidents.
 - h. Storm had not been exercised regularly for over three months due to complications with my pregnancy, and we believe this contributed to her heightened excitement and impulsive behavior in a situation that was particularly tempting.
 - i. We have lived in this subdivision for three years without any prior incidents.

Preventative Measures and Proactive Management:

17. We have taken significant steps to prevent any future risks and are fully committed, as owners, to be proactive in Storm's training and security. Specifically we have implemented the following:
- a. Installed a new e-perimeter wire fencing system with corrective measures when she encroaches.
 - b. Equipped Storm's collar with a GPS tracker, enabling us to monitor her movements both on and off our property.
 - c. Arranged for Storm to undergo a behaviour assessment by Patricia Rocha (Dog Trainer).
 - d. Arranged for Storm to undergo a behaviour assessment by Faye Carey (Dog Trainer), in the presence of chickens and a cat.
 - e. Arranged for Storm to undergo an on-leash assessment by Kelsey Harper in the Arboretum in the presence of Chickens and ducks.
 - f. Arranged for Storm to undergo an assessment by Patricia Rocha in the presence of Sheep and Lambs

18. We agreed to the outcomes as requested by the owners both in person and in their statement, including:
- a. We will not have Winter return to our property.
 - b. Storm will be contained on our property (using e-perimeter fencing).
 - c. Storm will be kept secure at night (inside, kennel or tied up).
19. Additionally, we are actively pursuing regular training for Storm and to improve our skills and management as dog owners:
- a. Arranged 1:1 training sessions with Patricia Rocha (Dog Trainer)
 - b. Arranged 1:1 desensitisation training walks and pack walks twice weekly with Kelsey Harper (on leash walker specialising in reactivity and behaviour modification).
 - c. Enrolled Storm into K9 School weekly at Waikato Boarding Kennels and Cattery in Taupiri.

Inappropriateness of the Muzzling Condition:

20. We were very upset when we learned of the effects that the classification includes the requirement to be muzzled and on lead at all times in public spaces. As indicated, we feel the circumstances of the event were isolated and due to our poor human management of both dogs together.
21. The lifelong muzzling condition seems unnecessary and irrelevant to this situation which would not prevent this from occurring in future as Storm was not under our supervision or on leash at the time.
22. This condition seems disproportionate to the circumstances of the incident and would negatively affect Storm's well-being and may unnecessarily scare my children and other children in the community and create a perception regarding Storm's breed.
23. The owners have also expressed support for the removal of the muzzling condition, as reflected in Appendix 8, and emphasised that their primary concern was the combination of the two dogs together, which they believe was the root cause of the incident.

Behaviour Assessments and Support Letters

24. Following the incident we arranged for Storm to undergo multiple behavioural assessments with three professional dog trainers specialising in reactivity and behavioural modification. These assessments have been conducted in the presence of strangers, chickens, cats, other dogs and in a variety of environments; at K9 School, the Arboretum, in our neighbourhood, Supermarkets and at home.
25. All of these professional assessments and support letters are attached (see appendices). They demonstrate Storm as a well-behaved and gentle-natured dog, who is responsive when supervised and supports that she does not pose an ongoing threat towards other animals or the public. Specifically we have attached video footage of:

- a. Storm's behaviour in close proximity to chickens and not on leash - assessment by Faye Carey post incident.
 - b. Assessment of Storm in a paddock with lambs and sheeps post incident.
 - c. Storm's lack of interest to leave our property when the gate is open post incident.
 - d. Storm's interaction with an unfamiliar courier driver entering our property for the first time.
26. We have also provided support letters from others in the community, including a present neighbour (with a cat and children), Anexa Vets and an AirBnb guest.

Storm's Character and History

27. Storm, a Siberian Husky Cross, born on 10 June 2019, has had significant exposure to various environments, animals, and people throughout her life. Since her birth, we've moved homes four times, each providing her with opportunities to adapt to new settings:
- **River Terraces, Ngaruawahia:** No incidents while living near domestic cats and dogs. Storm was always under close control and never rushed at other animals or people.
 - **Rural Property, Gordonton:** We lived in a caravan during renovations and were surrounded by livestock, cats and dogs. No incidents were reported.
 - **Secondary Dwelling (Current Subdivision):** We lived here for 10 months while building our house. The property backed onto a farm, and the owners had three children and cared for a stray cat. Despite the property not being fully gated, Storm had no issues with livestock, animals, or people and never strayed the property.
 - **Current Property [REDACTED]:** We've lived here for over 2 years without any prior incidents. There are a large number of dogs and cats in the neighbourhood. Our neighbors directly opposite us have Chickens (enclosed) and Storm has never showed prey-drive when playing with their dogs at their property.
28. In addition to these home environments, Storm has had frequent exposure to animals and new surroundings throughout her life. From puppyhood, she accompanied Jared to building sites daily, adapting well to new environments. She has always been around young children, adults, and elderly, including our own children (3 years old and a newborn), as well as relatives, friends, and strangers.
29. As co-owners of Montage Group, Storm frequently visited the office with Jared and became known as the "shop dog" to clients, sub-contractors, and staff. We also holiday at various locations, where Storm has been well-socialised at beaches, lakes, dog parks, and off-leash areas. At my parents' home near Hamilton Lake, Storm

coexists peacefully with their Birman cat and is regularly walked around the lake without reacting aggressively to the various bird species.

30. Additionally, we have a separate AirBnB on our property, where Storm has access to the outdoor area. Guests often comment on Storm's good behavior and friendly nature.

31. We have attached photos to demonstrate Storm's loving, well-behaved and calm nature.

No Prior History

32. There have been no previous complaints or incidents reported to Council, supporting this is an isolated incident.

33. We acknowledge the owner's statement regarding previous events involving chickens and a dog walking past our property but would make the following comments on this:

a. **Chicken Incident:** *Five years ago when Storm was 8 months old we purchased a rural property, which bordered three neighbours. When we first moved in there was no fencing between the properties due to boundary realignments and the neighbour's chickens were not in a secure coop. Storm did chase and kill the chickens when they roamed. The neighbour never reported this, as he didn't have concerns about Storm's nature and believed Storm took advantage of the chickens wandering through the unfenced properties. All three neighbors later installed post-and-rail fencing, the chicken coop remained only a few meters from our boundary fence and we continued to live at this property with no further issues. The mention of "17 chickens" was an exaggeration made by Jared in shock and distress while helping Steve clean up after the incident on 25 February. This figure is incorrect and a hyperbole.*

b. **Springer Spaniel Incident:** *Two years ago, I witnessed Storm and Winter rush out to Steve and Catherine's dog being walked past our property by their daughter.. Winter, who was a puppy and undergoing training, was jumping and barking excitedly. I immediately called the dogs back, and they returned without issue. We were waiting for a gate to be installed. Since, and as Catherine and Steve have stated, they often walk past our property without incident when Storm has been home alone. They have also visited our property on multiple occasions for social gatherings and their daughter continues to babysit for us.*

34. It is our understanding that these events have influenced Animal's Control's change of mind to classify Storm and we would have appreciated the chance to address these earlier. We feel these past events, which were unreported, lack context and are significantly historic, should not be considered in the current assessment of Storm's behaviour.

For your Consideration

35. As indicated we remain committed to being responsible dog owners and ensuring Storm is well trained and managed at all times, as well as continuing to support her well-being.
36. We do not believe Storm is an ongoing threat and maintain she is a gentle, family dog who is exceptionally well-behaved, as supported by the attached assessments, support letters, video footage and photos.
37. We are grateful for the opportunity to express our views on this matter and respectfully ask you to reconsider the menacing dog classification or, if it is upheld, that you remove the muzzling condition based on the facts we've presented. We truly regret the incident and are doing everything in our power to ensure it will not happen again.

Thank you for your consideration,



Zoe Monk
Co-owner of Storm

Jared Monk
Owner of Storm

Appendices

- Appendix 1** **Initial Behaviour Assessment**
Patricia Rocha (NDTF - Aus Certified Training in Dog Training and Behaviour/Kids Safe with Dogs Instructor/Member of IABBC & APFTNZ/CANZ) Dog Minds
- Appendix 2** **Letter of Support**
Patricia Rocha (NDTF - Aus Certified Training in Dog Training and Behaviour/Kids Safe with Dogs Instructor/Member of IABBC & APFTNZ/CANZ) Dog Minds
- Appendix 3** **Letter of Support and Behaviour Assessment (Video)**
Fay Carey (KPA CTP certified training) Waikato Boarding Kennels and Cattery and K9 School)
- Appendix 4** **Letter of Support and Behaviour Assessment**
*Kelsey Harper
Harpers Hounds (dog pack walking service specialising in reactive dogs)*
- Appendix 5** **Letter of Support**
*Shelly Carden
Former Neighbour and Current Resident in Same Subdivision*
- Appendix 6** **Letter of Support**
*Judy Thomson
Anexa Vets and Former Neighbour*
- Appendix 7** **Letter of Support**
*Darrin and Rita Svenson
AirBnb Guests and Perrin Park Residents*
- Appendix 8** **Message from Owners**
*Catherine and Steve Darby
in support of the muzzle condition to be removed and reiterating their desired outcomes and their satisfaction with the measures we have put in place.*
- Appendix 9:** **Final Assessment and Letter of Support**
Patricia Rocha (NDTF - Aus Certified Training in Dog Training and Behaviour/Kids Safe with Dogs Instructor/Member of IABBC & APFTNZ/CANZ) Dog Minds
- Appendix 10** **Video Assessments of Storm in various settings by Dog Trainers**
Chicken assessment, Sheep and Lamb assessment, Storm's lack of interest to leave our property when the gate is open, Storm's interaction with an unfamiliar Courier Driver entering our property
- Appendix 11:** **Photos Evidencing Storm's Nature**
- Appendix 12:** **Certificate of Sterilisation**
- Appendix 13** **Tabled costs incurred post-Incident**
- Appendix 14:** **Invoices/Receipts - Costs incurred post-Incident**

Appendix 1: Initial Behaviour Assessment and Training Report by Patricia Rocha
Dog Minds NZ - NDTF - Aus Certified Training in Dog Training and Behaviour / Kids Safe with Dogs Instructor / Member of IABBC & APFTNZ / CANZ

20 March 2025

BEHAVIOUR ASSESSMENT & TRAINING REPORT DOG MINDS

Behaviour & Training Report - Storm (20th March 2025)

DOG DETAILS	
Name	Storm
Breed	Husky
Age	6yo

Temperament & Behaviour:

- overall very calm, placid, and relaxed (even when visitors arrived)
- very friendly nature and with a gentle approach
- driven by high value food, but low drive to work
- displays low levels of arousal especially when food/toys are present
- strong impulse control and very relaxed outside the property even with the gate open or when people walked past

Observed behaviours:

- No signs of arousal towards any potential triggers within the property
- No reaction to people walking past the property even with the gate open
- No interest in walking outside the property
- No reaction to dogs barking or cats walking outside the property

Focus of the Training Plan:

- > increase motivation to work and mental stimulation (through brainwork, obedience)
- > increase physical exercise
- > add structure to her outings combined with desensitisation + obedience
- > going back to the basics and re-teach cues and behaviours and provide clarity in regards to rules



DOG MINDS

www.dogmindsnz.com | 

NOTE: The Training Report is several pages long and can be provided on request if necessary.

Appendix 2: Letter of Support from Patricia Rocha

Dog Minds NZ - NDTF - Aus Certified Training in Dog Training and Behaviour / Kids Safe with Dogs Instructor / Member of IABBC & APFTNZ / CANZ)



DOG BEHAVIOUR ASSESSMENT & SUPPORT LETTER

DOG MINDS

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Patricia Martins Rocha and I am a certified Dog Trainer and Behaviour Consultant at Dog Minds NZ (*Dog Behaviour and Training - NDTF Australia*). I am writing this behaviour assessment and reference letter regarding the objection to the menacing classification of Storm, owned by Zoe and Jared Monk.

I met Storm and her owners on the 20th March 2025 at their property for a Behaviour and Training Assessment & Consultation. On this day, Storm was inside the property when I arrived and she came to meet me when I was inside the house. Storm did not go outside when the gate opened nor did she rush or show signs of overarousal when she realised there was someone new in the house. When she came to inspect me, she seemed curious but was calm, she was very gentle on her approach, and her body language was loose and relaxed. Nothing about her approach was a concern, she was friendly and overall very placid.

The first part of the session was inside the house so that I could better understand some of the issues of concern and the context of the recent events. During this time, Storm was mostly laying down and even asleep on the floor next to us. No signs of arousal, fence rushing or interest in what was happening outside.

Afterwards, I had the chance to work directly with Storm outside the house, by the fenceline and gate of the property. We worked on engagement and basic pattern games, with some interruption and redirection strategies as well as some of the basics of obedience. Storm responded very well to all the exercises and was keen to work for high value food and play. During the session a few people walked past, dogs barked across the road and even a cat walked outside the property, but Storm showed no interest in any of it. We opened and closed the gate a few times and she did not move nor showed any intention of rushing or walking outside. She remained engaged with me or she simply chose to lay down and rest. We took a few videos of these exercises and interactions which can be provided as evidence.

From other videos I have in the meantime received and analysed from other professionals who have also worked with Storm, I have seen no concerning body language or change in behaviour that would indicate lack of impulse control or interest in chasing or attacking other animals or humans.

I have recommended that some of the basics of training are implemented at home to strengthen her engagement and ability to focus when requested and I have also suggested increasing her physical exercise and mental stimulation. Her owners have engaged with several professionals to guarantee that her ongoing training is implemented correctly and a few follow-up training sessions will be in place too. Our goal is to assess and work on Storm's behaviour around small animals and work on desensitisation and handler engagement strategies. More detail will be provided after these sessions.



DOG MINDS

dogmindsnz@gmail.com | [REDACTED]



DOG MINDS

DOG BEHAVIOUR ASSESSMENT & SUPPORT LETTER

I believe that the incident that took place on the 25th February 2025 was due to a combination of unfortunate human-related factors that include recent changes in the exercise and daily routine due to Zoe's health condition for the last few months, management failure (fencing, effective boundary), and that it only happened because the two dogs were together and not secured.

I understand that this was an unfortunate event, but from what I have seen, I do not believe that Storm is a menacing dog in any way nor a dog that is innately or ontogenetically prone to offensive aggression towards humans or any other animals. I believe that Storm has a very calm and loving nature and she is not a threat to anyone around her and having to wear a muzzle at all times when outside the property would affect her quality of life, access to positive associations and reinforcers she enjoys (ball, tug). For all these reasons, I don't believe that Storm should be classified as menacing nor have to wear a muzzle at all times.

Training & Management

I have discussed training and management with Storm's owners to ensure there will be no future incidents:

- The property fencing must be secured
- The proofing of her impulse control - within and outside their property - around small animals
- Storm's owners have agreed to continue with the required training and behaviour modification strategies associated with improving her engagement and focus in highly arousing environments and around other animals
- Control and management must be implemented at all times when outside the property
- Storm must be kept under verbal control, on lead or in secured areas at all times

I have seen a very strong level of commitment from Storm's owners and I believe that they have the ability to keep their dog and others around them safe and that no other incidents will take place in the future.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding Storm's behaviour or suitability as a member of the community, please feel free to contact me for further information to discuss.

Patricia Martins Rocha

Dog Minds NZ

Dog Trainer and Behaviour Consultant

Attachment: Storm's initial Behaviour & Training Report (March 2025)



DOG MINDS

dogmindsnz@gmail.com | 

**Appendix 3: Letter of support from Faye Carey, KPA CTP certified training
Owner Waikato Boarding Kennels and Cattery and K9 School**

21 March 2025



To whom it may concern

My name is Faye Carey and I am a Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner and Dog trainer. I have a decade of experience working with troubled Canines alongside canine behaviorists throughout the upper north Island. I am also certified in Animal Law, Animal Welfare Investigations, Animal Welfare Prosecutions and Health and Husbandry.

I am writing this letter to relay my experience dealing with Storm whilst attending our Kennels and K9 School facility.

Prior to boarding with us, all dogs are required to undergo a trial visit. Storm completed this assessment in 2021, and the following observations were assessed.

- The ability to display calm behavior and not overly anxious, excited, and/or over stimulated with being in a kennel environment.
- Allow staff to perform a full health check including checking mouth, eyes, ears, paws.
- Assess interactions with other dogs.
- Assess level of obedience.

There have been no concerns with Storm interacting with other dogs of all shapes and sizes. It was clear to us she had been well socialized, generalized and is a well-mannered canine citizen.

Storm has been attending this facility since 2021 and boards with us regularly as well as attending our K9 school facility on a weekly basis.

I have found her to always be obedient and friendly towards the other dogs and staff. I consider her to be a well-trained and friendly dog that does not pose a threat to people or other dogs.

Following the recent events in which Storm was unfortunately involved in we completed two behavior assessments with Storm. The first assessment was in the presence of Chickens and the second involving Cats. Both of which can often be a trigger to many dogs.

Whilst walking past both animals in a proximity of approximately 5 meters Storm initially looked in the direction of the animal when she noticed them, her body language was relaxed,



Waikato Boarding Kennels & Cattery

and she did not seem at all bothered by the presence of the animal. As soon as Storm was asked to 'Leave it' and re focus to the handler she did so immediately without hesitation on a standard 1.2m leash.

Storm was able to show impulse control and great level of obedience at this distance. She remained calm and in a neutral head space throughout the entire assessment.

We then decreased the proximity to both the Chickens and Cats to around 1-2 meters in which her behavior did not change. I was able to drop the leash, leave her side and walk away from her reach whilst she maintained a sit or down behavior. Storm continuing to hold focus on myself and had the ability to ignore both the Chickens and Cats even within closer proximity.

Storm was again able to show impulse control and obedience at this distance. She also maintained relaxed body language.

In my professional opinion the behavior that Storm showed towards each of these animals is not consistent with that of a dog who has behavioral issues and does not warrant the lifelong use of a muzzle.

With working dogs with high prey drive and behavior concerns you will often see concerning behaviors such as Hyper fixation, stiff body language, arousal, and frustration often in the form of vocalization and no impulse control. I did not witness any of the above behaviors, whilst working with Storm throughout the assessment. I can also provide videos of the assessment documented.

The preventative measures that Storm's owners Zoe and Jarred have taken thus far are more than adequate given the factors that lead to the unfortunate event involving both Winter and Storm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

Faye Carey KPACTP

Appendix 4: Letter of support from Kelsey Harper

Harpers Hounds - dog pack walking service specialising in reactive dogs and current resident in the same subdivision



26th March 2025

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Kelsey Harper. I operate Harpers Hounds, a dog pack walking service that specialises in reactive dogs. I also train dogs and have been doing so since July 2020.

I am writing to express my support for Zoe and Jared Monk, regarding the incident at the Gumboots and Grasshoppers Daycare.

Zoe contacted me after the incident to enquire about my services. I met with her on Friday the 21st of March where the incident was discussed at length. On Sunday the 23rd, I met with Storm and we went for a walk at the Taitua Arboretum so that I could evaluate Storm's behaviour and intent around the chickens and ducks.

I found Storm to be mildly interested, but easily correctable. She did not lunge towards any prey and was very easily handled and distractible. I have prior experience with huskies with prey drives and found Storm to be very low risk. I did recommend further training and desensitisation to Zoe and we have agreed that I will walk Storm twice a week to further her training with ignoring all prey type animals.

It is also part of the training plan to try Storm at slat milling (dog treadmill) to regulate her energy levels. In my personal experience, dogs that are physically and mentally fulfilled do not wander from home. As Zoe used to run Storm, I believe including running back into her regime will be immensely beneficial to her mental wellbeing and her overall behavior. Breed fulfilment is crucial at preventing unwanted behaviours such as reactivity and roaming.

I also noted on our walks that Storm is what I would classify as a back of the pack dog. Meaning she is a follower and not a leader and would therefore be influenced by another dog. I noted Storm to be incredibly dog neutral around my own personal dogs, and therefore concluded that Storm could have been led astray by Winter.

I am also a resident of Captain Stone Road, Te Kowhai. Whenever I walk past Storm, she is calm, relaxed, and not bothered by dogs walking past. The first time I saw her I was impressed with her training. I was never concerned about her rushing out, and I walk past with multiple dogs.

I believe this was an isolated incident ultimately caused by human error. In my professional opinion there is enough reasonable doubt regarding Storm's exact involvement to remove the menacing label. She has proven to be completely non-aggressive nor a risk to the public. Zoe and Jared have proven their commitment to Storm and in ensuring this will never happen again.

My personal recommendations are as follows:

1. That the section e-perimeter boundary fence is kept on at all times.
2. When Storm is out in public, she is kept on a lead, or an e collar, at all times.
3. To commit to ongoing training and management with a professional dog trainer.
4. That Winter and Storm are not left alone unsupervised unless completely secured.
5. That Winter does not return to the Captain Stone Road property.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact me as per the below.

Kelsey Harper
harpershounds@hotmail.com

Edit - 25/05/25

I have now been walking Storm twice a week for a month. During this time she has displayed zero predatory or aggressive behaviours while out in public. She currently walks in a pack of five other dogs, two of which are my own personal dogs. We also walk with another dog walker (Paws Rewind) who has another three dogs. I stand by my original assessment of Storm being completely dog neutral and non menacing. We walk in the Rototuna area from 7am, where it is busy with children going to school and parents walking them to the bus. Storm is completely uninterested in people, other dogs out walking and cats. She has taken a liking to Toby, a labrador I have walked for over four years. He is a very dog friendly, happy, social dog, and dogs are drawn to similar energies. I reiterate that in my professional opinion, Storm is not a menacing dog and should not be labelled so.

Appendix 5: Letter of support from Shelly Carden
Former direct neighbour and current resident in same subdivision

17 March 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for Mr. and Mrs. Monk and their dog, Stormy, following the recent classification of Stormy as a menacing dog due to a one-off incident. I live in the same neighbourhood as Mr. and Mrs. Monk, and I have had frequent interactions with them and their dog.

For approximately a year, we lived directly next door to Mr and Mrs Monk and our cat frequently visited their property without incident from Stormy. We never so much as heard Stormy bark while we lived next door and she never left the confines of the property they were residing in.

In my experience, Stormy has always exhibited a friendly and calm nature. I have had the opportunity to observe the dog on several occasions, often with my small children present, and have never seen any signs of aggression. Stormy has consistently proven to be gentle, tolerant, and well-behaved, and I have never witnessed any behaviour that would suggest the dog is menacing or dangerous. Additionally, it is worth noting that Stormy has never even jumped up on anyone, further highlighting its calm demeanour.

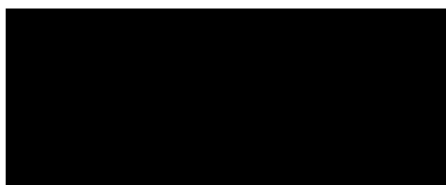
Mr. and Mrs. Monk are responsible and diligent dog owners, always ensuring that Stormy is safely secured within their property. I have never seen or heard of Stormy straying outside their property or acting in any way that could pose a threat to others.

I firmly believe that the recent incident was an isolated occurrence and that, under different circumstances, it would never have happened. I trust that it will not be repeated and that Mr. and Mrs. Monk will continue to provide the necessary care and supervision for their dog.

I respectfully ask that this one-off incident not overshadow the many positive interactions I have had with Stormy and that Mr. and Mrs. Monk's responsible ownership be taken into consideration in any decision-making regarding this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,



Shelly Carden



Appendix 6: Letter of support from Judy Thomson
Anexa Vets, friend and former Neighbour

16 March 2025

Reference regarding Zoe and Jared Monk

To Whom this may concern,

My name is Judy Thomson. I have known and spent lots of time with Zoe Monk for over 12 years. I was a neighbour of Karl and Janice Lapwood (Zoe's Parents) and we have become good friends.

I work for Anexa Vets in the Waikato where Storm has been enrolled in our clinic since she was a puppy.

I've had the pleasure of observing Zoe and Jared as devoted and competent pet owners. I have seen many huskies during the 20 years I have worked in Vet Clinics and have seen unpredictable or ill-behaved dogs due to a lack of training or owners who have not spent enough time with them. Storm is not one of these dogs.

Storm is very gentle and placid in nature and a family dog. I have seen Zoe and Jared with Storm. They are firm with her and she responds well to them. I have never observed any concerning behaviour from Storm.

I've seen Storm interact with young children both at home and in public, and she is always calm and gentle around strangers. Zoe and Jared play an active role in educating children on the proper way to approach a dog they aren't familiar with.

As citizens, Jared and Zoe are a close, supportive, hard working and loving young family. Always there when family or friends need them. Zoe is always friendly, kind, caring, conscientious and a high achiever. She strives to be the best at whatever she puts her mind to. Jared is a young man who works really hard and has stepped in to run the family business after his Dad passed away. He is a caring, loving husband and Dad.

I continue to have no concerns regarding Storm or Zoe and Jared (as dog-handlers) despite recent incidents and am happy to be contacted if you have any further questions.

I will be glad to help.



Judy Thomson,
Anexa Vets Waikato



Appendix 7: Letter of support from Darrin and Rita Svenson
AirBnb Guests and Perrin Park Residents

To whom it may concern

18 March 2025

Re: Storm

Darren and I moved from Australia to NZ 3 months ago and have had the opportunity to stay at Zoe's and Jared's Airbnb on their property on several occasions whilst waiting for our home to be renovated.

As complete strangers we have had the pleasure of observing and interacting with their beautiful dog Storm. I remember on our first stay commenting to my husband on Storm's gentle and good-natured temperament. She would be one of the most well-behaved and obedient dogs we have ever come across in our lives and we are of retirement age.

She would briefly pop down to our unit and visit us for a quick hello and then go back to the main residence. On another occasion we watched her interact with the neighbor's little dog which had wandered under the fence into Storm's yard. She just trotted over to it with authority but without any aggression and politely indicated to the dog to get back on the other side as this is her home, which it did.

We have always been amazed how Storm never wanders off the property even when the gate is open. She doesn't even come rushing up to the gate or fence when strangers walk their dogs or even when we go walking past the property. She will just stay where she is and quietly observe. You never hear a peep out of her. Almost every other dog in the same street will come running up to the fence and bark at you walking past.

One evening we were eating dinner outside, and Storm and Winter came around. We had never met Winter and Winter had a pat and lay down next to us without a fuss whilst we finished eating and then wandered back to the main residence.

On another occasion we bumped into Zoe walking Storm on the lead, and Storm just calmly sits down and waits until you finish having a chat. No jumping up or getting over excited or pulling on the lead.

We don't make these observations lightly or without personal experience as we have owned dogs ourselves over the years. If only one of our dogs had the same temperament!

She is the most lovely and gentle dog both on and off the property!

Please feel free to contact us on 0223437756 if you feel you need to substantiate or discuss this further.

Kind regards,



Darren & Rita Svensson

Appendix 8: Message from the owners in support of the muzzle condition to be removed and reiterating their desired outcomes and their satisfaction with the measures we have put in place.



Stephen, Catherine, Jar...



16 MAR AT 11:33

Catherine

Hi team. We are happy to call the council to ask them to consider removing the muzzle condition. That is definitely not something we asked for. Our only two recommendations were that Winter didn't come back to the property and that Storm was locked up at night either in a kennel or in the house. We don't feel comfortable completely removing our statement just because if anything ever happened again we would feel responsible. However absolutely think that you guys are taking all possible steps to prevent that.

Appendix 9: Final Assessment and Letter of Support by Patricia Rocha Dog Minds NZ - NDTF - Aus Certified Training in Dog Training and Behaviour / Kids Safe with Dogs Instructor / Member of IABBC & APFTNZ / CANZ



DOG MINDS

FINAL ASSESSMENT & SUPPORT LETTER - STORM

25th May 2025

To Whom It May Concern

In addition to the initial *Behaviour Assessment* done in March 2025, I am also presenting a final report and assessment based on Storm's behaviour and training which took place between March and May 2025.

Throughout the last 8 weeks, I have worked directly with Storm and Zoe Monk to assess her ability to engage and focus when requested, to ignore triggers and distractions, to stay focused as well as exposure to environments with different levels of distractions.

During our sessions, I worked mostly with Storm but I also guided Zoe and provided detailed feedback while working with her dog. The sessions included a mix of practical and theoretical skills to support the handler and the dog.

March-May Training and Assessment Sessions:

Date	Type of Session	Length	Location	Comments
20 Mar	Behaviour and Training Consultation	1.5-2hrs	In-home - Te Kowhai	Full consultation with the owner to understand the events and needs. The session was focused on the foundations of obedience, mental stimulation and dog behaviour. We addressed safety, muzzle conditioning and instinctive behaviours as well as training recommendations.
11 Apr	Assessment & Training Walk	1hr	Ngaruawahia - The Point	We walked around the point park, playground and river area to assess Storm's engagement, ability to focus/work and overall interest in the environment. Storm showed some mild excitement about being in a new environment - very loose body, no signs of tension or stress. She wanted to investigate and sniff first. Once she got used to it, she engaged, took treats and was happy to walk closer to me. She showed some interest in the ducks by the river, but in a playful manner - more excited than fixated. We then went by the skatepark and watched children on their scooters and bikes where she stood and observed calmly. No signs of stress.
1 May	Assessment & Training Walk	1hr	Ngaruawahia - Town	During this session, we went to the streets of the town, sat outside the supermarket, a cafe and the shops. Storm was very engaged with me, kept her focus and sat down calmly just observing everyone walking past her without showing any signs of stress or being bothered by it. She walked on a loose lead for most of the walk and received several compliments from people passing by for her behaviour in such busy areas.



DOG MINDS

dogmindsnz@gmail.com



DOG MINDS

FINAL ASSESSMENT & SUPPORT LETTER - STORM

23 May	Final Assessment & Training Session	30-45min	Rural property	I walked Storm to the paddock where the sheep were and assessed her reaction, engagement and body language. She showed minor interest from the start at a safe distance, easily disengaging and showing more interest in the treats and playing with me than the sheep. We move around the paddock approaching the sheep with Storm mostly on a loose lead. When the sheep ran, she looked at them and got excited but she was not fixated, her body was loose and she seemed to want to zoom. I had her on a slip lead at the start and then mostly used the long line. Storm was able to disengage easily every time and on her own accord, no need for tension on the leash. She was able to respond to simple obedience cues and take food no matter how close we got to the sheep (closest we were was 10-15mts away).
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I am also aware that Zoe has engaged with a few other professionals to guarantee Storm's ongoing training and maximise her progress. There has been a clear effort from her end to help Storm and make sure that she learns as much as she needs to learn moving forward.

Conclusion & Recommendations

Considering the training and assessments done in the past 8 weeks, I do not believe that Storm is a dangerous or menacing dog whatsoever nor a dog that is innately or ontogenetically prone to offensive aggression towards others. For that reason, I think that Storm should not be labeled as menacing and that she should not have to wear a muzzle at all times when in public.

I do believe, however, that her handlers should be responsible for keeping her secure within the property, and on a lead when in public, or she must be wearing a muzzle if she is off lead (in safe areas). It should be the handlers' responsibility to guarantee her safety and that of others and she must always be under human supervision and physical control/restraint.

From our sessions, I have also seen a strong level of commitment and accountability from Storm's owners and I believe that they have learned a lot and they will have the ability to keep Storm and others around her safe to make sure that no other incidents take place in the future. I know that Zoe and Jared understand their responsibility as Storm's advocates and that they will continue to work on her handling and training skills moving forward.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding Storm's behaviour or suitability as a member of the community, please feel free to contact me for further information to discuss.

Patricia Martins Rocha
Dog Minds NZ
Dog Trainer and Behaviour Consultant



DOG MINDS

dogmindsnz@gmail.com | [REDACTED]

Appendix 10: Video Assessments of Storm post-incident

[Video Assessments - Storm](#)

Full link as follows: https://1drv.ms/f/s!AppjQtVGSLwzgUUaa7NfcOCU_g22?e=xiylkc

1. **Chicken Assessment** - by Faye Carey

Assessing Storm's behaviour and responsiveness to her when in close proximity to chickens and not on leash.

2. **Lamb/Sheep Assessment** - Final Assessment by Patricia Rocha

Assessing Storm in a paddock with lambs and sheeps post incident.

3. **Property Gate Open**

Video evidencing Storm's lack of interest to leave our property when the gate is open post incident.

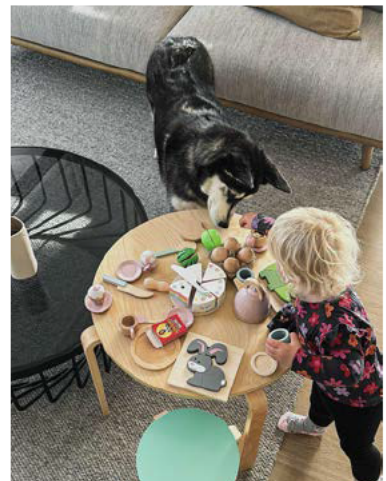
4. **Courier Driver**

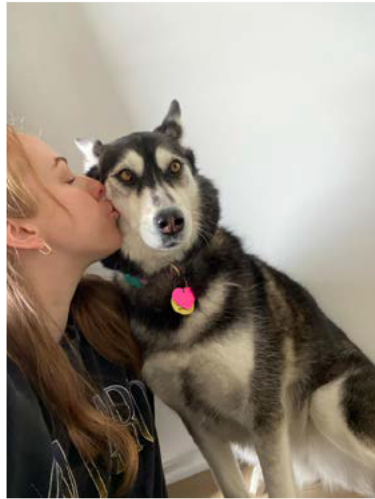
On 26 March, our new rural delivery courier, Pushpinder, arrived with a parcel while the gate was shut. He opened the gate, saw Storm sitting by the door, and initially walked back out. I wasn't home, so he called me. I reassured him that Storm is a calm dog and not reactive to strangers, but if he was uncomfortable, he could leave the parcel over the gate or in the mailbox. Pushpinder decided to proceed. I observed on camera as Storm sat and watched him approach, then calmly sniffed him without showing aggression. She followed him to the front door where he left the package and then returned to the gate. Storm remained at our front entrance. The gate was open during the entire interaction. I followed up with Pushpinder, who said, "She's very nice."

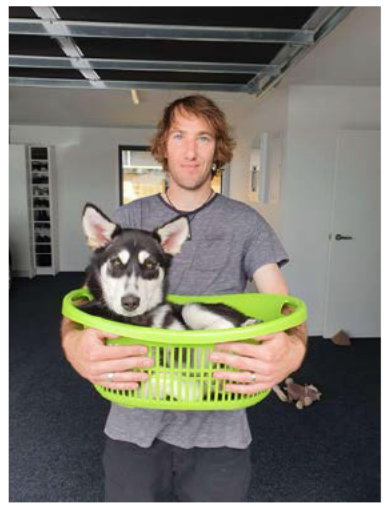
Appendix 11: Photos evidencing Storm's nature.

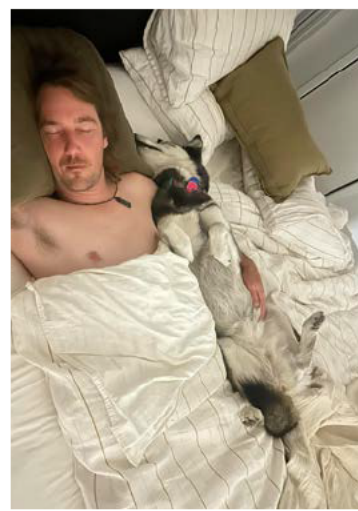












Certificate of Sterilisation

This is to certify that the following animal has been Sterilised

OWNER: Mr & Mrs Jared & Zoe Monk [REDACTED]		PHONE: [REDACTED]
NAME: Storm	SEX: Female Spayed	
BREED: Husky X Dog	COLOUR: Black & White	
D.O.B.: 10/06/2019 AGE: 5y 9m	WEIGHT: 26.500	

DATE STERILISED: 26/11/2019	AGE: 24w
MICROCHIP NUMBER: [REDACTED]	

VET CLINIC: Anexa Vets Ngaruawahia
Verified by: E.Robinson RVN



Your local Vet, passionate about pets 0800 284 3838 | anexafvc.co.nz

Coromandel
P: 07 866 8556
Gordonton
P: 07 824 2103

Huntly
P: 07 828 7660
Maramarua
P: 09 232 5891

Matamata
P: 07 888 8068
Morrinsville
P: 07 889 5159

Ngaruawahia
P: 07 824 8630
Ngatea
P: 07 867 7256

Paeroa
P: 07 862 8815
Raglan
P: 07 825 8390

Rototuna
P: 07 853 0027
Te Aroha
P: 07 884 8014

Te Kauwhata
P: 07 826 3581
Thames
P: 07 868 7005

Appendix 13: Table of the Costs Incurred Post-Incident

Date	Expenditure	Cost (\$NZD)
27.02.25	Anexa Vet - After Hours Vet Bill	263.40
27.02.25	4 x \$40 movie vouchers for the owner's children as a gesture of our apology	160.00
27.02.25	2 x 1hr massage vouchers for the owners as a gesture of our apology	200.00
27.02.25	Morning Tea and a Candle for the Daycare as a gesture of our apology	129.00
30.04.25	2 x Replacement Bunnies	120
10.04.25	E-Perimeter Fencing	387.80
23.04.25	Muzzle	150
23.03.25	Initial Behavioural Assessment - Patricia Rocher	150.00
28.05.25	Progress Behavioural Assessment - Patricia Rocher	150.00
12.04.25 - 06.05.25	2 x Training Sessions with Patricia Rocher	150.00
29.03.25	Initial Behavioural Assessment - Harpers Hounds	125.00
29.03.25	Slat Mill - Harpers Hounds	20.00
31.03.25 - 23.05.25	Training Walks x 8 weeks - Harpers Hounds	480.00
14.03.25	K9 School (10 Concession)	398.00
28.05.25	K9 School (10 Concession)	410
	Total Costs Incurred since Incident	3,098.20