Wednesday, March 22, 2017

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## Free desexing of 'high risk' dogs offered ahead of proposed law change

**COUNCIL** is offering free desexing, of 'high risk' dogs as part of a \$40,000 funding package provided by the Government ahead of its proposed law change.

The proposed law change, which is likely to take effect in the next few months, affects the way menacing and dangerous dogs are kept. One of the requirements under the new law is the neutering of all high risk dogs. There are currently 129 dogs in Invercargill that are considered high risk, and owners will be visited by Animal Services staff who will discuss the proposed law change and free neutering.

Council's Compliance Manager, John Youngson, said people had from now until June 30, 2017, to get in touch with Council and take advantage of the offer.

"It is also a first-in-first-served programme. People will be issued a purchase order that they can take to any vet clinic in Invercargill to have their dog neutered. Dogs that are not already microchipped can have this done for free also," he

Council's Legal Advisor, Michael Morris, said the changes were expected to become law

"While the Council has had a bylaw about this for a number of years, the proposed changes will strengthen this by making it a requirement under the Dog Control Act," he said.

Further requirements of the proposed Law include:

- Keeping high risk dogs in a fenced area at home which allows visitors dog-free access to at least on house entrance.
- Displaying signs at the front of the property alerting people of a high risk dog.
- Ensuring dangerous or menacing dogs wear collars identifying them as high risk. These dogs must also wear muzzles and be on a leash in public places.
- Obtaining a high risk dog owner licence.
- Seeking consent from the local authority to transfer the dog to a
- Informing any new owner that the dog is classified.

FREE DESEXING FOR HIGH RISK DOGS: Council Animal Services Team Leader Kerry Kawe and Council Compliance Manager John Youngson share the message.



### Council consults on proposed fee increase for Certificate of Public Use

**COUNCIL** is now consulting on a proposed change to the fees charged for the second or subsequent Certificates of Public Use (CPU) for commercial buildings issued under the Building Act 2004, which would see it rise from \$350 to \$5000.

Council's Building Services Manager, Brendan Monaghan, said the change was designed to minimise risk to people, as currently many commercial building owners in Invercargill continued to renew their CPUs without actively trying to obtain their Code Compliance Certificate (CCC).

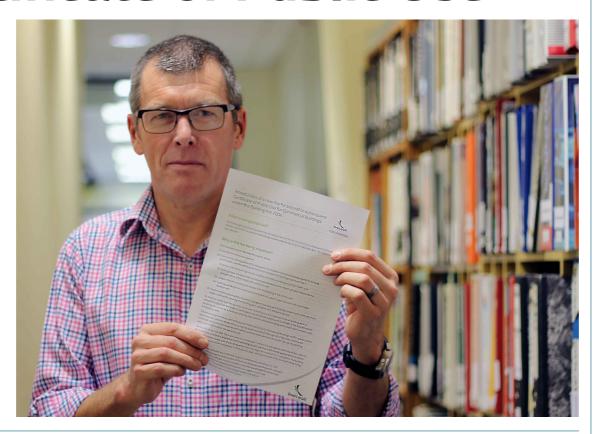
"A CPU, which currently must be renewed every three months, allows a commercial building to be open to the public prior to a CCC being issued. However, a CPU should not be used as a permanent acceptance of compliance – the Building Act 2004 does state that building owners must get a CCC. The proposed \$5,000 fee will actively encourage building owners to complete building work

and apply for the CCC.

"In the past, the CPU had been renewed without any understanding of when a CCC would be obtained. Following the first CPU, which still costs \$350, a building owner will now have an increased time of six months to apply for their CCC. However, there may negotiated conditions that would allow owners to create realistic timeframes for completion of work," Mr Monaghan said.

People have until 5pm, Tuesday 4 April to submit on the proposed change. People can email their feedback to policy@icc. govt.nz, send it in to Private Bag 90104, or fill in an online submission form at www.surveymonkey. com/r/ICC-CPU. For more information visit Council's website, www.icc.govt.nz.

FEEDBACK WANTED: Council's Building Manager, Brendan Monaghan, with the proposed CPU fee increase for which Council is seeking feedback.



### 'My Invercargill' online tool available on website



DOWNLOAD 'MY INVERCARGILL': Council Customer Services Officer Michelle Thwaites and Deputy

Mayor Darren Ludlow display the new My Invercargill online tool.

A NEW online tool, called My serves, property files (\$10 fee Invercargill, has been launched applies), rates, roads/footpaths, on Council's website to provide streetlights, another means for people to in- wheelie bins, booking building/ teract with the Invercargill City plumbing inspections, or "other" Council. It is the first local authority in New Zealand to make use of added if appropriate – and you can

this application. My Invercargill can be used on ture use. any device connected to the internet, such as a smart phone, PC, or able include: rates, infringements, vious requests, or make a Countives are being developed and will be brought on line in the future.

Council Customer Services Invercargill provided people with a fast and efficient way to get in touch with Council.

technology to help improve customer service. Our Team looks forward to seeing the benefits it 24/7, Council staff monitor My will bring for both staff and customers," he said.

Under the Request for Service section, people can ask questions NOTE: For urgent requests, such overgrown sections, parking/ abandoned cars, Parks and Re-

water/drainage, issues. Up to three photos can be store your personal details for fu-

Payment types currently availtablet. It allows people to lodge a animals, re-registration of dogs request for service, view their pre- and debtors. The My Requests for Service section is a user's personcil-related payment. More initia- al record of requests submitted to Council through My Invercargill.

More details, including terms and conditions are available on Team Leader Phil Rhodes said My the Council website, www.icc. govt.nz. The address for the new tool is www.myinvercargill.nz/ which can be saved to PC desk-"Councillors are keen to use tops or to the home screen of a smartphone or tablet.

While requests can be lodged Invercargill from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

or report issues from a number as a dog attack, people are advised of areas, such as dog complaints, to phone the 24-hour number (03) 211 1777.



#### **Get snapping** for 'Epic Invercargill' **Photo** Competition

LOCAL photographers are being offered the chance to showcase their work in a photo competition with an "Epic Invercargill" theme. The winning shots will be published in the 2018 ICC Calendar.

The competition will be split into three categories; Youth (under 18), Amateur and Professional. Four photos from each category will receive spots in the calendar, which is delivered to 30,000 Invercargill households annually.

Council Communications Manager, Eirwen Harris Mitchell said the competition was a great way to showcase talent from a diverse range of local photographers, and celebrate their unique views of Invercargill.

"We wanted to provide the opportunity for many talented local photographers to utilise a platform that reaches so many Invercargill households," Mrs Harris Mitchell said.

A public art exhibition, organised by Council City Centre Co-ordinator, Kari Graber, will be held to showcase the photo entries. The winners will be announced prior to the calendar de-

liveries to homes in December. Photos must have been taken from January 2017 and the following information needs to be provided: Where it was taken, the names of those pictured, subject matter, and metadata (e.g. exposure, shutter speed, etc.).

The files must be supplied as a jpeg, at least 300dpi, 192mm by 303mm and between 1MB and 30MB in size. You can enter as many photos as you like. To submit, email your photos to epicinvercargill@icc.govt.nz. Emails are to be no larger than

Entries close on July 31. Visit www.icc.govt.nz for more infor-



#### **Council meetings**

Notice is hereby given of the following meetings:

Waste Advisory Group

Thursday, 23 March, 9.30am **Community Services** Monday, 27 March, 4pm

Audit Sub-Committee Tuesday, 28 March, 10am (CE Meeting Room)

Regulatory Services Tuesday, 28 March, 4pm

Resource Consent Wednesday, 29 March, 9am

Infrastructure and Services Committee

Monday, 3 April, 4pm Finance and Policy

Tuesday, 4 April, 4pm Annual Plan Hearing Monday, 10 April, 9am

Council Tuesday, 11 April, 4pm **District Licensing** Wednesday, 12 April, 9am

**Events Committee** 

Thursday, 13 April, 9am

Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill and the Bluff Community Board meet at the Municipal Chambers in Bluff.

- www.icc.govt.nz

# Gap Filler Workshops

INTRODUCTION (FREE):

- \* Tuesday March 28, Salvation Hall Winton, 6-9pm
- \* Wednesday March 29, Invercargill Workingmen's Club, 9am-12pm

**DEVELOPING YOUR PROJECT:** \* Wednesday March 29, Invercargill

communitydev@icc.govt.nz or

phone (03) 211 1669.

Workingmen's Club, 12.30pm-4.30pm (\$12) Register by emailing



views on the following:

Fee changes for **Commercial Buildings Surrey Park classification** 

For more information and submission details, visit the Council's website at:

#### noticeboard

For more about the Council's Noticeboard items contact the Communications Department on

03 211 1777. **Communications Manager** 

Eirwen Harris Mitchell (03) 211 1678 eirwen.harris@icc.govt.nz

**Communications Advisor** Andrei Robertson (03) 211 1601 andrei.robertson@icc.govt.nz You can find us on





