

# *Having a pet* **at your Kāinga Ora home**



**Kāinga Ora supports tenants having pets —  
but it's important to be a responsible pet owner and get permission first.**

If you're thinking about getting a pet, please contact your Housing Support Manager on 0800 801 601. They'll guide you through the consent process and help you understand what's needed.

## **Your Responsibilities**

If you get consent, you must follow these rules:

### **You must:**

- Secure the pet within the property.
- If the pet is a dog or livestock, it must be securely tied up or put in a space that can be securely closed, when Kāinga Ora employees or contractors visit the property. It cannot be held on a lead
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure the pet does not cause a persistent or serious nuisance to neighbours
- Make sure, if the pet is a dog or a cat, it is desexed unless there is good reason not to
- Take all reasonable steps to prevent and/or repair destruction or damage caused by keeping a pet at the property
- Meet legal obligations as pet owners or carers, including:
  - obligations under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 and Dog Control Act 1996
  - any applicable local council bylaws, body corporate rules, building rules (and any amendments to those rules) and any other relevant legislation.

### **You must not:**

- Allow livestock inside the home

If there are any extra conditions, we'll talk them through with you. These will be included in your pet consent agreement.

If the rules aren't followed, we may need to change or withdraw consent and you might be asked to rehome your pet.



## When consent may be refused or withdrawn

We may say no to your pet, or ask you to remove it, if:

- The property is not suitable for keeping a pet due to its size, lack of adequate fencing, or other unique features of the property.
- The pet is not suitable for the property due to its size, type, breed or natural tendency to cause damage to the home or disruption to neighbours.
- Rules applying to the property (including non-compliance), which includes body corporate, building rules, lease agreements and the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA) or any other Act that prohibits pets to be kept on the property.
- Persistent destruction or damage to the property due to a pet being kept inside the home and the tenant/pet owner refusing to repair it.
- If the pet is likely to cause, or has caused, persistent or serious disruption or nuisance to neighbours.
- If the pet is a dog and it:
  - is or has been classified as dangerous or menacing under the Dog Control Act 1996, including menacing by breed
  - is not registered
- The tenant/pet owner is a disqualified pet owner under the Dog Control Act 1996 or the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

- There is good reason to believe the pet has attacked and caused harm or injury to any person, other pets or livestock, or the pet presents some other health or safety risk.
- The tenant/pet owner does not agree with the reasonable conditions on which the consent to keep a pet is subject to.
- The tenant/pet owner has persistently not complied with reasonable conditions on which the consent to keep a pet was subject to, either in a previous or current tenancy.

### Need help?

Talk to your Housing Support Manager before getting a pet.

Call us on **0800 801 601** for more information.

