



## Staff Report

**Report Title: February 2023 Monthly By-Law Enforcement Status Report**

**Prepared By: Heather Falconer, By-Law Enforcement Officer**

**Department: By-Law Enforcement**

**Date: Feb. 6, 2023**

**Report Number: BLE-2023-03-7**

**File Number: C11 - BLE23**

**Attachments: N/A**

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report Number BLE-2023-03-7 prepared by Heather Falconer, By-Law Enforcement Officer.

### **Background:**

To update Council on February occurrences involving By-Law Enforcement.

### **Discussion:**

| <b>Violations</b>                        | <b>Number of Calls</b> | <b>Calls to Date</b> |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>By-Law Enforcement</b>                | 4                      | 9                    |
| <b>Animal Control</b>                    | 1                      | 2                    |
| <b>Property Standards</b>                | 2                      | 7                    |
| <b>Parking Violations</b>                | 0                      | 0                    |
| <b>Beach Violations</b>                  | 0                      | 0                    |
| <b>Feeding Wildlife and Feral Animal</b> | 4                      | 5                    |
| <b>Other</b>                             | 20                     | 20                   |

## **Noise Complaints**

There were two noise complaints received. One was regarding loud music playing in a residential area and the other pertained to a dog barking for long durations of time. Notices of violations were sent out to the property's owners.

## **Animal Control**

One dog was found running at large and was returned to its owner.

## **Property Standards**

There were two concerns regarding trees and brush on private property that are diseased or damaged. The property owners have been notified and compliance will be monitored.

## **Feeding Wildlife and Feral Animal**

One account holder of the Township's report a problem portal "See Click Fix" submitted four complaints. These were regarding the feeding of feral cats at an establishment in Lucknow. A notice of violation was sent to the establishment explaining that feeding wildlife and feral animals is not permitted. A response was provided with a promise that this action will discontinue. Compliance will be monitored.

## **Other**

Over the span of sixteen days, "See Click Fix" has received nineteen complaints regarding wondering cats. These complaints have been submitted by two separate account holders. A majority of the complaints were pictures taken from security type cameras (webcam). The Township has no by-law that would address the wandering of cats being pets, stray or feral.

A request for further information was sent to the account holders to try and identify possible cat ownership. No response has been received at this time.

As a proactive approach, residents were suggested to reach out to a private animal control company who may have recommendations on how to deter nuisance animals from private property.

Identifying ownership of cats is challenging however the township has taken the steps to address the root of the problem with the feeding of wildlife and feral animals and as noted above with co-operation from the residents we can work toward gaining compliance.

As directed by Council, staff will bring a report forward at the April Committee of the Whole outlining options for 'cat control' complete with associated costs, staff time both administrative and inspections, contracting time for trapping and transporting cats, liability and financial impacts to the residents of the township.

## **Financial Impacts:**

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

**Strategic Alignment / Link:**

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone by being open and transparent.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

Heather Falconer, By-Law Enforcement Officer

**Approved By:**

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer