

# OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, 31 January 2024

### **Clarification on the proposed Regulation and Management of Dogs in Windhoek**

The City of Windhoek wishes to clarify the misleading report published on the Namibia Press Agency (NAMPA)'s Facebook page on Thursday, 30 January 2025, regarding the regulation and management of dogs in the city.

During the first Ordinary Council meeting held on the same day, a draft regulation on the management of dogs in Windhoek was tabled for discussion. However, NAMPA inaccurately reported that the proposed regulation would require the City to build toilets for dogs on walkways. This claim is completely false and misleading, as no such provision exists in the draft regulations that was submitted for possible consideration to Council.

Furthermore, after deliberation on the agenda item and proposed regulations, the Council did not approve the item. Instead, it was referred back for broader public consultations before any final decision is made.

The regulation and management of dogs in Windhoek is not a new concept. This practice dates back to the Municipal Dog Tax Ordinance, 1967 (Ordinance No. 13 of 1967). However, in 2008, the ordinance was repealed by then Minister of Regional, Local Government, and Housing (now the Minister of Urban and Rural Development) to align with the Model Regulations for the Control of Dogs in Local Authority Areas under the Local Authorities Act, 1992. Therefore, the suggestion that the City of Windhoek intends to introduce a dog tax is inaccurate and does not reflect the Council's intentions.

The primary objective of the proposed regulations is to promote responsible dog ownership and ensure the effective management of dogs in urban areas. This is in line with the City's commitment to fostering a safe, sustainable, and caring environment, as outlined in our vision.

We appreciate the media's continued support in keeping the public informed. However, we urge journalists to uphold factual reporting and responsible journalism to avoid causing unnecessary public distress or misrepresenting the Council's commitment to service delivery

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**ISSUED BY:**

**City of Windhoek**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**Corporate Communications, Marketing, and Public Participation**

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*All official correspondence must be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer*

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