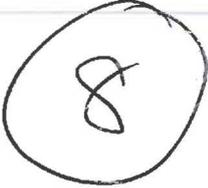


**From:** krissie pennell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 October 2017 5:05 a.m.  
**To:** Animal\_Management\_North  
**Subject:** Bree Pennell Dog ID 40000078508



To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing in regards to a notice I received from Auckland council on the 24th September 2017 regarding my dog-Bree. It was to notify me that my dog has now been classed as a menacing breed. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHY.

The letter states that 'Auckland council has REASONABLE GROUNDS to believe the dog belongs wholly or predominantly to one or more breeds or types listed in schedule 4 of the Act. As a result your dog has been described as being wholly or predominantly of the breed type, Terrier, American Staffordshire'.

CAN YOU PLEASE ADVISE WHAT THOSE REASONABLE GROUNDS ARE, as it states quite clearly on the notice you have sent me that her breed is primarily American bulldog, as assessed by Hamilton pound. I have owned Bree since 31st December 2016 and I have never had any issues with her. Auckland council have never been to my place to see my dog, they don't know her and they don't know what she looks like, therefore how can they have reasonable grounds to change her breed? Can you please explain to me what the issue was that made Auckland council send me this letter advising of her change of breed and how it is even possible to do that when the council doesn't know what she looks like?

After I received this letter I took my dog to Henderson animal shelter for an assessment, I thought, of her temperament, to prove that she wasn't a menacing dog, but no, it was just to measure her and look at her and then say 'yes, she's a pitbull'. What a load of rubbish. I do not accept that at all. The 2 assessors at Henderson shelter both commented on her 'lovely temperament', so if its not the dog's temperament they are assessing, then they are labelling her as a menacing dog purely by her looks, which, by the way are not menacing. Her looks are most certainly primary breed of American bulldog, which is not on the list of menacing breeds, according to the council.

Bree originally came from the Hamilton pound, who would never have adopted her out if they thought she had pitbull breed in her. She would have been put to sleep, as you well know. It was Hamilton pound who assessed her as being American bulldog/English staffy X. I adopted this dog in good faith that she had no 'menacing or dangerous dog' in her and yet a year later, the council can just out of the blue, decide they are going to change her primary breed, for what reason I have no idea, because I cant get an answer from anyone that I speak to at Auckland council. This whole issues highlights the fact that council pounds can adopt dogs out to unsuspecting, prospective owners as 'non menacing' or 'dangerous', yet at any time during that dog's lifetime they can decide to change its breed. That is not acceptable.

As I object 'wholly' to the contents of your Notice of classification of a menacing dog, I am currently getting my own independent assessments made of Bree's primary breed, from animal/dog professionals who work with dogs every day and who are just as experienced, if not more so, than your council workers who carry out assessments. I will send these on to you once they are all complete. In the meantime, I would like an explanation as to why I have received this notice.

Thank you.

Krissie Pennell.  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]