

Summary of views

Submissions on the Review of the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw and Feedback on the Idea of a Fenced Dog Park

Purpose

From 16 June to 14 July 2017, Porirua City Council invited feedback on the review of the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw and the idea of a fenced dog park in Porirua. This report presents analysis of the submissions received.

Summary

There was a **range of views** on the changes proposed to the policy and bylaw.

Views on proposed rule changes varied with a particular focus on geographic areas such as Camborne Walkway, Karehana Park, Endeavour Park and Motukaraka Point. Submitters raised other issues relating to dogs including registration fees, faeces, safety and signs.

There was **clear support** for the idea of a fenced dog park.

Key reasons and features were as a safe place for dogs and people, a reasonable size, needing rubbish bins and other waste management, fresh water and located in the right place in Porirua. Some suggested several fenced parks. General rates funding was the most popular response followed by a mix of general rates and user pays with other suggestions e.g. sponsorship.

A strong theme from many who made their views on both the dog rules and fenced park idea related to fairness, use of fees and enforcement.

Introduction

On 1 June 2017, the City Delivery Committee adopted a Statement of Proposal to seek input on the review of the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw and the idea of a fenced dog park in Porirua.

The Dog Control Bylaw must be reviewed by September 2017. To ensure the policy and bylaw are consistent the Dog Control Act 1996 requires a dog policy to be reviewed with the bylaw.

This was also considered a good opportunity to seek feedback on the idea of a fenced dog park given recent expressions of interest e.g. in annual plan consultation.

Consultation and engagement

Feedback was sought from 16 June 2017 to 14 July 2017.

All registered dog owners were contacted and invited to make a submission on the policy, bylaw and park issues. Information on the review of the policy and bylaw featured in the Kapi Mana News and was made available on the council website and social media, at libraries, the front counter of the Administration Building and Works Depot / Dog Pound at Prosser Street. Supplementary information included hard copy map / photo resources and Frequently Asked Questions on dog parks.

Views were sought by email, online submission form, handwritten submission form and written correspondence.

Because children and young people at the centre of city decisions is one of the Council’s four strategic priorities, feedback was sought from students at a student workshop held at Pataka performing arts venue on 10 July 2017 with a total of eight schools, each with four students.

Hearings

Initially 15 individuals or groups indicated a wish to speak at a hearing. Changes in circumstance meant that five individuals and two groups (with one school) were heard by the City Delivery Committee on 9 August 2017 from 3.00-4.30pm in the Council Chamber.

Overall response

Number of responses

There were 108 responses on the two topics.

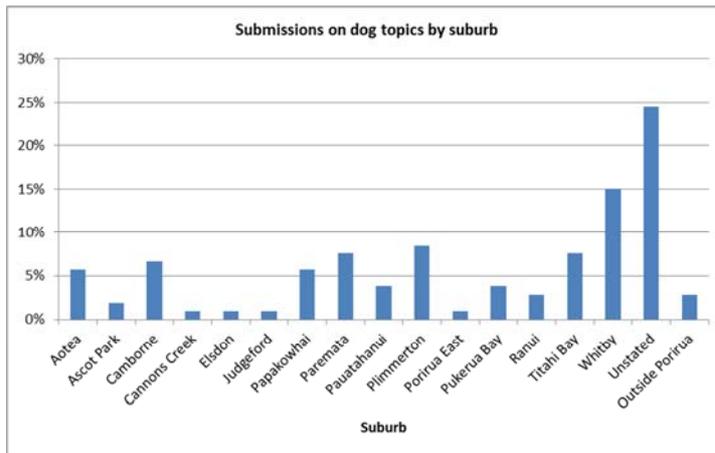
The majority (52%, 55 of 108) made comments on both topics.

Topic	Number	Percentage
Policy / bylaw only	19	18%
Park only	33	31%
Both topics	56	52%
Total	108	100%

While views were received from throughout Porirua, and some outside Porirua, the majority were from the city’s Northern Ward. Some submitters did not identify where they lived.



Ward	Number	Percentage
Eastern	14	13%
Western	9	8%
Northern	56	52%
Unstated	23	24%
Outside	3	3%
Total	108	100%



98 of the submissions were from individuals.

10 were made by a group or organisation including the eight schools.

How views were made

Most feedback was received electronically (email, email attachments, online submission forms). Social media debate is appended to the Council's deliberations paper for information.

Many people only wanted to focus on one or two topics which meant that the online submission form was not always completed. Those providing feedback in other ways also tended to focus on one or two topics.

Note - partially completed forms and responses with one or two topics means variation in the numbers of responses for each topic or issue. Care has been taken to describe the numbers and proportions in each case.

Section 1 - Dog Control Policy and Bylaw

Overall, there was support for the changes proposed to the policy and bylaw.

Many of the proposals were considered positive and practical and people welcomed the opportunity to learn about the issues related to dogs and to contribute their views.

Differences in views generally arose around specific issues and locations.

In addition to the specific questions asked, people took the opportunity to raise a range of other issues such as concerns about dog registration fees, dog faeces, safety, signage, bylaw enforcement, education and training, rubbish bins and barking dogs.

Feedback on the specific proposals for change is set out below.

Proposal: Add six new off leash dog exercise areas

The proposal was to add six new areas to formalise sites currently being used informally and to ensure a good spread across the city:

- Baxter’s Knob (Aotea, south east open space, accessed from Aotea Drive)
- Cardiff Park (Cannons Creek)
- Endeavour Park (Whitby, behind Montessori School)
- Karehana Park (Plimmerton, south of bollards)
- Rangituhi Park (Elsdon)
- Staithe Scenic Reserve (access from Ascot Park, Paremata and Whitby)

General comment

Overall, there was clear support for the proposed addition of six new off leash dog exercise areas.

Views varied for locations where people had stronger views about use and proposed changes (e.g. Endeavour and Karehana Parks) or stated they were neutral because they considered it more important for those who used the site or lived near it to decide.

Area and Proposal	<p>Baxter’s Knob (Aotea)</p> <p>Add the south east open space of the Baxter’s Knob Reserve, accessed from Aotea Drive, as an off leash dog exercise area</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>43</td> <td>83%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>5</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>4</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>52</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 83% (43 of 52) agreed.</p> <p>Of those who disagreed and gave a reason, one objected because their property borders the proposed off leash exercise area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the main reasons we decided to buy this house was because of the reserve right behind and the privacy that would give us. An off- leash dog exercise area would be followed by issues like littering, noise, lack of privacy and 	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	43	83%	No	5	10%	Neutral	4	8%	Total	52	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	43	83%														
No	5	10%														
Neutral	4	8%														
Total	52	100%														

	<p>finally disruption of peaceful view of the natural reserve. Ultimately there is no doubt that this would affect the value and desirability of properties affected by this proposal. There are many suitable places around Porirua where off-leash exercise areas can be implemented without affecting the properties around it (#65)</p>
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Area and Proposal	<p>Cardiff Park (Cannons Creek) Add Cardiff Park as an off leash dog exercise area</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>44</td> <td>86%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>6</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>8</td> <td>4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>51</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 86% (44 of 51) agreed.</p> <p>There were no major comments on this proposal.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	44	86%	No	6	3%	Neutral	8	4%	Total	51	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	44	86%														
No	6	3%														
Neutral	8	4%														
Total	51	100%														

Area and Proposal	<p>Endeavour Park (Whitby, behind Montessori School) Add the area at Endeavour Park Whitby, behind the Montessori School, as an off leash dog exercise area. Note: this is not the Endeavour Park sports fields.</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>41</td> <td>79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>9</td> <td>17%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>4</td> <td>4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>52</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 79% (41 of 52) agreed.</p> <p>Two who disagreed and gave a reason were local residents with concerns about exercising dogs barking and causing other dogs in adjacent houses to join in (#27, 38). The relatively enclosed space of the area with surrounding higher ground tends to intensify the sound (#27, 38). The area is also tightly established with properties and there is mixed use of the space (sports, recreation etc) which means there is often parking congestion particularly during events (#27, 38). There was also concern about safety of young children given the proposed exercise space is close to the school (#27).</p> <p>Some interpreted the location as actually being Endeavour Park sports fields, rather than the proposed area behind the school (e.g. #69).</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	41	79%	No	9	17%	Neutral	4	4%	Total	52	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	41	79%														
No	9	17%														
Neutral	4	4%														
Total	52	100%														

Area and Proposal	<p>Karehana Park (Plimmerton) Add the area of Karehana Park south of the bollards as an off leash dog exercise area. North of the bollards is a playground where dogs are prohibited.</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>37</td> <td>73%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>11</td> <td>22%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>3</td> <td>6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>51</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 73% (37 of 51) agreed.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	37	73%	No	11	22%	Neutral	3	6%	Total	51	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	37	73%														
No	11	22%														
Neutral	3	6%														
Total	51	100%														

	Of those who disagreed, the main concern was around safety for young children because of the proximity to the playground and the difficulty of keeping dogs under control (e.g. #50, 71, 79).
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Area and Proposal	Rangituhi Park (Elsdon) Add Rangituhi Park as an off leash dog exercise area															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>42</td> <td>84%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>4</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>4</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>50</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 84% (42 of 50) agreed.</p> <p>There were no major comments on this proposal.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	42	84%	No	4	8%	Neutral	4	8%	Total	50	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	42	84%														
No	4	8%														
Neutral	4	8%														
Total	50	100%														

Area and Proposal	Staithe Scenic Reserve Add the Staithe Scenic Reserve (a large reserve with access from Ascot Park, Paremata and Whitby) as an off leash dog exercise area															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>38</td> <td>75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>8</td> <td>16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>5</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>51</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 75% (38 of 51) agreed.</p> <p>One comment in support was that Staithe will be a good off leash area as it is contoured and suitable for shared tracks network and links to Ascot Park. There is a great need / desire for dog owners and walkers to have off leash extended walks and loop tracks (#77). Another who disagreed said the terrain is not good for dog exercise and there are no paths or walkways (#70).</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	38	75%	No	8	16%	Neutral	5	10%	Total	51	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	38	75%														
No	8	16%														
Neutral	5	10%														
Total	51	100%														

Proposal: remove two existing off leash dog exercise areas

General comment

There was a small majority in favour of the proposed removal of two existing off leash dog exercise areas.

Some were reluctant to comment because they did not know or use the site or live near it.

Area and Proposal	Bedford Reserve (north of Cannons Creek Pool) Remove Bedford Reserve as an off leash dog exercise area as it is now being developed into local park															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>23</td> <td>64%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>2</td> <td>6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>11</td> <td>31%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>36</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	23	64%	No	2	6%	Neutral	11	31%	Total	36	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	23	64%														
No	2	6%														
Neutral	11	31%														
Total	36	100%														

	Supported - 64% (23 of 36) agreed. There were no major comments on this proposal.
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Area and Proposal	Wi Neera Drive Esplanade Reserve Remove Wi Neera Drive Esplanade Reserve as an off leash dog exercise area as it is mainly used by people cycling and walking. It has a playground in the centre (dogs are prohibited from playgrounds) and the road is very busy															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>23</td> <td>64%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>4</td> <td>11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>9</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>36</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 64% (23 of 36) agreed. There were no major comments on this proposal.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	23	64%	No	4	11%	Neutral	9	25%	Total	36	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	23	64%														
No	4	11%														
Neutral	9	25%														
Total	36	100%														

Proposal: make changes to some off leash dog exercise areas

General comment

There were largely supportive views on the proposed changes to some off leash dog exercise areas with one location being slightly in favour.

Views varied for a few locations where people had stronger views about use and proposed changes (e.g. Camborne Walkway) or were reluctant to comment because they did not use the site or live near it.

Area and Proposal	Ascot Park (Plantation Area) Remove the Ascot Park (Plantation Area) from the list as an off leash dog exercise area as this area is now occupied by houses															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>29</td> <td>76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>1</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>8</td> <td>21%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>38</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 76% (29 of 38) agreed. There were no major comments on this proposal.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	29	76%	No	1	3%	Neutral	8	21%	Total	38	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	29	76%														
No	1	3%														
Neutral	8	21%														
Total	38	100%														

Area and Proposal	Camborne Walkway Change the conditions for Camborne Walkway as an off leash dog exercise area so that dogs can be off leash apart from: south end - dogs must be on leash from Pascoe Ave until past the boatsheds (to prevent dogs from entering boatsheds) north end - dogs must be on leash between Grays Road carpark until past the Water Ski club (to control dogs in a busy vehicle and pedestrian space)
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Feedback

View	Number	Percentage
Yes	25	50%
No	23	46%
Neutral	2	4%
Total	50	100%

Narrowly supported - 50% (25 of 50) agreed; 46% (23 of 50) disagreed.

This was the most keenly debated proposal and location. All major comments have been included here. Comments included:

Supportive:

- I think it is fair to those with boatsheds that their property is respected. The other end of the Walkway can also be a busy traffic area, so it is reasonable to keep dogs safe and prevent accidents (#40)
- More bins, owners have to carry their poop bags all the way to one end or the other of the Camborne walkway (#40)
- hopefully would decrease the amount of uncollected dog poo being left around areas people frequent (#78)

Against or querying proposed changes:

- South end: I understand and agree with the proposal to make the walkway past the boatsheds an "on lead" area. However the proposal extends past the walkway and wants to make part of the Paremata Beach area also on-lead only. No reason is given for that and it would seem regrettable to restrict a wider exercise area. I suggest the on-lead restriction past the boatsheds should start at the entrance to the Walkway proper (and where the boatsheds start) (#12)
- North end: I understand and agree with the proposal to make the Grays Rd carpark an "on lead" area for safety purposes; ie from the footbridge crossing from the Walkway to the carpark. However the proposal extends back from the footbridge and also suggests making the expansive grassy area nearby also on-lead only. Obviously the greatest length of the Walkway is quite narrow and this grassy area is the only wider area for dogs to run around, play ball etc. I think it would be a great shame to prohibit that. I have tried to find out why it has been proposed that this grassy area no longer be available for dog exercise and it seems as if the proposal is not in fact evidence-based. Two possible explanations have been suggested to me but I find neither of them persuasive. Yes, there are public toilets there but they have external doors and so people using them cannot in reality be disturbed there by off-leash dogs. And yes, there is the jet-ski club there too but I am not aware of there ever having been any conflicts between jet-skiers and dogs. But if – and only if – you have solid evidence of a problem then I would point out that the jet-skiers operate there for only a few weekends a year. It would seem to me quite unreasonable to restrict dogs 365 days a year because of the brief summer use of the area by jet-skiers. If you do have real evidence of a problem that needs to be fixed, then I suggest you consider the area in the same way as you do our beaches; ie with the same seasonal and hour restrictions. But frankly I think even that would be unnecessary (#12)
- I don't support making either area of Camborne walkway on-lead. There is an area of beach in front of Pascoe Ave that is a good, big open area for dogs to run

around and I don't agree that this should be on lead. The area at Grays Road is a nice big open area for the dogs to play on grass and in the inlet and should be retained as an off lead area (#17)

- The North end can be busy between the bridge and the Water Ski (now Jet Ski) club on weekends in the summer time when people picnic and jet ski. It is probably not necessary to have a special bylaw to manage that as it is only for a short period and could be left to common sense. If the Council is of the view that that would not be sufficient perhaps making it an on lead area from 1 December to 31 March between 10am to 7pm ie as for the beaches, might be an alternative. I wonder where the concern about dogs entering boat sheds at the south end has come from. I am unaware of there being any issues in this regard. However if there are concerns about dogs going into boatsheds surely that would be better dealt with by the people who have such concerns closing their doors than by a change to a City bylaw! (#21)
- I see no need for this restriction, I walk dogs weekly in these spaces and I could count on one hand the times I've seen someone at a boatshed. Never seen anyone at the waterski club. I recommend policy is that the bridge at Grays road park be the boundary for dogs on lead as this is in effect what 95% of people will do, regardless of your bylaw (#44)
- The only area I use is the Camborne Walkway and I do not support the proposed changes. The area past the boatsheds should be amended to 'under control' rather than 'on leash' it is common sense that dogs not be allowed to enter the boatsheds and the area to Pascoe Avenue once clear of the boatsheds should not be restricted since it's entirely unnecessary. The Grays Road end also need not be lead only since there is a large grassy area down to the water's edge and is a good place for dogs to run around, play and have a swim. The Jet-Ski area is hardly busy 24/7 and not even every weekend (#49)
- I feel it is important to protect native wildlife and plantation this is why I agree with Ascot Park and Muri Reserve. However, in terms of Camborne Walkway majority of dog owner are responsible and make sure their dogs do not go in the sheds or the road. As for me I am very careful and always put my dog on the lead if I feel it is needed, therefore I do not agree with Camborne Walkway change proposal (#54)
- Once dogs are over the bridge, this grassy area is fantastic for dogs, and restricting to leads until the Water Ski club seems excessive (#55)
- I do not agree with the proposal in relation to the north-end restriction.
 - The opportunities for dogs to exercise off-lead on a grass area are already extremely limited in this area, without further limiting the options available.
 - A common-sense approach to ensuring our dogs are under control (as is already required) would negate the need for such a change to be implemented. I am a regular walker along the Camborne Walkway and never allow my dogs to go beyond the bridge the leads to the carpark unless they are on-lead (#58)
- I have walked my dog along this walk way usually four days a week for the past eight years and it is a very rare occurrence indeed that a door is open to a boat shed. Most boat shed owners who use their sheds frequently (and not all but some also have dogs) have built gates to prevent their dogs from roaming and prevent ingress from passing dogs. So it seems rather redundant to put dogs on

their leads for this bit ...

- I know there are some complaints about owners not picking up after their dogs along this walk way but it is not as bad as some of the complaints I have heard. Yes some dog owners are remiss. But it is not so bad that people cannot walk along the path without stepping in dog poo ...
- I walk my dog regularly along Camborne walkway as it is a safe place for him to be a dog, to experience the freedom of just going for a walk in a safe environment, to sniff the smells, to swim when he wants to and to socialise with other dogs and people. There are so many regulars that appreciate this walk for the same reasons. We can exercise our dogs in other ways but it is a rare opportunity for dogs to experience the opportunity to just be dogs in this way. Thank you PCC for maintaining Camborne Walkway as a designated dog exercise area (#59)
- Although I do not personally use the whole length of the Camborne walkway I do know that it is extremely popular with dog owners and that it is not used by many other people in winter. The Camborne walkway is widely used by numerous people to exercise their dogs. I agree with the change to the area alongside the boatsheds as the path is quite narrow. However I am unsure on the change to the part between the Grays road carpark and the water ski club. I presume the waterski area and carpark gets quite busy in the summer months but I cannot imagine that it would be anywhere near as busy during the winter. As an alternative you could consider some kind of timed restriction like for the beaches i.e. dogs on lead during summer months but can be off lead at other times (#68)
- Changing parts of the Camborne walkway to on lead makes no sense, I do not believe there is a problem with dog entering the boatsheds, I have very rarely seen the doors to the boatsheds open and dog owners should be able to control their dogs to prevent this from happening anyway (#70)
- I don't agree about Camborne boatsheds I have not seen any dogs going into boatsheds they just adore sniffing around there as one of the few off lead dog areas (#74)
- On lead by boatsheds impractical as they will get tangled (#82)

Favour making on leash entirely:

- I believe this proposal for dog control along the Camborne Walkway is too complex for dog owners to adhere to. As an alternative, I'd like to see a separate dog exercise area set up and the Camborne Walkway restored to a peaceful walkway as its namesake suggests. This area of the Pauatahanui Inlet is a unique ecosystem that should be protected. It's a haven for wading birds and sea birds and these are often chased away by dogs. Dogs often fight on the walkway and irresponsible owners throw dog poo - inside the poo bags! - into the surrounding native bush instead of throwing them in bins. It's revolting! (The Plimmerton / Camborne Facebook page is regularly alive with discussions about this and what can be done about it.) The Walkway used to be a peaceful place enjoyed by runners, walkers and bird watchers alike. However sadly, many now avoid it due to the number of dogs. I'd like to see it completely free of dogs and bikes for two reasons. 1. It's a fragile ecosystem that should be restored and protected. 2. Dogs and bikes present a safety risk to young children and the elderly particularly. However if the decision is made to keep the Camborne Walkway as a dog

exercise area, I'd like to see dogs on lead at all times and bins placed at ALL exits/entrances to the walkway rather than just both ends (#26)

- Dogs should be on a lead for the full Camborne Walkway because:
 - the walkway is very narrow in places and dogs running past is troublesome especially given there are also cyclists and walkers and runners (I would like the Council to keep better maintenance of that walkway to provide a better walking surface so that it is even. You can't even have two people walking side by side in places as the ground slopes away too much. Having dogs running past in these areas is not good)
 - dog owners can end up a very long way from their dogs so calling them back when other dogs are around is problematic. If I am walking my dog on a lead and another dog comes by not on a lead and starts barking or trying to play with my dog I have to try to pick my dog up and call for the owner of the dog that is off a lead when the dog owner is nowhere to be seen).
 - when dogs are off a lead and their owners are a long way away, they don't see their dogs pooping and then walk straight past dog poop they should be cleaning up. As this is a busy walkway having dog poop around is not nice (#46)
- I do not agree with Camborne Walkway being an off leash dog area, and the proposed changes will cause confusion and be difficult to enforce. Rationale:
 - The walkway is narrow and used by runners and bikers who find it difficult to navigate around exuberant dogs (myself included)
 - The walkway is a beautiful part of Porirua and should be able to freely accessed by everyone including people who are wary of dogs, disabled people and the elderly. I have seen numerous occasions where people have had to sidestep dogs and I know there are groups of people that avoid the walkway for this reason
 - The inlet is an area of natural beauty and native birdlife – dogs should not be off leash where they can pose a danger to native birds and wildlife
 - The walkway will eventually join up with Te Ara Piko which is an on-lead dog area – it would be simpler to have the same rule along the whole walkway (#79)
- GOPI is partially supportive of the proposed changes to this walkway. We would prefer that the entire Camborne walkway be considered as part of Te Ara Piko with dogs required to be on-leash for its whole length. These are our reasons:
 - Dogs are often encouraged into the water and walkers complain of being rushed at by wet dogs.
 - Greater Wellington Regional Council lays bait and sets traps along this route and the associated warning signs indicate that dogs should not be allowed to roam, and that they should be restrained.
 - The whole of Paremata beach from Pascoe Avenue to Dolly Varden toilets is an off-leash area with minor date changes under your proposal (#81)
- To enable pest control, and to protect the flora and fauna of the Inlet catchment and foreshore, GOPI would prefer that dogs be on-leash for the entire walkway. (#81)
- The popularity of Te Ara Piko pathway around the Inlet will increase rapidly with its completion, and with growth of the area. There is an increasing desire for

	<p>recreational areas without loose dogs (#81)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOPI would also like the foreshore and beaches of Pauatahanui Inlet from, and including, the Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve to Pascoe Avenue included in the list of prohibited areas (#81)
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Area and Proposal	<p>Muri Reserve (Pukerua Bay) Change the area of Muri Reserve that is used as an off leash dog exercise area to the western side. The eastern side of the reserve will be planted in native bush and an area used for a community garden.</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>23</td> <td>62%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>5</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>9</td> <td>24%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>37</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 64% (23 of 36) agreed.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported, provided the western side is adequately sized, and appropriate signage is put up (#55) No if no other local exercise areas are available. If there are then we would change our position to Yes (#62) Muri Reserve is used by many dog walkers, and in winter that entire stretch of coast is generally only used by dogs anyway. I don't see that there's really any reason to change it given that it's already used moderately by dog walkers (#69) 	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	23	62%	No	5	14%	Neutral	9	24%	Total	37	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	23	62%														
No	5	14%														
Neutral	9	24%														
Total	37	100%														

Area and Proposal	<p>Motukaraka Point Beach Remove Motukaraka Point Beach as an off leash dog exercise area. To revert to being dogs on a leash at all times</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>26</td> <td>56%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>9</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>11</td> <td>24%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>46</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 58% (26 of 46) agreed.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the end closest to Pauatahanui has minimal grass/beach, however the other side is very suitable for dog, albeit not the area closest to the road (#55) Motukaraka Point is often empty (#82) it would help protect our birds in the reserve (#78) GOPI is supportive of the proposed changes at Motukaraka Point – requiring dogs to be on-leash at all times. With the completion of Te Ara Piko pathway, which requires dogs to be on-leash, it is sensible to ensure this continues as Motukaraka Point becomes part of the pathway. It provides one rule for the entire length of the pathway. PICT had been asking for this area to be on-leash 	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	26	56%	No	9	20%	Neutral	11	24%	Total	46	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	26	56%														
No	9	20%														
Neutral	11	24%														
Total	46	100%														

	<p>since 2002 (#81)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maps attached to the Council proposal indicate an area at each end of the Point which appears to be excluded. This implies that there will be small off-leash areas between Te Ara Piko and the proposed on-leash area on Motukaraka Point. We request that there be no off-leash areas where Motukaraka Point connects to the Te Ara Piko pathway (#81)
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Proposal: make changes to some dog prohibited areas

This included times dogs are allowed on beaches, taking account of lambing season, protecting native vegetation.

General comment

There were largely supportive views on the proposed changes to some dog prohibited areas.

Views varied for a few locations where people had stronger views about use and proposed changes or were reluctant to comment because they did not use the site or live near it.

Main city beaches from 1 December to 31 March from 10am to 7pm

It is proposed to extend the time that dogs are allowed on the following city beaches by changing the start date of restrictions from 1 November to 1 December. This is because the general public does not tend to start using beaches in large numbers until the weather settles later in the year.

Area and Proposal	<p>Titahi Bay Beach To extend the time that dogs are allowed on Titahi Bay Beach by changing the start date of restrictions from 1 November to 1 December</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>34</td> <td>76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>9</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>2</td> <td>4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>45</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 76% (34 of 45) agreed.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all dogs on Titahi Bay Beach should be on a leash and all owners should pick up after their dogs (#43) a lot of time and volunteer effort went into Beach signage for Titahi Bay Beach which included dog rules and times on the beach ... is it worth taking the time to be involved in local projects when the signage is completely ignored? (#43) 	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	34	76%	No	9	20%	Neutral	2	4%	Total	45	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	34	76%														
No	9	20%														
Neutral	2	4%														
Total	45	100%														

Area and Proposal	<p>Plimmerton Beach (the sandy beach south of the Fire Station from Sunset Parade to Taupō Stream) To extend the time that dogs are allowed on Plimmerton Beach by changing the start date of restrictions from 1 November to 1 December</p>									
Feedback	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>34</td> <td>72%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>10</td> <td>21%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	34	72%	No	10	21%
View	Number	Percentage								
Yes	34	72%								
No	10	21%								

Neutral	3	6%
Total	47	100%

Supported - 72% (34 of 47) agreed.

Comments included:

- dismay at the amount of dog poo along the path following the sea front (#42)
- decrease or prohibit dogs on beaches (#42)
- I do not support reducing restrictions in the areas shown. These are very popular areas close to residential areas (#50)
- clarity is needed about previous wording for the restricted area being south of the Fire Station and north of the Taupo Stream and also if the area south of Taupo stream is allowed for dogs year-round (#55)
- Plimmerton beach was always a winter dogs-on-leash area and dog free during the daylight saving months. A few years ago it became an off leash area in the off season and the dog free period was decreased. Why did that happen? (#64)
- Little Blue penguins were common on Plimmerton Beach 20 years ago, living in residents' yards. They are returning and some have taken up residence at a near neighbour's yard. This is another reason that Plimmerton Beach and adjoining areas should not be off-leash areas (#64)
- this would be awesome, live by Plimmerton beach and sometimes its deserted in bad weather but we can't go on it due to the restrictions (#74)

Area and Proposal	Karehana Bay Beach (the sandy beach south of Plimmerton Boating Club to south of Cluny Road before the rocks) To extend the time that dogs are allowed on Karehana Bay Beach by changing the start date of restrictions from 1 November to 1 December															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>34</td> <td>76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>9</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>2</td> <td>4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>45</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 76% (34 of 45) agreed.</p> <p>There were no major comments on this proposal.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	34	76%	No	9	20%	Neutral	2	4%	Total	45	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	34	76%														
No	9	20%														
Neutral	2	4%														
Total	45	100%														

Area and Proposal	Paremata Beach (between Pascoe Avenue and the Dolly Varden toilets) To extend the time that dogs are allowed on Paremata Beach (between Pascoe Avenue and the Dolly Varden toilets) by changing the start date of restrictions from 1 November to 1 December															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>34</td> <td>76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>9</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>2</td> <td>4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>45</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 76% (34 of 45) agreed.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	34	76%	No	9	20%	Neutral	2	4%	Total	45	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	34	76%														
No	9	20%														
Neutral	2	4%														
Total	45	100%														

	There were no substantive comments on this proposal.
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Area and Proposal	Pukerua Bay Beach To extend the time that dogs are allowed on Pukerua Bay Beach by changing the start date of restrictions from 1 November to 1 December															
Feedback	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>32</td> <td>73%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>9</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>3</td> <td>7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>44</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 73% (32 of 44).</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pukerua Bay Beach and other parts of Porirua's coast is home to rare wildlife, e.g. the 'nationally endangered' reef heron, 'nationally vulnerable' oystercatchers, pied shags, little blue penguin, pipits, Caspian terns and red-billed gulls. Dogs should not be allowed on the coast except on a leash. They kill penguins which are vulnerable all year around and disturb nesting birds, resulting in breeding failure (#60) • Pukerua Bay Scientific Reserve also deserves protection from dogs as it is home to rare and endangered lizards and a suitable penguin habitat. Off leash dogs endanger penguins and disturb the lizard habitat, digging, unsettling scree slopes and climbing over muehlenbeckia bushes all of which is prime lizard habitat (#60) 	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	32	73%	No	9	20%	Neutral	3	7%	Total	44	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	32	73%														
No	9	20%														
Neutral	3	7%														
Total	44	100%														

Other sites

Area and Proposal	Taua Tapu track, Plimmerton To prohibit dogs on Taua Tapu Track (between The Track and Airlie Road) from 1 August to 1 November, to avoid lambing season															
Feedback	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>29</td> <td>81%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>1</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>6</td> <td>17%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>36</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 81% (29 of 36) agreed.</p> <p>There were no major comments on this proposal.</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	29	81%	No	1	3%	Neutral	6	17%	Total	36	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	29	81%														
No	1	3%														
Neutral	6	17%														
Total	36	100%														

Area and Proposal	Te Rahui o Rangituhi (previously known as Colonial Knob Parklands) To prohibit dogs from Te Rahui o Rangituhi (previously known as Colonial Knob Parklands) apart from dogs <u>on leash on the summit four wheel drive track</u> up to the stock gate or sign at 2.2 kms only. Te Rahui o Rangituhi is part of the Porirua Outdoor Recreation Park. It is anticipated that large numbers of walkers, mountain bikers, and horse riders will use this park in the future. Facilities and tracks are scheduled to be built between 2017 and 2022. Animals also graze in the top section. However, it is recognised that the unsealed 4WD track is very popular to exercise dogs
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Feedback	View	Number	Percentage
	Yes	20	57%
	No	7	20%
	Neutral	8	23%
	Total	35	100%

Supported - 57% (20 of 35) agreed.

Comments included:

- it should be off leash – there is plenty of room and the dog can stay in sight (e.g. #44, 55)

Area and Proposal	Porirua Scenic Reserve (as defined by the Porirua City Reserves Management Plan) To prohibit dogs from the Porirua Scenic Reserve as it contains the largest remnant of native vegetation in Porirua, with rare plant and animal species to protect		
Feedback	View	Number	Percentage
	Yes	22	69%
	No	4	13%
	Neutral	6	19%
	Total	32	100%

Supported - 69% (22 of 32) agreed.

There were no major comments on this proposal.

Area and Proposal	Aotea Lagoon To prohibit dogs from the rose garden, playground and splash pad. For other parts of Aotea Lagoon dogs must be on leash. The Porirua City Reserves Management Plan’s Aotea Garden Zone A, Outcome 12 prohibits dogs from the zone. Dogs are also prohibited from playgrounds, so this is consistent with the city approach		
Feedback	View	Number	Percentage
	Yes	23	70%
	No	7	21%
	Neutral	3	9%
	Total	33	100%

Supported - 70% (23 of 33) agreed.

Comments included:

- difficulty in determining which Aotea Lagoon entrances that can be used and which areas dogs are allowed ...
- if dogs are leashed and under control, shouldn’t they be allowed in any areas? (#41)
- I do not see any problem with dogs being in the prohibited area. Majority of people know it is an on-leash area and therefore if dogs are on leash there is no risk (#54)
- dogs on leash should be allowed in the rose garden (#72)

Proposal: neutering (de-sexing) based on breed / type

General comment

There was general support for the proposal to include compulsory neutering (de-sexing) for dogs classified as menacing based on breed / type.

Proposal	<p>To include compulsory neutering (de-sexing) for dogs classified as menacing based on breed / type</p> <p>This will then be consistent with the existing requirement for compulsory neutering (de-sexing) for dogs classified as menacing based on behaviour</p>															
Feedback	<table border="1" data-bbox="379 600 735 734"> <thead> <tr> <th>View</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>27</td> <td>66%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>11</td> <td>27%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>3</td> <td>7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Supported - 66% (27 of 41) agreed.</p> <p>Views for and against included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • breed has nothing to do with behaviour (e.g. #54, 55, 69, 70, 72, 74) • good training and responsible owners would ensure good behaviour (e.g. #68, 69, 70, 72) • it is horrible (#48) • de-sex all dogs unless the owner has a licence to breed (#1) • neuter dogs with powerful jaws that can't be prised apart (#7) • make neutering on a case by case basis (#21) • all aggressive dog breeds should be de-sexed, male and female (#62) • Menacing breeds should definitely be desexed. If any are picked up as strays they should only be returned to owners if they were already registered and desexed when picked up (#17) • as well as reducing aggression, neutering can also stop dogs from roaming in search of a mating partner (#40) 	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	27	66%	No	11	27%	Neutral	3	7%	Total	41	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	27	66%														
No	11	27%														
Neutral	3	7%														
Total	41	100%														

Proposal: responsible owner scheme

General comment

There was support for the proposal to make it easier to obtain and keep 'responsible dog owner status'.

Proposal	<p>Make it easier to obtain and keep 'responsible dog owner status'</p> <p>The Council rewards responsible dog ownership by granting 'responsible dog owner status' which means paying less to register a dog.</p> <p>The proposal is to waive the responsible dog owner fee for new dog owners, dog owners moving to Porirua, and existing responsible owners moving house in Porirua. Owners would still need to let the Council know that their property is suitable and safe for dogs and adequately fenced. If this is not the case, then a fee will be charged.</p>
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Feedback	View	Number	Percentage
	Yes	32	82%
	No	4	10%
	Neutral	3	8%
	Total	39	100%

Supported - 82% (32 of 39) agreed.

A summary of comments includes:

- not supporting granting of responsible dog owner status without an initial home visit as a check of properties and interview of owners is an essential part of the process (#21)
- there should be more opportunity to get responsible dog owner status early after dog registration (#39)
- make additional reductions for members of the NZ Kennel Club as used to be the case several years ago (#49)
- increase the discount (#70)
- owners should have to attend a short-course on dog-ownership to qualify (#72)

Proposal: Part 5A 'Pooper-Scooper' Bylaw

General comment

There was general support to incorporate the 'pooper scooper' bylaw in the general dog bylaw.

Proposal	Incorporate the Part 5A 'Pooper-Scooper' Bylaw into the overall bylaw The bylaw is relatively short and it makes sense to have all bylaw issues for dogs in the one document															
Feedback	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>View</td> <td>Number</td> <td>Percentage</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>31</td> <td>84%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>3</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neutral</td> <td>3</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>37</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Supported - 84% (31 of 37) agreed.</p> <p>The need to carry the device (usually a plastic bag) so that it can be seen continues to be a concern for some people. Many will carry the unused bag in their pocket until needed and then by hand once used until it can be properly disposed of. However, some noted that carrying the device does not mean it will be used or used properly (e.g. #58).</p> <p>A common comment was for better enforcement due to great frustration with dog faeces littering paths and bags of faeces left on the path or thrown off path and not disposed of properly (e.g. #47, 58, 59)</p> <p>Associated comments included frustration with the lack of bins in dog exercise areas and general parks and reserves and calls for doggy doo bag dispensers in popular dog exercise areas (e.g. #58 and see 'other issues' for more comment on bins)</p>	View	Number	Percentage	Yes	31	84%	No	3	8%	Neutral	3	8%	Total	37	100%
View	Number	Percentage														
Yes	31	84%														
No	3	8%														
Neutral	3	8%														
Total	37	100%														

Other issues relating to dogs raised in feedback

In their feedback, people also commented on the following aspects of dogs:

- **Dog faeces** - 27% (29 of 108) mentioned concern about dog faeces (e.g. #6, 8, 11, 28, 38, 43, 47, 52, 53, 63)
- **Dog registration fees** - 32% (35 of 108) mentioned concern about dog registration fees, particularly the amount and the lack of clarity around how it is used (e.g. 39, 62, 49, 76); suggestion for price based on dog size (#39) and whether aggressive (#62) and more encouragement for responsible owners (#62)
- **Enforcement** - 23% (25 of 108) mentioned concern about low levels of bylaw enforcement (e.g. #43, 45, 50, 54, 56, 61, 712, 81)
- **Signs** - 11% (12 of 108) mentioned concern about signage related to dog control (e.g. #29, 45, 50, 55, 56, 61, 71, 73, 74, 81). One submitter provided a detailed audit and opinion on the suitability of almost every site in Porirua for dog activity (#45)
- **Rubbish bins** - 12% (13 of 108) mentioned concerns about numbers and location of rubbish bins for waste, particularly dog waste around dog exercise areas (e.g. #19, 29, 39, 40, 47, 51, 59, 74). Bins for the idea of a fenced dog park were not included in this count. There was a suggestion for a Big Belly solar power bin (#59), sand refill station to assist sprinkling on faeces (#63)
- **Safety** - 38% (41 of 108) mentioned concerns about safety of people, other dogs and wildlife (e.g. #38, 43, 45, 54, 60, 61, 63, 64, 73, 81)
- **Dog barking** - 6% (7 of 108) mentioned concern about dog barking (e.g. #43)
- **Education and training** - 19% (21 of 108) mentioned aspects of education and training being important for dogs and dog owners (e.g. #7, 72, 77, 81, 107)
- **Rehoming policy for dogs** – one suggestion was for the Dog Pound to have a rehoming policy so that fewer dogs are put down after seven days (#)
- **Planning** – with increasing population and development of new areas and subdivisions, one submitter encouraged the Council to include plans for dog exercise areas (e.g. #49, 50)
- **Web information and facilities** – maps and directions to exercise areas and defined on leash and prohibited areas and more online application and payment options (e.g. dog registration and applying for responsible dog owner status) (#25, 56)
- **Inconsistencies in bylaw and policy** – discrepancies in the document formatting were identified (e.g. number sequencing (#21)) and also an anomaly with the provisions of dogs in shopping centres. Dogs are required to be on leash and under control and taken directly through shopping centres. However, as part of Plimmerton Village Planning, hitching clips for leads have been added in the village around some shops (#61, 64, 66).

Mixed use of areas

Another point made in feedback is the issue of managing competing uses for physical sites (walkers of different abilities and speeds, cyclists, runners and exercise, dogs, prams, congestion, nature and wildlife and general tranquillity) (e.g. #46). Many had specific examples and concerns and views that some aspects should change. Others recognised the diverse users and uses and the difficulty of striking the right balance (e.g. #25, 27, 81).

One submitter suggested that:

- ‘dogs on leash’ signs be installed at known popular dog swimming holes along Te Ara Piko pathway e.g. Horokiri Stream where the bank alongside the pathway is beginning to crumble away with the movement of dogs in and out of the water. This stream is in the middle of the Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve – an on-leash area ... and
- dog owners are given a brochure about the effects of dogs on flora and fauna with simple messages such as: ‘just the presence of dogs can disturb birds, while chasing birds prevents them from feeding, mating and nesting in the area’. This should be given during registration of new dogs and at re-registration (#81)

Equity, fairness and clarity

People also commented on the need to ensure:

- **Equity and fairness** – fees and enforcement of the bylaws, particularly for irresponsible dog owners and those that don’t register their dogs (#47, 48). Responsible dog owners subsidising irresponsible dog owners was a common theme (#47, 49). A related concern was that responsible dog owners are tarred with the same brush of poor perception because of a few that are irresponsible (#47, 49, 62, 70, 72).
- **Value for money** – particularly in relation to the concern about high dog registration fees (e.g. #47, 48)
- **Clarity** - on what the dog registration fees are used for and also information, rules and signs about what applies to different locations (#45)

One query was received on the Council’s current and future intent for the management of cats (#28).

Section 2 - Idea of a fenced dog park in Porirua

There was clear support (94% - 84 of 89) for the idea of a fenced dog park.

People commented that a fenced dog park would be a positive feature and facility for the city. Some said that based on the level of dog registration fees paid and the number of registered dogs in the city it is surprising that Porirua does not have a fenced dog park already.

Do you think Porirua should have a fenced dog park?

View	Number	Percentage
Yes	84	94%
No	5	6%
Total	89	100%

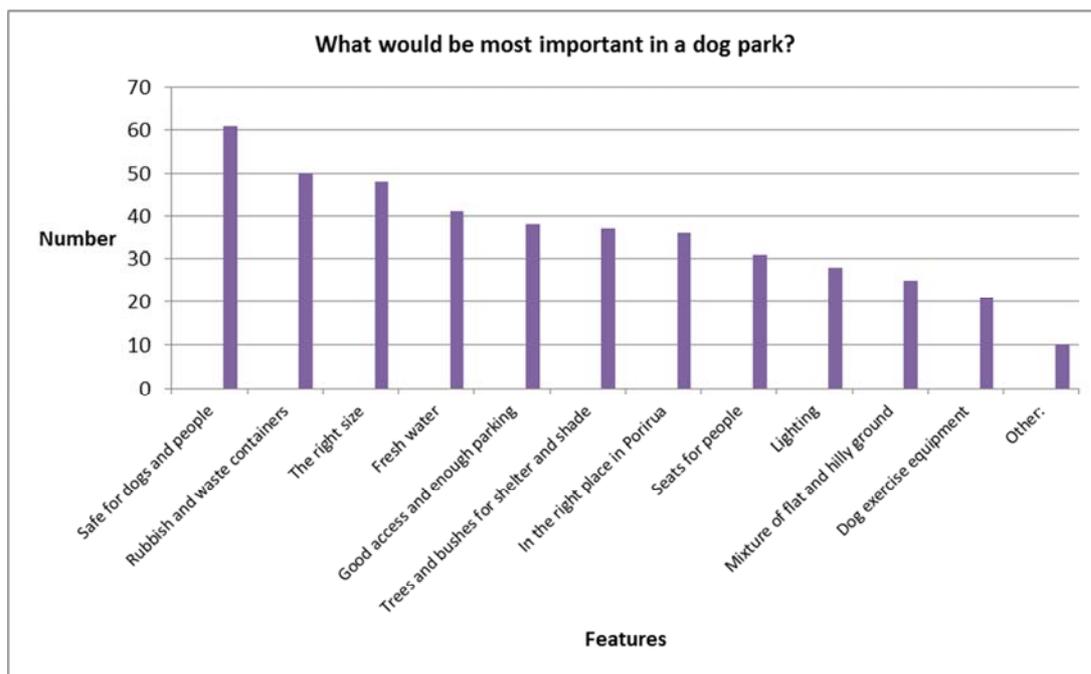
In general, those supporting the idea considered it to be an important city facility for dogs and dog owners, particularly in light of the level of dog fee registration. It is a place where dogs can run free in a safe environment (both for them and for people) and to socialise with other dogs and for dog owners to meet and socialise and to provide peer support and encouragement to be responsible dog owners.

Of those who disagreed and commented, this included:

- would prefer that dog registration fees or rates were lowered instead (#95)
- while appreciating that some organisations will use a park, the submitter would prefer to exercise with their dog out in the community. They were concerned that the facility would cost the ratepayer more and would lead to a gradual isolation of dog owners and reduce spaces where dogs can be exercised (#40)
- would be difficult to locate centrally and too expensive especially when there are plenty of off leash areas in the city or able to travel to fenced parks in neighbouring councils (#91)
- concern with so many dogs in an enclosed space at once and difficulty controlling their dog with so many distractions (#89)
- too expensive, plenty of other areas to exercise dogs (#91)

What should a fenced dog park be like and what should be in it?

A range of options were provided, with the choice of selecting as many as thought important and the opportunity to add other features. These are summarised below.



Choose what is important	Number
Safe for dogs and people	61
Rubbish and waste containers	50
Right size	48
Fresh water	41
Good access and parking	38
Shelter and hade vegetation	37
In the right place in Porirua	36
Seats for people	31
Lighting	28
Mix of flat and hilly ground	25
Dog exercise equipment	21
Other	10
Total	426

Other features

Under the category of 'other' people took the opportunity to describe a range of other desirable features including:

- Gates at each end of the park to allow safe entry and exit for dogs and people (e.g. #86)
- Well drained so dogs can stay relatively clean
- Swimming area as an added extra as many dogs like to get into the water
- Water feature combined with drinking fountain
- Poo wormery compost to help deal with dog faeces on site (e.g. #16)
- Poo bag dispenser for quick and easy removal (e.g. #16, 18, 21, 55, 70)
- Section for smaller dogs for safety from larger dogs (e.g. #39)
- Wet weather cover over part (e.g. #17, 48, 55, 72)
- Signs on use, behaviour and etiquette (e.g. #107)
- Hitching posts for dogs on leash (e.g. #78)
- Wash station if dogs get dirty (e.g. #78)

- Concrete pads at gates given expected high foot traffic in a concentrated area (e.g. #86)

Location of a fenced dog park

Although information on location was not specifically sought in the consultation period, a number of suggestions were provided. A general summary of those locations is provided here.

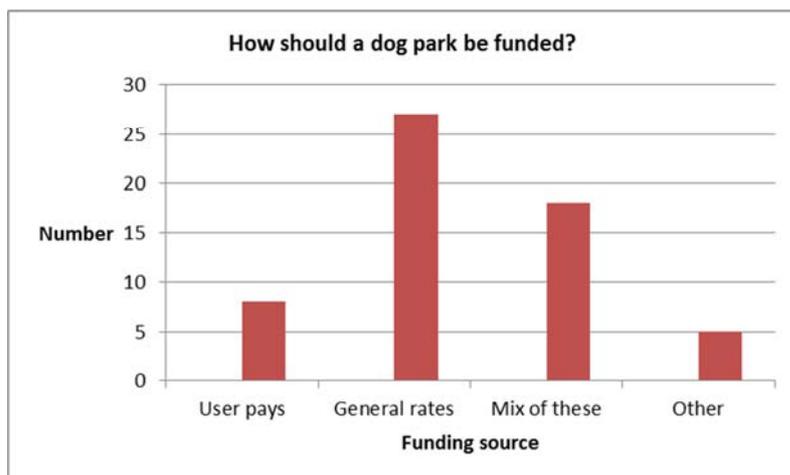
Location	Comment
Plimmerton Domain	Views for and against. One suggestion of the northern part of the Domain. One comment against was the need to retain the recreational space in light of the Northern Growth Area (#50).
Papakowhai Reserve	Views for and against. Between Brora Crescent and Romesdale Road. Would need special planning to avoid the muddy smelly ponds.
Ascot Park	References to the Village Planning discussions. Some views was that although the size is quite small and the location is not central enough for the city, it would still be good as a smaller fenced park.
Paremata	Area not specified.
Karehana Park	One view – if this area is still to be a dog exercise area adjacent to the playground, the dog area must be fenced for safety.
Various	One submitter considered that there should be three in the city: one for Titahi Bay, one for Porirua East, Postgate and Whitby, and one for Plimmerton, Pukerua Bay
Titahi Bay	Arnold Park
Whitireia Park	Near Gilby Grove (#87)
Ngati Toa Domain	By the beach.
Rangituhi Park	Elsdon
Cardiff Park	Cannons Creek
Kenepuru	Broken Hill (#24)
Waitangirua	Varied terrain off Transmission Gully (#50)

How should the building and maintenance of a fenced dog park be funded?

As with those making views on the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw, principles of equity, fairness and value for money were raised in the potential funding for a fenced dog park.

Several were of the view that general rates were a perfectly sensible and legitimate source for a fenced dog park. The point was made that most registered dog owners pay council rates as well as dog registration fees. Several views (e.g. #12, 49, 69, 72, 78) pointed toward a substantial public benefit subsidy for community facilities to benefit the whole city and all groups (e.g. Te Rauparaha Arena, Aquatic Centre, sports grounds, parks and reserves, libraries, halls, mountain bike tracks etc) although not all groups will use them. There was discussion of estimated costs (construction and maintenance) and loan funding and servicing with some detailed consideration of principles, arrangements and examples (e.g. #12, 67).

Several were of the view that were essential basic features for a fenced park and that other features could be added as and when funding and the volunteer labour force were available.



Choose what is important	Number
User pays (dog owners meet the costs)	8
General rates (all ratepayers contribute)	27
A mix of the above	18
Other	5
Total	58

Other funding sources mentioned

Under the category of 'other' people took the opportunity to describe a variety of funding arrangements including:

- Sponsorship and advertising
- General rates and sponsorship
- Donation box (#101)

Sponsorship and other economic opportunity

Several submitters described the opportunity for a variety of sponsorship arrangements with pet/dog food and supply companies and arrangements with dog groups, dog trainers, having billboard and fencing space for hire (e.g. #67, 77, 78).

Coffee and food carts might also be interested in leasing adjacent space to cater for the people exercising their dogs and other people attracted to the facility to watch.

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