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I hereby give notice that the public deliberation for a Special Consultative Procedure will be held on:

**Date:** Friday, 6 June 2025  
(with Friday, 13 June if required)  
**Time:** 9.30am (and 11.30am on 13 June if required)  
**Meeting Room:** Reception Lounge  
**Venue:** Level 2, Auckland Town Hall  
301 Queen Street, Auckland Central

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## **DELIBERATION REPORT**

### **DOG POLICY AND BYLAW REVIEW**

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#### **PANEL MEMBERS**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Cr Josephine Bartley</b>
<b>Members</b>	<b>Cr Alf Filipaina</b>
	<b>Houkura Member Glenn Wilcox</b>

**Julie McKee**  
**KAIWHAKAHAERE WHAKAWĀTANGA**  
**HEARINGS MANAGER**

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## **WHAT HAPPENS AT A SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURE PUBLIC DELIBERATION**

At the start of the meeting, the Chairperson will introduce the panel members and council staff and will briefly outline the procedure.

The hearing panel have attended a series of Have Your Say events to hear from the public and have read the officers report and written submissions.

The hearing panel will now deliberate on what they have heard and read and will make a recommendation to the Governing Body.

## SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURE - DOG POLICY AND BYLAW REVIEW

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Reporting Officer, Kylie Hill, Principal Policy Advisor

Reporting on the Have Your Say events and written submissions on the proposed Dog Policy and Bylaw Review.

**Dog Policy and Bylaw Review**  
**START DATE: Friday, 6 June 2025 (with Friday, 13 June if required)**

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## Deliberations on the proposed dog policy and bylaw changes

### Te take mō te pūrongo

#### Purpose of the report

1. To assist the Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel deliberations on the public feedback on a [proposal](#) to make changes to the Auckland Council [Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī | Policy on Dogs 2019](#) and [Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī | Dog Management Bylaw 2019](#).

### Whakarāpopototanga matua

#### Executive summary

2. To assist Panel deliberations on the public feedback to the proposal, staff have summarised the feedback and provided a structure for the deliberations (Attachment A).
3. The proposal seeks to improve council's approach to dog management in Auckland by maintaining opportunities for owners to take their dogs into public places, adopting measures to minimise the problems caused by dogs and protecting dogs from harm and ensuring their welfare.
4. Council received responses from 5,207 people and organisations. This included late feedback from nine individuals and one organisation after the close of public consultation on 23 February 2025. All feedback has been summarised into the following topics:

Topic and description	Topic and description
• Proposal 1: Limit to number of dogs walked (six on leash, with maximum three of the six off leash at any one time)	• Proposal 12B: Muriwai Regional Park
• Proposal 2: Auckland Botanic Gardens	• Proposal 12C: Tāwharanui Regional Park
• Proposal 3: Hunua Ranges Regional Park	• Proposal 12D: Wenderholm Regional Park
• Proposal 4: Long Bay Regional Park	• Proposal 13A: Restructure the policy to more clearly show its goal, focus areas, council actions, and rules
• Proposal 5A: Mahurangi Regional Park East	• Proposal 13B: Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered
• Proposal 5B: Mahurangi Regional Park West	• Proposal 13C: Clarify who can provide behavioural assessments in relation to menacing dog classifications
• Proposal 5C: Mahurangi Regional Park Scott Point	• Proposal 13D: Clarify what areas in Auckland require a license to keep multiple dogs on a property
• Proposal 6: Pākiri Regional Park	• Proposal 13E: Clarify how dog access rules are set
• Proposal 7: Shakespear Regional Park	• Proposal 13F: Clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules
• Proposal 8: Tāpapakanga Regional Park	• Proposal 13G: Clarify or correct errors in Policy Schedule 2: Dog access rules
• Proposal 9: Te Ārai Regional Park	• Proposal 13H: Remove outdated information in Policy Schedule 2: Dog access rules
• Proposal 10: Waitawa Regional Park	• Proposal 13I: Update dog access rules for Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountains)
• Proposal 11: Whakanewha Regional Park	• Proposal 13J: Remove outdated/duplicated bylaw content
• Proposal 12A: Ambury Regional Park	• Other matters

5. Staff recommend that the Panel accept the late feedback, consider all feedback received on the proposal and make the necessary recommendations to the Governing Body.
6. This approach will help complete the statutory process the council must follow. This includes considering with an open mind the views of people and organisations interested in the proposal before making a final decision.
7. There is a reputational risk that some people or organisations who provided feedback may not feel that their views are addressed. This risk can be mitigated by the Panel considering all public feedback in this report and providing reasons for its recommendations.
8. The final step in the statutory process is for the Governing Body to approve a Panel decision report that contains its recommendations. If approved, staff will publicly notify the decision and publish the updated Policy and Bylaw.

## **Ngā tūtohunga Recommendation/s**

That the Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel:

- a) mihi / thank those persons and organisations who gave public feedback on the proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī | Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī | Dog Management Bylaw 2019
- b) whakaae / accept and consider the late feedback from nine individuals and one organisation (Disability Assist Dogs Advocate NZ) alongside all other public feedback received.
- c) tono / request that through the Chief Executive to a manager responsible for bylaws to prepare a decision report to the Governing Body for approval of the Panel.

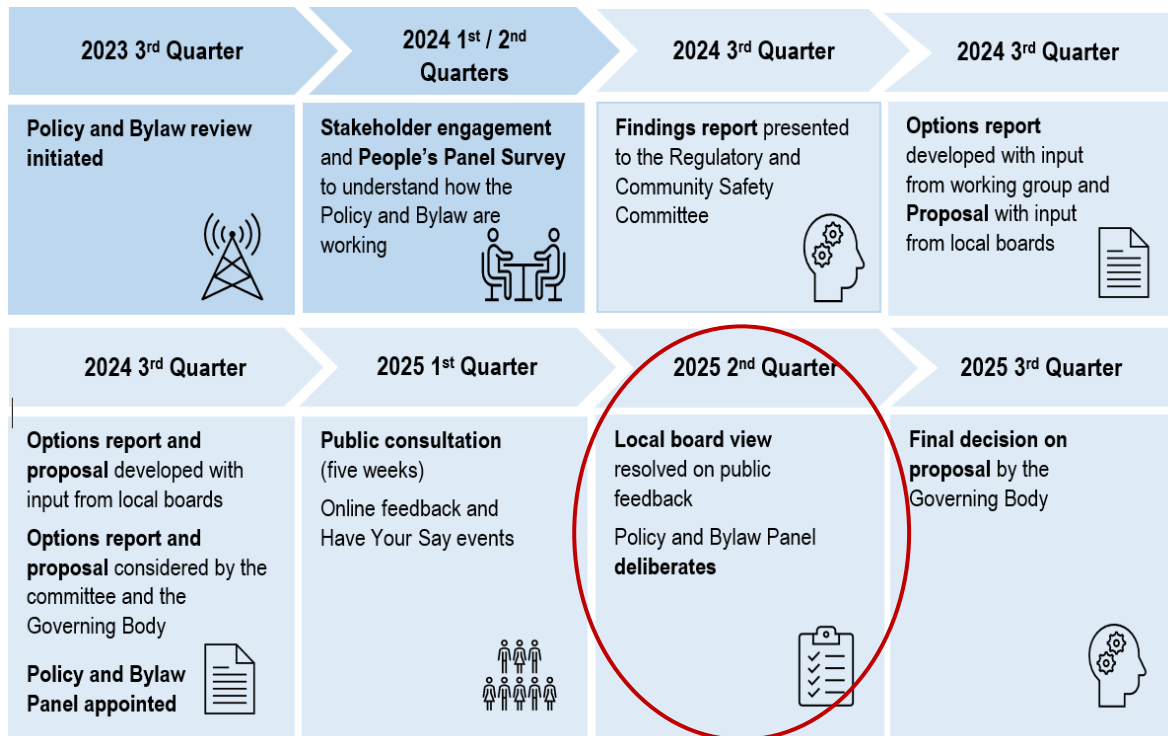
## **Horopaki Context**

### **Council is required to have a policy on dogs and a bylaw to implement the policy**

9. The Dog Control Act 1996 requires Auckland Council to have a policy on dogs and a bylaw to give effect to it by specifying rules that dog owners must comply with.
10. The objective of council's Auckland Council [Kaupapa no ngā Kurī / Policy on Dogs 2019](#) and [Ture ā Rohe Tiakina Kurī / Dog Management Bylaw 2019](#), is to 'keep dogs a positive part of the life of Aucklanders' by:
  - maintaining opportunities for owners to take their dogs to public places
  - adopting measures to minimise the problems caused by dogs (including by promoting responsible dog ownership)
  - protecting dogs from harm and ensuring their welfare'.
11. The rules are enforced by the Animal Management unit using a modern regulator approach to compliance (for example information, education and enforcement).
12. The policy and bylaw are part of a wider regulatory framework that includes the following.
  - The [Dog Control Act 1996](#) manages matters relating to dog ownership, including their care, control and owner responsibilities for damage caused by their dog.
  - The [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#) ensures that owners of animals and persons in charge of animals attend properly to the welfare of the animal.
  - The [Code of Welfare for Dogs 2018](#) provides information to the owners and persons in charge of dogs about the standards they must achieve to meet their obligations under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

### The proposal seeks to amend the dog policy and bylaw

13. On 12 December 2024, the Governing Body adopted a [proposal](#) to amend matters of regional significance in the Dog Policy and Bylaw for public consultation ([GB/2024/181](#)).
14. The proposal arose from a statutory review of the Policy and Bylaw (see figure below).



15. The proposal seeks to improve council's approach to dog management in Auckland. The main proposals are outlined in the Table below and a full copy is provided in Attachment B to this report. Attachment B links to an on-line copy of the [proposal](#).<sup>1</sup>

Main proposals
Set a limit to the number of dogs a person may 'walk' in a council-controlled public place at one time (maximum of six dogs of which no more than three may be under control off a leash at any one time)
<b>Auckland Botanic Gardens</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change the off-leash area to align with the current signposted off-leash boundaries, to provide for temporary changes for events and to transition to on-leash as parts of the off-leash area are developed in accordance with the Gardens Master Plan.</li> <li>Prohibit dogs from waterways.</li> <li>Prohibit dogs from the Huakawaka Visitor Centre, Café area (except the western café terrace), designated food concession areas and Potter Children's Garden.</li> <li>Clarify rules in other areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Hunua Ranges Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibit dogs from tracks and roads that connect to the Kohukohunui track, the Kokako Management Area and Piggott's Habitat and on single use mountain bike tracks (currently on-leash).</li> </ul>
<b>Long Bay Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amend the summer daytime rule for the beach south of Vaughan Stream from on-leash to prohibited (off-leash access before 10am and after 5pm in summer and at any time in winter unchanged).</li> <li>Clarify rules in other areas, including access to beach from southernmost carpark and prohibited tracks and bays.</li> </ul>
<b>Mahurangi Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibit dogs on Cudlip Point Loop Track (currently on-leash).</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> [https://hdp-au-prod-app-ak-haveyoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/3817/3688/7615/Statement\\_of\\_Proposal.pdf](https://hdp-au-prod-app-ak-haveyoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/3817/3688/7615/Statement_of_Proposal.pdf).

<b>Main proposals</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow dogs on-leash at all times at Scott Point (currently on-leash time and season).</li> <li>• Clarify rules in other areas (including dogs prohibited at Mahurangi Regional Park (East) and heritage grounds at Scott Point).</li> </ul>
<b>Pākiri Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit dogs on the associated beach.</li> </ul>
<b>Shakespear Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply an on-leash time and season rule to the open grass areas between Army Bay and Okoramai Bay (currently off-leash).</li> <li>• Clarify rules in other areas (such as boundary of Army Bay and Okoramai Bay beaches, on-leash tracks and prohibited areas).</li> </ul>
<b>Tāpapakanga Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide off-leash access on beach and on-leash access on area between beach and car park at any time (currently prohibited during lambing season)</li> <li>• Clarify rules in other areas (such as prohibited at the campgrounds and bach, and during lambing).</li> </ul>
<b>Te Ārai Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit dogs on Forestry Beach (Te Ārai Beach South to Pakiri Beach) and associated coastal tracks.</li> <li>• Clarify access to off-leash area at disused quarry.</li> </ul>
<b>Waitawa Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change eastern part of Mataitai Beach from off-leash to on-leash.</li> <li>• Change Waitawa Beach from off-leash to on-leash.</li> <li>• Prohibit dogs on single use mountain bike tracks.</li> <li>• Clarify other areas where dogs are prohibited (such as farm paddock during lambing, campground and bach).</li> </ul>
<b>Whakanewha Regional Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide on-leash access on tracks from <a href="#">Omiha (Rocky Bay)</a> to the on-leash area of the Park.</li> </ul>
<b>Ambury, Muriwai, Tāwharanui and Wenderholm regional parks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarify current rules (no change to dog access).</li> </ul>
<b>Reorganise, simplify and clarify Policy and Bylaw content</b> , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using a goal, focus area, action and rule structure</li> <li>• clarifying approach to setting dog access rules</li> <li>• clarifying the policy to neuter classified dogs and who can provide behavioural assessments</li> <li>• clarifying Auckland-wide dog access rules such as for council carparks and camping grounds, working dogs, dogs in vehicles and private ways</li> <li>• removing outdated information in Schedule 2 for example outdated landmarks</li> <li>• updating dog access rules on Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountains)</li> <li>• removing Bylaw content that is covered in the Policy or is outdated.</li> </ul>

### **Dog Policy and Bylaw panel was appointed to deliberate on public feedback**

16. In December 2024, the Regulatory and Safety Committee appointed the Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel to attend public consultation events, deliberate and make recommendations to the Governing Body on public feedback to the proposal ([RSCCC/2024/83](#)).<sup>2</sup>
17. The date, time and venue of deliberations have been published on council's 'AK Have Your Say' webpage. This enables the public to attend the deliberations to observe, noting there are no public speaking rights at deliberations after the close of the public feedback period.
18. When deliberating, the Panel must comply with regulatory requirements in the Local Government Act 2002, Dog Control Act 1996 and Policy on Dogs 2019. This includes:
  - giving all public feedback due consideration with an open mind
  - being consistent with the policy, principles and criteria for making dog access rules

<sup>2</sup> Panel members: Councillor Bartley, Councillor Filipaina, Houkura Member Willcox.



- not being inconsistent with any region-wide dog access rule
- having regard to the matters in section 10(4) of the Dog Control Act 1996
- providing a clear record or description of the decisions.

### Feedback on the proposal was received from 5207 people and organisations

19. The proposal was publicly notified for feedback from 20 January until 23 February 2025. During that period, council received feedback from 5177 individuals and 30 organisations across Auckland, and late feedback from nine individuals and one organisation.
20. The potential audience reach was 3,790,605 over 98 days. This includes coverage printed (e.g. newspapers), online, television and radio channels. The “AK Have Your Say” web page received 34,573 views.

### Summary of public notification and feedback

Public consultation initiatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification in New Zealand Herald and local papers.<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Articles on ‘Our Auckland’ on <a href="#">3 December 2024</a>, <a href="#">4 December 2024</a>, <a href="#">21 January 2025</a>.</li> <li>• Email notification to known registered dog owners using the email or mailing address provided to council.</li> <li>• Email notification to external stakeholders (e.g. SPCA).</li> <li>• Email notification to mana whenua and mataawaka.</li> <li>• Email notification to stakeholders involved during the Findings Review.</li> <li>• Coverage on radio and television.<sup>4</sup></li> <li>• ‘Information Drop-in’ sessions and ‘Have Your Say’ events both in person and online.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• Information on the <a href="#">akhaveyoursay</a> website.</li> </ul>
Public feedback opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In writing online, by email or post from 20 January to 23 February 2025.</li> <li>• ‘Have Your Say’ events on 11 February 2025 and 24 February 2025.</li> <li>• One online ‘Information Drop-in’ session on the 12 February 2025.<sup>6</sup></li> <li>• Ten in-person “Information Drop-in” sessions at libraries.<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• Verbally by phone.</li> </ul>
Public responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback received from 5207 people and organisations (5177 individuals and 30 organisations) through the online feedback form or by email and 10 late feedback responses, nine from individuals and one organisation (Disability Assist Dogs Advocate NZ): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4046 on the proposal to limit the number of dogs walked and the general policy and bylaw matters</li> <li>○ 3084 on the proposal to clarify or change regional park dog access rules.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 85 people attended the ‘Have Your Say Drop-in’ events. Most provided verbal and written feedback.</li> <li>• 47 individuals, groups and organisations spoke at one of the two ‘Have Your Say Stakeholder’ events.</li> </ul>

21. All public feedback received is summarised in Attachment D and a full copy provided in Attachment E. Both Attachments link to a council Have Your Say webpage where the documents can be viewed under the heading “[Feedback Received](#)”.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Franklin County News, Manukau and Papakura Courier, Central Leader, Eastern Bays Courier, North Shore Times, Rodney Times, Western Leader, The Times, Gulf News, Waiheke Weekender, Pohutukawa Coast Times.

<sup>4</sup> TVNZ (1 time), Media Works (11 times) and Radio NZ (10 times).

<sup>5</sup> One online Information session, one online and one in-person Have Your Say event, plus 10 in-person drop-in sessions and one on-line drop-in session.

<sup>6</sup> Session involved the dog policy, bylaw, regional parks and local dog access rules.

<sup>7</sup> Sessions held at Remuera, Warkworth, Albany Village, Glenfield, Howick, Mt Roskill, Whangaparaoa, Pukekohe, Waiheke and Henderson libraries, and one online session.

<sup>8</sup> <https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/dog-policy-bylaw-and-access-rules>.

## Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu

### Analysis and advice

22. To assist the Panel in its deliberations, staff have summarised the public feedback into topics in Attachment A. This enables the Panel to deliberate and record its recommendations on each topic to meet the statutory requirements.
23. The majority of public feedback supported proposal 13 which related to making the Policy and Bylaw easier to understand. The majority opposed Proposals 1 to 12 which related to limits the number of dogs walked and changes to dog access rules on regional parks.
24. The number of feedback responses in support and opposition to the proposals in the Table below provides a useful indication of the level of interest or concern about an issue.
25. However, this is only one consideration. The Panel must also consider the following.
  - The content and substance of the feedback. The arguments for a particular view can where it is considered appropriate, carry more weight than the number.
  - The key changes sought in feedback. The numbers in support and opposition do not necessarily mean people want the proposal to be adopted as publicly notified or for the current rules to remain. For example, people opposed to a proposed regional park dog access rule, may also oppose the current rule.

Topic		Auckland-wide feedback	
		Support	Opposition
Proposal 1	Limit to number of dogs walked (six on leash, with maximum three of the six off leash at any one time)	32 per cent	66 per cent
Proposal 2	Auckland Botanic Gardens	34 per cent	62 per cent
Proposal 3	Hunua Ranges Regional Park	33 per cent	56 per cent
Proposal 4	Long Bay Regional Park	26 per cent	70 per cent
Proposal 5A	Mahurangi Regional Park East	27 per cent	62 per cent
Proposal 5B	Mahurangi Regional Park West	28 per cent	60 per cent
Proposal 5C	Mahurangi Regional Park Scott Point	29 per cent	61 per cent
Proposal 6	Pākiri Regional Park	15 per cent	81 per cent
Proposal 7	Shakespear Regional Park	39 per cent	51 per cent
Proposal 8	Tāpapakanga Regional Park	34 per cent	55 per cent
Proposal 9	Te Ārai Regional Park	18 per cent	76 per cent
Proposal 10	Waitawa Regional Park	30 per cent	61 per cent
Proposal 11	Whakanewha Regional Park	35 per cent	51 per cent
Proposal 12A	Ambury Regional Park	37 per cent	55 per cent
Proposal 12B	Muriwai Regional Park	46 per cent	47 per cent
Proposal 12C	Tāwharanui Regional Park	43 per cent	45 per cent
Proposal 12D	Wenderholm Regional Park	42 per cent	44 per cent
Proposal 13A	Restructure the policy to more clearly show its goal, focus areas, council actions, and rules	71 per cent	17 per cent
Proposal 13B	Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered	82 per cent	13 per cent
Proposal 13C	Clarify who can provide behavioural assessments in relation to menacing dog classifications	83 per cent	6 per cent
Proposal 13D	Clarify what areas in Auckland require a license to keep multiple dogs on a property	74 per cent	17 per cent
Proposal 13E	Clarify how dog access rules are set	76 per cent	13 per cent
Proposal 13F	Clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules	76 per cent	17 per cent
Proposal 13G	Clarify or correct errors in Policy Schedule 2: Dog access rules	67 per cent	12 per cent
Proposal 13H	Remove outdated information in Policy Schedule 2: Dog access rules	80 per cent	9 per cent
Proposal 13I	Update dog access rules for Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountains)	49 per cent	26 per cent
Proposal 13J	Remove outdated or duplicated bylaw content	81 per cent	7 per cent

## **Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi**

### **Climate impact statement**

26. The Dog Policy and Bylaw do not directly address the climate change goals in [Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan](#). For example, the Policy and Bylaw focuses more on keeping dogs as a positive part of the lives of Aucklanders.
27. There are no implications for climate change arising from decisions sought in this report.

## **Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera**

### **Council group impacts and views**

28. Input from relevant council teams was sought to inform the development of the proposal and the deliberations report, and those teams are aware of the impacts of any final decision and their implementation role.

## **Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe**

### **Local impacts and local board views**

29. The Dog Policy and Bylaw impact local governance and are of high interest. For example, the Policy sets criteria that local boards must comply with when making changes to dog access rules on local parks and beaches.
30. In March 2025 all local boards had the opportunity to provide formal views by resolution on how the Panel should address matters raised in public feedback. Local boards also had the opportunity to decide whether to present their views to the Panel on 23 May 2025.
31. All 21 local boards provided their views by resolution, 12 boards requested to present their views to the Panel and 12 attended the 23 May meeting.
32. Local board views are summarised in Attachment A and contained in Attachment G.

## **Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori**

### **Māori impact statement**

33. The Dog Policy and Bylaw support manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and kaitiakitanga in the Independent Māori Statutory Board's [Māori Plan for Tāmaki Makaurau](#) and the [Schedule of Issues of Significance](#) by providing regulations that help protect people and the environment from harm caused by dogs.
34. Mana whenua and mataawaka were notified of the proposal and given the opportunity to provide feedback through face-to-face meetings, in writing, online and in-person.
35. Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust supported the majority of the proposals to simplify and clarify the Policy and Bylaw content and proposed changes to Long Bay, Mahurangi, Pākiri, Shakespear, Tāwharanui, Te Ārai and Wenderholm Regional Parks.
36. The six per cent (369) of public feedback received from individuals who identified as Māori showed no marked difference to the feedback provided from non-Māori.

## **Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea**

### **Financial implications**

37. There are no financial implications arising from decisions sought in this report. The costs associated with implementation will be met within existing budget.

## **Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga**

### **Risks and mitigations**

38. The following risk has been identified:

If...	Then...	Mitigation
Some people or organisations feel their feedback was not considered or addressed	There may be a reputational risk of negative public perception about the decision-making process.	The Policy and Bylaw Panel ensures it considers all public feedback contained in this report and records its decisions (with reasons).

## Ngā koringa ā-muri

### Next steps

39. Staff will prepare a decision report from the Panel to the Governing Body to implement the Panel directions on public feedback from its deliberations meeting. The report will be circulated to the Panel for approval and if necessary, the Panel can reconvene.
40. The final step in the statutory process is for the Governing Body to approve recommendations from the Panel. If approved, council staff will publicly notify the decision and publish the Policy and Bylaw.

## Ngā tāpirihanga

### Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Deliberations table	
B	Statement of Proposal <a href="#">[click link]</a>	
C	Decision-making criteria	
D	Summary of public feedback <a href="#">[click link]</a>	
E	Online and written feedback <a href="#">[click link]</a>	
F	Operational and non-bylaw related feedback	
G	Local Board views on public feedback	
H	Suggested number of dogs on and off leash	
I	Conditions of public place use suggestions	

## Ngā kaihaina

### Signatories

Authors	Kylie Hill Principal Policy Analyst
Authorisers	Paul Wilson Senior Policy Manager

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**DELIBERATIONS TABLE**



## Attachment A – Deliberations Table

This attachment provides a structure for deliberations. It contains a summary of public feedback on the proposal and local board views, information to assist deliberations and a structure for recording recommendations.

### **The Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel:**

- can view all public feedback and local board views in Attachments C to G
- must receive the views in public feedback with open mind and give those views due consideration
- must comply with the decision-making criteria in the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Local Government Act 2002 (See Attachment C).

### **Notes:**

- Feedback is summarised in the topic it best relates to (which may differ from the topic it may have been submitted under).
- The number of comments for key themes may not equal the total number of comments stated for the proposal because they include general comments or exclude operational and non-bylaw related matters or that some comments may reflect more than one theme.
- Percentages for feedback responses may not equal 100 per cent because responses other than support or oppose are excluded.
- Staff comments about things the Panel could consider highlight key points for deliberation identified by staff and do not limit the Panel's consideration and deliberation on any matters raised in public feedback or local board views.
- Public feedback about operational and non-bylaw related matters is summarised in Attachment F and will be referred to other Auckland Council departments and other council-controlled organisations where relevant.
- The comments under key themes (the hollow bullet points) are intended to provide some context to the theme of what submitters have said. They are not intended to represent all of the submitter's comments.
- The numbers, themes and relief sought may differ from the summary of feedback in Attachment D. This reflects the purpose of the summary to provide 'quick' insights after the close of public feedback and this Attachment which reflects a more 'in-depth' analysis of public feedback.
- The numbers do not include the feedback responses on matters of regional significance in response to questions in a separate proposal about changes to local dog access rules. However, the themes and key changes sought in that feedback are reflected in this table.

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Set a limit on the number of dogs walked in council-controlled places</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>3670 written feedback responses: 1192 support (32 per cent), <b>2411 oppose (66 per cent)</b>, 3138 comments. This includes 20 organisations (5 in support, 14 in opposition and 1 don't know) and 1 petition in opposition with 3456 signatures.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If the petition signatories are individually counted, the feedback in support decreases to 17 per cent and feedback in opposition increases to 82 per cent.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> 2960 feedback responses seek some form of additional regulation (some feedback included more than one suggestion), while 1265 (4721 including petition signatories) seek to retain current rules (see Key changes sought).</p> </div> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (918):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support mentioned it is <b>difficult to walk many dogs</b> and the proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflects a safe number people can manage and have under effective control.</li> <li>Reduces environmental damage and nuisance to other users of public spaces for example other dogs and animals (such as horses), vehicles and public.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some in support were concerned about the threat dogs pose to <b>public safety</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Dogs are unpredictable when it comes to pack walks or in large groups."</li> <li>More than six dogs can be intimidating and/or a nuisance to children, elderly, disabled and general public when on footpaths, at parks and beaches.</li> <li>"This limit allows walkers to have full control of the dogs they are walking to ensure other users of the public space are not at risk."</li> </ul> </li> <li>A few in support of the proposal noted exemptions for breeders.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (2116):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those that opposed mentioned the <b>financial concerns for dog walkers</b> and the impact that this would have on dog walking businesses and dog fosterers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Imposing a limit on the numbers of dogs in a walking pack will mean the cost of pack walks will become financially unviable for dog owners."</li> <li>"The restriction on the number of dogs which are able to be walked at any one time will negatively affect professional dog walkers who earn their living walking other people's dogs."</li> <li>"These changes will negatively impact the well-being of dogs and limit the effectiveness of pack walking services ..."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>About the current and proposed rules</b></p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires a person to have control of all the dogs in their possession: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>applies to any on-leash, off-leash or designated dog exercise area</li> <li>applies regardless of whether the person is the dog owner</li> <li>defines 'control' in relation to a dog as a person 'being able to obtain immediate and desired response from the dog'</li> <li>is in addition to the Dog Control Act 1996 requirements to keep a dog under control at all times (<a href="#">s52(1)</a>).</li> </ul> </li> <li>No limit on the number of dogs a person may have in their control.</li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets a limit on to the number of dogs a person may 'walk' at one time in a council-controlled public place (maximum of six dogs of which no more than three may be under control off a leash at any one time).</li> <li>Current requirement for a person to have control of all the dogs in their possession still applies.</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>About the 'weight' to be given to feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of feedback responses provides a useful indication of the level of interest or concern about an issue. However, this is only one consideration.</li> <li>The Panel must also consider the content and substance of the feedback.</li> <li>The arguments for a particular view can where it is considered appropriate, carry more weight than the number of feedback.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'difficult to walk many dogs', 'public safety', 'irresponsible dog owners', 'responsible dog owner' and 'the welfare of dogs' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback concerns about safety, damage, nuisance, control and fright in relation to dogs with their owners are all valid. The Dog Control Act 1996 (s10(4)) specifically recognises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally</li> <li>the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires a person to have control of all the dogs in their possession: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>applies to any on-leash, off-leash or designated dog exercise area</li> <li>applies regardless of whether the person is the dog owner</li> <li>defines 'control' in relation to a dog as a person 'being able to obtain immediate and desired response from the dog'</li> <li>is in addition to the Dog Control Act 1996 requirements to keep a dog under control at all times (<a href="#">s52(1)</a>).</li> </ul> </li> <li>No limit on the number of dogs a person may have in their control.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets a limit on to the number of dogs a person may 'walk' at one time in a council-controlled public place (maximum of six dogs of which no more than three may be under control off a leash at any one time).</li> <li>Current requirement for a person to have control of all the dogs in their possession still applies.</li> </ul>
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Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some people opposed to the proposal thought that there should be more freedom for qualified walkers to walk larger packs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“This is restrictive on those dog walkers who are competent in taking a higher number of dogs on walks.”</li> <li>” Professional dog walkers often manage larger groups of dogs efficiently and safely ...”</li> <li>“... will negatively impact the careers and livelihoods of professional dog walkers- people who are well responsible and equipped to look after numerous dogs.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some people opposed to the proposal felt the <b>welfare of dogs</b> will be compromised and that there are pack walking benefits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“This could result in many dogs, including my own, not receiving the necessary physical activity and care they require, which could negatively impact their well-being. Dog walkers provide a service to dog owners who work during the day.”</li> <li>“Pack walking in our public spaces is so good for a dog’s wellbeing.”</li> <li>“Pack walks give dogs added stimulation they only get when they are on a pack walk. As well as added socialization with professionals.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some people opposed to the proposal felt the risk was caused by <b>irresponsible dog owners</b> or roaming dogs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unaccompanied and roaming dogs are not under the control of their owner are the problem.</li> <li>“There’s no regulation of the dog walking industry so a lot are inexperienced and irresponsible.”</li> <li>“ ... penalises responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some people opposed to the proposal felt <b>responsible dog owners</b> and <b>commercial dog walkers</b> were being targeted.</li> <li>Some people opposed felt the proposal was not restrictive enough (numbers too high) while others felt the proposal was too restrictive (numbers too low), while yet others felt that it did not differentiate between professionals and ordinary dog owners. There were also various views on the number of dogs on and off leash at one time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Rules don’t recognise <b>nuance of situations</b>.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and parks without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs.</li> <li>Feedback concerns that responsible dog owners are being targeted and the welfare of dogs are also valid. The Dog Control Act 1996 (s10(4)) specifically requires council to have regard to the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.</li> <li>The Policy on Dogs approach to dog access rules is to help responsible dog owners avoid significant risks associated with the above concerns. This approach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recognises that the personal circumstances of individual responsible dog owners and their dogs vary greatly</li> <li>recognises that responsible dog owners cannot always be expected to know the risks to be avoided in a public place or the best way to avoid them</li> <li>means rules that define ‘control’ and that say where, when and how dogs can be taken in public focus on significant risks</li> <li>means responsible dog owners decide whether a public place is suitable for the needs of their dogs and themselves (for example, council’s focus is on providing opportunities and not setting minimum sizes for an off-leash area).</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Policy relies on compliance initiatives, including patrols, education and fines, to manage irresponsible dog owners, such as those who ignore the current rules, do not control their dog or who allow their dog to roam unaccompanied.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘commercial dog walker’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal does not differentiate dog owners and commercial dog walkers or breeders or fosterers who may also walk multiple dogs in public places.</li> <li>Commercial dog walkers provide services on the basis that they have experience caring for multiple dogs with different owners.</li> <li>Opinions on the maximum number of dogs appropriate to be walked commercially in a public place vary both locally and internationally.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “For safety of dogs, better to have them on leash, particularly for dog guardians who are not paying attention. I prefer a lower number of off leash dogs if we need to allow.”</li> <li>○ “I think professional dog walkers should be able to have more than 6 dogs on or off lead. I think the general public should be limited on how many dogs they can have on and off lead.”</li> <li>• Some people opposed expressed there is <b>insufficient evidence</b> to support the reason for the proposed change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is not reasonable to restrict the number of dogs as the data shows limited and low numbers of complaints that involve multiple dogs.</li> <li>○ “The “evidence” Council uses to report that Aucklanders have concern about dog walkers creating a nuisance and distress to the public is anecdotal and not supported by the number of reports made to Animal Control or Council.”</li> <li>○ One organisation (the Professional Dog Walkers Association) noted that the Peoples Panel survey combines incompatible data sets and that an incorrect proxy from the survey was created which purports to be the expected level of issues caused by multiple dog walkers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Some people opposed to the proposal felt that the proposed rules will be <b>difficult to enforce</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “Address the real issues, such as roaming dogs and excessive barking, which make up the majority of complaints.”</li> <li>○ One organisation (Professional Dog Walking Association) noted that Animal Management staff are stretched and struggle to proactively monitor known dog hotspots, and the proposal will not change this.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three local boards support the proposal (FR, OR, WHK).</li> <li>• Eight local boards (HM, HB, PKTPP, UH, WTK, WR, WTM, WH) support the majority of the feedback opposing the proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ limiting the number of dogs that a walker can take, will increase the costs (UH).</li> <li>○ there is insufficient evidence to show there is an issue to address (WTK).</li> <li>○ council should focus on behaviour and locations rather than numbers (WR).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Six local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority of the public feedback opposing the change.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limits set by some New Zealand councils vary from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ no limit</li> <li>○ four on leash and two off leash</li> <li>○ a maximum four or six with a permit required to walk more</li> <li>○ a licence for commercial dog walkers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Internationally the numbers also vary for example from four to eight with licensing often a requirement for commercial dog walkers.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘the financial concerns for walkers’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While Auckland Council’s strategic document seeks to support thriving business (Auckland Plan 2050, Opportunity and Prosperity Outcome) (noting that commercial dog walkers are given free access to public places), its legislative priority under the Dog Control Act 1996 is to ensure public safety and comfort and the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.</li> <li>• While the benefits of commercial dog walkers are recognised, in particular to address concerns such as dog welfare, exercise and excessive barking, this must be balanced against public safety and comfort priorities.</li> </ul> <p>The commercial dog walking industry is diverse, meaning depending on decisions made, impacts will vary depending on the business model.</p> <p><b>About ‘the nuance of situations’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In regard to concerns about having a combination of off and on leash dogs, it is noted that the proposal sets a maximum. All dogs must still be under control. In practice, the impact of the proposal may mean a person may have to walk less than the maximum, if for example certain dogs cannot be controlled on-leash while others are off-leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘the insufficient evidence’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst data is limited, the 2024 Peoples Panel Survey provides insights into the types of incidents that people witness in public place relating to multiple dogs, for example dogs attacking other animals and the owners ignoring the rules and the frequency that people witness incidents.</li> <li>• Councils own Animal Management data shows 0.7 per cent of all incidents involve a person in possession of multiple dogs in a public place across</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three local boards (GBI, MT, OP) provided no views on the public feedback.</li> <li>One local board (MR) note that a nuance is required for a limit on the number of dogs walked on leash and the different impact of walking small and large dogs.</li> <li>One local board (FR) supports controlling the number of dogs walked at one time.</li> <li>One local board (OR) discourages multiple dog walking and recommends a maximum of four dogs per walker, on leash only.</li> <li>One local board (PPK) has expressed concerns that managing three dogs on leash and three off leash would be difficult for a single person to control effectively. Additionally, the board notes challenges in distinguishing between professional dog walkers and members of general public.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends to efficiently manage multiple dog walking and ensure multiple dogs are not off-leash, dog walkers should be licensed and have undertaken unique, specific training to the trade.</li> <li>One local board (AE) noted the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition (3456 signatures) with two local boards (HW, RD) supporting the submission that opposes the proposal to set an on and off leash limit for dog walkers. The Association do however recommend a licencing limit of 12 for dog walkers.</li> <li>One local board (AE) note the public feedback supporting the introduction of dog walker licence, 13 local boards support (FR, HM, HW, KP, MO, MR, PPK, RD, UH, WTK, WHK, WH), including two supporting a licensing limit of 12 dogs (UH, WH).</li> <li>One local board (WTM) commented that licensing of dog walkers would be costly and bureaucratic, and registration would be sufficient.</li> <li>One local board (WHK) requested if the Governing Body do not support limiting the number of dogs walked a local Waiheke Island regulation be implemented.</li> </ul>	<p>Auckland. This is an estimated 292 incidents (four incidents every five days) which is not insignificant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The available data it is not clear whether the incidents relate to individuals or commercial dog walkers which is why the proposal made no differentiation.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'difficult to enforce' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roaming and barking dogs are national issues with specific regulations in the Dog Control Act 1996 (including sections 52, 52A, 55, 56 and 69).</li> <li>In the year to June 2024, Animal Management responded to 15146 reports on roaming dogs, 5344 requests to collect stray dogs and 6597 complaints about nuisance barking.</li> <li>Problems with dog access in public places however is an issue the Act specifically leaves to council to regulate in its Dog Policy and Bylaw.</li> <li>In late 2023, a new proactive team of 12 officers was created to (amongst other things) regularly patrol around schools and high-risk areas. In the 12 months to June 2024, officers also performed 7607 patrols, property visits and registration checks.</li> <li>The proposal creates an additional dog access rule. It is no more 'difficult to enforce' and relies on the same resource and approach to compliance, as any other dog access rule. Meaning, the challenges to encourage compliance with the current dog access rules apply no more or less to the proposed additional rule.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key changes sought (Proposal 1)	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Key changes sought (retain current rule) (1273 responses or 4729 if all 3456 petition signatories are individually counted)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain the current rule with no limit on the number of dogs a person may have in their control.</li> </ul>	<p><b>About rules that set a limit on dogs walked that is lower or higher than proposed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A lower limit than the proposed may minimise distress, fear and intimidation to members of the public who encounter people walking a high number of multiple dogs, compared to a higher limit which may increase this.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about setting a limit on the number of dogs walked in council-controlled</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key changes sought (Proposal 1)	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed change) (1192 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>amend the rules that allow one person to walk a maximum of six dogs of which no more than three may be under control off a leash at any one time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt a limit on dogs walked that is lower or higher than proposed)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one, two or three dogs on-leash, zero, two or three off-leash (110 responses)</li> <li>four dogs on leash, two off-leash (160 responses).</li> <li>six dogs on leash, no more than zero, one, two, four, five or six off-leash (142 responses).</li> <li>eight dogs on leash, four off-leash (104 responses).</li> <li>10 or more dogs on or off leash (92 responses)</li> <li>reduce numbers on and off leash in the proposal to a lesser number (564 responses).</li> <li>increase numbers on and off leash in the proposal to a higher number (551 responses).</li> <li>See Attachment H for a detailed breakdown.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt different rules for dog walkers)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>regulate dog walking industry (65 responses)</li> <li>register or certify dog walkers (154 responses)</li> <li>allow exemption for those who walk multiple dogs (23 responses).</li> <li>establish different limits for the general public and commercial dog walkers (119 responses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting a limit that does not differentiate between on and off leash dog may be easier to understand, but depending on the number may not address public safety and comfort concerns.</li> <li>Organisations support the following on and off leash limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds New Zealand Auckland Regional Branch, maximum four dogs on with no more than two off leash unless a licence is obtained.</li> <li>Canine Industry Standards Association New Zealand, higher dog limit, in line with their Code of Conduct (maximum 12 dogs)</li> <li>Friends of Regional Parks, maximum three dogs on with no more than one off leash and limit the number of dogs a commercial dog walker can walk (licence)</li> <li>SafeKids Aotearoa, maximum two dogs in high use public spaces</li> <li>SPCA, implementation of reasonable limits on the number of dogs for professional dog walkers and licensing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About rules that are different for commercial dog walkers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While there may be benefits to council for establishing a licensing system (for example council having a record of commercial dog walkers) there may also be financial and resourcing implications.</li> <li>Licensing may have limited impact on commercial dog walking businesses and enable current business models to operate with minimal disruption.</li> <li>There are differing views on the form that licensing may take including determining the competency of the dog walkers. This will directly impact Animal Management resources.</li> <li>Licensing may include placing limits on numbers, breeds or types of dogs and locations and times of the day and year.</li> <li>Five organisations support licensing (Paws on Tour Ltd, Professional Dog Walkers Association, Birds New Zealand Auckland Regional Branch, Friends of Regional Parks and SPCA).</li> </ul> <p><b>About other key changes sought</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are challenges in setting a limit based on size or breed such as defining size categories (small, medium, large), and defining / categorising breed as many dogs are mixed breeds.</li> </ul>	<p>places (six on leash and no more than three of the six off leash)</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be adopted as publicly notified.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be amended to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>


Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key changes sought (Proposal 1)	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• licence commercial dog walkers to walk specified number of dogs (504 responses).</li> <li>• set a limit on the number of dogs walked by one person at one time with the ability to apply for a licence to walk more (73 responses).</li> <li>• four dogs on leash, two off leash unless a licence is obtained) (121 responses).</li> <li>• apply conditions of use of public places (see Attachment I for list of suggestions).</li> </ul> <p><b>Other key changes sought</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• allow the same number of dogs on and off leash (105 responses).</li> <li>• limit the number of off leash dogs (13 responses)</li> <li>• set a limit based on the size, weight and/or breed of dogs (31 responses).</li> <li>• set a limit based on public spaces (location and time) and density (46 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (enhance operational matters)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more specific designated off leash and/or fully fenced areas (16 responses).</li> <li>• more education (including promoting responsible dog owners) and training for dog walkers (58 responses).</li> <li>• more signage (4 responses).</li> <li>• more enforcement (focussing on roaming dogs) and higher penalties (104).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similarly, there are challenges in setting a limit based on public spaces that a person may walk their dogs in due to the varying in capacity and usage of those spaces.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘enhanced operational matters’ requests*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These matters are best addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About the decision-making criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for a decision to restrict the number of dogs that one person can walk is a focus on determining whether there is the need to minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community, the need to avoid danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children and the public to use shared spaces without the fear of attack or intimidation by dogs and the impact of the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.</li> <li>• In the context of setting a limit on the number of dogs that can be walked by one person at a time (on leash or off leash), this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ considering whether there is a problem of danger, distress, nuisance, fear or intimidation to the public caused by people walking multiple dogs, noting the extent of the problem relative to other problems is low to moderate<sup>1</sup></li> <li>○ considering whether the problem justifies further regulation, noting further regulation of low to moderate problems can be valid, provided the intervention is proportionate for example.</li> <li>○ considering whether any further regulation would be effective, efficient and valid, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ there is a difference between commercial dog walkers and people who breed and foster dogs, compared to other people who walk multiple dogs</li> <li>▪ licensing or registration, depending on the criteria and conditions options may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ allow commercial dog walker business models to be exempt and reduce significant risks of conflict</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> The 2024 review estimated 292 multiple dogs incidents a year. By comparison in the 12 months to June 2024, there were 15,146 roaming dogs, 1253 dog attacks on people, 690 bylaw breaches.

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key changes sought (Proposal 1)	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing funding and making desexing mandatory (including cats) (16 responses).</li> <li>• compulsory microchipping (5 responses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ may not address public concerns who encounter multiple dogs, the unpredictable nature of public settings and the absence of an official qualification's framework</li> <li>○ have compliance costs to businesses and council</li> <li>▪ an alternative to licensing is permitted activity standards which could set similar criteria and conditions with costs to council and no impact on compliance and enforcement resource</li> <li>▪ charging for the use of public space for private benefit is a matter for the Auckland Council Trading in Public Places Bylaw 2022 which does not currently require an approval for dog walkers.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Panel, if it wishes, could consider the following options in response to feedback:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) <b>No change</b> to current rules (current rules)</li> <li>(2) <b>A maximum limit</b> on number of dogs walked by any person (proposed rule, or variation with different numbers from four on-leash and two off-leash to any maximum identified in feedback)</li> <li>(3) <b>A differential rule</b> for different types of multiple dog walkers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For those who are not 'qualified dog walkers', there could be a maximum limit and guidance in related information (applies for example to people who own multiple dogs, who walk a friends dog as well as their own or teenagers walking a neighbourhood dog for 'pocket money')</li> <li>• The Panel could consider requiring any person walking more dogs (for example commercial dog walkers, breeders, fosterers and persons with a Responsible Dog Owner Licence) to comply with permitted activity standards (may for example include a maximum limit and conditions of use of council controlled public places).</li> <li>• Alternatively, the Panel may require a licence to walk more dogs (may for example be a 'no fee no assessment' registration or licence assessment, maximum limit, conditions of use of council controlled public places and a user charge).</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>If the Panel wishes, it may request advice on the detail of any potential variation of Option 3, which may include views of animal management, parks and community facilities and dog walkers prior to making a final recommendation.</b></p>	



Public feedback on Proposal 2 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)					
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Auckland Botanic Gardens</b></p> <p>1,308 feedback responses: 450 support (34 per cent), <b>809 oppose (62 per cent)</b>, 49 don't know (4 per cent) and 700 comments. This includes 3 organisations (1 support, 2 oppose).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (450):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (809):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Do not support as it restricts dogs off lead area. This only forces dogs into a tighter area, which can result in conflict. We have visited many times with no issues.”</li></ul></li><li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“There is no demand from anyone outside council for any changes to the dog bylaws.”</li></ul></li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Responsible dog owners are already highly restricted on area and times if access. Increasing those limitations is unfair and discriminating. The majority should not be penalised for the minority who are not responsible dog owners.”</li></ul></li><li>Some did not think the proposal would be effective:</li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><p>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the restaurant area and on cultivated garden areas.</p><p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in area generally north of rose garden.</p><p>Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> at all times (Schedule 1(4)(a)) in all other areas of the Park.</p></td><td><p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> (Schedule 2) on the Park, except in the northwestern area in (2) and the high use areas in (3).</p><p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in northwestern area of the Park located north of the palms and northwest of the roses (including the event lawn) as indicated by <a href="#">signage</a> –</p><p>(a) <b>except</b> during events when dogs may be allowed under control on a leash or prohibited under Schedule 1, Rule 4; and</p><p>(b) <b>until</b> the area (in the opinion of council) is further developed at which time sub-rule (2) ceases to apply and is removed from this Policy.</p><p>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the following high use areas –</p><p>(a) Huakaiwaka Visitor centre</p><p>(b) Café area (excluding western café terrace)</p><p>(c) designated food concession areas</p><p>(d) Potter Children’s Garden</p><p>(e) cultivated garden areas</p><p>(f) exclusion areas and banks around and in all waterbodies, including the Puhinui Stream, lakes, dams, ponds and other streams and waterways; and</p><p>(g) service areas (Depot and Nursery).</p></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the restaurant area and on cultivated garden areas.</p> <p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in area generally north of rose garden.</p> <p>Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> at all times (Schedule 1(4)(a)) in all other areas of the Park.</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> (Schedule 2) on the Park, except in the northwestern area in (2) and the high use areas in (3).</p> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in northwestern area of the Park located north of the palms and northwest of the roses (including the event lawn) as indicated by <a href="#">signage</a> –</p> <p>(a) <b>except</b> during events when dogs may be allowed under control on a leash or prohibited under Schedule 1, Rule 4; and</p> <p>(b) <b>until</b> the area (in the opinion of council) is further developed at which time sub-rule (2) ceases to apply and is removed from this Policy.</p> <p>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the following high use areas –</p> <p>(a) Huakaiwaka Visitor centre</p> <p>(b) Café area (excluding western café terrace)</p> <p>(c) designated food concession areas</p> <p>(d) Potter Children’s Garden</p> <p>(e) cultivated garden areas</p> <p>(f) exclusion areas and banks around and in all waterbodies, including the Puhinui Stream, lakes, dams, ponds and other streams and waterways; and</p> <p>(g) service areas (Depot and Nursery).</p>	<p>Reason: to manage increasing risks of conflict between dogs and people and the environment.</p>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule					
<p>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the restaurant area and on cultivated garden areas.</p> <p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in area generally north of rose garden.</p> <p>Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> at all times (Schedule 1(4)(a)) in all other areas of the Park.</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> (Schedule 2) on the Park, except in the northwestern area in (2) and the high use areas in (3).</p> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in northwestern area of the Park located north of the palms and northwest of the roses (including the event lawn) as indicated by <a href="#">signage</a> –</p> <p>(a) <b>except</b> during events when dogs may be allowed under control on a leash or prohibited under Schedule 1, Rule 4; and</p> <p>(b) <b>until</b> the area (in the opinion of council) is further developed at which time sub-rule (2) ceases to apply and is removed from this Policy.</p> <p>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the following high use areas –</p> <p>(a) Huakaiwaka Visitor centre</p> <p>(b) Café area (excluding western café terrace)</p> <p>(c) designated food concession areas</p> <p>(d) Potter Children’s Garden</p> <p>(e) cultivated garden areas</p> <p>(f) exclusion areas and banks around and in all waterbodies, including the Puhinui Stream, lakes, dams, ponds and other streams and waterways; and</p> <p>(g) service areas (Depot and Nursery).</p>					

Public feedback on Proposal 2 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<p>○ “The proposed new rule is overly complex with exceptions - no reasonable person will remember everything. It will be impossible to enforce and will stop people visiting the gardens.”</p> <p><b>Local board views (9):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One local board (MR) oppose proposed rule (2)(b), and instead support only amending the rule through a public notification, engagement and decision-making process.</li> <li>• One local board (PPK) support the proposal to allow dogs in the outdoor area of the café (western café terrace).</li> <li>• One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>• Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>• One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>• One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>○ prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>○ allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Map of current and proposed under control off-leash areas:</p>  <p><b>AUCKLAND BOTANIC GARDENS VISITOR MAP</b></p> <p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- - - Current under control off-leash</li> <li>- - - Proposed under control off-leash</li> </ul> <p>Proposed off-leash area</p> <p>Current off-leash area between dashed lines</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Botanic Gardens focuses on featuring botanic species and contains sensitive ecological areas and waterways. The vision for the Gardens as contained in the Gardens Master Plan is a “spectacular South Pacific Botanic Garden that is widely recognised for its outstanding plant collections, Auckland regional identity and the interest inspired in the community”.</li> <li>• In April 2025, a new masterplan was approved to guide the development of an additional 1.6 hectares of land into ethnobotanic gardens (traditional Māori gardens). The land is located in the southeast corner of Botanic Gardens near the generally on-leash area.</li> <li>• Off-leash areas around the Botanic Gardens include Totara Park (5.2km travel by car), Hillcrest Grove Reserve (800m travel), David Nathan Park (1km travel), Alfriston Park (2.1km travel), Calluna Crescent Reserve (2.5km travel), and Rātā Vine Stream Reserve (3.5km travel).</li> </ul>



























Public feedback on Proposal 2 – Key changes sought (Proposal 2)	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Auckland Botanic Gardens</b>  <b>Adopt proposal, Option 2A (450 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b>, except in following areas</li> <li><b>off-leash</b> area to align with the current signposted off-leash boundaries, except during events and until area developed</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs from waterways, the Huakaiwaka Visitor centre, Café area (except the western café terrace), designated food concession areas and Potter Children's Garden.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain rule, Option 1 (543 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> (including waterways and Potter Children's Garden) except in following areas</li> <li>retain current dogs <b>off-leash</b> area generally north of the rose garden</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs from the restaurant area and cultivated garden areas</li> <li>no explicit dog access rule for Visitor centre, Café area (excluding western café terrace), designated food concession areas and service areas (default rule is prohibited unless permission obtained or signage allows).</li> </ul> <p><b>Apply time and season rule, Option 2C (77 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>change the <b>off-leash</b> area to open grass areas generally north of the rose gardens identified in the Master Plan as the WW2 army campsite, sequence of lawns, event lawn, and areas adjacent to the motorway before 10am and after 5pm (on-leash between 10am and 5pm)</li> <li><b>on a leash</b> and <b>prohibited</b> areas same as proposed change, Option 2A.</li> </ul> <p><b>Apply on-leash rule, Option 2B (52 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>change the <b>off-leash</b> area to <b>on-leash</b> at all times</li> <li><b>on a leash</b> and <b>prohibited</b> areas same as proposed change, Option 2A.</li> </ul>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in less dog access, is a focus on determining whether there is a significant risk of conflict between users, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal at Auckland Botanic Gardens, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether the level of use of the off-leash area north of the rose garden creates a significant risk of conflict between people and dogs in either the off-leash area, on-leash area or both</li> <li>considering whether allowing dogs on-leash access to waterways causes significant risk of damage to the waterways and surrounding Significant Ecological Area</li> <li>considering whether allowing dog access at the Huakaiwaka Visitor centre, Café area, designated food concession areas and Potter Children's Garden creates significant health and safety risk or risk of distress and nuisance to other users</li> <li>considering whether Options 2B or 2C are practicable alternatives to Option 2A, including that the rule is 'easy' to understand and follow</li> <li>considering whether off-leash areas at Totara Park, Alfriston Park, Hillcrest Grove Reserve, David Nathan Park, Rātā Vine Stream Reserve and Calluna Crescent Reserve provide alternatives to the Gardens.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Auckland Botanic Gardens</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 3 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)									
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Hunua Ranges Regional Park</b></p> <div><p>811 feedback responses: 226 support (33 per cent), <b>457 oppose (56 per cent)</b>, 55 don't know (7 per cent), 33 other (4 per cent) and 400 comments. This includes 2 organisations (oppose).</p></div> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (226):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (457):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“I really value being able to take my dog on long bush walks. The Waitakere Ranges are essentially closed to dogs and so I want the Hunua Ranges to stay open to dogs on-lead.”</li><li>“Hunua is a massive regional park, there should be an allocated areas for controlled off leash dog access within this regional park. Especially around the horse riding areas, as horse riders often have dogs to take with them.”</li></ul></li><li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Wasting time. The rules sound similar. Again - Councillors should focus on core services only.”</li></ul></li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“I feel cutting access to do owners going on walking tracks is unfair, the majority of us walk our dogs on leash and our dogs don't attack wildlife also majority of people clean up after our dogs, it isn't fair refusing access because of a few people.”</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (7):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas not specifically as being prohibited</td><td>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas not specified as being prohibited.</td></tr><tr><td>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in picnic areas, exclusive areas around and including the water supply dams and on the Kohukohunui Track</td><td>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> – (a) in exclusive areas around and in the water supply dams (for example, Cosseys Reservoir and Wairoa Reservoir) (b) on mountain bike only tracks (c) on the Kohukokunui Track, Ernie's Track and all tracks north and east of the intersection of Lilburne Rd and Pukapuka Track (including Mangatangi Ridge Track, Upper Mangatangi Ridge Track, Rata Ridge Track, Mine Rd Track and Mine Road); and (d) in farm paddocks during lambing season.</td></tr><tr><td>c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</td><td></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas not specifically as being prohibited	(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas not specified as being prohibited.	b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in picnic areas, exclusive areas around and including the water supply dams and on the Kohukohunui Track	(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> – (a) in exclusive areas around and in the water supply dams (for example, Cosseys Reservoir and Wairoa Reservoir) (b) on mountain bike only tracks (c) on the Kohukokunui Track, Ernie's Track and all tracks north and east of the intersection of Lilburne Rd and Pukapuka Track (including Mangatangi Ridge Track, Upper Mangatangi Ridge Track, Rata Ridge Track, Mine Rd Track and Mine Road); and (d) in farm paddocks during lambing season.	c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.		<p>Reason: to minimise the risk of conflict between people, protected wildlife and dogs.</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Hunua Ranges is an area used for a range of recreational activities such as walking, kayaking, picnicking and camping. On-site camping accommodation is available including a lodge that can accommodate 85 people that is popular with families, community groups and schools.</li><li>The ranges contain 14,000 hectares of native forest and provides important habitat for many threatened fauna and flora, including one of New Zealand's largest mainland Kōkako populations. Significant populations of Long-Tailed Bat and Hochstetter Frog are also present.</li><li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li></ul>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule									
a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas not specifically as being prohibited	(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas not specified as being prohibited.									
b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in picnic areas, exclusive areas around and including the water supply dams and on the Kohukohunui Track	(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> – (a) in exclusive areas around and in the water supply dams (for example, Cosseys Reservoir and Wairoa Reservoir) (b) on mountain bike only tracks (c) on the Kohukokunui Track, Ernie's Track and all tracks north and east of the intersection of Lilburne Rd and Pukapuka Track (including Mangatangi Ridge Track, Upper Mangatangi Ridge Track, Rata Ridge Track, Mine Rd Track and Mine Road); and (d) in farm paddocks during lambing season.									
c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.										

Public feedback on Proposal 3 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>• One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>• One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>○ prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>○ allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other dog access options in the area include Waharau and Whakatiwai Regional Parks. Dogs are allowed under control on leash on the parks but are prohibited during lambing season. Dogs are allowed under control off leash on the foreshore of the East Coast Road Reserve north of Waharau.</li> <li>• Note: the boundary between Auckland and Waikato was amended by the Local Government Act (Auckland Boundaries) Determination 2010. A portion of the Hunua Ranges Regional Park and all of Wahaura and Whakitiwai Regional Parks are now in the Waikato District. Under the Local Government Act 2002, Auckland Council still owns and manages the land and assets in these parks.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 3 – Key changes sought (Proposal 3) <sup>1</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Hunua Ranges Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (226 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>prohibit</b> dogs from tracks that connect to the Kohukohunui track, the Kokako Management Area and Piggott's Habitat, and from mountain bike only tracks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (80 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• retain current rules that allow dogs <b>on-leash</b> access on tracks that connect to the Kokako track, the Kokako Management Area and Piggott's Habitat, and from single use mountain bike tracks.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (78 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• of which, 7 responses wanted dog access to campgrounds</li> <li>• 6 responses wanted dog access to picnic areas</li> <li>• 4 responses wanted dog access to mountain bike tracks</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (3 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prohibit dogs from the park (3 responses)</li> </ul> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (12 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• of which, 6 responses wanted more and clearer signage.</li> </ul>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in less dog access, is a focus on determining whether there is a significant risk of conflict between users or between dogs and protected wildlife and natural habitat, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>• In the context of Hunua Ranges Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ considering whether allowing dogs on-leash access on mountain bike only tracks creates significant risks to safety or of nuisance to the rider or other people, such as injuries or preventing bikers from enjoying the tracks</li> <li>○ considering whether allowing dogs on-leash access on tracks that connect to the Kohukohunui track, the Kokako Management Area and Piggott's Habitat creates significant risk to protected wildlife if dogs end up in the area inadvertently using adjoining roads and tracks</li> <li>○ considering whether on-leash dog access on other tracks (including the Wairoa Loop Track, Suspension Bridge Track, and Cossey Gorge Track) and at Waharau and Whakatiwai Regional Parks provide an alternative on-leash regional park experience for displaced dog owners and their dogs</li> <li>○ considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>The Panel if it wishes could consider listing the on-leash tracks and areas in a related information note to make the rule easier to understand.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Hunua Ranges Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to <b>[Panel to insert]</b>.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Note: a number of people opposed were unclear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 4 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)															
<div>Change dog access rules at Long Bay Regional Park</div> <div>1,090 feedback responses: 279 support (26 per cent), <b>758 oppose (70 per cent)</b>, 18 don't know (2 per cent), 35 other (3 per cent) and 688 comments. This includes 1 organisation (oppose) and 1 Māori entity (the Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust in support).</div> <div>Key themes in support (279):</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety.</li></ul></div> <div>Key themes opposed (758):</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Long Bay is a very large beach, there is no reason the space can't be shared. It is one of the only beaches in the local area that don't have dogs prohibited during the day.”</li><li>“Prohibiting dogs completely from 10 to 5 in summer will make it difficult for families that travel from far and want to enjoy the day at the beach.”</li></ul></li><li>Some thought dog access should be reduced:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“It is one of Auckland's most popular beaches for swimmers, and permitting dogs on the beach (regardless of the season or time of day) introduces unnecessary risk, especially considering there's plenty of alternatives nearby for dog walkers.”</li></ul></li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Responsible dog owners use this park for walking their dogs on leash. If there are issues with irresponsible dog</li></ul></li></ul></div>	<div>Current dog access rule</div> <div><div>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> north of Vaughan's stream and east of Piripiri Park</div><div>b) The following <b>time and season</b> rule applies to the beach south of Vaughan's stream:</div><table><tr><th>Summer (1 December to 1 March)*</th><th>Out of Summer Season</th></tr><tr><td><div> Morning (Before 10am) Under control off leash</div></td><td rowspan="3"><div>All times Under control off leash </div></td></tr><tr><td><div> Daytime (10am to 5pm) Under control on leash</div></td></tr><tr><td><div> Evening (After 5pm) Under control off leash</div></td></tr></table><div>c) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in the small car parking area immediately east of the southern entrance to the Park.</div><div>d) Except as provided for in a) - c) above, dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from Long Bay Regional Park and associated beaches.</div></div>	Summer (1 December to 1 March)*	Out of Summer Season	<div> Morning (Before 10am) Under control off leash</div>	<div>All times Under control off leash </div>	<div> Daytime (10am to 5pm) Under control on leash</div>	<div> Evening (After 5pm) Under control off leash</div>	<div>Proposed dog access rule</div> <div><div>(1) On <a href="#">Long Bay Beach</a> and the <a href="#">parking area</a> immediately east of the southern entrance to the Park from Beach Road –</div><div>(a) dogs are allowed on the beach south of Vaughan Stream during the following <b>times and seasons</b></div><table><tr><th>Summer (1 December to 1 March)</th><th>Other seasons</th></tr><tr><th colspan="2">Long Bay Beach south of Vaughan Stream</th></tr><tr><td><div> Under control off leash Morning (Before 10am)</div></td><td rowspan="3"><div> Under control off leash All times</div></td></tr><tr><td><div> Prohibited Daytime (10am to 5pm)</div></td></tr><tr><td><div> Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)</div></td></tr></table><div>(b) dogs are allowed to access the beach from the <a href="#">parking area</a> when –</div><div>(i) <b>under control on a leash</b> in the parking area, on the path and pedestrian bridge from the parking area to Beach Road and on any track with direct access from the parking area to the beach; and</div><div>(ii) in a vehicle from Beach Road to the parking area.</div><div>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on all other Park, beach and foreshore areas, including –</div><div>(a) on any grassed areas, playground, paths and tracks (for example paths from <a href="#">Glenvar Ridge Access Road</a>, the Coastal Track, Nature Trail and 100 Acre Track)</div><div>(b) on any beach or foreshore areas north of Vaughan Stream (for example Granny's Bay, Pohutukawa Bay, Piripiri Point, Long Bay Okura Marine Reserve and Okura River); and</div></div>	Summer (1 December to 1 March)	Other seasons	Long Bay Beach south of Vaughan Stream		<div> Under control off leash Morning (Before 10am)</div>	<div> Under control off leash All times</div>	<div> Prohibited Daytime (10am to 5pm)</div>	<div> Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)</div>
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Public feedback on Proposal 4 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<p>owners then strengthen leash laws rather than punish dogs and owners who are doing the right thing.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li> <li>Some did not think the proposal would be effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (8):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (HB) does not support the proposal, notes the local feedback around lack of dog access options in the surrounding suburbs, and considers further work is needed to address off-leash provisions.</li> <li>One local board (HW) support the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>One local board (MO) emphasise the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>(c) on any roads and parking areas, including dogs in a vehicle (for example from Glenvar Ridge Access Road, on any internal road, bus turnaround and car parking areas).</p>
	<p>Reason: to provide practical access from the southernmost carpark to the beach, and to manage the risk of conflict between dogs and people on the beach during summer daytime by reflecting the original intent of the Policy.</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The dog access rule as shown in the 2019 Policy is an error when the rules in the then 2012 Policy were amended to make summer daytime hours consistent across Auckland. The error changed the summer daytime rule on the beach from dogs prohibited to on-leash.</li> <li>All other time and season beach rules in the area (including beaches in Torbay, Browns Bay, Campbells Bay and other beaches along that coastline) prohibit dogs during summer daytime to manage the risk of conflict between dogs and people.</li> <li>Long Bay is a highly popular park with visitor counts increasing over the past decade, reaching 1.365 million in the 2021/22 year. It is Auckland’s second-most visited regional park during summer, recording over 438,000 visits in the summer 2024 period.</li> <li>More than 450 houses have been built in a large residential development area next to the park, with another 1,700 homes expected by 2025.</li> <li>Other off-leash options nearby for local use include Watea Road Reserve (750m travel), Swell Park (950m travel), Rock Isle Beach Reserve (1.6 km travel), Coventry Reserve (1.7km travel), and Sealy Reserve (1.7km travel).</li> <li>Future dog access opportunity could be available at Piripiri Point, an area 4km north of Long Bay which is currently under development with completion expected by 2027.</li> </ul>	



Public feedback on Proposal 4 – Key changes sought (Proposal 4) <sup>2</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Long Bay Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (279 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed to access the southernmost carpark in a vehicle and on foot, and to access the beach from the carpark</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs from the beach during summer daytime hours.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (200 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> from accessing the southernmost carpark and from tracks between the carpark and beach</li> <li>dogs allowed <b>on-leash</b> on the beach during the summer daytime hours (200 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (180 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow more on-leash or off-leash access at the park.</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (33 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (84 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in both more and less dog access in the different zones across the park, focus on determining whether the rules provide for the needs of dogs and their owners in a way that does not create a significant risk, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of the proposal at Long Bay, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dog access to, from and at the southernmost carpark would provide a better experience for dog owners visiting the beach</li> <li>considering whether allowing dog access to, from and at the southernmost carpark would create any significant risk to people and wildlife</li> <li>considering whether there is a significant risk of conflict between dogs and other beach users during summer peak daytime hours, noting the 2019 rule is an error from the amendments to the then 2012 Policy and that the beach is a popular area for families during the summer</li> <li>considering whether off-leash opportunities at the beach outside of summer daytime hours, local off-leash opportunities at Watea Road Reserve, Swell Park, Rock Isle Beach Reserve, Coventry Reserve, and Sealy Reserve and on-leash opportunities in all other council-controlled public places in Long Bay provide practicable alternatives to owners and their dogs</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow, noting the proposed summer daytime prohibition is consistent with all other beaches in the area.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>The Panel if it wishes could consider requesting staff to investigate off-leash opportunities at Piripiri Point</b> which is currently under development.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘more / less dog access’ and ‘enforcement and monitoring’ requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Long Bay Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>2</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.


Public feedback on Proposals 5A – C – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)											
<p><b>5A: Change dog access rules at Mahurangi Regional Park West</b></p> <p>597 feedback responses: 169 support (28 per cent), <b>360 oppose (60 per cent)</b>, 43 don't know (7 per cent), 25 other (4 per cent) and 187 comments across proposals 5A-5C. This includes 1 Māori entity (Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, in support).</p>												
<p><b>5B: Change dog access rules at Mahurangi Regional Park East</b></p> <p>571 feedback responses: 153 support (27 per cent), <b>354 oppose (62 per cent)</b>, 45 don't know (8 per cent), 19 other (3 per cent) and 187 comments across proposals 5A-5C. This includes 1 organisation (oppose) and 1 Māori entity (Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, in support).</p>												
<p><b>5C: Change dog access rules at Mahurangi Regional Park, Scott Point</b></p> <p>554 feedback responses: 160 support (29 per cent), <b>340 oppose (61 per cent)</b>, 36 don't know (7 per cent), 18 other (3 per cent) and 187 comments across proposals 5A-5C. This includes 1 organisation (oppose) and 1 Māori entity (Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, in support).</p>												
<p><b>Key themes in support</b> (169 /153 / 160 responses respectively):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety.</li></ul>												
<p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (360 / 354 / 340 responses respectively):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“This is the only long walk that I can do with my dog up to Cudlip Point in the Mahurangi West area that is not on a road. I have lived here for over forty years and find the constant restriction on dog walking totally unreasonable.”</li><li>“A dog well controlled on a leash is not a problem. Limiting these tracks is also deterring owners from getting out and about too. Sometimes it is</li></ul></li></ul>												
	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b>:</p><p>i) in Mahurangi Regional Park West on coastal area around Opahi Bay, Mita Bay beach, Mita Bay Loop Track (outside of lambing season)</p><p>ii) on Cudlip Point Loop Track during the summer season.</p><p>b) The following <b>time and season</b> rule applies: in Mahurangi Regional Park east at Scott Point and associated beaches:</p><table><tr><th>Summer (1 December to 1 March)*</th><th>Out of Summer Season</th></tr><tr><td> Morning (Before 10am) Under control on leash</td><td rowspan="3">All times Under control on leash </td></tr><tr><td> Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited</td></tr><tr><td> Evening (After 5pm) Under control on leash</td></tr></table></td><td><p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (West)</b></p><p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> at Otuaawao Bay (Mita Bay) Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track, except during lambing season.</p><p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –</p><p>(a) at Mita Bay Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track during lambing season; and</p><p>(b) in all other areas of the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas (for example all road and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle), Tungutu Loop Track, Culdip Point Loop Track and Otaraawao Bay (Sullivans Bay Beach).</p><p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (East)</b></p><p>Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas.</p><p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (Scott Point)</b></p><p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas, except where prohibited.</p><p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the grounds and inside the buildings of Scott Homestead (area inside picket fence), Ferguson House and Bailey's Cottage.</p></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b>:</p> <p>i) in Mahurangi Regional Park West on coastal area around Opahi Bay, Mita Bay beach, Mita Bay Loop Track (outside of lambing season)</p> <p>ii) on Cudlip Point Loop Track during the summer season.</p> <p>b) The following <b>time and season</b> rule applies: in Mahurangi Regional Park east at Scott Point and associated beaches:</p> <table><tr><th>Summer (1 December to 1 March)*</th><th>Out of Summer Season</th></tr><tr><td> Morning (Before 10am) Under control on leash</td><td rowspan="3">All times Under control on leash </td></tr><tr><td> Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited</td></tr><tr><td> Evening (After 5pm) Under control on leash</td></tr></table>	Summer (1 December to 1 March)*	Out of Summer Season	Morning (Before 10am) Under control on leash	All times Under control on leash 	Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited	Evening (After 5pm) Under control on leash	<p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (West)</b></p> <p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> at Otuaawao Bay (Mita Bay) Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track, except during lambing season.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –</p> <p>(a) at Mita Bay Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track during lambing season; and</p> <p>(b) in all other areas of the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas (for example all road and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle), Tungutu Loop Track, Culdip Point Loop Track and Otaraawao Bay (Sullivans Bay Beach).</p> <p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (East)</b></p> <p>Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas.</p> <p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (Scott Point)</b></p> <p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas, except where prohibited.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the grounds and inside the buildings of Scott Homestead (area inside picket fence), Ferguson House and Bailey's Cottage.</p>	<p>Reason: to minimise the risk of conflict between people, protected wildlife and dogs, and to provide greater clarity about where dogs are allowed in the park.</p>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule											
<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b>:</p> <p>i) in Mahurangi Regional Park West on coastal area around Opahi Bay, Mita Bay beach, Mita Bay Loop Track (outside of lambing season)</p> <p>ii) on Cudlip Point Loop Track during the summer season.</p> <p>b) The following <b>time and season</b> rule applies: in Mahurangi Regional Park east at Scott Point and associated beaches:</p> <table><tr><th>Summer (1 December to 1 March)*</th><th>Out of Summer Season</th></tr><tr><td> Morning (Before 10am) Under control on leash</td><td rowspan="3">All times Under control on leash </td></tr><tr><td> Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited</td></tr><tr><td> Evening (After 5pm) Under control on leash</td></tr></table>	Summer (1 December to 1 March)*	Out of Summer Season	Morning (Before 10am) Under control on leash	All times Under control on leash 	Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited	Evening (After 5pm) Under control on leash	<p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (West)</b></p> <p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> at Otuaawao Bay (Mita Bay) Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track, except during lambing season.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –</p> <p>(a) at Mita Bay Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track during lambing season; and</p> <p>(b) in all other areas of the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas (for example all road and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle), Tungutu Loop Track, Culdip Point Loop Track and Otaraawao Bay (Sullivans Bay Beach).</p> <p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (East)</b></p> <p>Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas.</p> <p><b>Mahurangi Regional Park (Scott Point)</b></p> <p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in the Park and associated beaches and foreshore areas, except where prohibited.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the grounds and inside the buildings of Scott Homestead (area inside picket fence), Ferguson House and Bailey's Cottage.</p>					
Summer (1 December to 1 March)*	Out of Summer Season											
Morning (Before 10am) Under control on leash	All times Under control on leash 											
Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited												
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Public feedback on Proposals 5A – C – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<p>only because someone has a dog that they leave the house to exercise it and themselves.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“This is a fantastic place for responsible dog owners to exercise and socialise their dogs. Changing the access rules unfairly prohibits responsible dog owners from this important opportunity and space.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some thought the rules are too complicated</li> <li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (7):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mahurangi Regional Park offers visitors sheltered bays, native bush, open pasture and historic sites.</li> <li>The park is divided into three sections – Mahurangi West, East, and Scott Point.</li> <li>Mahurangi West provides a backdrop to three pōhutukawa-fringed bays – Sullivan’s (Otarawao) Bay, Mita (Otuawao) Bay and Te Muri Bay. Scott Point includes the historic Scott Homestead, while the remote Mahurangi East is only accessible by sea.</li> <li>On Mahurangi Regional Park (West), the main change is to prohibit dogs on the Culdip Loop Track to protect endangered species in areas accessed off the track, including bittern, fernbird, and banded rail in the nearby Te Muri Estuary and stream and Te Muri Beach area.</li> <li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>Off-leash options in the area include Jamieson Bay Esplanade Reserve and the beach (2.4km travel), Opahi Bay (2.6km travel), Pukapuka Road Esplanades (9.5km travel), Pūhoi Esplanade Land (10.9km travel), and Pūhoi Pioneers Memorial Park Domain (11.5km travel).</li> </ul>


































Public feedback on Proposal 5A – C – Key changes sought (Proposal 5A – C) <sup>3</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Mahurangi Regional Park West / East / Scott Point</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (169 / 153 / 160 responses respectively)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>split rules into Mahurangi West, East and Scott Point</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs at Cudlip Point Loop Track</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs from the grounds of Scott Homestead, Ferguson House and Bailey's Cottage</li> <li>allow dogs <b>on leash</b> at all times at Scotts Point and associated beaches, the same rule as the wharf and carpark areas at Scotts Landing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (53 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>on leash</b> in Mahurangi Regional Park West on coastal area around Opahi Bay, Mita Bay beach, Mita Bay Loop Track (outside of lambing season), and at Cudlip Point Loop Track during summer (19 responses sought access to Cudlip Point Loop Track retained)</li> <li>apply a time and season rule in Mahurangi Regional Park East at Scott Point and associated beaches</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs during lambing season.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (8 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow more on-leash or off-leash access at the park.</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (3 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prohibit dogs from the park (3 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (17 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in both more and less dog access in the different zones across the park, focus on determining whether the rules provide for the needs of dogs and their owners in a way that does not create a significant risk, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Mahurangi Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dogs on-leash access at the Cudlip Point Loop Track creates a significant risk to fauna in the surrounding areas</li> <li>considering whether replacing the prohibited time and season rule with an on-leash rule at Scott Point and a smaller prohibited at all times rule around the buildings provide more overall opportunities for dog owners and their dogs that does not create a significant risk of conflict with people during the summer daytime and is easier to understand</li> <li>considering whether on-leash opportunities at Otua Bay (Mita Bay) Beach and on the Mita Bay Loop Track in the regional park and off-leash opportunities outside of the park (for example Opahi Bay) provide practicable alternatives to dog owners and their dogs to Cudlip Loop Track.</li> <li>considering whether splitting the rules into Mahurangi West, East and Scott Point makes the rules easier to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Mahurangi Regional Park</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>3</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 6 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Pākiri Regional Park</b></p> <p>586 feedback responses: 91 support (15 per cent), <b>471 oppose (81 per cent)</b>, 12 don't know (2 per cent), 12 other (2 per cent) and 335 comments. This includes 5 organisations (3 in support, 2 oppose) and 1 Māori entity (the Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust in support).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (91):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety and environment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (471):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Extremely disappointing to see dog access removed from this popular beach. If wildlife is a concern, would be better to restrict in certain areas - similar to the Piha approach.”</li> <li>“You add extra pressure to families by making dog walking extremely difficult. Locals/guests will have to walk their dogs on the narrow country roads making it very dangerous.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li> <li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Where is the evidence to support this? Again punish the many for the actions of the few. Council is under resourced to manage those who break the rules so all other responsible dog owners are now paying.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (HW) supports the proposal for Pākiri.</li> <li>RD local board supports the feedback in opposition, while four (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>MO local board emphasise the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach  b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the regional park. </td><td> Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (for example Pākiri Beach). </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: to minimise the risk of conflict between dogs and protected wildlife, and to remove unreasonable expectations that dog owners can access the beach without entering prohibited areas or trespassing through private properties.</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pākiri Regional Park is a remote, coastal park located in the north of Auckland renowned for its high-quality ecosystems. Restoration of the freshwater wetlands, coastal habitat, and lowland forest enables threatened species such as fairy tern and oystercatcher to thrive.</li> <li>The area has mixed land ownership with the Department of Conservation, Taumata land, and private land. The map below demonstrates ownership in the area along Pākiri Beach.</li> <li><b>There is no lawful dog access to that part of Pākiri Beach associated with the regional park.</b> Dogs are not allowed through the Park or across private or DOC land.</li> <li>Onsite signage currently prohibits dogs from the beach and foreshore areas to protect wildlife.</li> </ul> 	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the regional park.	Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (for example Pākiri Beach).
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule				
a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the regional park.	Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (for example Pākiri Beach).				


Public feedback on Proposal 6 – Key Themes		Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prohibit dogs by default to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>Other off-leash options nearby for local use include eight off-leash areas in Leigh (12km travel), two in Ti Point (13km travel), and four in Whangateau (14km travel). The closest off-leash area is Ferndale Avenue Recreation Reserve (12km travel) and the closest off-leash beach is Mathesons Bay Reserve (15km travel).</li> </ul>	
Public feedback on Proposal 6 – Key changes sought (Proposal 6) <sup>4</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)		Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Pākiri Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (91 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs from parts of Pākiri Beach associated with the Park</li> <li>current <b>prohibition</b> of dogs on the Park retained.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (56 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on parts of Pākiri Beach associated with Pākiri Regional Park.</li> <li>dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (94 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 42 responses wanted on-leash access at the Park / beach</li> <li>9 responses wanted time and season access.</li> </ul> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (17 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in less dog access, is a focus on determining whether there is a significant risk of conflict between users or between dogs and protected wildlife and natural habitat, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of the proposal at Pākiri Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether there is a significant risk of conflict between dogs and protected wildlife and ecosystems</li> <li>considering whether allowing dog access on Pākiri Beach with no practical access route for dogs to legally get to the beach poses a significant risk of penalties for responsible dog owners</li> <li>considering whether off-leash areas in Leigh, Ti Point, Whangateau, at Ferndale Avenue Recreation Reserve and Mathesons Bay Reserve provide practicable alternatives to dog owners and their dogs</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>		<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Pākiri Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>4</sup> Note: a number of people opposed were unclear what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 7 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)																						
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Shakespear Regional Park</b></p> <p>1,187 feedback responses: 362 support (39 per cent), <b>467 oppose (51 per cent)</b>, 55 don't know (6 per cent), 37 other (4 per cent) and 399 comments. This includes 6 organisations (3 support, 3 oppose), 1 Māori entity (Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust in support), and 1 campaign with 266 signatures (oppose).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (362):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety and environment.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (467):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“For all who live in this area Okoramai is known as the ‘dog beach’. Frequented daily and for the 21 years of living here by multiple dog owners and to the best of my knowledge never been any problems. This area is not a main tourist beach and even if it were banned as a dog</li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>Current dog access rule</b></p> <p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the tracks between Okoromai Bay and Army Bay</p> <p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off leash</b> on the flat grassland areas north of Okoromai Bay and south of Army Bay</p> <p>c) The following <b>time and season</b> rule applies on Army Bay and Okoromai Bay beaches:</p> <table><tr><th>Summer (1 December to 1 March)**</th><th>Out of Summer Season</th></tr><tr><td> Morning (Before 10am) Under control off leash</td><td rowspan="3">All times Under control off leash </td></tr><tr><td> Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited</td></tr><tr><td> Evening (After 5pm) Under control off leash</td></tr></table> <p>d) Except as provided for in a) and b) above, dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from Shakespear Regional Park.</p>	Summer (1 December to 1 March)**	Out of Summer Season	 Morning (Before 10am) Under control off leash	All times Under control off leash 	 Daytime (10am to 5pm) Prohibited	 Evening (After 5pm) Under control off leash	<p><b>Proposed dog access rule</b></p> <p>(1) Dogs are allowed at the following <b>times and seasons</b> on –</p> <p>(a) Army Bay beach from the western end of the beach to the <a href="#">boat ramp</a></p> <p>(b) Okoramai Bay beach from the western end to the <a href="#">treeline embankment</a></p> <p>(c) the flat grassland areas at <a href="#">Army Bay</a> on either side of Whangaparaoa Road; and</p> <p>(d) the flat grassland areas at <a href="#">Okoramai Bay</a> from the western Park boundary to the treeline embankment.</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">Summer (1 December to 1 March)</th><th>Other seasons</th></tr><tr><th>Army and Okoramai Bay Beaches</th><th>Open grass areas between beaches</th><th>Beach and open grass areas</th></tr><tr><td> Under control off leash Morning (Before 10am)</td><td> Under control off leash Morning (Before 10am)</td><td rowspan="4"> Under control off leash All times</td></tr><tr><td> Prohibited Daytime (10am to 5pm)</td><td> Under control on leash Daytime (10am to 5pm)</td></tr><tr><td> Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)</td><td> Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on tracks between Army Bay and Okoramai Bay, including the wetland track and the part of the Heritage Trail between Okoramai Bay and the Waterfall Gully Car Park.</p> <p>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from in all other areas of the Park, including –</p> <p>(a) the Shakespear Open Sanctuary and associated beach and foreshore areas, including:</p> <p>(ii) Te Haruhi Bay, Waterfall Gully, Tiritiri Track, Lookout Track, Heritage Trail and Okoromai Track</p> <p>(iii) Army Bay beach and foreshore areas east of the <a href="#">boat ramp</a></p> <p>(iv) Okoramai Bay beach east of the <a href="#">treeline embankment</a>; and</p> <p>(v) all road and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle) and campgrounds.</p> <p>(b) on parts of the Heritage Trail and Okoromai Track from between the treeline embankment at Okoramai Bay and the Shakespear Open Sanctuary.</p>	Summer (1 December to 1 March)		Other seasons	Army and Okoramai Bay Beaches	Open grass areas between beaches	Beach and open grass areas	 Under control off leash Morning (Before 10am)	 Under control off leash Morning (Before 10am)	 Under control off leash All times	 Prohibited Daytime (10am to 5pm)	 Under control on leash Daytime (10am to 5pm)	 Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)	 Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)		
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 Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)	 Under control off leash Evening (After 5pm)																						



Public feedback on Proposal 7 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<p>beach, I would never use this beach for pleasure as it's mud flats.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “There is no way the dogs can get up the cliffs at the eastern end of the Army Bay into the Sanctuary. It gives more space for the dogs and their walkers if they can access both ends of the beach.”</li> <li>○ “The proposal isn't fixing a known issue, but a 'possible' risk of dogs straying into the open Sanctuary.”</li> <li>● Some thought the rules are too difficult to understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “Too complicated and the majority of the population will not comply as too confusing.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li> <li>● Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (8):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● One local board (HB) supports the proposal, and note many in opposition opposed the proposed on-leash time and season rule to the open grass areas between Army and Okoromai Bays.</li> <li>● One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> </ul>	<p>Reason: to manage risks of conflict between dogs and people and protected wildlife, and to clarify rule boundaries.</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Shakespear Regional Park is located in north Auckland, at the end of the Whangaparāoa peninsula adjacent to New Zealand Defence Force land. The park has large open spaces and coastlines that offer opportunities for a range of recreational activities such as snorkelling, scuba diving, wind and kite surfing, walking, biking and paragliding. The park is extremely popular during summer, recording 223,153 visits in the January-March 2024 period.</li> <li>● On the east side of the park is Auckland’s most visited open sanctuary that integrates conservation, recreation and farming. Protected by a 1.7km long predator-proof fence, the sanctuary is home to invertebrates, lizards, and many native birds including bellbird, red-crowned kākāriki, little spotted kiwi, North Island robin, and North Island saddleback. Given its extremely high biodiversity value, dogs are strictly prohibited from the sanctuary.</li> </ul>	<div> <div> <p><b>Current rule (Army and Okoromai Bay)</b></p> <p><b>Key:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Under control off-leash</li> <li>- Under control on-leash</li> <li>- Prohibited</li> <li>- Time and season rule</li> </ul> </div> <div> </div> </div> <div> <p><b>(Army and Okoromai Bay)</b></p> </div>

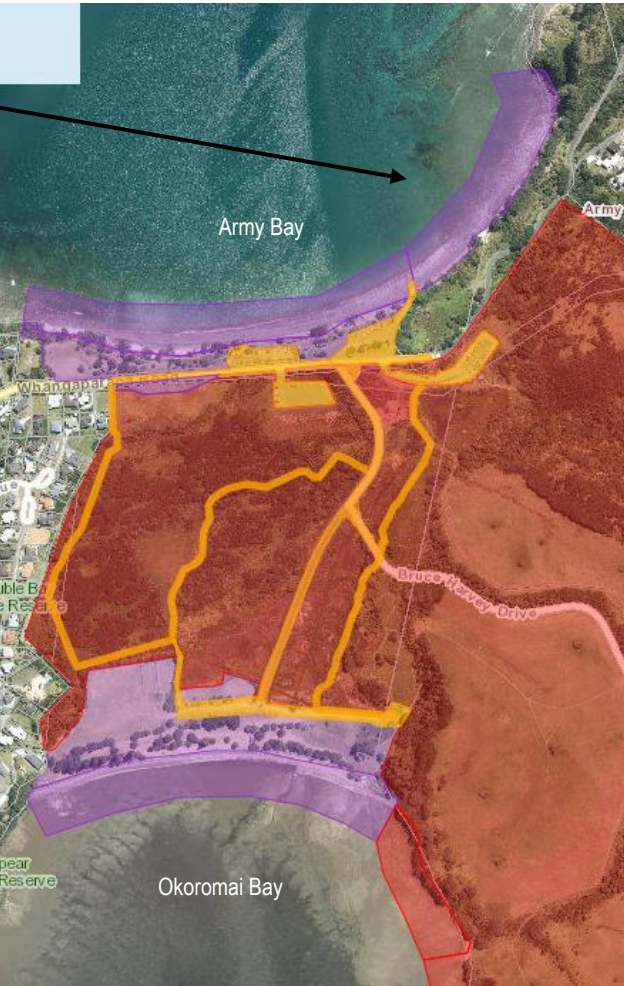
Public feedback on Proposal 7 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>The proposed rules seek to reflect the prohibited rules shown on current <a href="#">map</a> for Shakespear Regional Park (see below).</li> </ul> 

Public feedback on Proposal 7 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are over 50 dog access options in the Whangaparāoa and Stanmore Bay area. The closest off-leash areas are Everard Reserve (350m travel), Shakespear Esplanade Reserve (950m travel), Pacific Parade Coastal Reserve (1km travel), and Rakauananga Point Esplanade (1.9km travel).</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 7 – Key changes sought (Proposal 7) <sup>5</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Shakespear Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (362 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>define the boundary line between Okoromai Bay and Army Bay past which dogs are <b>prohibited</b></li> <li>apply <b>time and season</b> rule at the grassland area to allow dogs <b>on leash</b> during summer daytime (off-leash other times)</li> <li>otherwise retain current rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (42 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the tracks between Okoromai Bay and Army Bay</li> <li>dogs are allowed <b>under control off leash</b> on the grassland areas between Okoromai Bay and Army Bay</li> <li>apply a <b>time and season</b> rule on Army Bay and Okoromai Bay beaches that <b>prohibits</b> dogs</li> </ul>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in less dog access, is a focus on determining whether there is a significant risk of conflict between users or between dogs and protected wildlife, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal at Shakespear Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether defining the sanctuary boundary line (in particular on the beaches) clarifies the extent of the prohibited area to help prevent responsible dog owners mistakenly walking into the open sanctuary, causing conflict with wildlife and facing penalties</li> <li>considering whether applying a time and season rule to allow dogs on-leash at the grassland area between the two beaches during summer peak time helps manage conflict with other beach users: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note, a similar time and season rule applies on parks adjacent to other beaches elsewhere in Whangaparāoa and Hibiscus and Bays Local Board area</li> <li>This includes for example, Big Manly Beach, Stanmore Bay and Orewa Reserve</li> </ul> </li> <li>considering whether off-leash opportunities on the flat grass areas at the two bays outside of summer peak times and other dog access options in Whangaparāoa and Stanmore Bay, including off-leash areas at Everard Reserve, Shakespear Esplanade Reserve, Pacific Parade Coastal Reserve, and Rakauananga Point Esplanade provide practicable alternatives to dog owners and their dogs</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easier to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Shakespear Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>5</sup> Note: a number of people opposed were unclear on what changes they sought.



Public feedback on Proposal 7 – Key changes sought (Proposal 7) <sup>5</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p>during summer daytime (off-leash other times)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>prohibit</b> dogs from the rest of the Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (69 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• of which, 2 responses wanted access to camping grounds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (33 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (24 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• of which, 6 responses wanted more and clearer signage.</li> </ul>	<p>The Panel could if it wishes could for example consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>increasing the extent of the proposed time and season rule on Army Bay to the minor headland after which the beach becomes a rocky coastal area</b>, if it considers there is no significant risk that responsible dog owners would not mistakenly enter the open sanctuary and exit through the Waterfall Gully area (which park rangers have observed on occasion despite the challenging terrain)</li> <li>• <b>clarifying the rule to avoid doubt that dogs are allowed <u>under control on a leash</u> on Whangaparaoa Road, parking areas, boat ramp, bus stop and parts of Bruce Harvey Drive between Army and Okoromai Bays</b> Note, this suggestion will require a clarification to proposed Policy Schedule 1 3(2) to insert “unless explicitly stated elsewhere in this Schedule or Schedule 2” This is because the Schedule 1 3(2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ changes the default on-leash rule to prohibited if the parking area for example, is within a wider prohibited area, like at Shakespear</li> <li>○ does not apply to roads not defined in the Local Government Act 1974, meaning the wider prohibited rule at Shakespear applies.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The map on the right illustrates the above suggestions.</p>	

Public feedback on Proposal 8 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)					
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Tāpapakanga Regional Park</b></p> <p>448 feedback responses: 154 support (34 per cent), <b>246 oppose (55 per cent)</b>, 29 don't know (6 per cent), 19 other (4 per cent) and 182 comments. This includes 1 organisation (oppose).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (154):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (246):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“As a regular visitor to this park, it is so frustrating that we can't enjoy it with our dogs. It would be an incredible place to be able to camp (with this rule being improved to allow dogs at campground) and I cannot see how there would be any negative impact on the park from responsible dog owners.”</li><li>“On-leash during lambing is perfectly reasonable. Banning dogs altogether is not.”</li></ul></li><li>Some thought the rules are too complicated and would not be effective:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“I think it makes it harder to understand and follow. Keeping it simple is easier to get it right.”</li></ul></li><li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li></ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (7):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach</p><p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park (outside of lambing season)</p><p>c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</p></td><td><p>(1) On the <a href="#">beach</a> and adjoining open grass and <a href="#">parking area</a> near Ashby Homestead –</p><p>(a) dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the <a href="#">beach</a> near Ashby Homestead from the western boundary of the Park to the <a href="#">stream</a> near Ashby Cemetery (including during lambing season)</p><p>(b) dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in the <a href="#">parking area</a> near Ashby Homestead and when contained in a vehicle to access the parking area from <a href="#">Deery Road</a> (including during lambing season)</p><p>(c) dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the open grass areas between the beach in (a) the parking area in (b) (including during lambing season); and</p><p>(d) dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the grounds and inside the buildings at <a href="#">Ashby Homestead</a> and Beachfront Campground.</p><p>(2) On all other Park areas –</p><p>(a) dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> (including Farm Walk, Historic Loop Track and Coastal Walk) except at the following times and locations; and</p><p>(b) dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –</p><p>(i) during lambing season (including when dogs are contained in a vehicle); and</p><p>(ii) on the grounds and inside the buildings at <a href="#">Tāpapakanga Bach</a>, at the Sea View and Waikaha Stream campgrounds, and Kaparanui Stream and Tāpapakanga Stream Certified Self-Contained (CSC) campervan campgrounds.</p></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach</p> <p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park (outside of lambing season)</p> <p>c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</p>	<p>(1) On the <a href="#">beach</a> and adjoining open grass and <a href="#">parking area</a> near Ashby Homestead –</p> <p>(a) dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the <a href="#">beach</a> near Ashby Homestead from the western boundary of the Park to the <a href="#">stream</a> near Ashby Cemetery (including during lambing season)</p> <p>(b) dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in the <a href="#">parking area</a> near Ashby Homestead and when contained in a vehicle to access the parking area from <a href="#">Deery Road</a> (including during lambing season)</p> <p>(c) dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the open grass areas between the beach in (a) the parking area in (b) (including during lambing season); and</p> <p>(d) dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the grounds and inside the buildings at <a href="#">Ashby Homestead</a> and Beachfront Campground.</p> <p>(2) On all other Park areas –</p> <p>(a) dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> (including Farm Walk, Historic Loop Track and Coastal Walk) except at the following times and locations; and</p> <p>(b) dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –</p> <p>(i) during lambing season (including when dogs are contained in a vehicle); and</p> <p>(ii) on the grounds and inside the buildings at <a href="#">Tāpapakanga Bach</a>, at the Sea View and Waikaha Stream campgrounds, and Kaparanui Stream and Tāpapakanga Stream Certified Self-Contained (CSC) campervan campgrounds.</p>	<p>Reason: to provide more dog access in areas where lambing no longer occurs and improve the recreational value of the park.</p>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule					
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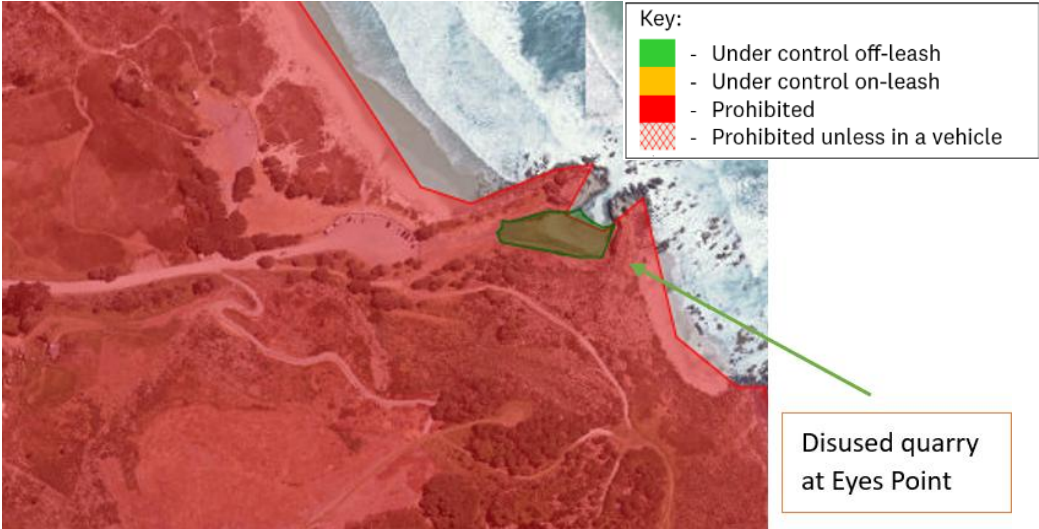

Public feedback on Proposal 8 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>• One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>• One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>○ prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>○ allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This proposal increases off-leash opportunities on the beach and on-leash on adjacent grass area, both of which are currently prohibited during lambing season.</li> <li>• Tāpapakanga Regional Park is located in south Auckland, just south of Orere Point. The landscape is characterised by its Pohutukawa-fringed coastline, sand and cobble beaches and rolling pasture. The park extends over 174ha and just under half of the parkland is managed as a working farm with sheep and cows. It is popular with visitors for hosting events and informal recreation, such as picnics, walking, cycling, camping and beach activities, including kayaking along the Te Ara Moana sea kayak trail.</li> <li>• The vision for the Park as contained in the Management Plan is for the restored coastal forest and numerous cultural heritage sites and historic buildings to provide for visitors to explore.</li> <li>• The proposal does not change the rules for the campground area which prohibits dogs by default, with on-leash opportunities provided in the wider area outside of lambing season.</li> <li>• Other off-leash options nearby include East Coast Road Reserves foreshore (4.4km travel), Ōrere Point Regional Park (6.5km travel) and Tawhitokino Regional Park (16.3km travel) which provide similar regional park experiences, and four other off-leash areas near Kawakawa Bay (from 12.2km travel).</li> <li>• The Policy wording must be detailed enough for signage and website information to be accurate in a way that more easily convey the rules (in a map for example).</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 8 – Key changes sought (Proposal 8) <sup>6</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Tāpapakanga Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (154 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow dogs <b>off-leash</b> at any time (including during lambing) on parts of the beach associated with the Park</li> <li>allow dogs <b>on-leash</b> during lambing season at the nearby carpark, the fenced grassed area and the pathway to the beach (excluding the homestead and campground)</li> <li>retain current <b>on-leash</b> rule on all other areas of the Park outside of lambing season</li> <li>clarify <b>prohibition</b> rules for lambing season, in other camping areas and bach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (20 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on parts of the beach associated with the Park</li> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park</li> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (52 responses)</b></p> <p><b>Less dog access (10 responses)</b></p> <p><b>Simplify / clarify rules (17 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (14 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in more dog access, is a focus on whether the proposed dog access areas provide for the needs of dogs and their owners in a way that does not create a significant risk of conflict and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Tāpapakanga Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dogs off-leash access on the associated beach at any time, and on-leash access during lambing season at the nearby carpark, the fenced grassed area and the pathway to the beach is likely to cause significant risk of conflict, noting the area is no longer used for farming and boundaries with paddocks that contain stock are clear from existing fences and a stream</li> <li>considering whether allowing more dog access would provide a better experience for dog owners and improve the recreational value of the park</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>The Panel could also consider</b> replacing the explicit prohibition on the camping ground with a related information note about the default camping ground rule which does allow for dog access with permission. However, this makes the rule less clear and staff are not aware of any permissions being given to date.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Tāpapakanga Regional Park <b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to <b>[Panel to insert]</b>.</p>



<sup>6</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 9 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Te Ārai Regional Park</b></p> <p>883 feedback responses: 162 support (18 per cent), <b>659 oppose (76 per cent)</b>, 61 don't know (4 per cent), 21 other (2 per cent) and 549 comments. This includes 5 organisations (1 in support, 4 oppose), 1 Māori entity (Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust in support), and 1 campaign with 11 signatures (oppose).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (162):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety and wildlife.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (659):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Forestry beach south of Te Ārai beach is the closest white sand beach with surf waves that we can get to with our dog for a family day out. So many beaches ban dogs during the day in summer. Aucklanders should have a beach they can take the family dog to for a fun day out.”</li><li>“I believe that retaining dog access to Forestry Beach would be the best location and option for dog access along this coastline. It would future proof the growing needs from the local population of dog owners and for visitors with dogs. It would give dog owners somewhere they are allowed rather than ignoring the rules.”</li><li>“Dogs are part of our community and this beach is critical to people and dogs’ wellbeing.”</li></ul></li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in the dog exercise area of the disused quarry at Eyres Point</p><p>b) Except as provided in (a) dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Te Ārai Regional Park.</p></td><td><p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> at the <a href="#">disused quarry and associated beach at Eyres Point</a>.</p><p>(2) Dogs are allowed to access the quarry from the parking area at the end of Te Ārai Point Road nearest the quarry (the eastern car park) when –</p><p>(a) <b>under control on a leash</b> in the parking area and on any path or track with direct access to the quarry from the parking area; and</p><p>(b) in a vehicle from Te Ārai Point Road to the parking area.</p><p>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas, including –</p><p>(a) on Te Ārai Beach (Te Ārai Beach North) and Forestry Beach (Te Ārai Beach South to Pākiri Beach)</p><p>(b) on any dunes, grassed areas, paths and tracks and campgrounds (for example coastal tracks); and</p><p>(c) on any roads and parking areas, including dogs in a vehicle (for example Western Boundary Road (Forestry Road), Canal Road, Pacific Road and associated parking areas).</p></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in the dog exercise area of the disused quarry at Eyres Point</p> <p>b) Except as provided in (a) dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Te Ārai Regional Park.</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> at the <a href="#">disused quarry and associated beach at Eyres Point</a>.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed to access the quarry from the parking area at the end of Te Ārai Point Road nearest the quarry (the eastern car park) when –</p> <p>(a) <b>under control on a leash</b> in the parking area and on any path or track with direct access to the quarry from the parking area; and</p> <p>(b) in a vehicle from Te Ārai Point Road to the parking area.</p> <p>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas, including –</p> <p>(a) on Te Ārai Beach (Te Ārai Beach North) and Forestry Beach (Te Ārai Beach South to Pākiri Beach)</p> <p>(b) on any dunes, grassed areas, paths and tracks and campgrounds (for example coastal tracks); and</p> <p>(c) on any roads and parking areas, including dogs in a vehicle (for example Western Boundary Road (Forestry Road), Canal Road, Pacific Road and associated parking areas).</p>
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	<p>Reason: to provide practical access to the off-leash area for dog owners, and to clarify the extent of the prohibition rule.</p> <p>Note: The southern beach (known as Forestry Beach) has been used as an unofficial dog off-leash area by local residents. When the beach was vested to council in 2021, it became a part of the regional park where the default dog prohibition rule applies. The proposal seeks to confirm the legal status quo that prohibits dogs from the beach.</p>				



Public feedback on Proposal 9 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some were expressing concerns that the quarry is not a suitable area for dog access as it is a popular area for families: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“The quarry is busy and a lot of families take their young children there to play and swim. It’s not a suitable place for dogs. I cannot understand why you want to crowd people and dogs in such a small area.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li> <li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (8):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (RD) supports the feedback in opposition to the proposal.</li> <li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed changes.</li> <li>Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Current dog access rules (Te Ārai Point):</p>  <p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Under control off-leash</li> <li>- Under control on-leash</li> <li>- Prohibited</li> <li>- Prohibited unless in a vehicle</li> </ul> <p>Disused quarry at Eyes Point</p> <p>Proposed dog access rules (Te Ārai Point):</p>  <p>Te Ārai Point Road</p> <p>Te Ārai Point Carpark</p> <p>Disused quarry at Eyes Point</p>



Public feedback on Proposal 9 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul>	<p>Current dog access rules (whole park):</p> 	<p>Proposed dog access rules (whole park):</p>  <p><b>About 'the proposal is too restrictive' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Te Ārai Regional Park is located at the northern border of Auckland on the east coast. This is a remote destination that serves locals from Mangawhai and Wellsford, while also attracting visitors from the wider Auckland and Northland area.</li> <li>Renowned for its surfing beaches, the park has three distinct areas – Te Ārai Point, Te Ārai North and Te Ārai South. Te Ārai South falls under the Local Government Act, and Te Ārai North and Point fall under the Reserves Act.</li> <li>There are several Department of Conservation parcels of land, marginal strips, and wildlife refuges around and within the park boundaries (such as Mangawhai Wildlife Refuge on its northern border).</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 9 – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dogs are strictly prohibited in the northern beach due to significant ecological and biodiversity values. The beaches and sand dunes are part of a larger Mangawhai-Pākiri sand system which is the largest ocean exposed sandy beach on the east coast of the region. A number of rare and endangered native shorebirds use the inter-tidal zone along the beach frontage for foraging, breeding and roosting including the variable oystercatcher, the northern New Zealand dotterel and the threatened New Zealand fairy tern (a nationally critical species).</li> <li>• The southern beach (known as Forestry Beach) has been used as an unofficial dog off-leash area by local residents. When the beach was vested to council in 2021, it became a part of the regional park where the default dog prohibition rule applies.</li> <li>• The southern beach is a habitat for NZ dotterel, variable oystercatcher, Caspian tern, and blue penguin. Birds use this entire coastline for feeding, roosting and nesting. There are also NZ pipit present in the dunes which may be vulnerable to dog predation.</li> <li>• The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>• The Precinct Plan prohibits residents of planned subdivisions in both the north and south areas to keep dogs given the high ecological values of the area according to the Auckland Unitary Plan. These developments will also result in an increase in local residents and visitors to the Park. Allowing off-leash access on the beach risks defeating the purpose of the 'no pet' rule in nearby subdivisions.</li> <li>• The Regional Parks Management Plan mentions opportunity of possible provisions of controlled dog access in the southern inland part of the Park. However, this has not been considered in this proposal as the area can access the southern-most part of the southern beach which is a highly sensitive ecological area. Within the Park, the legal status quo only allows dog access at the quarry area at Te Ārai Point, which dog owners consider small and undesirable, while others consider the area to be more suitable for families.</li> <li>• Other off-leash local parks in the area include the Tomarata Dune Lakes Reserve (8.4km travel from Te Ārai, Fairy Hill Road Esplanade (11.6km travel), Tapu Bush Esplanade Reserve (17km travel), and six other areas in Wellsford (from 28km travel). The nearest off-leash beaches are Mangawhai Cliffs Walkway beach to the north (in Kaipara District, 18km travel or 5km from Maungawhai) which allows off-leash access at all times, and Matheson Bay (43km travel) to the south which allows off-leash access outside of summer daytime.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 9 – Key changes sought (Proposal 9) <sup>7</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Te Ārai Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (162 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> at the disused quarry and associated beach at Eyres Point</li> <li>clarify that dogs are allowed to access the quarry from the parking area at the end of Te Ārai Point Road nearest the quarry (the eastern car park)</li> <li>retain the legal status quo for rest of the Park, by clarifying that the <b>prohibition</b> rule applies to all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas, including Te Ārai Beach North and Forestry Beach, on any dunes, grassed areas, paths, tracks, campgrounds, and on any roads and parking areas, and dogs in a vehicle.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (13 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in the dog exercise area of the disused quarry at Eyres Point</li> <li>dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the rest of the Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (378 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 358 responses wanted dog access on Forestry Beach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 42 responses wanted partial access on Forestry Beach (time and season restrictions, on a section of the beach only, or on-leash access).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (15 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>restrict dog access at the quarry (9 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (25 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in both more and less dog access in the different zones across the park, focus on determining whether the rules provide for the needs of dogs and their owners in a way that does not create a significant risk, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Te Ārai Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dogs to access the off-leash quarry area from the eastern carpark provides a practical access route for dog owners without significant risk of conflict to people or wildlife</li> <li>considering whether specifying the boundary of the prohibition rule provides clearer behavioural expectations for dog owners, noting the rule is consistent with other dog access rules along the entire coastline from Mangawhai to Goat Island</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> <li>More specifically, in relation to Forestry Beach, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dog access on the beach provides a better experience for dog owners visiting the beach (recognising the beach was an unofficial dogs off-leash area before vested to council in 2021) without creating significant risk of conflict with wildlife</li> <li>considering whether allowing access at a section of the beach closer to Te Ārai Point, or seasonal or on-leash access provides a practical alternative to dog owners and their dogs without creating significant risk of conflict with wildlife</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand, follow, and enforce.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘more / less dog access’ and ‘enforcement and monitoring’ requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Te Ārai Regional Park</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>7</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 10 - Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)									
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Waitawa Regional Park</b></p> <p>475 feedback responses: 142 support (30 per cent), <b>290 oppose (61 per cent)</b>, 30 don't know (6 per cent), 13 other (3 per cent) and 210 comments. This includes 2 organisations (1 oppose, 1 unsure).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (142):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (290):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>"These beaches currently offer essential off-leash spaces for dogs to exercise and socialise freely, which is vital for their well-being and enjoyment for dog owners. Restricting off-leash access diminishes the park's inclusivity and reduces opportunities for responsible dog owners to enjoy these areas."</li><li>"I do not agree with dogs being prohibited from the Waitawa Bay Campground solely as it is on the walking track that leads up to the hill away from the campground. Perhaps a solution could be to more clearly delineate the campground so that walkers could walk around the campground and still access the walking track up past the toilet."</li></ul></li><li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach.</td><td>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the half of Maitaitai Bay Beach west of the <a href="#">rocks</a> at any time.</td></tr><tr><td>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park.</td><td>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (including Waitawa Bay Beach, Waitawa wharf, grass and picnic areas at Māitaitai Bay), except at times and locations in (3).</td></tr><tr><td>c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</td><td>(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) on farm paddocks (including on any tracks) during lambing season</li><li>(b) on mountain bike only tracks; and</li><li>(c) at the Waitawa Bay Campground and on the grounds and inside buildings at Waitawa Bach.</li></ul></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach.	(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the half of Maitaitai Bay Beach west of the <a href="#">rocks</a> at any time.	b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park.	(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (including Waitawa Bay Beach, Waitawa wharf, grass and picnic areas at Māitaitai Bay), except at times and locations in (3).	c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.	(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) on farm paddocks (including on any tracks) during lambing season</li><li>(b) on mountain bike only tracks; and</li><li>(c) at the Waitawa Bay Campground and on the grounds and inside buildings at Waitawa Bach.</li></ul>	<p>Reason: to manage significant health and safety risks to people and dogs on mountain bike tracks, and risks of harm to nesting shorebirds and horses, and to improve the recreational value of the park.</p> <p>See next page for maps showing current and proposed rules.</p> <p><b>About 'the proposal is too restrictive' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Waitawa Regional Park is located in the south-east of Auckland, made up of three small peninsulas with beaches, picnic areas, trails and accommodation.</li><li>The park is used as a working farm and also offers a range of outdoor recreation activities including walking, trail running, mountain biking, horse riding, fishing, disc golf, swimming, and kayaking. Walking, horse riding and mountain biking tracks have been created throughout the park, in areas of former pine forest and regenerating native bush.</li><li>Visitor counts show numbers have increased from around 77,000 in 2015 to 115,400 in 2021.</li><li>The Park has diverse ecosystems including wetlands, and is home to native wildlife such as shorebirds and fantails. There is also a population of the nationally threatened shrub Pomaderris rugosa.</li><li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li></ul>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule									
a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach.	(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the half of Maitaitai Bay Beach west of the <a href="#">rocks</a> at any time.									
b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park.	(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (including Waitawa Bay Beach, Waitawa wharf, grass and picnic areas at Māitaitai Bay), except at times and locations in (3).									
c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.	(3) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) on farm paddocks (including on any tracks) during lambing season</li><li>(b) on mountain bike only tracks; and</li><li>(c) at the Waitawa Bay Campground and on the grounds and inside buildings at Waitawa Bach.</li></ul>									



Public feedback on Proposal 10 - Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (7):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other off-leash options nearby include five off-leash areas near Kawakawa Bay (from 1.5km travel), and Tawhitokino Regional Park (6.7km travel) and Ōrere Point Regional Park (14.9km travel) which provide similar regional park experiences.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div> <p>Current dog access rules</p> </div> <div> <p>Proposed dog access rules</p> </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Key:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: green; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> - Under control off-leash (any time)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> - Under control on-leash (any time)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background: repeating-linear-gradient(45deg, transparent, transparent 2px, orange 2px, orange 4px); border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> - Prohibited (all times during lambing season) from farm paddocks</li> </ul> </div>

Public feedback on Proposal 10 – Key changes sought <sup>8</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Waitawa Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (142 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow dogs <b>under control off a leash</b> on the half of Maitaitai Bay Beach west of the rocks at any time (other half on-leash)</li> <li>change the off-leash rule at Waitawa Bay Beach to <b>on-leash</b></li> <li>allow dogs <b>under control on a leash</b> on all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas (including Waitawa Bay Beach, Waitawa wharf, grass and picnic areas at Maitaitai Bay)</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs on farm paddocks (including on any tracks) during lambing season, on mountain bike only tracks, at the Waitawa Bay Campground and Waitawa Bach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (29 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the associated beach (9 responses supported retaining)</li> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the park (8 responses supported retaining dog access on mountain bike tracks)</li> <li>dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (21 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 8 responses wanted dog access on campgrounds.</li> </ul>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in both more and less dog access in the different zones across the park, focus on determining whether the rules provide for the needs of dogs and their owners in a way that does not create a significant risk, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Waitawa Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dogs access on mountain bike only tracks is likely to cause significant health and safety risks or nuisance to the rider or other people, such as injuries or preventing riders from enjoying the tracks</li> <li>considering whether changing dog access to on-leash on Waitawa Beach would help reduce risks of harm to nesting shorebirds, people and horses</li> <li>considering whether allowing dogs on-leash access on farm paddocks outside of the lambing season would provide more dog access opportunities for dog owners and improve the recreational value of the park</li> <li>considering whether this is likely to cause significant risk of conflict with people or other animals outside of the lambing season</li> <li>considering whether allowing off-leash access on western Maitaitai Beach and on-leash access outside of farm paddocks at any time, and in farm paddocks outside of lambing seasons are practicable alternatives to removing off-leash access from the eastern Maitaitai Beach, Waitawa Beach and mountain bike tracks and whether other dog access options in Kawakawa Bay, Tawhitokino Regional Park and Ōrere Point Regional Park provide practicable alternatives to dog owners and their dogs</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>The Panel could also consider</b> replacing the explicit prohibition with a related information note about the default camping ground rule which does allow for dog access with permission. However, this makes the rule less clear and staff are not aware of any permissions being given to date.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Waitawa Regional Park</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>8</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.



Public feedback on Proposal 10 – Key changes sought <sup>8</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Less dog access (9 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (19 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 11 - Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)					
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Whakanewha Regional Park</b></p> <p>429 feedback responses: 148 support (35 per cent), <b>218 oppose (51 per cent)</b>, 45 don't know (11 per cent), 18 other (4 per cent) and 158 comments. This includes 1 organisation in opposition.</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (148):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the proposal makes rules clearer, is reasonable and help protect public safety and wildlife.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (218):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“There really is limited walking available in Waiheke now (compared with past years (with a particularly great walk around the sculpture area closed and very restricted walking around Cascades. It now feels very disjointed when we used to be able to walk for miles. This makes Waiheke less attractive to us as local visitors.”</li></ul></li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“I do not agree with having to keep dogs on a leash everywhere. Walking a dog on a leash on bush tracks is actually dangerous to the walker and will result in many accidents. It is not the dogs that are under voice control that are a problem, but the uncontrolled</li></ul></li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas of the park on the landward side of Gordons Road.</p><p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road.</p></td><td><p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> –</p><p>(a) in areas on the landward side of Gordons Road (including the <a href="#">Carson's Road car park</a>, Tarata Track, Fenceline Bridal Track, Nikau Track, Central Track, Mamaku Track and Cascades Loop Track); and</p><p>(b) on the western-most tracks between Upland Road and Carson's Road to provide walking access from the settlement of <a href="#">Omiha (Rocky Bay)</a> to the on-leash areas in (a) off Carson's Road (including the Firebreak track, Eve's Track, Tawa Track and the northern part of the Cathedral track from Tawa Track to Carson's Road).</p><p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all other areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road (including the <a href="#">Sculpture car park</a>, Upland Road Track, Dotties Lane Track, Rua Loop Track, Pa Loop Track and <a href="#">Poukaraka Flats Campground</a>).</p></td></tr></table>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas of the park on the landward side of Gordons Road.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road.</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> –</p> <p>(a) in areas on the landward side of Gordons Road (including the <a href="#">Carson's Road car park</a>, Tarata Track, Fenceline Bridal Track, Nikau Track, Central Track, Mamaku Track and Cascades Loop Track); and</p> <p>(b) on the western-most tracks between Upland Road and Carson's Road to provide walking access from the settlement of <a href="#">Omiha (Rocky Bay)</a> to the on-leash areas in (a) off Carson's Road (including the Firebreak track, Eve's Track, Tawa Track and the northern part of the Cathedral track from Tawa Track to Carson's Road).</p> <p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all other areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road (including the <a href="#">Sculpture car park</a>, Upland Road Track, Dotties Lane Track, Rua Loop Track, Pa Loop Track and <a href="#">Poukaraka Flats Campground</a>).</p>	
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule					
<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas of the park on the landward side of Gordons Road.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road.</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> –</p> <p>(a) in areas on the landward side of Gordons Road (including the <a href="#">Carson's Road car park</a>, Tarata Track, Fenceline Bridal Track, Nikau Track, Central Track, Mamaku Track and Cascades Loop Track); and</p> <p>(b) on the western-most tracks between Upland Road and Carson's Road to provide walking access from the settlement of <a href="#">Omiha (Rocky Bay)</a> to the on-leash areas in (a) off Carson's Road (including the Firebreak track, Eve's Track, Tawa Track and the northern part of the Cathedral track from Tawa Track to Carson's Road).</p> <p>(2) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all other areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road (including the <a href="#">Sculpture car park</a>, Upland Road Track, Dotties Lane Track, Rua Loop Track, Pa Loop Track and <a href="#">Poukaraka Flats Campground</a>).</p>					
	<p>Reason: to improve the recreational value of the park by providing dog owners more convenient direct access to the on-leash areas of the park.</p>					

Public feedback on Proposal 11 - Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<p>often unregistered dogs - and those will ignore all regulations anyway. So please do not punish responsible dog owners.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council.</li> <li>• Some did not think the proposed rules would be effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (8):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One local board (WHK) supports this proposal.</li> <li>• One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>• Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>• One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>• One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>○ prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>○ allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This proposal increases dog access opportunities by allowing Whakanewha Bay residents access to the on-leash area in the Park via the north-west tracks (currently prohibited). The other current on-leash and prohibited rules have been in place since 2012. The proposal clarifies the rules by including examples of the tracks and areas they relate to.</li> <li>• Whakanewha Regional Park is located on the southern coast of Waiheke Island. The park receives close to 55,000 visitors per year.</li> <li>• The park contains several important restored habitats and ecosystems that support rare New Zealand bird species including dotterels, variable oystercatchers, white-faced heron, pied stilts, caspian terns, paradise ducks and godwits. To the south of the beach, a large wetland is home to bittern, banded rail and spotless crane. The vision for the park as contained in the Management Plan is for the park to be a haven for native flora and fauna.</li> <li>• The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>• The Policy on Dogs sets out dog access rules that help responsible dog owners avoid significant risks. The Policy relies on compliance initiatives, including patrols, education and fines, to manage irresponsible dog owners, such as those who ignore the current rules, do not control their dog or who allow their dog to roam unaccompanied.</li> <li>• This approach recognises that the personal circumstances of individual responsible dog owners and their dogs vary greatly, and that these responsible dog owners cannot always be expected to know the risks to be avoided or the best way to avoid them.</li> <li>• Other off-leash options nearby include Gordons Road Esplanade Reserve (750m travel), Woodside Bay Esplanade Walkway (1.9km travel), Awaawaroa Esplanade Reserve (10km travel) and 7 other off-leash areas near Ōmiha (from 2km travel).</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 11 – Key changes sought (Proposal 11) <sup>9</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Change dog access rules at Whakanewha Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (148 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow dogs <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas on the landward side of Gordons Road, and on the western-most tracks between Upland Road and Carson's Road</li> <li><b>prohibit</b> dogs in all other areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (14 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in areas of the park on the landward side of Gordons Road</li> <li>dogs are <b>prohibited</b> in all areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (32 responses)</b></p> <p><b>Less dog access (5 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (21 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access in areas not proposed to change, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions resulting in more dog access, is a focus on whether the proposed dog access areas provide for the needs of dogs and their owners in a way that does not create a significant risk of conflict and whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Whakanewha Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether allowing dogs on-leash on the western-most tracks between Upland Road and Carson's Road would provide local dog owners convenient direct access to the on-leash area and improve the recreational value of the park</li> <li>considering whether this is likely to cause significant risk of conflict with wildlife, noting wildlife is mostly on Whakanewha Bay Beach away from the access tracks</li> <li>considering whether the rule adopted is easy to understand and follow.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to change dog access rules at Whakanewha Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>9</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 12A – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)					
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Ambury Regional Park</b></p> <p>709 feedback responses: 262 support (37 per cent), <b>388 oppose (55 per cent)</b>, 50 don't know (5 per cent), 26 other (4 per cent) and 390 comments. This includes 3 organisations (1 in support, 2 oppose).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (262):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the rules need to be clarified / agreed the new wording is clearer, that the rules help protect public safety and environment.</li></ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (388):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“There needs to be more dog friendly walking places that are accessible for dog owners in that area. Anecdotally, South Auckland has more abandoned dogs hence we need to ensure that this area is made convenient for owners.”</li></ul></li><li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council or opposition to the current rules, not the proposal:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Council is overreaching and complicating something that can be really simple.”</li></ul></li><li>Some appeared to believe the proposal is a new rule rather than clarifying the existing:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“So we can no longer walk our dogs around Kiwi Esplanade on leash? That’s ridiculous.”</li></ul></li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li></ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (7):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li><li>Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li><li>One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li></ul>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road.</p><p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> at all times from all other areas of Ambury Regional Park and associated foreshore (including foreshore associated with the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant).</p></td><td><p>(1) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> at all times on –</p><p>(a) all Park, beach and foreshore areas (except on the Ambury Farm loop road); and</p><p>(b) all publicly accessible land, beach and foreshore areas associated with the Mangere Waste Water Treatment Plant, for example the Watercare Coastal Walkway.</p><p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road (a short fenced road about 800m in length) connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road to provide a local loop walk.</p></td></tr></table> <p>Reason: to provide correct expectations for visitors about the extent of the on-leash area to help address non-compliance issues.</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ambury Regional Park is a farm park and coastal habitat for protected bird species such as dotterels and oystercatchers. It is highly popular for families, community gatherings and international visitors seeking a farm experience with animals including sheep, goats, cows and chickens, and to access internationally significant shorebird habitats. The area also provides various recreational opportunities including walking, cycling and camping.</li><li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li></ul>		Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> at all times from all other areas of Ambury Regional Park and associated foreshore (including foreshore associated with the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant).</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> at all times on –</p> <p>(a) all Park, beach and foreshore areas (except on the Ambury Farm loop road); and</p> <p>(b) all publicly accessible land, beach and foreshore areas associated with the Mangere Waste Water Treatment Plant, for example the Watercare Coastal Walkway.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road (a short fenced road about 800m in length) connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road to provide a local loop walk.</p>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule					
<p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> at all times from all other areas of Ambury Regional Park and associated foreshore (including foreshore associated with the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant).</p>	<p>(1) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> at all times on –</p> <p>(a) all Park, beach and foreshore areas (except on the Ambury Farm loop road); and</p> <p>(b) all publicly accessible land, beach and foreshore areas associated with the Mangere Waste Water Treatment Plant, for example the Watercare Coastal Walkway.</p> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road (a short fenced road about 800m in length) connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road to provide a local loop walk.</p>					

Public feedback on Proposal 12A – Key Themes		Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kiwi Esplanade does not form part of Ambury Regional Park. Dogs are allowed under control on a leash to protect wildlife in areas adjacent to the Park and the narrow roadside nature of the esplanade towards Coronation Road.</li> <li>There are a number of off-leash areas nearby for local use, including Muir Avenue Park (400m travel), Waterlea Park (900m travel), Shelly Bay Beach (1km travel, note time and season rule applies), Mangere Domain (2km travel), and Mangere Centre Park (6km travel).</li> </ul>	
Public feedback on Proposal 12A – Key changes sought (Proposal 12A) <sup>10</sup>		Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Ambury Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (262 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clarify that <b>on-leash</b> opportunities are limited to the Ambury Farm loop road (a short fenced road about 800m in length) connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (33 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the Ambury Farm loop road connecting Kiwi Esplanade to Ambury Road.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (152 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 12 responses wanted access to beach and foreshore</li> <li>8 responses wanted more access on tracks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (2 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (15 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 4 responses wanted more and clearer signage.</li> </ul>		<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions for clarifications is whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Ambury Regional Park, this includes for example, considering whether stating the prohibited areas first and describing the on-leash area as a local link between two streets through the park, makes the rule that dogs are prohibited on the vast majority of the park easier to understand.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access for a proposal to clarify (not change) the current rules, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to clarify dog access rules at Ambury Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>10</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition believed a new rule is being proposed, whereas the proposal is clarifying wording of the current rule without changing dog access. Some people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 12B – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)					
<div>Clarify dog access rules at Muriwai Regional Park</div> <div>954 feedback responses: 438 support (46 per cent), 447 oppose (47 per cent), 45 don't know (5 per cent), 24 other (3 per cent) and 395 comments. This includes 1 organisation (oppose).</div> <div>Key themes in support (438):</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those in support thought the rules need to be clarified / agreed the new wording is clearer, that the rules help protect public safety, the environment and wildlife (in particular the gannet colony).</li></ul></div> <div>Key themes opposed (447):</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Majority of those opposed thought the proposal is too restrictive for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>"I frequently take my dog to Muriwai for an off leash run. I have never seen any issues of poor dog management while in the area north of the surf club area. There is plenty of room for those who do not want to be in the proximity of dogs on the south end of the beach."</li><li>"Kids want to see the gannets but I can't let them do this on their own and I can't leave the dog in a hot car! No win situation for families. Well-controlled dogs on a leash should be allowed anywhere at any time."</li></ul></li><li>Some thought dog access should be reduced to protect wildlife:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>"Beaches are places of endangered wildlife and also places for families with young children to go. Dogs should not be allowed off leash at all."</li></ul></li><li>Some appeared to believe the proposal is a new rule rather than clarifying the existing rule:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>"One of the last true dog friendly areas. Stop cutting our areas."</li></ul></li><li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council or opposition to the current rules, not the proposal.</li><li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li><li>Some did not think the proposal would be effective.</li></ul></div>	<table><tr><th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr><tr><td><div>a) On Muriwai beach, dogs are allowed under control off a leash at all times north of the surf tower</div><div>b) Dogs are prohibited south of the surf tower to protect the gannet colony.</div><div>Dogs are allowed under control on a leash at all times (Schedule 1(4)(a)) in all other areas of the Park.</div></td><td><div>(1) On Muriwai beach, dogs are allowed under control off a leash north of the surf tower at any time.</div><div>(2) Dogs are prohibited –<div><div>a) on Muriwai beach south of the surf tower; and</div><div>b) on the Park, beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Waitea Road, including Gannet Colony, Ōtakamiro Point, Ōtakamiro Point Track and Maukatia (Māori Bay) Track, Flat Rock and Maukatia (Māori Bay).</div></div></div><div>(3) Dogs are allowed under control on a leash (Schedule 2) in all other areas of the Park, including –<div><div>a) grassed and picnic areas</div><div>b) Muriwai Beach Loop Track (excluding Muriwai Beach section where dogs allowed off-leash in (1)); and</div><div>c) Mitchelson Lookout Track.</div></div></div></td></tr></table> <div>Reason: to clarify the existing prohibition and on-leash rules to facilitate voluntary compliance and minimise the significant risk to wildlife.</div> <div>About 'the proposal is too restrictive' feedback:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Muriwai Regional Park is an extensive coastal park on the west coast of Auckland that extends from Maukatia in the south 8.6km northwards alongside Muriwai Beach. The beach is highly popular for activities including surfing and horse-riding, with over 479,000 visits recorded in summer 2024, making it the most visited regional park in Auckland over the period.</li><li>Unique geological features including cliffs, dunes, forests, a rocky shore and an island make Muriwai a special habitat for a variety of unique flora and fauna,</li></ul></div>		Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<div>a) On Muriwai beach, dogs are allowed under control off a leash at all times north of the surf tower</div> <div>b) Dogs are prohibited south of the surf tower to protect the gannet colony.</div> <div>Dogs are allowed under control on a leash at all times (Schedule 1(4)(a)) in all other areas of the Park.</div>	<div>(1) On Muriwai beach, dogs are allowed under control off a leash north of the surf tower at any time.</div> <div>(2) Dogs are prohibited –<div><div>a) on Muriwai beach south of the surf tower; and</div><div>b) on the Park, beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Waitea Road, including Gannet Colony, Ōtakamiro Point, Ōtakamiro Point Track and Maukatia (Māori Bay) Track, Flat Rock and Maukatia (Māori Bay).</div></div></div> <div>(3) Dogs are allowed under control on a leash (Schedule 2) in all other areas of the Park, including –<div><div>a) grassed and picnic areas</div><div>b) Muriwai Beach Loop Track (excluding Muriwai Beach section where dogs allowed off-leash in (1)); and</div><div>c) Mitchelson Lookout Track.</div></div></div>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule					
<div>a) On Muriwai beach, dogs are allowed under control off a leash at all times north of the surf tower</div> <div>b) Dogs are prohibited south of the surf tower to protect the gannet colony.</div> <div>Dogs are allowed under control on a leash at all times (Schedule 1(4)(a)) in all other areas of the Park.</div>	<div>(1) On Muriwai beach, dogs are allowed under control off a leash north of the surf tower at any time.</div> <div>(2) Dogs are prohibited –<div><div>a) on Muriwai beach south of the surf tower; and</div><div>b) on the Park, beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Waitea Road, including Gannet Colony, Ōtakamiro Point, Ōtakamiro Point Track and Maukatia (Māori Bay) Track, Flat Rock and Maukatia (Māori Bay).</div></div></div> <div>(3) Dogs are allowed under control on a leash (Schedule 2) in all other areas of the Park, including –<div><div>a) grassed and picnic areas</div><div>b) Muriwai Beach Loop Track (excluding Muriwai Beach section where dogs allowed off-leash in (1)); and</div><div>c) Mitchelson Lookout Track.</div></div></div>					



Public feedback on Proposal 12B – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<p><b>Local board views (8):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three local boards (AE, HM, KT) note the split support for this proposal.</li> <li>• One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>• Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> <li>• One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>• One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>○ prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>○ allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>particularly in the southern part of the park where dogs are prohibited. Species that have made Muriwai home include the Gannet Colony, Little Blue Penguins, Frey Faced Petrel, Korowai Gecko, Maui Dolphin, an active seal colony, and native fish and shark species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>• The Policy on Dogs sets out dog access rules that help responsible dog owners avoid significant risks. The Policy relies on compliance initiatives, including patrols, education and fines, to manage irresponsible dog owners, such as those who ignore the current rules, do not control their dog or who allow their dog to roam unaccompanied.</li> <li>• This approach recognises that the personal circumstances of individual responsible dog owners and their dogs vary greatly, and that these responsible dog owners cannot always be expected to know the risks to be avoided or the best way to avoid them.</li> <li>• Dogs are allowed on the beach north of the surf club at any time.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 12B – Key changes sought (Proposal 12B) <sup>11</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Muriwai Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (438 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> north of the surf tower on Muriwai Beach</li> <li>clarify the <b>prohibition</b> rule to include Muriwai beach south of the surf tower, and on the Park, beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Waitea Road, including Gannet Colony, Ōtakamiro Point, Ōtakamiro Point Track and Maukatia (Māori Bay) Track, Flat Rock and Maukatia (Māori Bay)</li> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in all other areas of the Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (54 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> north of the surf tower on Muriwai Beach</li> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> south of the surf tower</li> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> in all other areas of the Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (67 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow off-leash access on Muriwai Beach Loop Track (5 responses)</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (19 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (29 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 5 responses wanted more and clearer signage</li> </ul>	<p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions for clarifications is whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Muriwai Regional Park, this includes for example, considering whether listing the prohibited and on-leash areas explicitly makes the rules easier to understand, in particular for the southern management area near the Gannet Colony and parkland area south of the surf tower where there are currently no explicit rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘more / less dog access’ and ‘enforcement and monitoring’ requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access for a proposal to clarify (not change) the current rules, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to clarify dog access rules at Muriwai Regional Park <b>Either [Panel to decide] be adopted as publicly notified. OR be amended to [Panel to insert]. OR be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert]. AND Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</b></p>

<sup>11</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition believed a new rule is being proposed, whereas the proposal is clarifying wording of the current rule without changing dog access. Some people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 12C – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Tāwharanui Regional Park</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>697 feedback responses: 301 support (43 per cent), <b>315 oppose (45 per cent)</b>, 56 don't know (8 per cent), 25 other (4 per cent) and 291 comments. This includes 1 organisation (oppose) and 1 Māori entity (Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust in support).</p> </div> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (301):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support thought the rules need to be clarified / agreed the new wording is clearer, and that the prohibition helps protect wildlife.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (315):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"While protecting wildlife is essential, it's important to ensure that sufficient dog-friendly areas remain available to accommodate the needs of dog owners."</li> <li>"Stupid to prohibit dogs in a vehicle. That just makes things impossible for dog owners! They should be allowed on roads and parking areas at least."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council or opposition to the current rules, not the proposal.</li> <li>Some appeared to believe the proposal is a new rule rather than clarifying the existing rule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"You are further discriminating against dog-owning ratepayers by further denying access to public shared spaces."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"It's more about the owners. They should be fined if they don't pick up poo or if dogs are not well behaved."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (7):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (AE) notes the split support for the proposal.</li> <li>One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li> <li>Three local boards (DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current dog access rule</th><th>Proposed dog access rule</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <p>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from regional park and associated beaches.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the park adjoining to the entrance of Tawharanui Regional Park.</p> </td><td> <p>Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas on either side of the pest proof fence, including Jones Bay, Anchor Bay, farm paddocks, tracks, roads and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle), camping grounds and Tāwharanui Bach.</p> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: to clarify the boundary of the prohibition area to help minimise the risk of dog owners misinterpreting the rule.</p> <p><b>About 'the proposal is too restrictive' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tāwharanui Regional Park contains a mix of pastures, native coastal forest, regenerating wetlands and sandy beaches. The area is popular for swimming, surfing, walking, fishing, and camping. Visitor counts show numbers have risen from 128,000 in 2014/15 to 219,000 in 2021/22.</li> <li>The Park was developed to accommodate recreational activities while maintaining a conservation focus. It includes the Tāwharanui Open Sanctuary and the Tāwharanui Marine Reserve, and is a habitat for a variety of vulnerable fauna and flora in the sanctuary, including kiwi, takahē, bellbird, North Island robin, whitehead, dotterel, reef heron, spotless crane, pateke, kakariki, saddleback and bittern.</li> <li>The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li> <li>The clarification does not change the current prohibited rule. The 'park adjoining to the entrance' refers to Jones Bay which is part of Tawharanui Regional Park.</li> </ul>	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	<p>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from regional park and associated beaches.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the park adjoining to the entrance of Tawharanui Regional Park.</p>	<p>Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas on either side of the pest proof fence, including Jones Bay, Anchor Bay, farm paddocks, tracks, roads and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle), camping grounds and Tāwharanui Bach.</p>
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule				
<p>a) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from regional park and associated beaches.</p> <p>b) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> on the park adjoining to the entrance of Tawharanui Regional Park.</p>	<p>Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas on either side of the pest proof fence, including Jones Bay, Anchor Bay, farm paddocks, tracks, roads and parking areas (including dogs in a vehicle), camping grounds and Tāwharanui Bach.</p>				

Public feedback on Proposal 12C – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li> <li>One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li> <li>prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li> <li>allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other dog access options in the Tāwharanui peninsula include Takatu Road Esplanades (2.1km travel), Vera Reserve (8.7km travel), Baddeleys Beach Reserve (8.9km travel) and Campbells Beach (9.7km travel) outside of the summer daytime season, and 13 other off-leash areas in Omaha (16km travel).</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 12C – Key changes sought (Proposal 12C) <sup>12</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Tāwharanui Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (301 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>simplify the <b>prohibition</b> rule by merging two rules into one and clarifying that dogs are prohibited from areas on either side of the pest proof fence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (21 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> from regional park and associated beaches.</li> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> on the park adjoining to the entrance of Tāwharanui Regional Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (101 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 6 responses wanted dog access when in a vehicle.</li> </ul> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (17 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>About Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions for clarifications is whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Tāwharanui Regional Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether merging the current two prohibition rules into one and stating that dogs are prohibited from areas on either side of the pest proof fence, make the prohibition boundaries clearer and the rules easier to understand</li> <li>noting that prohibiting dogs in vehicles in a prohibited area ensures consistency and prevents inadvertent non-compliance (for example to allow a dog to go to the toilet).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘more dog access’ and ‘enforcement and monitoring’ requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access for a proposal to clarify (not change) the current rules, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to clarify dog access rules at Tāwharanui Regional Park</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide] be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>12</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition believed a new rule is being proposed, whereas the proposal is clarifying wording of the current rule without changing dog access. Some people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.

Public feedback on Proposal 12D – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Wenderholm Regional Park</b></p> <p>769 feedback responses: 323 support (42 per cent), <b>338 oppose (44 per cent)</b>, 70 don't know (9 per cent), 37 other (5 per cent) and 283 comments. This includes 2 organisations (support) and 1 Māori entity (the Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust in support).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support (323):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support thought the rules need to be clarified / agreed the new wording is clearer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed (338):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed thought the <b>proposal is too restrictive</b> for dogs and owners, wanted council to provide more dog-friendly spaces and expressed the importance of dogs having off-leash access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"I struggle to understand why I can walk my dog along the beach foreshore anytime at Orewa beachfront area but cannot go literally over the hill to Wenderholm Regional Park and do the same."</li> <li>"Dogs should be allowed on leash to walk all the Wenderholm track. It's stupid we can't walk another 500m over a hill that we are already walking on, especially considering the dog is on the leash."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some people thought dog access should be reduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"This is an important nesting site for the Northern New Zealand Dotterel and the Variable Oystercatcher. I have seen dogs in the current dog prohibited area. If all access to the park is removed, there is no chance for an off leash dog to run into the current dog-prohibited area."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some thought the proposed wording is too complicated or difficult to understand and would not be effective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Proposed changes are too wordy. Simplicity is the key to understanding."</li> <li>"It is not reasonable to provide such detail of restrictions when many will not be familiar with the area without doing a lot of homework."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some appeared to believe the proposal is a new rule rather than clarifying the existing rule:</li> </ul>	<p><b>Current dog access rule</b></p> <p>a) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the grassed areas adjoining the entrance road when not occupied by stock.</p> <p>b) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the walking track to the Waiwera Estuary and Kokoru Bay, the farmed areas west of the main entrance area, and on the Schischka block.</p> <p>c) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from all other areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas, including the main car park, bush headlands tracks, picnic areas, along the Pūhoi river and wetlands.</p> <p>d) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</p>	<p><b>Proposed dog access rule</b></p> <p>(1) Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the <a href="#">grass area</a> on the southeast side of Schischka Road between the entrance gate and authorised vehicles only service road (right side of the road if entering the Park that has a row of large London Plane trees and a fenced grass area).</p> <p>(2) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on part of the Perimeter Track between the area in (a) towards the Waiwera River and <a href="#">Kokoru Bay</a>.</p> <p>(3) Dogs are allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on tracks (including Vin's Track) and open grass areas on the <a href="#">northwest side of Schischka Road</a> between the entrance gate and authorised vehicles only service road (right side of the road if entering the Park), except at the following locations or times where or when dogs are <b>prohibited</b> –</p> <p>(a) during lambing season</p> <p>(b) at the <a href="#">Schischka Campground</a>; and</p> <p>(c) on the grounds and in buildings at <a href="#">Schischka House</a>.</p> <p>(4) Dogs are <b>prohibited</b> from all other areas of the Park and associated beach and foreshore areas, including –</p> <p>(a) all areas north of the authorised vehicles only service road entrance, for example <a href="#">Wenderholm Beach</a>, grass areas, Te Akeake Walk, the Pūhoi River wetlands, Pūhoi River and estuary, roads, parking areas and boat ramps (including dogs in a</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 12D – Key Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ “There are not enough free access for dogs in Auckland already and putting further restrictions is going to have a detrimental impact.”</li><li>● Some were expressing a general dissatisfaction with council or opposition to the current rules, not the proposal.</li><li>● Some expressed concerns that responsible dog owners are being punished for the actions of a few non-responsible owners.</li></ul> <p><b>Local board views (8):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Two local boards (AE, HM) note the split support for this proposal, with HM noting those who oppose generally wanted council to provide more dog-friendly areas.</li><li>● One local board (HW) supports the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks.</li><li>● Four local boards (AE, DT, KT, MO) note the majority opposition to proposed changes and one (KT) provides no view.</li><li>● One local board (MO) emphasises the importance of maintaining off-leash areas, support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement.</li><li>● One local board (OR) recommends rules on regional parks:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ apply a default prohibition rule to reinforce responsible dog owner behaviour</li><li>○ prohibit dogs from all known bird nesting foreshore areas</li><li>○ allow on-leash access only at defined areas that would not cause disturbance to wildlife or other users, after these areas are independently assessed and local board feedback considered.</li></ul></li></ul>		<p>vehicle), Couldrey House and Wenderholm Beach House; and</p> <p>(b) all areas <a href="#">southeast of Schischka Road</a> (for example the Pūhoi Track, Couldrey House Track, Maungatauhoro Te Hiko Track, and Maungatauhoro Headland), except where dogs are allowed in (1) and (2).</p>
<p>Reason: to clarify where in the park the off-leash, on-leash and prohibition rules apply to provide clearer behavioural expectations for dog owners and better manage the conflict between dogs and protected wildlife, their natural habitats and livestock.</p> <p><b>About ‘the proposal is too restrictive’ feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Wenderholm Regional Park is a popular coastal park that receives 200,000 to 300,000 visitors per year. It provides approximately 900 metres of family-friendly beach adjacent to a large grassy picnic area. The Park is shared for a range of activities including dog walking, barbecue, camping, beach and boating activities, and also used for farming.</li><li>● The Park is also a habitat for protected shorebirds including dotterels and oystercatchers. The Dog Control Act 1996 and other council policies place significant value on protecting wildlife. The risk to responsible dog owners and their dogs is significant if a dog causes the death of protected wildlife - up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$20,000 and destruction of the dog.</li><li>● Other off-leash options in the area include six off-leash areas in Waiwera (from 500m travel) and three off-leash areas in Pūhoi (from 5km travel).</li><li>● The Policy wording must be detailed enough for signage and website information to be accurate in a way that more easily convey the rules (in a map for example).</li></ul>		



Public feedback on Proposal 12D – Key changes sought (Proposal 12D) <sup>13</sup>	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify dog access rules at Wenderholm Regional Park</b></p> <p><b>Adopt proposal (323 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clarify the <b>off-leash</b> grass area is on the right side of the entrance road before the authorised vehicles only service road (area with a row of large London Plane trees and a fenced grass area)</li> <li>clarify the <b>on-leash</b> walking track is the Perimeter Track between the off-leash area and Kokoru Bay</li> <li>clarify the <b>on-leash</b> farmed areas includes Vin's Track and open grass areas on the right side of the entrance road before the authorised vehicles only service road, except when <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season and where <b>prohibited</b> at all times from the Schischka Campground and grounds and in buildings at Schischka House</li> <li>clarify all other <b>prohibited</b> areas include all areas north of the authorised vehicles only service road entrance, and all other areas on the right side of the entrance road.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retain current rule (23 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> on the grassed areas adjoining the entrance road when not occupied by stock</li> <li>dogs allowed <b>under control on a leash</b> on the walking track to the Waiwera Estuary and Kokoru Bay, the farmed areas west of the main entrance area, and on the Schischka block</li> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> from all other areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas, including the main car park, bush headlands tracks, picnic areas, along the Pūhoi river and wetlands</li> <li>dogs <b>prohibited</b> during lambing season.</li> </ul> <p><b>More dog access (84 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 7 responses wanted more access on tracks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Less dog access (24 responses)</b></p> <p><b>Simplify / clarify rules (15 responses)</b></p> <p><b>More enforcement and monitoring (17 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of which, 9 responses wanted more and clearer signage.</li> </ul>	<p><b>About Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions for clarifications is whether the rule is easy to understand.</li> <li>In the context of Wenderholm Regional Park, this includes for example, considering whether clarifying the extent for the off-leash, on-leash and prohibited areas by specifying rule boundaries using roads and onsite landmarks makes the rules easier to understand.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more / less dog access' and 'enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for more or less dog access for a proposal to clarify (not change) the current rules, and about enforcement and monitoring are out of scope. See <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal to clarify dog access rules at Wenderholm Regional Park</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified</b>.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>13</sup> Note: a number of people in opposition believed a new rule is being proposed, whereas the proposal is clarifying wording of the current rule without changing dog access. Some people in opposition were not clear on what changes they sought.



Public feedback on Proposal 13A –Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<p><b>Restructure Policy to more clearly show goal, focus areas, council actions and rules</b></p> <p>1793 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1267 support (71 per cent)</b>, 297 oppose (17 per cent), 229 don't know (13 per cent), 454 comments. This includes 10 organisations (7 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, 1 in opposition and 2 don't know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support (254):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support indicated the <b>rules should be clarified</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Making them easier to read and understand is always good."</li> <li>"Great idea to clarify expectations around rules but I would like to see more enforcement of the rules."</li> <li>"While I support the effort to simplify and clarify dog access rules, it is crucial that changes do not result in further confusion or unnecessary restrictions."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed (152):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some of those that opposed expressed concern the proposal does not support <b>positive dog ownership</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"The structure and wording of the proposed amendments uses language that appears to reduce the support and promotion of dog walking as part of the enjoyment of living in Auckland."</li> <li>"It claims to provide clearer objectives, focus areas, actions and rules, but in practice, it does the opposite. The revisions introduce unnecessary complexity and impose unsubstantiated restrictions, overshadowing the stated goal of keeping dogs as a positive part of Auckland life."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those that opposed suggested there needed to be <b>more enforcement</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (21):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thirteen local boards support the public feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTK, WTM, WH).</li> <li>Eight local boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Current Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines Auckland Council's policy objectives (Registration and Classification, Responsible Dog Ownership, Dog Access Principles, Monitoring measures of success), goals, focus areas council actions and rules.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Proposed Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains the policy objectives, goals, focus areas council actions and rules and reformats these in a way that the Policy is easier to understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>coherently aligns objectives, statements and methods.</li> <li>refines the overall objective and focus areas to create a clearer separation between the objective and policy statement.</li> <li>clarifies the link between the methods (What council will do) and dog access rules (Schedules), for example the region-wide and place-specific split between Schedule 1 and 2.</li> </ul> </li> <li>includes a statement about compliance with dog access rules.</li> </ul>
	<p>Reason: To improve certainty of council's approach to dog management and bylaw rules; make the Policy and Bylaw easier to read, understand and enforce.</p> <p><b>About 'not supporting positive dog ownership' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal retains the current approach in a way that seeks to be clearer and more concise. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>responsible dog ownership behaviours move from Page 6 to Page 1</li> <li>council actions to support responsible dog ownership move from page 6 to Page 2</li> <li>all council goals, focus areas, council actions and rules are numbered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more enforcement' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These matters are best addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 13A – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Restructure Policy to more clearly show goal, focus areas, council actions and rules</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain current Policy) (3 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy goal, focus areas, council actions and rules content and format.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed change) (1267 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt proposed changes clarifying Policy's goal, focus areas, council actions, and rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (provide more dog access) (21 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>create more off leash and dog exercise areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (other suggestions) (22 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>implement stricter rules (12 responses)</li> <li>increase penalties and fines (8 responses)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relates to current Policy objective, goals, focus areas, council actions and rules and proposed amended Policy 1 to 3.7 inclusive</b></p> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about Policy form is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently helps achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether the Policy is easy to read and understand in a way that focuses on support to responsible dog owners first.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>The Panel if it wishes, could for example recommended changes to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>better emphasise support for dog welfare and to remove duplication in Focus area 2.1  “Promoting responsible dog ownership and dog welfare  This includes the welfare of dogs and their control around people, animals, environment and property.”</li> <li>reduce emphasis on problems by merging sections 2.3.1 to 2.3.3 in Our actions in section 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.3.1 Registration, microchipping and classification  <del>Ensuring all dogs comply with registration, microchipping and classification requirements.</del></li> <li>2.3.2 Education and information  <del>Promoting information and education services to encourage responsible dog ownership and public awareness of safety around dogs.</del></li> <li>2.3.3 Problem reduction and response  <del>Reduce the risk and appropriately respond to problems caused by dogs.</del></li> <li>3.1(c) information and education <del>advice and events</del> to help and encourage dog owners to meet their responsibilities to their dog, neighbours and when in public places</li> <li>3.1(d) information and education <del>advice</del> about the welfare of dogs, including their obligations in the Dog Control Act 1996, Code of Welfare for Dogs, Animal Welfare Act 1999.</li> <li>3.3 <del>To ensure all dog owners comply with dog registration, microchipping and classification requirements, including This includes</del> to - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintain a record of all dogs registered in Auckland</li> <li>(b) inform and educate dog owners through the registration process</li> <li>(c) set fees to cover costs of essential services to support dog management activities to achieve this policy</li> <li>(d) enforce registration (including through the use of seizure powers) and microchipping of dogs</li> <li>(e) follow up on non-registered dogs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about restructuring the policy to more clearly show its goal, focus areas, council actions, and rules</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be adopted as publicly notified.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be amended to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13A – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation																				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>create rules for dog adoptions (1 response)</li><li>regulate cats (1 response).</li></ul> <p>Key change sought (operational measures) (126 responses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>change registration pricing (1 response)</li><li>more enforcement (47 responses).</li><li>more / clearer signage, and better alignment of signage and website (41 responses).</li><li>create user-friendly mobile app (showing dog access areas) (3 responses).</li><li>more education and communication (34 responses).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>reorder Section 3 to more positively align with Section 2 of Policy and place interpretation last<table><tr><th>Proposed Policy section order</th><th>Possible change section order (relocated sections in bold)</th></tr><tr><td>3.1 Provide services and incentives that promote responsible dog ownership</td><td>3.1 Provide services and incentives that promote responsible dog ownership</td></tr><tr><td>3.2 Provide community education services</td><td><b>3.6 Provide dog access rules in public places and private ways</b></td></tr><tr><td>3.3 Provide registration administration services</td><td>3.2 Provide community education services</td></tr><tr><td>3.4 Provide classification administration services</td><td>3.3 Provide registration administration services</td></tr><tr><td>3.5 Provide services that reduce and respond to problems caused by dogs</td><td>3.4 Provide classification administration services</td></tr><tr><td>3.6 Provide dog access rules in public places and private ways</td><td>3.5 Provide services that reduce and respond to problems caused by dogs</td></tr><tr><td>3.7 Make a bylaw to further the control of dogs</td><td>3.7 Make a bylaw to further the control of dogs</td></tr><tr><td>3.8 Use the following interpretation provisions</td><td>3.9 Monitor measures of success</td></tr><tr><td>3.9 Monitor measures of success</td><td><b>3.8 Use the following interpretation provisions</b></td></tr></table></li><li>align the number format of Schedules 1 and 2 with Policy 1 to 3 as shown in this example (changes underlined):<div>Schedule 1 Auckland-wide dog access rules</div><div>1.1 Default rules ...</div><p>The change means dog access rules can be typed as “Schedule 1.1” instead of “Schedule 1 1” which can look like an error or “Schedule 1 Rule 1” which is long.</p><p>About ‘provide more dog access’, ‘other suggestions’ and ‘operational measures’ requests:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The process to provide more dog access or to implement stricter rules related to dog access is addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li><li>Fines and penalties are set in the Dog Control Act 1996 and cannot be increased by council.</li><li>Rules for dog adoptions was not identified as an issue requiring further regulation in this proposal and is out of scope of Panel deliberations. Any issues that arise can be addressed under the Dog Control Act 1996 and Animal Welfare Act 1999 and operational practices.</li><li>The regulation of cats is out of scope of this proposal.</li><li>Operational measures are best addressed by Animal Management and Parks and Community Facilities teams. See <b>Other Matters</b> for further discussion.</li></ul></li></ul>	Proposed Policy section order	Possible change section order (relocated sections in bold)	3.1 Provide services and incentives that promote responsible dog ownership	3.1 Provide services and incentives that promote responsible dog ownership	3.2 Provide community education services	<b>3.6 Provide dog access rules in public places and private ways</b>	3.3 Provide registration administration services	3.2 Provide community education services	3.4 Provide classification administration services	3.3 Provide registration administration services	3.5 Provide services that reduce and respond to problems caused by dogs	3.4 Provide classification administration services	3.6 Provide dog access rules in public places and private ways	3.5 Provide services that reduce and respond to problems caused by dogs	3.7 Make a bylaw to further the control of dogs	3.7 Make a bylaw to further the control of dogs	3.8 Use the following interpretation provisions	3.9 Monitor measures of success	3.9 Monitor measures of success	<b>3.8 Use the following interpretation provisions</b>	
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Public feedback on Proposal 13B – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<p><b>Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered</b></p> <p>1798 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1468 support (82 per cent)</b>, 227 oppose (13 per cent), 110 don't know (6 per cent), 474 comments. This includes 10 organisations (7 in support, 1 in opposition and 2 don't know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (313):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support were explicit that <b>aggressive and dangerous dogs</b> should be neutered and some suggesting that all dogs be neutered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"All aggressive breeds should be desexed."</li> <li>"Menacing breeds are bred, bought and sold because they are menacing. There is no need to have an aggressive, unneutered dog in public."</li> <li>All dogs should be neutered unless a registered breeder.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those in support acknowledged the difficulties in enforcing the rule and requested more <b>enforcement</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stronger penalties for owners with menacing dogs that are not neutered.</li> <li>"The council needs to ensure there is adequate resourcing so that such dogs can be identified and be neutered."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (133):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed mentioned menacing dogs should be <b>considered on an individual basis</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many dogs classified as menacing may have a particular breed mix in them. Any dog can attack.</li> <li>"No dogs should be classed as menacing. It is not the dog that is menacing it is the way the dog is raised/trained by the owners."</li> <li>"Should NOT be neutered as they do not determine their offsprings behaviour, the environment in which they are raised should be individually assessed."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those opposed mentioned menacing needed to be better <b>defined</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The term 'menacing' is too broad. There should be a clear explanation.</li> <li>"The definition of a 'menacing dog' is vague and highly subjective under the Dog Control Act 1996."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Current Policy rule</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires dogs classified as menacing to be neutered within one month of receiving the classification.</li> <li>Requires dog classified as dangerous or menacing to maintain this classification no matter where the dog lives in New Zealand. The classification applies to dogs classified by any other council and registered with Auckland Council.</li> </ul> <p>Reason: Improve certainty of council's approach to dog management.</p> <p><b>About 'aggressive and dangerous dogs' and 'all dogs be neutered' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog Control Act 1996 requires all dogs classified as dangerous due to their behaviour to be neutered (s32).</li> <li>For dogs classified as menacing, the Act require council to state in its Policy whether a dog classified by Auckland Council or by another council that moves to Auckland, must be neutered (s10(3)(ea) and (eb)).</li> <li>The Policy on Dogs currently requires all dogs classified as menacing to be neutered. This is a preventive, safety-focused, and responsible measure that helps reduce aggression, control dog populations and protect the public. It aligns with the goals of the Dog Control Act 1996 to protect public safety and promotes responsible dog ownership.</li> <li>The Act also specifically allows council to require dogs uncontrolled on more than one occasion to be neutered. This power is provided for in the current and amended Policy and Bylaw.</li> <li>The Act otherwise does not require or specifically empower council to require the neutering of dogs. The Policy does however, promote the neutering of dogs as a responsible dog owner behaviour.</li> </ul> <p><b>About menacing dogs being 'considered on individual basis and 'defined' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog Control Act 1996 lists four breeds or types of dogs as menacing (Brazilian Fila, Dogo Argentino, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario) and one type of dog, American Pit Bull Terrier (Schedule 4).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Proposed Policy rule</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains the current rules and clarifies that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 13B – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some thought focus should be on <b>more enforcement</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thirteen local boards (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTK, WTM, WH) support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal.</li> <li>Eight local boards (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH) provided no views on the public feedback.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council is required to classify any dog that is wholly or predominately part one of those dogs as menacing (s33C).</li> <li>Animal Management use the United Kingdom Breed Standard for American Pitbull Terriers to help identify those dogs.</li> <li>Dogs may also be classified as menacing based on threatening behaviour or characteristics of dog's breed or type (s33A).</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'enforcement' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These matters are addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 13B – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain Policy) (1 response)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy rule.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed change) (1468 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>change the current rule to require dogs classified as menacing to be neutered.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other key changes sought (other suggestions) (112 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>require all dogs to be neutered (55 responses)</li> <li>better define 'menacing' (17 responses)</li> <li>stricter rules, including wearing muzzles in public (24 responses)</li> <li>ban or destroy dangerous / menacing breeds (9 responses)</li> <li>exempt professional breeders (7 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key change sought (enhance operational measures) (55 responses)</b></p>	<p><b>Relates to current Policy Registration and Classification and proposed Policy 3.4 (d)(ii)</b></p> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently help achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether the Policy in 3.4(d)(ii) that requires the neutering of menacing dogs is easy to read and understand.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About 'other suggestions' and 'enhance operation measures' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog Control Act 1996 does not enable council to require all dogs to be neutered (See previous row for further discussion)</li> <li>The Act (Schedule 4) lists the four breeds and one type of dog that must be banned from import into New Zealand be classified and enables council to require any of those dogs already in NZ to be neutered.</li> <li>The Act requires dogs classified as menacing to be muzzled in public (s33E). This minimises the risk of potential harm from the dog biting or injuring a person, wildlife or other animals.</li> <li>The Dog Control Act 1996 specifies the circumstances where a dog can be 'destroyed'. This includes instances where a dog attacks, rushes or causes serious injury, dogs are at large</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about clarifying the rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13B – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more enforcement (18 responses)</li> <li>more communication / education and information (13 responses)</li> <li>compulsory training / assessments / licences for owners of menacing dogs (14 responses).</li> </ul>	<p>in the vicinity of wildlife or among stock or poultry and failure to comply with the requirements of a dangerous dog classification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Menacing dogs are classified as such because they pose a risk to people or other animals. Allowing exemptions increases the likelihood of potential attacks, injuries, or fatalities.</li> <li>Enhance operational measures are addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 13C – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	
<p><b>Clarify who can provide behavioural assessments in relation to menacing dog classifications</b></p> <p>1797 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1491 support (83 per cent)</b>, 109 oppose (6 per cent), 197 don't know (11 per cent), 286 comments. This includes 10 organisations (7 in support, 0 in opposition and 3 don't know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (221):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support want the council to consider <b>qualified professionals</b> and <b>multiple assessors</b> should be involved in the assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The assessments should only be conducted by qualified animal behaviour specialists.</li> <li>Assessing a dog isn't a simple process and the person should be required to be appropriately qualified.</li> <li>Differing views on who should or should not perform the assessment including for example qualified dog behaviourist vet behaviourist and council.</li> <li>Some considered behavioural assessments should be undertaken by more than one person/organisation. The process should involve up to two to three qualified people/organisations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (41):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed expressed a <b>dissatisfaction in council</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"There are far too many biases within council and how menacing dogs are classified."</li> <li>"Doesn't explain clearly enough how council-approved assessors are chosen. It gives the Council too much power to ignore expert recommendations."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thirteen local boards support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTK, WTM, WH).</li> <li>Eight local boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR. OP, PPK, UH).</li> </ul>	Current Policy rule	Proposed Policy rule
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires dog owners whose dogs have been classified as menacing due to behaviour and are requesting the classification be reviewed after 12 months to provide a dog behavioural assessment report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rule and clarifies the requirements of a dog behavioural report and who may perform this.</li> </ul>
	<p>Reason: Improve certainty of council's approach to dog management and bylaw rules.</p> <p><b>About 'the qualified professionals and multiple assessors' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on Dogs allows for behavioural assessments, while the proposed change provides further details that it must be from a council approved provider and contain certain specific matters.</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 13C – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify who can provide behavioural assessments in relation to menacing dog classifications</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain Policy) (1 response)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed changes) (1491 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt proposed changes clarifying the requirements of a behavioural assessment report for menacing dogs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (qualified assessors and multiple assessors) (120 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allow only suitably qualified and trained assessors to undertake dog behavioural assessments, for example dog behavioural specialists</li> <li>require dog behavioural assessments be completed by more than one suitable individual / organisation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (other suggestions) (20 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improve and clarify the classification process including the suitability of menacing dog owners.</li> <li>regulate cats (1 response).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key change sought (enhance operational measures) (10 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more training, education and communication (10 responses)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relates to current Bylaw cl17(1)(a) and amended Policy 3.4 Provide Classification administration services (d)(e)</b></p> <p><b>About ‘qualified and multiple assessors, other suggestions and enhance operational measures’ requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The suitability of a person to own a dangerous or menacing dog is addressed in the Dog Control Act 1996. For example, council permission is required to change the owner of a dangerous dog, and owners can be classified as disqualified or probationary. The Policy encourages all owners to take steps towards responsible dog ownership.</li> <li>Other comments are best addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently helps achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether the Policy 3.4(d) that clarifies the requirements of a dog behavioural assessment is easy to read and understand.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about clarifying the requirements of a behavioural assessment report for a dog classified as menacing</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13D – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Clarify what areas of Auckland require a license to keep multiple dogs on a property</b></p> <p>1797 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1322 support (74 per cent)</b>, 312 oppose (17 per cent), 157 don't know (9 per cent), 377 comments. This includes 10 organisations (4 in support, 2 in opposition and 4 don't know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (211):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support were explicit that owners of multiple dogs are required to obtain a licence and that the rules (about keeping multiple dogs) should be <b>consistent for all areas of Auckland</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"All areas should require a license for multiple dogs to stop people continuously breeding the dogs."</li> <li>"All areas of Auckland should have the same restrictions for this rule to be equitable."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some in support mentioned that rural properties should have an exemption and that with the increase in housing development in most areas the owning of multiple dogs' rule should be reconsidered.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (135):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed expressed that the rule about keeping multiple dogs should be <b>consistent for all areas of Auckland</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"The licenses should be equal throughout the region and more emphasis given to enforcement of existing license breaches."</li> <li>"This is an elitist approach. Rules should apply to all or none of Auckland."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those opposed mentioned it was <b>restrictive and penalises responsible dog owners</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Responsible dog owners should be able to have a number of dogs no matter where they live. It would also limit who can be fosters or organisations like SPCA and Chained Dog."</li> <li>"The proposal overlooks vital considerations such as fostering rescued dogs, larger families with multiple pets and owners' mental wellbeing."</li> <li>"Responsible dog owners should be able to have a number of dogs no matter where they live."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eleven local boards support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTM).</li> <li>Ten boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH, WTK, WH).</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current Bylaw rule</th><th>Proposed Bylaw rule</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires owners of more than two dogs on a property to hold a licence. The rule does not apply to working dogs and properties outside the Auckland Unitary Plan urban residential zone.</li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rule and clarifies properties considered as "urban residential" in the Auckland Unitary Plan.</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: Improve certainty of council's approach to dog management and bylaw rules.</p> <p><b>About 'consistent for all areas of Auckland' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog Bylaw requires a licence if more than two dogs are on an urban residential property.</li> <li>Auckland Unitary Plan categories 10 zones for urban residential development (Residential – Terrace Housing and Apartment Building, Mixed Housing Urban, Mixed Housing Suburban, Single House and Large Lot zones and Business – Mixed Use, Metropolitan Centre, City Centre, Town Centre and Local Centre zones)</li> <li>This excludes Rural Zones and the Hauraki Gulf Islands.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'the restrictive and penalises responsible dog owners' feedback:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rule does not prohibit people having more than two dogs (including fosterers). It does however require a licence to do so for dogs that are kept on a property for more than 30 days. This allows council to assess the property for suitability (e.g. space, adequate fencing).</li> </ul>	Current Bylaw rule	Proposed Bylaw rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires owners of more than two dogs on a property to hold a licence. The rule does not apply to working dogs and properties outside the Auckland Unitary Plan urban residential zone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rule and clarifies properties considered as "urban residential" in the Auckland Unitary Plan.</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires owners of more than two dogs on a property to hold a licence. The rule does not apply to working dogs and properties outside the Auckland Unitary Plan urban residential zone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rule and clarifies properties considered as "urban residential" in the Auckland Unitary Plan.</li> </ul>				



Public feedback on Proposal 13D – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify what areas of Auckland require a license to keep multiple dogs on a property</b>  <b>Key changes sought (retain Policy) (4 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed change) (1322 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt proposed changes clarifying areas in Auckland requiring a multiple dog licence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (consistent rule) (83 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply the same rule across Auckland (78 responses).</li> <li>apply rural limits for number of dogs on a property (5 responses)</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (change limit) (31 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no limit to the number of dogs that may be kept on a property (4 responses)</li> <li>one or two dogs on a property (20 responses)</li> <li>more than three dogs on a property (7 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (exemptions) (14 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>exemptions for owners / businesses who care for rescue and foster dogs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key change sought (enhance operational measures) (34 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more education and clarification on rule (12 responses)</li> <li>more enforcement (16 responses)</li> <li>regulate cats (6 responses).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relates to current Bylaw cl12(1) and amended Bylaw cl12(1)</b></p> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently help achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example: considering whether the Bylaw (cl12(1)) that clarifies the areas of Auckland that require a license to keep multiple dogs on a property is easy to read and understand, noting that the clarification is provided in a 'Related information' note which can be changed at any time by staff without formality.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>About 'consistent rule' and 'changing limit' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Auckland-wide rule or changes to the number of dogs on a property is out of scope of the proposal which sought to clarify the term 'urban residential property'.</li> <li>• Note: The Policy differentiation between 'urban' and 'rural' / 'island' properties reflects that issues with multiple dogs are more likely to arise in built-up urban environments.</li> <li>• Note: Increasing the number of dogs may increase complaints that may otherwise be prevented (for example from excessive barking, odour, waste disposal, spread of contagious diseases such as ringworm and sarcoptic mange, and pack behaviours).</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'exemptions for owners who care for rescue and foster dogs' requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is difficult to argue that allowing exemptions is in-scope of the proposal which sought to clarify what was considered to be an urban residential property.</li> <li>• Further, the Bylaw provides flexibility to Animal Management to best determine how the licence process operates. This includes foster situations whose practices may vary between organisations, and while fostering has benefits to dog welfare, it can also have the same impacts as any other multi-dog property.</li> <li>• <b>If the Panel wishes, it could refer the matters raised in feedback to Animal Management to address as an operational matter recognising that fostering practices vary.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>About 'enhance operation measures' requests:</b> These matters are best addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</p>	<p>That the proposal about clarifying what areas of Auckland require a license to keep multiple dogs on a property  <b>Either [Panel to decide]</b>  <b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b>  <b>OR</b>  <b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b>  <b>OR</b>  <b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b>  <b>AND</b></p>
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Public feedback on Proposal 13E – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Clarify approach to setting dog access rules</b></p> <p>1784 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1347 support (76 per cent)</b>, 232 oppose (13 per cent), 205 don't know (11 per cent), 304 comments. This includes 10 organisations (9 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, and 1 don't know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support (178):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Majority of those in support were explicit that the <b>rules required clarification</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The clearer rules are, the easier it is to both follow them and enforce</li> <li>○ "The rules should be clarified - without a clear reason and goal, no one can challenge them."</li> <li>○ One organisation (The Beautification Trust) mentioned that clarifying will ensure transparency, consistency, and stronger enforcement.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current Policy rule</th><th>Proposed Policy rule</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides dog access rules that are comprehensive, consistent and easy to understand and comply with.</li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retains and reformats the current Policy rules to make the Policy easier to understand by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ clarifying the 'shared use of public places' principle and defining 'public places' by including the following text (for example public roads, parks and beaches)</li> <li>○ including 'private ways' in the Policy statement</li> <li>○ explicitly recognising wildlife in the access principles.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: Make the Policy and Bylaw easier to read, understand and enforce; update information.</p>	Current Policy rule	Proposed Policy rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides dog access rules that are comprehensive, consistent and easy to understand and comply with.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retains and reformats the current Policy rules to make the Policy easier to understand by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ clarifying the 'shared use of public places' principle and defining 'public places' by including the following text (for example public roads, parks and beaches)</li> <li>○ including 'private ways' in the Policy statement</li> <li>○ explicitly recognising wildlife in the access principles.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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Public feedback on Proposal 13E – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some of those in support suggested specific <b>types of dog access rules to be set</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Consistent application of rules across the region to reduce confusion and perceived rule breaking.”</li> <li>“Dogs should have access to beaches all year round if they under control, on a lead and remain with their owners.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those in support mentioned there needed to be <b>more enforcement</b> of dog access rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Too many off leash dogs in on leash areas (parks, playground, footpaths) putting children at risk</li> <li>Access to parks and reserves is too liberal and badly enforced by Animal Control</li> <li>Enforcement is needed to change the culture here. Overseas, people may take their dogs to places and everyone complies with leash requirements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed (93):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of those opposed were <b>not satisfied with council</b> having to clarify the approach to setting dog access rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Council is ignoring the underlying issues that responsible dog owners are being penalised for people who get dogs and let them roam,”</li> <li>“No-one is interested in how they are set. They need to be enforced.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>One organisation (SafeKids Aotearoa), supported by Sir Edmond Hillary College noted the <b>fear school children</b> often face when walking to school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“For too many of us, there’s a real fear on that walk. Dogs that aren’t tied up. Dogs roaming the street. Dogs that run straight at you, barking, teeth out—and all you can do is hope they don’t bite.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views (21):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thirteen local boards support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WT, WTM, WH).</li> <li>Eight local boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH).</li> </ul>	<p><b>About ‘the rules requiring clarification’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on Dogs provides a consistent approach to setting dog access rules in public places and private ways and ensures dog access rules balance the needs of people, dogs, environment and property.</li> <li>Council has a duty to the public to ensure that the rules are clear and easy to understand. This will support and encourage better compliance.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘the types of dog access rules set’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Policy sets out the types of dog access rules that can be set: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>under control off a leash</b> area (off-leash in shared space)</li> <li><b>under control on a leash</b> area (on-leash in shared space)</li> <li><b>prohibited</b> area (no dogs allowed)</li> <li><b>designated dog exercise</b> area (dog owners priority user)</li> <li><b>time and season</b> area (shared space with variable rules around peak use times set on a park by park basis).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Dog access rules are set by the Governing Body on places of regional significance and local boards on local park and beach areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘the not satisfied with council’ and ‘more enforcement’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Policy sets out dog access rules that help responsible dog owners avoid significant risks. The Policy relies on compliance initiatives, including patrols, education and fines, to manage irresponsible dog owners, such as those who ignore the current rules, do not control their dog or who allow their dog to roam unaccompanied.</li> <li>This approach recognises that the personal circumstances of individual responsible dog owners and their dogs vary greatly, and that these responsible dog owners cannot always be expected to know the risks to be avoided or the best way to avoid them.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘the fear when walking to school’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Policy on Dogs sets out dog access rules that help responsible dog owners avoid significant risks. The Policy relies on compliance initiatives, including patrols, education and fines, to manage irresponsible dog owners, such as those who ignore the current rules, do not control their dog or who allow their dog to roam unaccompanied.</li> <li>Enforcement matters are addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 13E – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify approach to setting dog access rules</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain current rule) (3 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed changes) (1347 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt proposed changes clarifying the approach to setting dog access rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (dog free buffer zone) (1 response)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>establish dog free buffer zones (15 metres) around playgrounds, schools, daycares, sports fields and Tamariki-priority areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (amend dog access rules)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more dog free areas (7 responses).</li> <li>more dog access areas (28 responses).</li> <li>consistent dog access across Auckland (2 responses).</li> <li>balanced use of public space (2 responses).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relates to current Policy on Dog Access Principles and proposed Policy 3.6 Provide dog access rules in public places and private ways, shared use of public spaces 3.6.1(b) and wildlife 3.6.1(e)</b></p> <p><b>About the dog free buffer zone request:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Policy already contains an on-leash buffer zone in the vicinity of playgrounds and sports fields that focuses on the desired responsible dog owner behaviour rather than an arbitrary distance, noting that the personal circumstances of individual responsible dog owners and their dogs vary greatly</li> </ul> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently helps achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether the Policy in 3.6 and 3.6.1(b)(e) that includes private ways, clarifies shared use of public spaces and recognises wildlife is easy to read and understand.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>If the Panel wishes, it could consider recommending the following changes to address matters contained in feedback or arising from feedback as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarifying in Schedule 1.5, that dog access rules in Schedules 1 and 2 can be amended without formality to record temporary changes made under delegated authority to avoid confusion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Temporary changes to dog access rules <p>From time to time, the council may make temporary changes to dog access rules in this Schedule and Schedule 2 in relation to –</p> <p><u>The effect of any temporary change may be shown in Schedule 1 and 2 at any time without formality.</u></p> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <p>2 Dogs are allowed <b>under control off a leash</b> in the following areas –</p> <p>(230) <del>Whisper Cove</del> [Temporary change to <b>under control on a leash</b> between 27 August 2021 and 28 March 2022 to protect at risk or threatened birdlife during breeding season (Ref: 2021/08/01)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarifying that the time and season definition in proposed amended Policy 3.6.2(d) relates to “popular <u>beach and adjoining park</u> locations”.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about clarifying the approach to setting dog access rules</p> <p>Either [Panel to decide]</p> <p>be adopted as publicly notified.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be amended to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>OR</p> <p>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13E – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Key change sought (enhance operational measures)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more and culturally relevant education (6 responses).</li> <li>• more enforcement of rules in school areas and dog free footpaths (13 responses).</li> <li>• more Māori and Pacific-led solutions to prevent dog related injuries (1 response).</li> <li>• more and clearer signage (13 responses).</li> <li>• improve dog access rules information on the council website (11 responses).</li> <li>• increase number of fenced dog parks (2 response).</li> <li>• regulate cats (2 responses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would clarify for example, the ability for local boards to consider a time and season rule before and after the school bell on parks near schools. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Taking this approach could address child safety and comfort concerns walking to and from school through existing off-leash parks on the one hand, and potentially creating more local off-leash opportunities in parks that are currently on-leash areas due to their proximity to schools.</li> <li>○ Alternatively, if the Panel is concerned this approach may lead to varied times and confusion if adopted by local boards, the Panel could consider including dog access around school time and season definition as follows: <p><u>3.6.2(e) consider the use of the following time and season definition when restricting dog access to ensure the safe interaction between people and dogs, in particular children on parks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>8am to 9am and 3pm to 4pm on every school day</u></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Another alternative could be to align with the speed limit times around schools, however, these times are related to the ‘school bell’ times and require electronic signs when they are in operation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘amend dog access rules’ request</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests for changes to dog access rules require assessment against regulatory criteria.</li> <li>• If the request meets the criteria and the relevant decision-making authority considers a change is appropriate, the change must be publicly notified (including to all known dog owners in Auckland) for feedback prior to a final decision being made.</li> <li>• There are 22 decision-making authorities, the Regulatory and Safety Committee for regional rules and 21 Local Boards for local rules.</li> <li>• Individual requests are considered as a ‘batch.’ The timing for each ‘batch’ is scheduled within council’s wider bylaw review work programme that includes the periodic review of all 17 council <a href="#">bylaws</a>, 14 associated bylaw controls and input into legislative reviews related to bylaws</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘enhance operation measures’ requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These matters are addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	



Public feedback Proposal 13F and 13G – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules such as for council carparks and camping grounds, working dogs, dogs in vehicles and private ways (Proposal 13F) / Clarify precedence between Policy Schedule 1 and 2 dog access rules (Proposal 13G)</b></p> <p><b>Proposal 13F:</b> 1788 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1363 support (76 per cent)</b>, 298 oppose (17 per cent), 127 Don't know (11 per cent), 425 comments. This includes 10 organisations (8 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, 1 in opposition and 1 don't know).</p> <p><b>Proposal 13G:</b> 1769 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1193 support (67 per cent)</b>, 215 oppose (12 per cent), 361 Don't know (20 per cent), 115 comments. This includes 10 organisations (7 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, 1 in opposition and 2 don't know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support</b> (265 / 77 feedback responses respectively):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support agreed the <b>rules require clarification</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Must be simple and understood by all Auckland wide."</li> <li>"Clarify the rules in every area, makes the signs clear, repetitive, include who to contact to."</li> <li>"Clarification is essential. People may not understand that there are errors in the policy", "There shouldn't be errors ... if you want people to know where they can ... take their dogs", "Errors must be corrected, and correct changes put in place in the best interest of dogs and owners."</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those in support mentioned there needed to be <b>more enforcement</b> and <b>better signage</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"There needs to be more monitoring and harsher penalties for people not following the rules."</li> <li>Better / clear signage is required so people understand the rules.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (137 / 55 feedback responses respectively):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some mentioned <b>general dissatisfaction with council</b> and that the intent is to change the rule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Overreach by council. Better signage and a functioning website are required."</li> <li>Clarification means changing the rule, restricting access and causing more confusion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some felt council was <b>changing the original intent of the rule</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Will allow council to correct mistakes by creating further rules and restrictions for dog access."</li> <li>"Who is determining what is unclear or an error ... sounds like ... a rule change by stealth."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thirteen local boards support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTK, WTM, WH)</li> <li>Eight local boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH).</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current Policy</th><th>Proposed Policy</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule 1 provide Auckland-wide dog access rules and</li> <li>Schedule 2 specific dog access rules to local parks and beaches, regional parks, Tūpuna Maunga and Department of Conservation land.</li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rules and clarifies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>default on-leash rules on roads, private ways, car parks and boating areas.</li> <li>access rule exemptions (for example in relation to working dogs and dogs in vehicles).</li> <li>ambiguity in precedence between rules in Schedules 1 and 2 (for example Schedule 1 allows dogs on-leash in a carpark, but Schedule 2 prohibits dogs from an entire area that includes a carpark).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: Improve certainty of council's approach to dog management and to make the Policy and Bylaw easier to read, understand and enforce; update information</p> <p><b>About 'rules require clarification' and 'changing the original intent of the rule' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council has a statutory obligation under the Local Government Act 2002 and Dog Control Act 1996 to ensure that the rules are clear and easy to understand, noting that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>this will support and encourage better compliance</li> <li>signage and website information rely on the Policy being clear to avoid errors on signs and website</li> </ul> </li> <li>The rules are changed using the Local Government Act 2002 special consultative procedure to ensure transparency in decision-making.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'the more enforcement and better signage' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These matters are addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	Current Policy	Proposed Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule 1 provide Auckland-wide dog access rules and</li> <li>Schedule 2 specific dog access rules to local parks and beaches, regional parks, Tūpuna Maunga and Department of Conservation land.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rules and clarifies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>default on-leash rules on roads, private ways, car parks and boating areas.</li> <li>access rule exemptions (for example in relation to working dogs and dogs in vehicles).</li> <li>ambiguity in precedence between rules in Schedules 1 and 2 (for example Schedule 1 allows dogs on-leash in a carpark, but Schedule 2 prohibits dogs from an entire area that includes a carpark).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule 1 provide Auckland-wide dog access rules and</li> <li>Schedule 2 specific dog access rules to local parks and beaches, regional parks, Tūpuna Maunga and Department of Conservation land.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains current rules and clarifies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>default on-leash rules on roads, private ways, car parks and boating areas.</li> <li>access rule exemptions (for example in relation to working dogs and dogs in vehicles).</li> <li>ambiguity in precedence between rules in Schedules 1 and 2 (for example Schedule 1 allows dogs on-leash in a carpark, but Schedule 2 prohibits dogs from an entire area that includes a carpark).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

Public feedback on Proposal 13F and 13G – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules (Proposal 13F) / Clarify precedence between Schedule 1 and 2 (Proposal 13G)</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain Policy) (30 / 15 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed changes) (1363 / 1193 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules.</li> <li>clarify precedence between Policy Schedule 1 and 2 dog access rules</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (define ‘in control’) (2 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>better define in control to include dogs are required to be on a leash when off their own property, except in designated off-leash areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (expand ‘working dog’ definition) (8 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>expand working dog definition and provide clear guidelines on what is a ‘working dog’.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (allow dogs in campgrounds) (12 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>amend rule to allow dogs in campgrounds.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relates to current and proposed Policy Schedule 1 / current Policy Dog Access Principles 3(a) and proposed Policy Schedule 1 3</b></p> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently help achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes considering whether changes to Schedule 1 about Auckland-wide dog access rules are easy to read and understand. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to state the default rules (including on council campgrounds) first (not fourth as currently)</li> <li>to more explicitly state the rule on roads, private ways, and council-controlled car parks and boating activity areas (rather than in an explanatory note)</li> <li>to include exemptions and exceptions for working dogs, dogs in vehicles and dogs in season (rather than separately in the Bylaw).</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>The Panel if it wishes, could consider clarifying Policy Schedule 1 3(2) to allow dogs <b>under control on a leash</b> on roads, council car parks and boating activity areas that would otherwise be prohibited where explicitly stated elsewhere in this Schedule or Schedule 2 as follows:</b> <p>(2) However, <u>unless explicitly stated elsewhere in this Schedule or Schedule 2</u>, this rule does not apply where dogs are prohibited from the wider area in which the road, parking area or boating activity area is located (for example a parking area in a park), in which case dogs are also prohibited from the parking or boating activity area, including when in a vehicle.</p> <p>Without the exception, there will be default instances where dog owners would need to go through a prohibited area to access an on-leash or off-leash area (See staff comments in Proposal 7 Change dog access rules at Shakespear Regional Park for example).</p> </li> <li><b>The Panel if it wishes, could also consider clarifying Policy Schedule 1 3(3) to include a place designed and constructed as a road as follows:</b> <p>(2) For the avoidance of doubt, this rule does not apply to any unformed road, or any walkway, track, <del>or</del> road <u>or place designed and constructed as a road</u> within or surrounded by a park or beach.</p> <p>Without the change, there may be technical confusion about whether the default rule in Schedule 1 3(1) applies to a ‘road’ that is not within the definition given by section 315 of the Local Government</p> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about clarifying Auckland-wide dog access rules such as for council carparks and camping grounds, working dogs, dogs in vehicles and private ways and the precedence between Policy Schedule 1 and 2 dog access rules</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13F and 13G – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Key changes sought (amend dog access rules) (22 / 43 responses):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more (0 / 37), less (0 / 4) or amend (0 / 2) dog access rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (enhance operational measures) (103 / 31 responses):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more / clearer signage, and better alignment of signage and website (39 / 8).</li> <li>better communication (3 / 0), more education (0 / 9) and more enforcement (61 / 14).</li> </ul>	<p>Act 1974. This change makes it clear the rule does not apply to any road within a park and that the rule for the wider park applies.</p> <p><b>About ‘defining control’ requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current Policy (Interpretation) and Bylaw (cl 5(1)) and proposal (Policy 3.8.1, Bylaw cl 5(2)) defines control as “able to maintain an immediate and desired response from the dog”.</li> <li>The proposal (Policy 3.6.2(a) and Sch 1.1) more explicitly states the current default rule (Dog Access Principles 3 and Sch 1.3) that dogs must be under control on a leash in all council-controlled public places unless otherwise explicitly stated as being allowed under control off a leash in Schedule 2 in an “off-leash area” or “designated dog exercise area”.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘define working dog’ requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Dog Control Act 1996 (s2) defines ‘working dog’ as including dogs for herding or driving stock and disability assist dogs. It does not include champion or general assist dogs. Organisations authorised to certify dogs as disability assist are listed in Schedule 5.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘allowing dogs in campgrounds’ requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current default rules (Sch 1(3)) and proposal (Sch 1.1(b)) prohibits dogs in council and private campgrounds. However, where not explicitly prohibited in Schedule 2, dogs may be allowed where permission is obtained, or signage indicates dogs are allowed.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘amend dog access rules’ and ‘enhance operational measures’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These matters are addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 13H – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Clarifying and correcting errors in Policy Schedule 2 for Franklin and Hibiscus and Bays</b></p> <p>1774 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1422 support (80 per cent)</b>, 152 oppose (9 per cent), 200 Don't know (11 per cent), 114 comments. This includes 10 organisations (10 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support (68):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support agreed the <b>rules require clarification</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“If the information is incorrect / outdated, then it needs to be corrected.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<table> <tr> <th>Current Policy</th><th>Proposed Policy</th></tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides specific dog access rules to local parks and beaches, regional parks, Tūpuna Maunga and</li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains the current rules and clarifies and corrects errors in Franklin and</li> </ul> </td></tr> </table>	Current Policy	Proposed Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides specific dog access rules to local parks and beaches, regional parks, Tūpuna Maunga and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains the current rules and clarifies and corrects errors in Franklin and</li> </ul>
Current Policy	Proposed Policy				
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Public feedback on Proposal 13H – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “All rules should be up to date.”</li> <li>○ “Removing outdated information should be standard. It is no wonder people are confused if the information is not accurate.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed</b> (34):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Majority of those who opposed were generally <b>not satisfied with councils’ approach</b> to clarifying errors and removing outdated information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “You are not removing outdated information or clarifying rules. You are restricting more access and causing more confusion.”</li> <li>○ “Don’t agree with removing outdated information under this flawed framework. Instead of pushing forward on small changes, the Council should correct the bigger issues and respect the needs of responsible dog owners.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eleven local boards (AE, FR, HM, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTM) support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal.</li> <li>• Ten local boards (GBI, DT, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH, WTK, WH) provided no views on the public feedback.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Department of Conservation areas.</td><td>Hibiscus and Bays local board areas.</td></tr> </table> <p>Reason: Make Policy easier to read, understand and enforce; update information.</p> <p><b>About ‘not satisfied with councils’ approach’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council has a statutory obligation under the Local Government Act 2002 and Dog Control Act 1996 to ensure that the rules in the Policy on Dogs are up to date and easy to read and understand.</li> </ul>	Department of Conservation areas.	Hibiscus and Bays local board areas.
Department of Conservation areas.	Hibiscus and Bays local board areas.		

Public feedback on Proposal 13H – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Clarifying and correcting errors in Policy Schedule 2 for Franklin and Hibiscus and Bays</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain Policy (8 responses))</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed changes) (1422 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adopt proposed changes that clarifies and corrects errors in Policy Schedule 2 for Franklin and Hibiscus and Bays.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Current and proposed Policy Schedule 2 for Franklin and Hibiscus and Bays</b></p> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently helps achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>• In the context of this proposal, this includes considering whether removing outdated information in Schedule 2 makes the rules easy to read and understand for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ removing eight off-leash areas in Franklin Local Board area listed in error</li> <li>○ correcting dog access rule errors on the Te Ara Tahuna Estuary cycleway and walkway.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about clarifying and correcting errors in Policy Schedule 2 for Franklin and Hibiscus and Bays</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13H – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<b>Key changes sought (enhance operational measures) (35 responses):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more and clearer signage (3 responses).</li> <li>more enforcement (5 responses).</li> <li>more rubbish bins in parks (1 response).</li> <li>better communication on website (26 responses).</li> </ul>	<b>About 'enhance operational measures' feedback</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These matters are best addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert]. AND Reasons include to [Panel to insert].

Public feedback on Proposal 13I – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<b>Update dog access rules for Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountain)</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> 1778 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>866 support (49 per cent)</b>, 470 oppose (26 per cent), 442 don't know (24 per cent), 324 comments. This includes 10 organisations (7 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, 2 in opposition and 1 don't know). </div> <b>Key themes in support (121):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of those support highlighted the importance and sacredness of Maunga and dog walkers having the ability to access these areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Protection of Tūpuna Maunga is very important."</li> <li>"Respect for all sacred properties - ancestral mountains, cemeteries, etc."</li> </ul> </li> <li>A few of those in support were concerned with dogs defecating on Maunga: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Defecation on ancestral mountains needs to be seriously looked at and if the dog walkers cannot pick up after their animals than dogs should be banned from being walked there."</li> <li>"Maunga are sacred and special and dogs running around doing what they want and pooing everywhere seems disrespectful and inappropriate."</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <b>Key themes opposed (138):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those opposed to the proposal mentioned <b>access to the Maunga</b> should be ongoing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Areas are extremely valuable to dog owners and are paid for by the public i.e. Auckland's ratepayers."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current Policy</th><th>Proposed Policy</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule 2 includes a rule that dogs are allowed under control off a leash on five Maunga: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maungawhau/Mt Eden</li> <li>Ōwairaka/Te Ahi ka-ā-Rakataura/Mt Albert</li> <li>Tahaki Reserve: North-east of the bowl demarcated by the bush and pathway</li> <li>Takarunga/Mt Victoria</li> <li>Te Tātua a Riukiuta/Big King the fenced paddock between Clive Rd entrance and Summit Road.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates the dog access rules on Tūpuna Maunga, including to list the rules on all 16 Maunga and to defer future decisions on dog access to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority.</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: Make Policy easier to read, understand and enforce; update information.</p> <b>About 'the access to Maunga' feedback</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auckland's 14 Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountains) are managed by the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority.</li> <li>The Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 legislated the transfer of ownership of the 14 Tūpuna Maunga to Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau (also known as the Tāmaki Collective).</li> <li>From the commencement of the 2014 Act, decisions on dog access on all Maunga not explicitly referenced in Schedule 2 transferred to the Maunga Authority.</li> </ul>	Current Policy	Proposed Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule 2 includes a rule that dogs are allowed under control off a leash on five Maunga: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maungawhau/Mt Eden</li> <li>Ōwairaka/Te Ahi ka-ā-Rakataura/Mt Albert</li> <li>Tahaki Reserve: North-east of the bowl demarcated by the bush and pathway</li> <li>Takarunga/Mt Victoria</li> <li>Te Tātua a Riukiuta/Big King the fenced paddock between Clive Rd entrance and Summit Road.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates the dog access rules on Tūpuna Maunga, including to list the rules on all 16 Maunga and to defer future decisions on dog access to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority.</li> </ul>
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Public feedback on Proposal 13I – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Ancestral mountains belong to all Aucklanders including dogs. Appropriate access should be granted.”</li> <li>“Aucklanders are entitled to access Auckland parks and landmarks.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ten local boards support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTM).</li> <li>Eleven local boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HM, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH, WTK, WH).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal updates the dog access rules by listing the rules on all 14 Maunga in an information note and deferring future decisions on the five remaining Maunga in the current Policy to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority by removing them from Schedule 2.</li> <li>This change aligns with the approach of the Policy Schedule 1 to enable people in charge of public places not under control of council to determine the dog access rules for that location.</li> </ul>

Public feedback on Proposal 13I – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Update dog access rules for Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountain)</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain Policy (1 response))</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed changes) (866 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt proposed changes to update dog access rules for Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountain).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (amend access rules) (67 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>restrict / prohibit dog access (19 responses).</li> <li>more dog access (11 responses)</li> <li>on leash only access (33 responses).</li> <li>designated dog access areas (2 responses).</li> <li>consistent rules across all Maunga (2 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (enhance operation matters)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clearer signage (4 responses).</li> <li>more enforcement and penalties (10 responses).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Current Policy Schedule 2 and proposed Schedule 2 Tūpuna Maunga Authority (ancestral mountains)</b></p> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently help achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering whether deferring matters related to dog access on Tūpuna Maunga to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority helps achieve the outcome, noting that the default rule in Schedule 1 is to enable the person in charge of public places not under council control to determine the dog access rules for that place (for example cafes, shopping malls, school grounds, non-council cemeteries and urupā)</li> <li>considering whether listing the Authority’s rules on all 16 maunga is helpful.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>the Panel could if it wishes could also consider amending Policy Schedule 1 1(c) to include Tūpuna Maunga for certainty as follows:</b> <p>(c) ... other public places not under control of council (such as cafes, shopping malls, school grounds, non-council cemeteries</p> </li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about updating dog access rules for Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountain)</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p>be <b>adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>be <b>rejected and the proposal amended</b> to [Panel to insert].</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

Public feedback on Proposal 13I – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
	<p>and urupā, and Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountains) administered by the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority) ...</p> <p><b>About ‘amend dog access rules’</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes to the dog access rules are out of scope of a proposal about clarifying what the current rules are and who makes them.</li> <li>Further, the proposal is for dog access rules on all Tūpuna Maunga to be determined by the Tūpuna Maunga Authority.</li> </ul> <p><b>About ‘enhance operational measures’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These matters are best addressed in <b>Other Matters</b>.</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 13J – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p><b>Remove outdated or duplicated bylaw content</b></p> <p>1782 feedback responses from survey and emails: <b>1435 support (81 per cent)</b>, 127 oppose (7 per cent), 210 Don’t know (12 per cent), 83 comments. This includes 10 organisations (9 in support, including Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust and 1 don’t know).</p> <p><b>Key themes in support (44):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of those in support of the proposal mentioned the importance of removing outdated or duplicated content and not changing the rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Streamlining policy documentation is valuable, for all the obvious clarity and transparency reasons. Care should be taking that the meaning and details are not change.”</li> <li>“Provided it is genuine duplication and isn’t used to further restrict responsible dog owners.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>Some of those in support thought it was unnecessary to be asking the public’s views on this.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key themes opposed (27):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of those opposed where <b>unclear on the nature of the proposed change</b> and mentioned they needed more information to be able to make an informed response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is too broad. Be more specific. What is the outdated information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Current Bylaw</th><th>Proposed Bylaw</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implements the Policy on Dogs.</li> </ul> </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amends Bylaw to remove content covered in the Policy or outdated.</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: Make Bylaw easier to read, understand and enforce, and to remove unnecessary duplication.</p> <p><b>About ‘unclear on the nature of the proposed change’ feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The specific changes are contained in a “Comparison of existing and proposed amended Bylaw” included in the Statement of Proposal.</li> <li>See staff comments under ‘Key changes sought’ for further details.</li> </ul>	Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implements the Policy on Dogs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amends Bylaw to remove content covered in the Policy or outdated.</li> </ul>
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Public feedback on Proposal 13J – Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“What guiding principles are Council using to determine what is outdated and what requires consolidation.”</li> <li>Have examples of what is being suggested.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local board views</b> (21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ten local boards support the majority of the feedback supporting the proposal (AE, FR, HB, KT, MO, MR, PKTPP, RD, WHK, WTM).</li> <li>Eleven local boards provided no views on the public feedback (GBI, DT, HM, HW, MT, OR, OP, PPK, UH, WTK, WH).</li> </ul>	

Public feedback on Proposal 13J – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Remove outdated or duplicated bylaw content</b></p> <p><b>Key changes sought (retain Policy) (2 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retain current Policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key changes sought (adopt proposed changes) (1435 responses)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopt proposed changes to remove outdated or duplicated bylaw content.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Proposed Bylaw updates include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>remove detail on how the Bylaw would achieve the purpose in clause 4 (Purpose) - covered in Policy</li> <li>remove duplication of definitions in clause 5 (Interpretation) - covered in Policy</li> <li>remove exemptions and exceptions to dog access rules in clauses 6 to 9 inclusive - covered in Policy<sup>1</sup></li> <li>remove clauses 10 (Temporary changes) and 17 (behavioural assessment) - covered in Policy</li> <li>clarify that all working dogs are exempt from clause 11 (Dog faeces), not only stock dogs</li> <li>remove clause 21 (Certain applications ...) which related to legacy bylaws no longer applicable and amend 22 (Existing approvals ...) to replace outdated content</li> <li>remove detailed text under heading ‘Additional Information to Dog Management Bylaw 2019’ that do not form part of the Bylaw and replaced where appropriate with related information notes</li> <li>consequential amendments to clause 1 (Commencement).</li> </ul> <p><b>About the Panel decision-making criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the most relevant criteria in Attachment C for decisions about clarifications is a focus on whether the structure, layout and content effectively and efficiently help achieve the outcome of keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders.</li> <li>In the context of this proposal, this includes for example considering whether removing outdated or duplicated bylaw content makes the rules easy to read and understand.</li> </ul>	<p>That the proposal about removing outdated or duplicated bylaw content</p> <p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p><b>be adopted as publicly notified.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>be rejected and the proposal amended to [Panel to insert].</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Reasons include to [Panel to insert].</p>

<sup>1</sup> cl16 Prohibition of dogs in public places, cl7 Dogs on a leash in public places and private way, cl8 Dogs off a leash in public places, cl9 Dogs in designated dog exercise area.

## Other matters raised

Other matters	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<p><b>Operational and non-dog policy and bylaw related feedback</b></p> <p>The Panel could, if it wishes, deliberate on any of the matters raised Attachments D to G in relation to the following requests.</p> <p><b>Key comments (enforcement)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>more enforcement and monitoring / implement stricter rules and increase penalties</b> (including in school areas, dog free footpaths, regional parks, focusing on roaming dogs and increasing fines) (619 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key comments (services, facilities, registration)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>more communication, information and culturally relevant education</b> (including communication about rules, multiple dog license requirements, and responsibilities) (130 responses).</li> <li>• <b>more and clearer signage and improve information on council website</b> (including maps, signage that affirms the rights of disability dogs, clarifying rules, and aligning information on website and signages) (147 responses).</li> <li>• <b>create a user-friendly mobile app</b> showing dog access areas (3 responses).</li> <li>• <b>more Māori and Pacific-led solutions</b> to prevent dog related injuries (1 responses).</li> <li>• <b>change registration pricing</b> (1 response).</li> <li>• <b>provide more rubbish bins</b> in parks (1 response).</li> <li>• <b>provide funding for desexing</b> (16 responses).</li> </ul>	<p><b>About 'Operational and non-dog policy and bylaw related' feedback</b></p> <p>This is an opportunity for the Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel to deliberate on any matters contained in Attachments D to G that it considers require more direction from elected members.</p> <p><b>About 'more enforcement and monitoring' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council's Animal Management team administer dog owner obligations under the Dog Control Act 1996 and Policy on Dogs. The teams priority focus is on dogs that are dangerous, menacing, attack, cause distress or roam unaccompanied.</li> <li>• In relation to dog access rules, areas of high non-compliance ('hot-spots') are identified from public complaints and included in scheduled patrols. Officers use a 'modern regulator' approach to compliance that includes education, warnings and infringement fines (\$300) to change people's behaviours.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more and culturally relevant education and Māori and Pacific led solutions' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councils Animal Management team undertake activities to implement and ensure compliance with the Policy on Dogs and Dog Bylaw.</li> <li>• Animal Management provide services such as information and education to the public relating to dog control, animal management issues and promote responsible dog ownership.</li> <li>• Dog safety awareness initiatives include for example, raising public awareness of responsible dog ownership and safety around dogs and education for dogs owners and education.</li> <li>• Council often works on joint initiatives with other organisations (for example SPCA, NZ Police).</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'more and clearer signage and improve information on the council website' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage supports the implementation of dog access rules.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p>That matters related to operational or non-dog policy and bylaw related feedback in Attachments D to G be referred to relevant council areas for consideration.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>That in relation to the operational or non-dog policy and bylaw related feedback contained in Attachments D to G:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>[Panel to insert recommendation]</b></li> <li>• any matters not referred to above be referred to relevant council areas for consideration.</li> </ul>

Other matters	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>more education (including promoting responsible dog owners) and training for dog walkers</b> (58 responses).</li> </ul> <p><b>Key comments (menacing dogs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• only suitably qualified and trained assessors to undertake <b>dog behavioural assessments</b>, for example dog behavioural specialists (106 responses).</li> <li>• require <b>dog behavioural assessments</b> be completed by more than one suitable individual / organisation (17 responses).</li> <li>• <b>improve and clarify the classification process</b> (19 responses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation (where installed and the number) is confirmed after the completion of site visits. Other considerations include what facilities are at the park and access to the park.</li> <li>• Content on the sign reflects the dog access rule for the area.</li> <li>• Council's website provides information to the public about dogs for example responsible dog ownership, dog access rules and how to report dog related problems (including stray dogs).</li> <li>• Encourages public to engage online by allowing dog owners for example to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ register new dogs, renewals and apply for a multiple dog licence online</li> <li>○ report unregistered dogs online</li> <li>○ find where and when dogs can be walked (Walk your dog' webpage).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>About 'dog behavioural assessments' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy on Dogs allows for an owner of a dog classified as menacing due to its behaviour to requests a review of the classification.</li> <li>• Review requires owner to provide to council a dog behavioural assessment report (at dog owners expense) conducted by a council approved assessor.</li> <li>• Report provides a professional opinion on whether the dog's classification should be maintained, revised, or removed and recommend any conditions or further training strategies if necessary.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Requests for changes to dog access rules</b></p> <p><b>Key comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>provide more dog free areas</b> (26 responses).</li> <li>• <b>provide more dog access areas</b> (1413 responses).</li> <li>• <b>provide less dog access areas</b> (160 responses).</li> <li>• <b>provide consistent dog access rules</b> across Auckland, including Maunga (4 responses).</li> <li>• <b>provide a balanced use of public space</b> (2 responses).</li> <li>• <b>increase the number of fenced dog parks</b> (2 responses).</li> </ul>	<p><b>About 'changes to dog access rules' requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests for changes to dog access rules require assessment against regulatory criteria.</li> <li>• If the request meets the criteria and the relevant decision-making authority considers a change is appropriate, the change must be publicly notified (including to all known dog owners in Auckland) for feedback prior to a final decision being made.</li> <li>• There are 22 decision-making authorities, the Regulatory and Safety Committee for regional rules and 21 Local Boards for local rules.</li> <li>• Individual requests are considered as a 'batch.' The timing for each 'batch' is scheduled within council's wider bylaw review work programme that includes the periodic review of all 17 council <a href="#">bylaws</a>, 14 associated bylaw controls and input into legislative reviews related to bylaws.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b></p> <p>That all matters in public feedback and local board views have been given adequate consideration.</p> <p><b>OR</b> That in relation to the matters in public feedback and Local Board views, the Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>[Panel to insert recommended suggestions, notes].</b></li> </ul>

Other matters	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Panel recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>amend dog access rules</b>, including allowing dogs in campgrounds (14 responses).</li> <li>• <b>provide more specific designated off leash and/or fully fenced areas</b> such as designated dog access areas (18 responses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The timing of the next 'batch' is yet to be determined with a focus in 2025/26 on the review of bylaws about waste, food, navigation and health and hygiene.</li> </ul> <p><b>About 'increase the number of fenced dog parks' feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Policy on Dogs in seeking to provide a balanced use of public places, focuses on recognising dog owners with their dogs as legitimate users of public places, integration and opportunities.</li> <li>• This includes off-leash opportunities in shared spaces (an "off-leash area") and in places where the dog owner is the priority user (a "designated dog exercise area").</li> <li>• The Policy however <u>does not</u> require off-leash opportunities to be fenced and <u>does not</u> specify fence height or materials (for example <u>does not</u> require containment fencing).</li> <li>• This is because the Dog Control Act 1996 requires a dog owner to have their dog under control at all times in a public place and because the dog policy defines 'control' to mean the owner is able to obtain an immediate and desired response from the dog.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Additional matters raised by Panel members</b>  <b>Comment (any other matters)</b>  The Panel should deliberate on any matters contained in public feedback in Attachments D to G it considers has not been adequately addressed in this Attachment A.</p>	<p><b>About 'any other matters'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is an opportunity for the Panel to raise and deliberate on any matter contained in public feedback in Attachments D to G it considers have not been adequately addressed in this Attachment A.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Either [Panel to decide]</b>  That all matters in public feedback and Local Board views have been given adequate consideration.  <b>OR</b> That in relation to the matters in public feedback Local Board views, the Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [Panel to insert decisions, suggestions, notes].</li> </ul>



## **ATTACHMENT B**

### **STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL**

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**ATTACHMENT C**

**DECISION-MAKING CRITERIA**



## Attachment C – Regulatory criteria related to dog policy and bylaw matters of regional significance

A Panel decision to make recommendations on proposed changes to matters of regional significance in the Dog Policy and Bylaw must meet regulatory criteria in the Dog Control Act 1996 and Local Government Act 2002.

The Tables below summarise the regulatory criteria

### Summary of Local Government Act 2002 and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 criteria for decisions

- **82(1) Principles of consultation:**
  - (e) that the views presented to the local authority should be received by the local authority with an open mind and should be given by the local authority, in making a decision, due consideration:
  - (f) that persons who present views to the local authority should have access to a clear record or description of relevant decisions made by the local authority and explanatory material relating to the decisions, which may include, for example, reports relating to the matter that were considered before the decisions were made.
- **Section 47 LGOIMA:** meetings generally open to the public
- **Section 46 LGOIMA:** meetings to be publicly notified (section 2 of LGA and LGOIMA define publicly notified).

### Summary of Dog Control Act 1996 criteria for changes to Policy

- **Section 10(4) Policy on Dogs:** In amending a policy, council must have regard to—
  - (a) the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally; and
  - (b) the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults; and
  - (c) the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; and
  - (d) the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.

### Summary of Local Government Act 2002 criteria for changes to Bylaw

- **Section 155 Determination whether bylaw made under this Act is appropriate**
  - (1) A local authority must, before commencing the process for making a bylaw, determine whether a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem.
  - (2) If a local authority has determined that a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem, it must, before making the bylaw, determine whether the proposed bylaw—
    - (a) is the most appropriate form of bylaw; and
    - (b) gives rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
  - (3) No bylaw may be made which is inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, notwithstanding section 4 of that Act.

Summary of Policy on Dogs dog access rule policy, principles and criteria	
Current	Proposed (noting this may change through deliberations)
<p><i>Provide a balanced use of public places for dogs and their owners that is safe for everyone</i></p> <p>What will Auckland Council do?</p> <p><b>1. Provide dog access rules that are comprehensive, consistent and easy to understand and comply with the following approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Recognise dog owners as legitimate users of public places and dog access is essential for dog welfare</li> <li>(b) Integrate, where practicable, dog owners and their dogs with other users of public places</li> <li>(c) Provide opportunities for dog owners to take their dog to public places that are accessible, desirable, and provide diversity of experience for both the dog and owner</li> <li>(d) Consider access on a comprehensive region-wide basis, as well as a place-by-place basis</li> <li>(e) Promote safe interaction between dogs and people using public places and private ways to ensure that dogs do not injure, endanger, intimidate or otherwise cause distress to any person, in particular, children and vulnerable adults</li> <li>(f) Manage the conflict between dogs and protected wildlife, stock, poultry, domestic animals, property and natural habitat.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Apply the following time and season definition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) 10.00am to 5.00pm between the 1 December and 1 March (summer)</li> </ul>	<p><b>3.6 Provide dog access rules in public places and private ways</b></p> <p><b>3.6.1 Apply the following principles to ensure dog access rules balance the needs of people, dogs, animals, environment and property</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) recognise responsible dog owners as legitimate users of public places and that dog access is essential for dog welfare</li> <li>(b) integrate, where practicable, dog owners and their dogs with other users of public places (for example public roads, parks and beaches)</li> <li>(c) provide opportunities for dog owners to take their dog to public places that are accessible, desirable, and provide diversity of experience for both the dog and owner</li> <li>(d) promote safe interaction between dogs and people using public places and private ways to ensure that dogs do not injure, endanger, intimidate or otherwise cause distress to any person, in particular, children and vulnerable adults</li> <li>(e) manage the conflict between dogs and protected wildlife and environment (natural habitat)</li> <li>(f) manage the conflict between dogs and stock, poultry, domestic animals and property.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.6.2 Consider dog access on a comprehensive region-wide basis, as well as place-by-place basis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) apply default and general rules in Schedule 1 that apply Auckland-wide to ensure there is a rule for every public place and private way in Auckland</li> <li>(b) apply rules for specific places in Auckland in Schedule 2</li> <li>(c) apply the following terms and definitions when setting dog access rules ...</li> <li>(d) use the following time and season definition when restricting dog access to ensure the safe interaction between people and dogs at popular locations: 10.00am to 5.00pm between 1 December to 1 March, inclusive (summer)</li> </ul>



Summary of Policy on Dogs dog access rule policy, principles and criteria	
Current	Proposed (noting this may change through deliberations)
<p><b>3. Consider the following before making any change to a dog access rule on parks and beaches that would provide more dog access:</b></p> <p>a. Identify and assess current and future use of the place and whether there may be any potential conflicts to ensure the change would not result in any significant risk to any:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. person (in particular children or vulnerable adults)</li> <li>ii. protected wildlife vulnerable to dogs (in particular ground nesting birds)</li> <li>iii. protected flora vulnerable to dogs (in particular kauri dieback)</li> <li>iv. stock, poultry, or domestic animal</li> </ul> <p>b. property (in particular natural habitat and public amenities).</p>	<p><b>3.6.3 Consider the following before making any change to a dog access rule on a park or beach that would provide more dog access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the current and future usage patterns and behaviours</li> <li>(b) the potential conflicts between dogs and people, animals, environment and property</li> <li>(c) the need to ensure the change would not result in any significant risk<sup>1</sup> of conflict between responsible dog owners and their dogs to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) person (in particular children or vulnerable adults)</li> <li>(ii) protected wildlife vulnerable to dogs (in particular ground nesting birds)</li> <li>(iii) protected flora vulnerable to dogs (in particular kauri dieback)</li> <li>(iv) stock, poultry or domestic animal</li> <li>(v) environment or property (in particular natural habitat or public amenities).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Consider the following before making any change to a dog access rule on parks and beaches that would provide less dog access:</b></p> <p>a. Consider whether there are practicable alternative solutions to address the conflict between uses of the place</p> <p>b. Ensure, to the extent that is practicable, that displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other places or that such access is provided as part of the same decision.</p>	<p><b>3.6.4 Consider the following before making any change to a dog access rule on a park or beach that would provide less dog access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) evidence of a significant risk of conflict between responsible dog owners and their dogs and other people, animals, environment or property</li> <li>(b) whether there are practicable alternative solutions to address the conflict, such as ways to enable better sharing of the public place.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>(c) the need to ensure, to the extent that is practicable, that displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other places or that such access is provided as part of the same decision, including a catchment approach to consider any gaps in dog access provision that may arise.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Significant risk includes, but is not limited to, injury, danger, intimidation or distress to any person; injury, danger or distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal or protected wildlife; damage or danger to property; or nuisance to people.

<sup>2</sup> Design and management solutions include fencing, different zones in one place, time-share arrangements, and under control on a leash dog access in relation to considering a change to prohibited dog access.



## ATTACHMENT D

### SUMMARY OF PUBLIC FEEDBACK

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## **ATTACHMENT E**

### **ONLINE AND WRITTEN FEEDBACK**

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**ATTACHMENT F**

**OPERATIONAL AND NON-BYLAW  
RELATED FEEDBACK**



## Attachment F – Operational non-bylaw related feedback

The Tables below summarise the operational and non-bylaw related feedback

Requests around operational matters and non-bylaw related feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>more enforcement and monitoring</b> including in school areas, dog free footpaths, regional parks and focusing on roaming dogs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ existing rules are considered sufficient, but need stronger and more visible enforcement</li> <li>○ acknowledge challenges in enforcing rules and requests for more enforcement</li> <li>○ more enforcement is requested as off leash dogs in on-leash areas such as schools and playgrounds are posing safety risks to children</li> <li>○ a national organisation requests mandatory dog-free buffer zones (minimum 15 metres) around tamariki-priority areas (such as playgrounds, schools and daycares) with clear signage, education, and enforcement</li> <li>○ target enforcement to high-risk areas and irresponsible owners</li> <li>○ suggestions include introducing a dedicated reporting tool (e.g. phone or online) to report bylaw breaches such as roaming dogs</li> <li>○ requests for more frequent patrols by dog control officers.</li> <li>○ enforcing on leash rules in all public spaces.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>more communication, information and culturally relevant education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ call for clear communication about rules, multiple dog license requirements, responsibilities, and penalties to promote responsible ownership</li> <li>○ preference for investing resources in education over introducing new rules</li> <li>○ suggests providing multilingual information to reach diverse communities</li> <li>○ requests clearer and more visible advertising of rules in public places.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>more and clearer signage and improve information on council website</b> including maps and signage that affirms the rights of disability dogs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ signage should align with information on the council website</li> <li>○ simple and consistent signage will improve compliance</li> <li>○ suggests including maps when showing dog access rules to provide better clarity.</li> <li>○ difficulty in finding information online and recommends simplifying site navigation for easier access.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>create a user-friendly mobile app</b> showing dog access areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ support for an app that shows local dog access rules</li> <li>○ should include multilingual options so it can be accessible to diverse communities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>more Māori and Pacific-led solutions</b> to prevent dog related injuries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ suggests culturally informed strategies to reduce dog-related injuries and improve safety.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>change registration pricing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ suggest different fees based on dog breed or size.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>provide more rubbish bins in parks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ increase the number of rubbish bins in parks.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>provide funding for desexing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ comments proposed funding for neutering.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>more education (including promoting responsible dog owners) and training for dog walkers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ suggest promoting responsible dog ownership through education and having training for dog walkers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Requests for menacing requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• only suitably qualified and trained assessors to undertake <b>dog behavioural assessments</b>, for example dog behavioural specialists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ assessors should be independent professionals with qualifications (e.g. behavioural specialists, vets, accredited trainers)</li> <li>○ some comments view council staff as unqualified and that assessors must be from a separate entity</li> <li>○ recommended including owner education and training with assessments.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• require <b>dog behavioural assessments</b> be completed by more than one suitable individual / organisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ support having multiple assessors or an appeal process to ensure fair and accurate behaviour assessments.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>improve and clarify the classification process</b> including the suitability of menacing dog owners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ many are unaware of the classification process and request for clearer and more accessible information</li> <li>○ recommended an appeals or reassessment process</li> <li>○ call for transparent assessments by independent, qualified professionals.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



## **ATTACHMENT G**

### **LOCAL BOARD VIEWS ON PUBLIC FEEDBACK**





## Attachment G – Local Board Views

This attachment contains local board views resolved at their meetings in April 2025 on the public feedback to the proposed changes to Auckland Council's dog policy and bylaw.

Local Boards Views
<p>AE/2025/71 - That the <b>Albert-Eden Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) receive the public feedback from 434 people in the Albert-Eden Local Board area.</li> <li>b) note the majority opposed Proposal 1: limit to number of dogs walked, with 54 per cent of the opponents preferring no change to the current status.</li> <li>c) note the majority supported the proposals to reorganise, simplify and clarify Policy and Bylaw content.</li> <li>d) note there was split support for proposals to clarify dog access rules at Muriwai, Tawharanui and Wenderholm Regional Parks and to clarify dog access rules on Tūpuna Maunga.</li> <li>e) note that the majority opposed the dog access rule changes to other Regional Parks.</li> <li>f) note 30 per cent of people supported introducing a dog walker license for qualified dog walkers.</li> <li>g) note the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition (run through change.org which received 3456 signatures) that opposes any restrictions.</li> <li>h) thank staff for their hard work to facilitate public feedback on the proposal to amend dog policy and bylaw.</li> </ul>
<p>GBI/2025/50 – That the <b>Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) tautoko / support making Dog Policy and Bylaws easier to read and understand.</li> </ul>
<p>DT/2025/65 - That the <b>Devonport-Takapuna Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) whakarato / provide its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations.</li> <li>c) whakatuu / appoint local board member T Harpur and Member G Busch to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.</li> <li>d) tuku mana / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the Panel.</li> <li>e) whakamihi / thank the 195 local community members from Devonport-Takapuna local board that contributed to this feedback.</li> <li>f) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that 78 percent Devonport-Takapuna Local Board community submitters were not in favour of the proposed maximum number of dogs that can be walked at one time.</li> <li>g) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that a majority of submitters were not in favour for the restrictions proposed for regional parks.</li> <li>h) h) tono / request further consideration is given to the Devonport Takapuna Local Board resolution given on 15 October 2024 on this matter.</li> </ul>
<p>FR/2025/64 – That the <b>Franklin Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) whakarato / provide its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. support the community views from the local board area</li> <li>ii. support control of the numbers of dogs walked at one time</li> <li>iii. support a licensing regime for professional dog walkers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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iv. c) d)	request staff to carefully analyse the feedback noting the sequence and language of questions may create misinterpretation. whakatuu / appoint Member Hopkins to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel. tuku mana / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the Panel.
HM/2025/47 - That the <b>Henderson-Massey Local Board:</b>	
a) b) c) d) e) f) g) h) i)	tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report. whakaae / agree with the majority of public feedback opposing Proposal 1: Limit to number of dogs walked (six on leash, with maximum three of the six off leash at any one time), noting that 74 per cent of respondents opposed proposal one and a vast majority wanted no change to the current rules (no limit). akiaki / urge that no amendment to the policy should be made to limit the number of dogs walked. whakaae / agree with the public feedback supporting the introduction of a dog walker license for qualified professional dog walkers. We acknowledge the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA) petition, submission and advice. tuhi ā-taipitopito / note there was split support for proposals to clarify dog access rules at Muriwai and Wenderholm Regional Parks. Noting that Auckland-wide individuals (who opposed the changes) generally wanted council to provide more dog-friendly or off-leash areas. tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that the majority of public feedback supporting proposals 13A-H and consider that amendments to proposals 13A-H should be made. akiaki / urge that more resourcing and focus is given to Auckland Council enforcement and education. whakatuu / appoint member Ingrid Papau to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel. tuku mana / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the Panel.
HB/2025/37 – That the <b>Hibiscus and Bays Local Board:</b>	
a) b) c) i. ii. iii. iv. v. vi)	whiwhi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report. thank the 733 Hibiscus and Bays Local board residents and the four organisations for their feedback on this consultation. tuku / provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations, Proposal 1: Limit the number of dogs walked i. do not support the proposal as it currently stands to limit the number of dogs walked, noting that the matter is more nuanced than a blanket rule like this. ii. consider that a problem definition needs to be clearly communicated to better define the problem that exists, and then options considered alongside key stakeholders (e.g. looking at what other jurisdictions do that they have found successful) iii. note the mixed support from local submitters (41 per cent in favour, 57 per cent opposed). Proposal 4: Long Bay Regional Park iv. do not support this proposal at this time given there was a lack of public support (only 36 per cent of submitters were in favour, with 58 per cent opposed). v. note that local feedback raised the issue that there is a lack of dog walking options in the surrounding suburbs, and provided the sand isn't too hot, the loss of dog walking during the day on Long Bay beach would be extremely limiting. vi. consider that there is further work that needs to take place to address off-leash dog walking provisions in suburbs around this area before we look to consider this proposal again in the future. Proposal 7: Shakespear Regional Park

### Local Boards Views

- vii. support this proposal, noting that 49 per cent of local submitters were in favour with 41 per cent opposed.
  - viii. note that a lot of the opposing feedback received related to the proposed on-leash time and season rule to the open grass areas between Army Bay and Okoromai Bay.
- Proposal 13A-13J: Restructure and clarification of the policy
- ix. support all proposals from 13A through to 13J noting the strong support from local submitters.
  - x. note that additional feedback provided in responses related to the lack of enforcement of the bylaw, and the lack of clear information for dog walkers on what the rules are in each park, reserve or beach.
  - xi. Request that increased resources are allocated to improve bylaw enforcement alongside this policy refresh.
- d) kopou / appoint the local board chairperson and the Deputy Chair to present the local board views to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.
  - e) tāpae / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member under clause c) of this resolution who is unable to present to the Panel.

#### HW/2025/62 - That the **Howick Local Board**:

- a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī | Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī | Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.
- b) whakarato / provide its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations.
  - i. tuhi tipoka / note that despite the strong response, the demographic breakdown suggests that the input is not representative of the entire population of Auckland or Howick. Higher responses by local board suggest participation has been driven by local dog access rules, which may skew the results.
  - ii. tautoko / support the request of the Professional Dog Walkers Association (supported by 3,456 signatures) to explore a license for professional dog walkers as a sensible compromise that will provide for greater control of dogs without making commercial operations impossible.
  - iii. support the proposed changes for Te Arai and Pakiri regional parks.
- c) whakatuu / appoint Chairperson Damian Light to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.
- d) tuku mana / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the Panel.
- e) re-iterate the Board's previous feedback around enforcement and compliance per (HW/2024/177), as follows:
  - i. "the Board believe that enforcement is critical to the success of any rule and continue to advocate for greater resources to enforce this and other bylaws.
  - ii. in regard to proposed limit on the number of dogs that may be walked:
    - A) acknowledge that under the current bylaw the default requires all dogs should be on leash in public parks and reserves unless otherwise specified.
    - B) dogs may be off-leash on owners or carer's private properties if fully fenced; at designated 'off-leash' areas on public grounds/beaches, and in specifically established dog parks.
    - C) the Board suggest greater consideration of the potential impact on commercial dog walkers and encourage further engagement with professional dog walker associations including potential regulations, but at this stage do not support a limit.
    - D) all pack-walked dogs should be kept under control on a leash, irrespective of numbers.
  - iii. in regard to the proposed changes for regional parks:
    - A) there should be stronger controls and better signage to reflect these, restricting off leash dogs having free-running access to coastal areas that are known breeding areas for shorebirds and seabirds.
    - B) the Board support the proposed more stringent controls for regional parks, with both these and other coastal locations both having coastal breeding sites. (Northern Dotterel are particularly vulnerable).

## Local Boards Views

### KT/2025/353 - That the **Kaipātiki Local Board**:

- a) whiwhi / receive the public feedback from people in the Kaipātiki Local Board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī | Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī | Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.
- b) tuku / provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations:
  - i. Proposal 1: Limit to number of dogs walked (six on leash, with maximum three of the six off leash at any one time):  
A majority of submitters in the Kaipātiki Local Board area opposed the proposal (74%). We are aware of the important role that dog walkers (commercial and non-commercial) play in exercising dogs, and this has come through clearly in the submissions.  
However we have also long been aware of issues with (predominantly commercial dog walkers) walking large numbers of dogs off-leash in our parks. Issues include uncontrollable excited dogs that disturb park users, damage tracks, damage plants, disturb freshwater, etc. We continue to seek a solution to these problems.
  - ii. We request that council provide a certificate/licence scheme for walkers of large numbers of dogs, including commercial dog walkers. Such a scheme would allow multiple-dog walking to occur under specified conditions and criteria, while allowing enforcement to take place, and allow for the cancellation of permission to walk multiple dogs if there are significant or repeat offences.
  - iii. Proposals 2 to 12D: Proposed changes to regional park rules:  
A majority of submitters in the Kaipātiki Local Board area opposed all of the proposals regarding regional parks, except for Muriwai Regional Park which had equal percentages in support and opposed.  
The Kaipātiki Local Board does not provide a view on these proposals.
  - iv. Proposals P13A to P13J: Other proposed changes:  
A majority of submitters in the Kaipātiki Local Board area supported all of the proposals.  
The Kaipātiki Local Board supports these proposals.
- c) kopou / appoint the local board Chair and Member Raymond Tan to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.
- d) tāpae / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the Panel.
- e) tuhi tīpoka / note that a deliberation of the Kaipātiki dog hearing panel on proposed local dog access rule changes will begin this month, with a final decision expected to be made at the 21 May 2025 business meeting.

### MO/2025/1 - That the **Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board**:

- a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī | Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī | Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.
- b) whakarato / provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a), to assist the Panel in its deliberations:
  - i. thank the submitters from the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board area for taking the time to provide feedback and contribute to the review of the Dog Policy and Bylaw
  - ii. reaffirm the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board's earlier feedback (Resolution number MO/2024/142), which emphasised the need for accessible communication, translated materials, local context, targeted education, and resourcing to support implementation and enforcement of the Dog Policy and Bylaw in the local area
  - iii. Walking Multiple Dogs
    - Note the mixed views from Māngere-Ōtāhuhu submitters on the proposed limit to the number of dogs a person can walk at one time.
    - Support the introduction of a licensing system for professional dog walkers, to allow more dogs to be walked if certain standards are met.
  - iv. General Policy and Bylaw Matters

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support the proposed simplification and clarification of the Dog Management Policy and Bylaw to improve understanding and usability</li> <li>- Note concerns around enforcement of current dog rules, and recommend improved communication, signage, and public education.</li> <li>- Recommend a flexible approach to the rule requiring a license to keep multiple dogs on a property, taking into account household size and cultural context.</li> </ul>
v.	<p><b>Dog Access Rules at Regional Parks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Note strong opposition from local submitters to the proposed restrictions on dog access in regional parks.</li> <li>- Emphasise the importance of maintaining designated off-leash areas for exercise and socialisation.</li> <li>- Support a balanced approach that protects the environment while enabling access for responsible dog owners, with improved enforcement as needed.</li> </ul>
MR/2025/2 - That the <b>Manurewa Local Board</b> :	
a)	tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.
b)	note 1305 individuals who submitted on the proposed changes affecting Auckland Botanic Gardens of which 34 per cent supported and 62 per cent opposed the proposal
c)	whakarato / provide the following its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. introduce a dog walker license for qualified dog walkers</li> <li>ii. reorganise, simplify and clarify Policy and Bylaw content</li> <li>iii. note nuance is required for the limit on the number of dogs walked on leash as there will be a difference in the impact of walking small dogs and large dogs</li> <li>iv. oppose the policy rule that designates the northwestern area of the Auckland Botanic Gardens as off leash "until the area is further developed" when council will have the discretion to amend the rule to on-leash. This should only be amended through a public notification, engagement and decision-making process.</li> </ul>
d)	whakatuu / appoint Member Joseph Allan and Chairperson Matt Winiata to present the views in (c) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.
e)	tuku mana / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (d) who is unable to present to the Panel.
MT/2025/37 - That the <b>Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board</b> :	
a)	receive public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.
b)	tono / request that the Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel (the Panel) take into account not only the volume of feedback received, but also the solutions offered by submitters. Many of the comments include valuable insights for issues such as irresponsible dog breeding, non-compliance with leash laws, and challenges of enforcement. These suggestions should be given serious consideration, as they reflect practical approaches to addressing the concerns raised.
c)	tūtohu / recommend that the Panel look into the root issues identified in the feedback, such as the prevalence of unregistered breeding, the lack of desexing in certain communities, and the under-resourcing of animal management services. By addressing these underlying causes, the revised bylaw will be more effective in creating lasting change, promoting responsible dog ownership throughout Auckland, and keeping communities safe from dog-related harm.
d)	tautoko / support the following matters raised in public feedback: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Uncontrolled and irresponsible dog breeding: there were strong concerns raised about the prevalence of backyard breeding, particularly involving larger or aggressive breeds such as Staffordshire and Pitbull mixes. Submitters noted that unregistered dogs are breeding freely, especially in areas with limited containment.</li> </ul>



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<p>ii. Safety concerns and public impact: Many community members highlighted the dangers posed by roaming and uncontrolled dogs, including attacks on pets and wildlife, and a general sense of fear in public spaces. Specific incidents were mentioned where roaming dogs charged or attacked other animals or people, raising concerns for both public safety and animal welfare. There was also a sense of frustration that responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers are being targeted by proposed bylaw changes, while the root issues remain unaddressed.</p>
<p>OR/2025/40 - That the <b>Ōrākei Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations.</li> <li>c) note that the standardisation of rules has enabled policy settings to be lowered in the interest of making them understandable.</li> <li>d) highlight the significant difficulties in implementing prompt enforcement and recommend that animal control officer resources include additional contracted officers to maximise efficiency; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. it makes no sense to have bylaw officers who do not also have authority and ability to render animal management enforcement and;</li> <li>ii. if it is a resource issue, extra funding be provided for an additional two animal management wardens in Ōrākei.</li> </ul> </li> <li>e) discourage multiple dog walking and recommend that a multiple dog walker should have no more than four dogs under their control at any one time.</li> <li>f) emphasise that any multiple dogs should never be off-leash due to incidents from single off-leash dogs requiring high management and control, along with the ability for one individual to manage more than two off-leash dogs appropriately as unlikely.</li> <li>g) recommend that to efficiently manage multiple dog walking and ensure multiple dogs are not off-leash, dog walkers should be licensed and have undertaken unique, specific training to the trade.</li> <li>h) recommend the following in relation to regional park dog access rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. all regional park dog access rules must be amended so that the starting position for any regional park is 'dogs are prohibited' and concessions are made from that starting reference. This reinforces a behaviour of respect and improves an awareness of our taonga, and that exercising domestic animals in regional parks is a privilege and not a right. This default prohibition rule sets a clear prioritisation of regional parks as places of environmental and recreational sanctity.</li> <li>ii. any foreshore area in any regional park known as a bird nesting area and any native forest area in any regional park must be dog prohibited areas and any dog exercise concession should be restricted to ON-leash only.</li> <li>iii. dog access rules in regional parks should be scheduled to acknowledge some defined areas which may be suitably used for ON-leash dog access without generating nuisance or disturbance to wildlife or other park users.</li> <li>iv. the dispensation areas should be independently assessed to ensure dog access will not jeopardise the park environment and returned to boards for recommendations. For example, a well-worn bike track area may be ideal for owners to run/bike with their dog on a leash.</li> </ul> </li> <li>i) note that greater public education and awareness on the damage dogs do to sports grounds is essential region-wide.</li> <li>j) highlight that the default setting for dog access in any public place should be on-leash along with dispensations creating suitable off-leash areas following that default setting.</li> <li>k) recommend that for clarity, information regarding the proposed wording changes for regional parks be displayed via a chart showing what the current rule is versus the proposed rule.</li> <li>l) appoint Member Troy Churton to present the above views to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.</li> <li>m) delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in l) who is unable to present to the Panel.</li> </ul>



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<p>OP/2025/62 - That the <b>Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) tono / request the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel take into account Otara-Papatoetoe Board area has a significant issue with roaming dogs and more designated off-leash parks are required to assist in addressing this problem</li> <li>c) tautoko / support the community feedback on providing sufficient off-leash public areas for dogs that are stimulating, spacious, and controlled to minimize problems caused by dogs, promote responsible dog ownership, and ensure the welfare of dogs</li> <li>d) tono / request the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel take into account the public feedback on provision of sufficient off-leash dog areas in appropriate locations to keep dogs a positive part of Aucklanders' lives</li> <li>e) does not want to appoint a member to present views to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.</li> </ul>
<p>PPK/2025/62 - That the <b>Papakura Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report</li> <li>b) whakarato / provide the following its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking multiple dogs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The board has a concern that three dogs on leash and three dogs off leash would be difficult to control dogs well</li> <li>ii. The board believes professional dog walkers should be licenced</li> <li>iii. Being able to differentiate between a professional dog walker and anyone owning multiple dogs or taking friend's dogs for a walk would be difficult</li> <li>iv. There is a concern about the inadequate level of staff resourcing to deal with dog management issues</li> </ul> </li> <li>Regional park access rules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The board supports dogs being allowed in the outdoor area of the Botanic Gardens café.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>PKTPP/2025/50 - That the <b>Puketāpapa Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) whiwhi / receive public feedback.</li> <li>b) tautoko / support the matters raised in public feedback.</li> <li>c) kopou / appoint Chair and Deputy Chair to address the public views to the governing body dog policy and bylaw panel.</li> <li>d) tāpae / delegate authority to the Chair to appoint replacement to any appointed member in (C) who is unable to present to the panel.</li> </ul>
<p>RD/2025/6 - That the <b>Rodney Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) whiwhi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) tuku / provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the panel in its deliberations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. tautoko / support feedback from Rodney submitters opposed to the changes proposed at Pākiri and Te Ārai Regional Parks and suggest input from the local community should take precedence over a "one rule for all" for regional parks</li> <li>ii. tautoko / support the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition (run through change.org which received 3456 signatures) that opposes any restrictions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii. tono / request that if change is required that a licence for professional dog walkers is implemented with a limit of twelve dogs</li> <li>iv. tono / request that dog owners and advocacy groups are more involved in the decision-making</li> <li>v. tautoko / support the intention to reorganise, simplify and clarify policy and bylaw content including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) using a goal, focus area, action and rule structure</li> <li>B) clarifying approach to setting dog access rules</li> <li>C) clarifying the policy to neuter classified dogs and who can provide behavioural assessments</li> <li>D) clarifying Auckland-wide dog access rules such as for council carparks and camping grounds, working dogs, dogs in vehicles and private ways</li> <li>E) removing outdated information in Schedule 2 for example outdated landmarks</li> <li>F) updating dog access rules on Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral mountains)</li> <li>G) removing bylaw content that is covered in the policy or is outdated.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c) kopou / appoint Chairperson B Bailey and Local Board Member G Upson to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel</li> <li>d) tāpae / delegate authority to the local board chairperson to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the panel.</li> </ul>	
UH/2025/47 - That the <b>Upper Harbour Local Board</b> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) whiwhi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) tuku / provide its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel in its deliberations as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking multiple dogs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs noting that 66 percent of individuals at 70 per cent of organisations did not support the proposed change</li> <li>ii. request a licensing approach where licensed dog walkers can walk up to 12 dogs and that a licensing or code of conduct scheme be cost efficient for professional dog walkers to join to minimise costs passed onto clients</li> <li>iii. is of the view that limiting the number of dogs that a walker can take, will increase the costs substantially and fewer owners will be able to take advantage of dog walking services, noting the potential unintended consequence of this will be more dogs that are unsocialised and in need of exercise and potentially aggressive.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
WHK/2025/40 - That the <b>Waiheke Local Board</b> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) whiwhi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) tuku / provide its views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. support all of the proposed changes in the Bylaw but does not provide any feedback on regional parks not in the Waiheke local board area,</li> <li>ii. support the proposal for the Whakanewha Regional Park as the majority of Waiheke respondents supported the proposed change,</li> <li>iii. should the Governing Body not support proposal P1 (limit the number of dogs walked), the Waiheke Local Board requests a Waiheke Local Board regulation supporting P1 because the overwhelming majority of Waiheke locals have requested that, noting that Waiheke has a higher ratio of dogs per capita than any other local board area and there have been significant concerns expressed locally for several years.</li> <li>iv. support the licensing of dog walkers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c) whakatuu / appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.</li> </ul>	
WTK/2025/48 - That the <b>Waitākere Ranges Local Board</b> :	

Local Boards Views	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) whakarato / provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. tautoko / support investigating the feasibility of a licensing system for professional dog walkers.</li> <li>ii. does not support the proposal to restrict walking of multiple dogs on the basis that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) there seems to be insufficient evidence to show there is an issue to address.</li> <li>B) observationally, groups of dogs walked by dog walkers appear to be well controlled.</li> <li>C) if there are groups of people walking multiple dogs it would pose the same level of risk around pack behaviour.</li> <li>D) the bylaw should focus on dog behaviour and locations rather than numbers of dogs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iii. tautoko / support the proposed changes under general policy and bylaw matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) restructure the policy to more clearly show its goal, focus areas, council actions, and rules.</li> <li>B) clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered.</li> <li>C) clarify who can provide behavioural assessments in relation to menacing dog classifications.</li> <li>D) clarify how dog access rules are set.</li> <li>E) clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>c) ask that staff report back on when it proposed that the local board and the public of the Waitākere Ranges can propose changes to the dog access rules for both local parks / beaches and the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park.</li> <li>d) whakatuu / appoint member L Potauaine and Chairperson G Presland to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.</li> <li>e) tuku mana / delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in (c) who is unable to present to the Panel.</li> </ul>	
<p>WTM/2025/68 - That the <b>Waitematā Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) agree with the 85% of Waitemata Local Board area submissions that opposed the maximum limit on the number dogs per dog walker and urges that proposal does not proceed.</li> <li>c) note that 30% of Waitemata submissions suggested a second best compromise of excluding from that rule those who had registered or held a licence as a dog walker. We believe a licence would be costly and bureaucratic and, if this course is followed, registration would be sufficient.</li> <li>d) agree with the majority of Waitemata submissions who supported reorganising, simplifying and clarifying the policy; and clarifying that all dogs classes as menacing be neutered.</li> <li>e) reiterate the importance of more effective measures to respond to roaming and unregistered dogs.</li> <li>f) reiterate the need for adequate enforcement of control on removal of dog defecation by their owners.</li> <li>g) appoint Member Richard Northey to present the views in (b) to the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel.</li> <li>h) delegate authority to the local board chair to appoint a replacement to any appointed member in(c)who is unable to present to the Panel.</li> </ul>	
<p>WH/2025/48 - That the <b>Whau Local Board</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) tūtohi / receive the public feedback from people in the local board area to the Governing Body proposal to amend matters of regional significance in the Auckland Council Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī   Policy on Dogs 2019 and Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī   Dog Management Bylaw 2019 in the agenda report.</li> <li>b) whakarato / provide the following views on how the Governing Body Dog Policy and Bylaw Panel should address public feedback to the proposal in (a) to assist the Panel in its deliberations:</li> </ul>	

#### Local Boards Views

- i. do not support the current proposal, in response to the majority of public feedback opposing the changes, and request the panel work with PDWA on an appropriate limit and implementing a licensing regime.
- ii. recommend introducing regulations and alternative limits for qualified professional dog walkers, including:
  - A) requirement for qualifications and licensing.
  - B) setting a limit of twelve dogs applying to licensed professional dog walkers.
- iii. support the proposed changes under general policy and bylaw matters:
  - A) Restructure the policy to more clearly show its goal, focus areas, council actions, and rules
  - B) Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered
  - C) Clarify who can provide behavioural assessments in relation to menacing dog classifications
  - D) Clarify how dog access rules are set
  - E) Clarify Auckland-wide dog access rules.

## **ATTACHMENT H**

### **SUGGESTED NUMBER OF DOGS ON AND OFF LEASH**





## Attachment H – Suggested number of dogs on and off leash

Below are suggested dogs on-leash, off-leash numbers. The numbers in the Deliberation table - Proposal 1 (Key changes sought) consist of a mix of the data below.

1-2 dogs	#
Max 1 on, 0 off	3
Max 1 on	3
Max 1 or 2 (on or off)	2
Max 2 (on or off)	37
Max 2 on, 1 off	10
Max 2 on, 0 off	1
More than 2 (on or off)	8
More than 2 (all on)	1
2-3 (on or off)	1
Fewer than 3 (on or off)	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

3 dogs	#
Max 3 (on or off)	25
Max 3 on, 1 off	6
Max 3 on, 2 off	6
Max 3 (all on)	3
Max 3-4 (on or off)	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>

4-5 dogs	#
More than 3 (on or off)	19
More than 3 on, 2 off	1
Max 4 (on or off)	29
Max 4 on, 0 off	8
Max 4 on, 1 off	7
Max 4 on, 2 off	160
More 4 on, 2 off	120
Max 4 on, 3 off	1
Max 4 (all on)	1
More than 4 (on or off)	7
More than 4 to 6 (on or off)	3
Max 5 (on or off)	3
Max 5 on, 3 off (on or off)	1
Fewer than 6 (on or off)	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>370</b>

6 dogs	#
Max 6 (on or off)	48
Max 6 on, 0 off	26
Max 6 on, 1 off	9
Max 6 on, 2 off	8
Max 6 on, less 3 off	11
Max 6 on, 3 off	27
Max 6 on, 4 off	8
Max 6 on, 5 off	0
Max 6 to 8 (on or off)	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>

Other	#
No limit / larger groups	49
All on leash only	10
Limit off leash only	5
Lower limits	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>

7-8 dogs	#
More than 6 (on or off)	29
More than 6 on, 3 off	13
Max 7 (on or off)	4
More than 7 (on or off)	1
Max 8 (on or off)	27
Max 8 on, 3 off	2
Max 8 on, 4 off	104
Max 8 on, 4 to 5 off	1
More than 8 on, 3 off	1
Max 8 to 10 (on or off)	1
Max 8 to 10 on, 2 off	1
Max 8 to 12 (on or off)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>

More than 10 dogs	#
More than 10 (on or off)	26
Max 12 (on or off)	1
Max 12 on, 3 off	12
Max 12 on 5 off	1
Max 12 on, 5 off	1
Max 15 (on or off)	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

10 dogs	#
More than 8 (on or off)	2
Max 10 (on or off)	21
Max 10 (all on)	2
Max 10 on, 2 off	1
Max 10 on, 3/4 off	1
Max 10 on, 4 off	1
Max 10 on, 5 off	6
Max 10 on, 6 off	1
Max 10 on, 8 off	2
Max 10 to 12 (on or off)	3
Max 10 (all on)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>



# **ATTACHMENT I**

## **CONDITIONS OF PUBLIC PLACE USE SUGGESTIONS**



## Attachment I – Conditions of public place use suggestions

Below are a sample of suggestions received on permitted activity standards or licensing requirements.

- Register with Council and pay a fee to cover monitoring, compliance, and complaint handling costs.
- Agree to and adhere to a Council-approved standards for safe and responsible dog handling.
- Hold a valid certification from a recognised industry body or complete an approved competency assessment (go through a course to show proficiency in handling dogs),
- Demonstrate competence in managing groups of dogs, understanding canine behaviour, and applying basic obedience techniques in public settings to be able to obtain license.
- Carry license and dog registration whenever walking multiple dogs.
- Only walk the dogs in open-spaced reserves
- Walk off-leash in unfenced public areas must wear a GPS tracking device at all times.
- Leashes for all dogs.
- Longlines in dog exercise areas
- Set a minimum age to walk of dogs.
- Vehicles used for pack walking must use secure, purpose-built cages or containment systems. The use of leads or chains for restraint inside vehicles is prohibited.
- Dogs to be microchipped, registered, desexed and/or muzzled.
- Walkers required to carry proof of registration.
- Multiple dog walkers must only walk the dogs in open-spaced reserves
- Set a limit when walking dogs in any high traffic parks or reserves.
- Walk in specified off leash dog parks only
- Walk on-leash in all public places except within designated fenced dog parks.
- Parks, beaches and regional parks designated as off-leash and dog friendly' between 6am and 12pm every weekday.
- Numbers be restricted and subject to location and time restriction.

