



Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī 2019 Dog Management Bylaw 2019

(as at 1 September 2025)

Made by the Governing Body of Auckland Council

In resolution GB/2019/71

on 25 July 2019

Bylaw authorised under [section 20](#) of the Dog Control Act 1996 and made in accordance with the [Local Government Act 2002](#).

Bylaw authorisation amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

Summary

This summary is not part of the Bylaw but explains the general effects.

Dogs provide companionship, support, and help foster social connections that benefit both dog owners and the community. Problems, however, can arise due to irresponsible dog ownership or conflict between users of shared spaces in Auckland, including to people, animals, environment and property.

Auckland Council in its Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī 2025 | Policy on Dogs 2019 seeks to keep dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders by –

- promoting responsible dog ownership
- maintaining opportunities to take dogs to public places that balance the needs of people, dogs, animals, environment and property
- adopting measures to minimise problems caused by dogs.

The purpose of this Bylaw is to give effect to the council's Policy on Dogs by requiring –

- dog owners to comply with dog access rules contained in Schedule 1 and 2 of the Policy on Dogs (clauses 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10)
- a person or business to obtain approval and to comply with conditions to walk more than four dogs (up to a maximum of 12 dogs) in a council park (clauses 9A, 9B and 9C)
- owners to immediately remove and dispose of their dog faeces (clause 11)
- all owners on an urban residential property to obtain a license to keep more than two dogs on the property, regardless of who owns the dogs (clauses 12 and 13)
- an owner to neuter their dog if not kept under control on more than one occasion (clauses 14, 15 and 16).

Other parts of the Bylaw assist with administration by –

- stating its name, when it comes into force and where it applies (clauses 1, 2 and 3)
- stating the purpose of this Bylaw and defining key terms (clauses 4 and 5)
- enabling council to process applications for approvals and to set conditions that allow a person or business to walk more between five and 12 dogs (clauses 9B and 9C)
- enabling council to make temporary changes to dog access rules (clause 10)
- referencing council's powers to enforce this Bylaw, including powers to issue an infringement notice (a \$300 fine), or seize, impound, or destroy a dog (clauses 18 and 19)
- providing for situations where a multiple dog license was not previously required and for existing licenses to remain valid (clause 20 and 22).

The Bylaw is part of a wider framework. The Bylaw does not seek to duplicate or be inconsistent with these requirements which include –

- rules about the care and control of dogs and damage caused by dogs in the [Dog Control Act 1996](#)
- council's approach to keeping dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders and rules about where dogs may be taken in its [Policy on Dogs 2025](#)
- rules about the obligations of animal owners or people in charge of animals in the [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#)
- rules about the standards a dog owner must achieve and the enforcement of animal welfare offending in the [Code of Welfare for Dogs 2018](#) and [Animal Welfare \(Care and Procedures\) Regulations 2018](#).
- the [Legislation Act 2019](#) which helps determine how to interpret and apply this Bylaw.

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1 Title

This Bylaw is the Ture a Rohe Tiakina Kurī 2019, Dog Management Bylaw 2019.

2 Commencement

- (1) This Bylaw comes into force on 1 November 2019.
- (2) Amendments by resolution [GB/2025/89](#) come into force on 01 August 2025, except for clause 9A which comes into force 1 January 2026 or a later date specified by council by resolution.
- (3) Amendments by resolution [GB/2025/125](#) come into force on 01 September 2025.

Related information about amendments

Auckland Council decided on 26 June 2025 to amend the Bylaw following a statutory review to remove Bylaw content covered in the Policy on Dogs 2025 or is outdated ([GB/2025/89](#)).

Auckland Council decided on 28 August 2025 to amend the Bylaw to update dog access rules on Te Ārai Regional Park and clause on temporary changes to dog access rules ([GB/2025/125](#)).

Clause 2 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2) and 2(3).

3 Application

This Bylaw applies to Auckland.

Part 1 Preliminary provisions

4 Purpose

The purpose of this Bylaw is to give effect to **Policy on Dogs** for Auckland.

Clause 4 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

5 Interpretation

- (1) In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires, -

Policy on Dogs has the meaning given by [section 10](#) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Related information about Policy on Dogs

Auckland Council decided on 26 June 2025 to amend its Policy on Dogs. The current version of the policy is contained in the Kaupapa mo ngā Kurī 2025 | Policy on Dogs 2025 ([GB/2025/89](#)).

- (2) Any undefined words, phrases or expressions used in this Bylaw and which are defined in the [Dog Control Act 1996](#) or [Policy on Dogs](#) have the same meaning as in that Act or policy unless the context plainly requires a different meaning.
- (3) Related information (in grey shaded text boxes titled “Related information” or *italic text*) and links to webpages are for information purposes only and may be inserted, changed or removed without any formality.
- (4) The [Legislation Act 2019](#) applies to this Bylaw.

Clause 5 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

Part 2 Regulation and control of dogs

6 Prohibition of dogs in public places

The owner of any dog must ensure that their dog does not enter or remain in any public place specified as prohibited in Schedules 1 or 2 of the **Policy on Dogs**.

Clause 6 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

7 Dogs on a leash in public places and private ways

The owner of any dog must ensure that the dog is under control on a leash in any public place and private way specified as such in Schedules 1 or 2 of the **Policy on Dogs**.

Clause 7 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

8 Dogs off a leash in public places

The owner of any dog (other than a dangerous dog) may take that dog under control off a leash in public places specified as such in Schedule 2 of the **Policy on Dogs**.

Clause 8 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

9 Dogs in designated dog exercise area

The owner of any dog (including a dangerous dog that is muzzled) may take that dog under control off a leash in a designated dog exercise area specified as such in Schedule 2 of the **Policy on Dogs**.

Clause 9 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

9A The number of dogs a person may have in council-controlled public places

A person must not have in their possession in any council-controlled public place more than the maximum number of dogs specified in this Table.

Type of council-controlled public place	(1) Maximum number of dogs (no approval required)	(2) Maximum number of dogs with council approval in 9B and while complying with conditions in 9B and 9C
Under control on a leash area	4	12
Under control off a leash area and a designated dog exercise area that is not fully enclosed	2	12
Fully enclosed designated dog exercise area	4	12

Example of a person walking four dogs in a local park

A person has their three dogs and a friend's dog at an off-leash council park. The person can have all four dogs at the park but can only have two of the four dogs under control off a leash at any one time. The other two dogs must be under control on a leash. If the dogs are unable to be controlled in this way, then the responsible dog owner behaviour is to keep all four dogs on-leash or have another person 'walk' two of the dogs off-leash.

9B Approval to have more than four dogs in a council-controlled public place

- (1) The holder of the approval required in 9A(2) must be –
 - (a) the person who instructs or authorises the person to be in possession of the dogs, if that is not the actual owner or owners of the dogs (for example a commercial dog walking business); and
 - (b) in all other cases the person in possession of the dogs.
- (2) The council may make controls and set fees for any or all of the following matters in relation to an approval required in clause 9A(2) –
 - (a) application for an approval, including forms and information;
 - (b) assessment of application for an approval (including for example, qualifications and competence);
 - (c) granting (up to the maximum in 9A(2)) or declining of an application for an approval following an assessment in 9B(2);
 - (d) conditions that may be imposed on an approval if granted (including for example a lower number of dogs than the maximum in 9A(2), competence and qualifications of the dog walker, and any charges to use council land for commercial purposes);
 - (e) duration of an approval if granted
 - (f) objection to the council in relation to a decision to decline an approval, including the period of objection
 - (g) objection to the council in relation to any condition of an approval, including the period of objection
 - (h) inspection to ensure compliance with any approval and any conditions
 - (i) review of any approval or any conditions
 - (j) transferability of an approval
 - (k) refund or waiver of fees
 - (l) suspension or cancellation of an approval
 - (m) objection to the council in relation to a decision to suspend or cancel an approval, including the period of objection.
- (3) Unless otherwise stated in the conditions of the approval granted in (1) –
 - (a) the duration of the approval is 12 months from the date granted; and
 - (b) the approval cannot be transferred to another person.

9C Controls to have more than four dogs in a council-controlled public place

- (1) The council may by resolution make a control that specifies conditions that apply to a person who has an approval to have more than the maximum number of dogs allowed in clause 9A(2)(a).
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt these conditions apply in addition to any conditions in an approval, and if there is any conflict, the conditions in an approval prevail.

- (3) The control in (1) may include any conditions to achieve the purpose of the Policy on Dogs or this Bylaw, including about one or more of the following –
- (a) council-controlled public places where dogs must or must not be taken;
 - (b) times when dogs must not be taken in a council-controlled public place;
 - (c) recommended best practice (for example to avoid conflicts with other users of shared spaces and damage to property or environment);
 - (d) qualifications and competence (for example situational awareness of the unpredictability of public places and the needs of other users);
 - (e) equipment (for example leashes, vests, 'poo bags', vehicles); and
 - (f) compliance with primary and secondary legislation and the **Policy on Dogs**.
- (1) The control in (1) comes into effect on the date specified in the resolution, or if no date is specified, the date the resolution is made.

Related information about approvals and conditions

The current approval process requires every dog walker and every dog walking business to register with council and to accept and comply with any conditions. Failure to register may result in a \$300 fine, and failure to comply with conditions may result in a fine and loss of registration. More information about how to register and conditions can be found on council's [website](#). The approval process and conditions may change in the future if needed. For example, to require a licence or to restrict access to certain parks.

10 Temporary changes to dog access rules

- (1) The council may make temporary changes to Schedules 1 and 2 of the **Policy on Dogs** in relation to –
- (a) leisure and cultural events (including dog friendly events);
 - (b) dog training;
 - (c) protected wildlife that are vulnerable to dogs
 - (d) flora that are vulnerable to dogs;
 - (e) pest control in any park and/or beach; and
 - (f) other circumstances of a comparative nature to subclause (1)(a) to (e) inclusive
- (g) Te Ārai Regional Park in accordance with all of the following –
- (i) to allow dogs under control on a leash;
 - (ii) within the middle section of the Te Ārai South Recreation Hub Special Management Zone (defined as the area between the western and eastern formed service roads, the park road to the north and the park boundary fence to the south);
 - (iii) when a loop track and a parking area is developed away from the beachfront parking area; and

- (iv) to allow dogs under control on a leash or in a vehicle between Ocean View Road and the parking area described in (iii).
- (h) the identification of any fully enclosed area as a designated dog exercise area (for example, a fenced dog park) –
 - (i) where dog owners are intended to be the priority users; and
 - (ii) the enclosure ensures that dogs are confined and cannot freely leave the enclosed area.
- (2) In making a temporary change to Schedules 1 and 2 of the **Policy on Dogs** in subclause (1)(a) to (f), the council must–
 - (a) have regard to any dog access principles in the **Policy on Dogs**;
 - (b) specify in writing the reasons, location and timeframe the temporary change is to apply;
 - (c) give public notice of the temporary change in a manner that the council considers appropriate in the circumstances; and
 - (d) clearly indicate the area subject to the temporary change by 1 or more clearly legible notices affixed in 1 or more conspicuous places on, or adjacent to, the place to which the notice relates, unless it is impracticable or unreasonable to do so.
- (2A) For the avoidance of doubt, subclause (2) does not apply to temporary changes in subclause (1)(g) and (h).
- (3) The council may update Schedule 1 and 2 of the **Policy on Dogs** at any time without formality to implement the temporary change and to reinstate the original rule.

Clause 10 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2) and (3).

11 Dog faeces

- (1) When in a public place or premise, dog owners must ensure the immediate removal and disposal of their dog's faeces. This must be done in a way that does not cause a nuisance.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to a premise occupied by the owner.
- (3) Subclause (1) does not apply to any working dog accompanying and assisting a person or accompanying a person engaged in a dog's training.

Clause 11 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

12 Keeping more than two dogs

- (1) No person may keep more than two dogs over the age of 3 months (other than a working dog) for more than 30 consecutive days, on any premises zoned for urban residential under the Auckland Unitary Plan.

Related information about Urban Residential zones

The following zones are considered to be “Urban Residential” under the [Auckland Unitary Plan](#) and will therefore require a Multiple Dog License for more than 2 dogs:

- Residential – Terrace Housing and Apartment Building
- Residential – Mixed Housing Urban Zone
- Residential – Mixed Housing Suburban Zone
- Residential – Single House Zone
- Residential – Large Lot Zone
- Business – Mixed Use Zone
- Business – Metropolitan Centre
- Business – City Centre
- Business – Town Centre
- Business – Local Centre

Note: None of the above zones are located in the Hauraki Gulf Islands.

- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply if –
- (a) allowed by a licence; or
 - (b) an application for a licence under subclause (2)(a) has been made within 30 days of the dogs first being kept on that premises.
- (3) Subclause (1) applies whether or not the dogs on the premises have the same owner.
- (4) Any application under subclause (2)(b) is a joint application by all the dog owners on the premises.

Clause 12 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

13 Licence for keeping more than two dogs on premises

- (1) The council may make controls and set fees for any or all of the following matters in relation to a licence required in clause 12 –
- (n) application for a licence, including forms and information
 - (o) assessment of application for a licence, including inspection
 - (p) the granting or declining of an application for a licence following an assessment
 - (q) conditions that may be imposed on a licence if granted
 - (r) duration of a licence if granted
 - (s) objection to the council in relation to a decision to decline a licence, including the period of objection
 - (t) objection to the council in relation to any condition of a licence, including the period of objection

- (u) inspection to ensure compliance with any licence and any conditions
 - (v) review of any licence or any conditions
 - (w) transferability of a licence
 - (x) refund or waiver of fees
 - (y) suspension or cancellation of a licence
 - (z) objection to the council in relation to a decision to suspend or cancel a licence, including the period of objection.
- (2) Unless otherwise stated in the conditions of the licence granted under subclause (1), the licence will remain valid as long as the circumstances described on the licence remain unchanged.
- (3) The licence cannot be transferred to another person or another premise.

14 Requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog

The council may require the owner of a dog to have that dog neutered if:

- (a) the dog has not been kept under control on more than one occasion within a 12-month period, the council may require the owner of the dog to have the dog neutered; and
- (b) dog owner has received an infringement relating to subclause (1)(a).

15 Objection to requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog

- (1) If a dog is required to be neutered under clause 14, the owner of that dog –
- (a) may, within 14 days of receiving the notice, object to the requirement by way of writing to the council; and
 - (b) has the right to be heard in support of their objection under subclause (1)(a).
- (2) The council when considering an objection under subclause (1) may uphold or rescind the requirement. In making its determination, the council must have regard to—
- (a) the evidence which formed the basis for the requirement;
 - (b) the matters relied upon in support of the objection; and
 - (c) any other relevant matters.
- (3) Following its consideration of an objection under subclause (2), the council must, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the owner of—
- (a) its determination of the objection; and
 - (b) the reasons for its determination.

16 Effect of requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog

- (1) If a dog is required to be neutered under clause 14, the owner of that dog must, within 1 month of receiving the notice of the requirement, produce to the council a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying –
 - (a) that the dog is or has been neutered; or
 - (b) that for reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be neutered before a date specified in the certificate.
- (2) If a certificate under subclause (1)(b) is produced to the council, the owner must produce to the council, within 1 month after the date specified in that certificate, a further certificate under subclause (1)(a).

Related information

Dog owners that do not get their dog neutered in the time specified may be subject to an infringement and will still be required to neuter their dog.

17 [Repealed]

Clause 17 deleted in accordance with Clause 2(2).

Part 3 Enforcement, offences, penalties

18 Enforcement

The council may use its powers under the Dog Control Act 1996 and the [Local Government Act 2002](#) to enforce this Bylaw.

Related information about enforcement

Council powers under the Dog Control Act 1996 (as reprinted on 30 November 2022) include to enter and inspect a property, feed or shelter dogs (section 14 and 15), request details of person in charge of dog or for the owner to identify dog (section 19 and 19(A)), seize, impound or destroy a dog (section 32, 33EC, 42, 52, 52(A), 56, 57, 57A, 59, 60, 64 and 72A).

Council can also use other methods for example, advice, information or warnings.

19 Offences and penalties

- (1) Every person who breaches this Bylaw commits an offence.
- (2) Every person who commits an offence under this Bylaw is liable to a penalty under the [Dog Control Act 1996](#) and the [Local Government Act 2002](#).

Related information about penalties

A person who is convicted of an offence against this Bylaw is liable to a fine. For dogs causing serious injury, the maximum fine is \$20000 and three years imprisonment (section 58 of the [Dog Control Act 1996](#)). Alternatively, council may issue a \$300 infringement notice (section 66 of the [Dog Control Act 1996](#)).

Part 4

Savings, transitional provisions

20 Exemption where multiple dog licence not previously required

- (1) This clause applies to any owner to which clause 12 applies, who immediately prior to the date of commencement of this Bylaw, was not required to hold a licence to keep multiple dogs in Auckland.
- (2) Where subclause (1) applies, an application under clause 12(2)(b) is not required unless –
 - (a) the owner changes address; or
 - (b) the number of dogs over 3 months of age (other than a working dog) kept on the premises increases for more than 30 consecutive days.

21 [Repealed]

Clause 21 deleted in accordance with Clause 2(2).

22 Existing approvals to continue in force

- (1) This clause applies to any licence to keep multiple dogs in Auckland issued under a dog control bylaw in force immediately prior to the date of commencement of this Bylaw.
- (2) Every licence continues in force as if it is a licence of that kind issued pursuant to clause 12(2) of this Bylaw.
- (2) Every licence to which subclause (1) applies expires –
 - (a) if any owner to which the licence applies changes address;
 - (b) if the number of dogs kept on the premises for more than 14 days exceeds the number permitted by the licence;
 - (c) if the number of dogs kept on the premises for a continuous period of more than 12 months is fewer than the number permitted by the licence; and
 - (d) for any reason specified in the licence.
- (3) Unless otherwise stated in the conditions of the licence granted under subclause clause 13(1), the licence will remain valid as long as the circumstances described in the licence remain unchanged.
- (4) The licence cannot be transferred to another person or another premise.

Clause 22 amended in accordance with Clause 2(2).

Related information, Bylaw history	
Date	Description
01 November 2010	Made legacy bylaws about dogs in public places ¹ (Section 63 Local Government (Auckland Transitional Provisions) Act 2010)
9 December 2011	Review of bylaws about dogs in public places completed (GB/2016/225)
22 November 2012	Made the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012 (GB/2012/157)
23 September 2013	Amended the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012, various dog access rules in the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board area (GB/2013/106)
25 September 2014	Amended the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012, various dog access rules in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Puketāpapa, Hibiscus and Bays and Kaipātiki local board areas and amended the summer beach end time on specified beaches in the Kaipātiki Local Board area (GB/2014/105)
30 October 2014	Amended the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012, various dog access rules in Ōrākei local board area, including the summer beach end time on specified beaches (GB/2014/122)
24 September 2015	Amended the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012, various dog access rules in Devonport-Takapuna, Kaipātiki, Ōrākei, Puketāpapa, Rodney, Upper Harbour, Waiheke, Waitākere Ranges and Waitemātā local board areas plus minor edits or amendments, and alternative local board summer times and season in the Albert-Eden, Devonport-Takapuna, Rodney, Waitākere Ranges (Te Henga / Bethells Beach only), Waitemātā local board areas (GB/2015/105)
26 November 2015	Amended the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012, various dog access rules and the alternate summer times and season in the Albert -Eden Local Board area (GB/2015/120)
29 September 2016	Amended the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012, various access rules amended in Great Barrier, Henderson-Massey, Howick (and the alternative summer times and season), Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Papakura, Puketāpapa and Whau local board areas plus minor amendments in the Waiheke local board areas (GB/2016/225)
14 June 2018	Review of Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2012 completed (REG/2018/44)
25 July 2019	Made the Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019 (GB/2019/71)
2 July 2024	Review of Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019 completed (RSCCC/2024/47)
26 June 2025	Amended Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019 (GB/2025/89)
28 August 2025	Amended Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019 (GB/2025/125)
¹ Legacy bylaws: Auckland City Council Bylaws, Bylaw No 12 – Dog control 2009, Franklin District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2010, Manukau City Council Consolidated Bylaw 2008 (Chapter 6) Dog Control, North Shore City Bylaw 2000 (Part 23) Dog Control, Papakura District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2004, Rodney District council General Bylaw 1998 (Chapter 15) Dog Control, Waitakere City Council Bylaw No. 29 Dog Control.	
Related information, next bylaw review	
This Bylaw must be reviewed by 02 July 2034. If not reviewed by this date, the Bylaw will expire on 02 July 2036.	