

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

PROPOSED DOG ORDER CHANGES (DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES REVIEW)

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

JUNE 2023

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Executive Summary:

Consultation overview

The dog orders at 15 separate reserves were consulted on in the community, to understand whether the proposed changes were deemed acceptable by all types of reserve users.

How we engaged

This second round of consultation was open for 30 days, and received 1382 online survey submissions, and one hardcopy submission.

Who we engaged

The consultation was targeted all residents across the City, regardless of dog ownership status, level of reserve use or preference.

We also engaged with City asset managers from Waste, Environment and Community Recreation prior to this second consultation opening, to ensure all aspects of public space use and maintenance were considered.

We heard from 1382 people during the engagement period.

What we heard

The reserves that had significant community support for the **proposed** changes included:

- Barwon River and Mount Brandon to become on lead
- Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve to become dogs prohibited
- Sparrovale to become dogs prohibited (minus the blue section that would be dog friendly after future development)
- Portarlinton Pony Club to become dogs permitted off leash when horses are not present
- Grinter Reserve to become dogs permitted off leash when horses are not present
- Lake Lorne to become dogs permitted off leash when horses are not present

Areas that the community preferred the **current** dog orders included:

- Buckley Park Foreshore to remain current timed access
- Ramblers Rd to remain current timed access
- Barwon Heads Community Park to remain dogs permitted off leash when no horses present
- Doolibea to remain accessible to dogs on lead
- Mount Duneed Equestrian to remain dogs prohibited or allow dogs on leash
- Elcho Park to remain dogs prohibited or allow dogs on leash

Barwon River Sanctuary and Rees Reserve equestrian area had a similar level of feedback for and against the proposed changes.

What we will do

This report will inform the Council Report recommendations that will be presented in August 2023, for consideration and potential endorsement.

Introduction

PROJECT BACKGROUND

In July and August 2022, we undertook a review of our Dogs in Public Places Policy (DiPP), and sought community feedback on current dog control issues, what was working well and what needed to change going forward.

To ensure orders across various locations were still appropriate, and all aspects of shared public space were considered we spoke with internal stakeholders responsible for open space management and planning of the City's reserves and we went back out to the community..

The DiPP consultation helped us identify where dog orders needed revision, and from here, we consulted with the community on 15 separate reserves with proposed dog order changes, to ascertain the community's views before they are presented to Council for final consideration and endorsement.

The City aims to make our shared spaces as safe and enjoyable as possible for all users, and so, we need to be able to strike a healthy balance between community safety, dog accessibility, wildlife conservation, flora protection, sporting tenant considerations and management of the asset's amenities.

departments within the City and our Council, in order to accurately inform decision making going forward.

ENGAGEMENT PURPOSE

The purpose of this community consultation was to understand whether the proposed dog order changes suggested by various stakeholders and the community in 2022, were considered acceptable by the community in 2023, and should be adopted by Council.

15 separate reserves had proposed dog order changes put forward to the community for review, following our initial 6-week consultation on Dogs in Public Places, which helped us identify which components of dog ownership and sharing of public spaces, needed further consideration.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report aims to summarise all feedback received throughout the consultation process, and to provide this information transparently to the community, affected

How we engaged

AT A GLANCE

The City ran a 4-week consultation on Proposed Dog Order Changes, with feedback to be left via the Have Your Say (HYS) online survey, or alternatively via a hardcopy survey made available through all City customer service centres.

Drop in sessions were held during the Dogs in Public Places 6-week period in 2022, to initially capture dog related issues and areas in which dog control orders may need to be reviewed so no further drop in sessions were held during this round.

A combination of social media, print media and mailouts to neighbouring addresses to reserves under review, were used to promote this consultation.

Who we engaged

WHO WE PLANNED TO ENGAGE

The City encouraged all residents living within our municipality to complete the survey, whether they are dog owners or not.

Via a mailout, we invited residents who resided directly beside the reserves under review to provide their feedback.

The consultation was advertised through several mediums including:

- Print ads in five local newspapers (Appendix A)
- Social media posts across Facebook and Twitter
- Bing mailouts to 1988 properties who lived in close proximity of the 15 reserves being reviewed (Appendix B)

We additionally engaged with City departments who are responsible for the management of our reserves and trails, including Environment, Waste and Community and Recreation, to ensure all elements of public space use had been considered.

PARTICIPATION

- 1382 online survey submissions were sent through the Have your Say (HYS) page.
- One hardcopy survey (Appendix C) was completed and sent into the City for review.
- Nine written submissions were presented to the Engagement Officer (appendix D), some of which were sent after the engagement closing date.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Suburbs

Respondent's residential location was often and unsurprisingly closely linked to the reserve being reviewed.

Overall, across the 15 areas being reviewed, the three suburbs respondents most commonly lived in were:

- Ocean Grove (192)
- Point Lonsdale (180)
- Highton (114)

This is not surprising considering six of the reserves being reviewed were on the Bellarine Peninsula, and two were on the Barwon River junction close to or within Highton.

We only had five suburbs with no engagement on these dog order reviews, and they were Batesford, Marcus Hill, North Shore, Point Wilson, and Staughton Vale.

Dog ownership

On average, 16.8% of respondents did not own dogs, compared to 83.2% that did.

The breakdown of dog owners to non-dog owners did fluctuate significantly between reviewed locations, with up to 34.8% of Indented Head Woodland reserve respondents being non-dog owners, down to Barwon Heads Community Park having no respondents participate who didn't own dogs.

WHO ACTIVELY ENGAGED

The overall feedback rate achieved was very pleasing to the City, when comparing the community's uptake and input into other City engagements, as well as those focussed on domestic animal issues that we have conducted in the past.

We received more than double our usual level of feedback from the community and had high representation from the dog-owning cohort, and a varied level of interest across the reserves being reviewed.

In the first round of consultations regarding DiPP, we expected to hear from more horse owners and equestrian focussed groups than we did, as only 3 submissions were directed to the sharing or segregating of dogs from equestrian centres, however in the second round of consultation, 363 survey responses were received specifically reviewing equestrian spaces and the dog orders within them.

What we asked

WHAT WE ASKED

The consultation consisted of 15 surveys, one for each of the reserves. This allowed respondents to easily navigate to the survey from the information page that was of interest to them, that contained rationale, current and proposed orders and address information.

Setting out the pages and surveys like this meant that if respondents felt passionately about more than one area, they would need to complete subsequent surveys.

All questions other than the last, were multiple choice (where in some cases more than one answer could be selected) to allow easier sorting of data when summarising findings, especially considering we knew that most answers would fall into distinct and predictable categories.

The last question was qualitative, with a text box to allow respondents to further discuss and explain their standpoint.

The survey was structured into two sections and contained the questions below:

information about the respondent including if the reserve was local to their residence, if they were dog or horse owners. This allowed us to draw on insights based on certain respondent characteristics.

The “proposed order” section of the survey allowed us to establish how often people were using the reserve, what they were usually using it for, and whether they found the proposed (or current) orders acceptable and why.

About you

- Town or suburb:
- Do you own any dogs?
- Do you own or regularly ride a horse? *

Proposed orders

- Do you use XX public space?
- What do you usually use the area for? *
- Do you find the proposed changes to the dog control orders for XX acceptable?
- Please tell us the reason for your response above:

*these questions only apply to equestrian centres under review

WHY WE ASKED

The “About you” questions asked through the survey helped us to understand some of the demographic

What we heard

KEY FINDINGS OVERVIEW

Each area under review has been broken down below, as well as the overall statistics for the entire engagement.

Overall

1382 responses were received through the online portal, from 1002 contributors. This is based on IP addresses and highlights that there were likely people who wanted to leave feedback on more than one site, as well as several people in one household wanting to leave feedback on any given reserve.

We additionally received one hardcopy survey response.

Residing suburbs

The top 10 suburbs with most engaged respondents were:

1. Ocean Grove
2. Point Lonsdale
3. Highton
4. Indented Head
5. Armstrong Creek
6. Drysdale
7. Clifton Springs
8. Mount Duneed
9. Little River
10. Lara

The 10 suburbs with the lowest levels of engagement in this review were:

1. Batesford
2. Marcus Hill
3. North Shore
4. Staughton Vale
5. Thomson
6. North Geelong
7. Moorabool
8. Mannerim

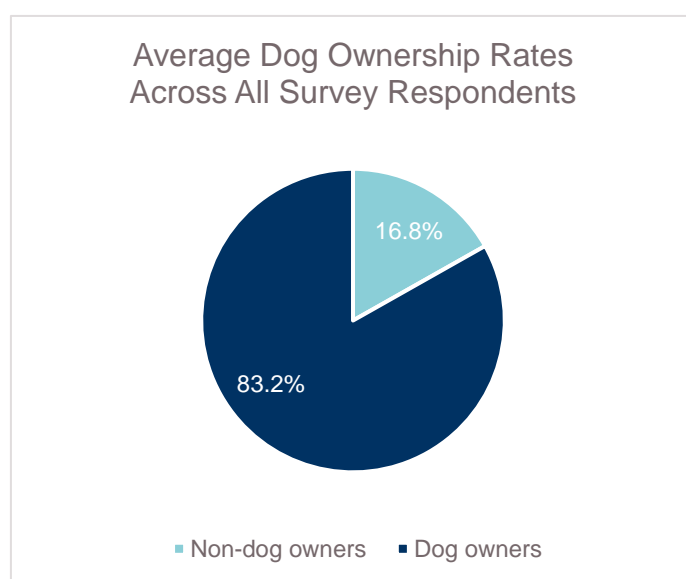
9. Drumcondra

10. Avalon

See Appendices D for a full breakdown.

Dog ownership rates

Overwhelmingly we heard from more dog owners than non-dog owners, with 83 per cent of responses received from dog owners.



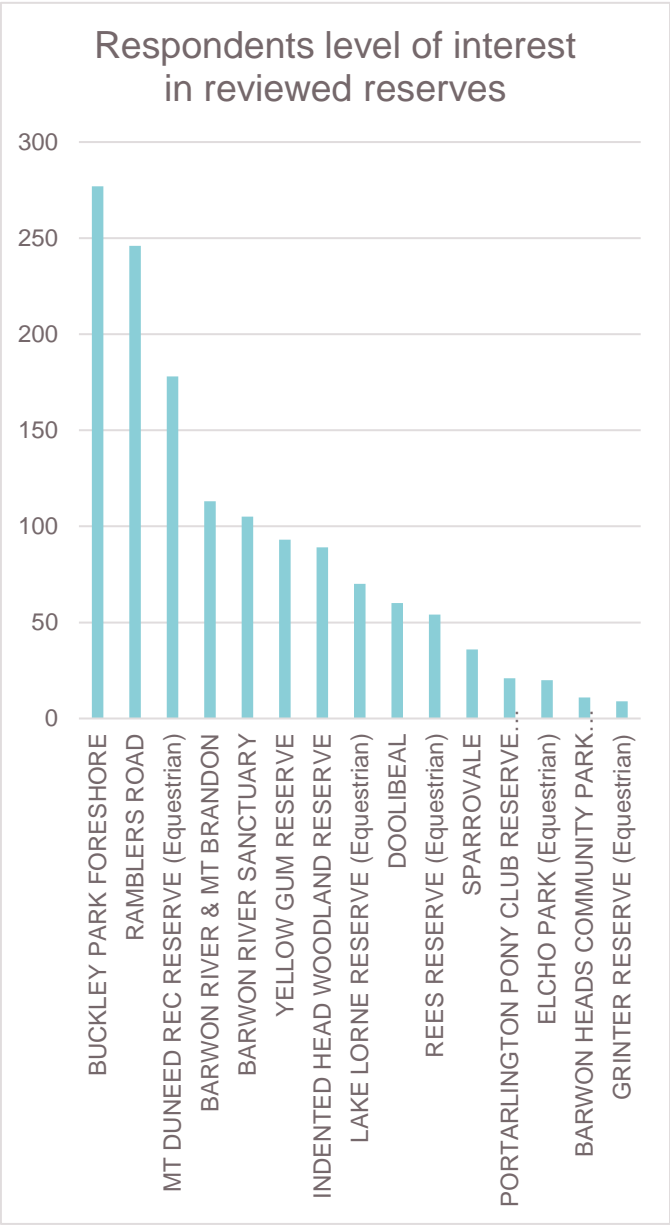
Interest in areas being reviewed

There was great variation in the number of responses received for each reserve under review, with some receiving over 200 responses and others less than 25. The likely reasons for reserves receiving fewer response was because the reserves in question experience less community usage or there wasn't a change being proposed at this site.

The ranking of interest was as follows:

1. Buckley Park Foreshore
2. Ramblers Road
3. Mt Duneed Recreation Reserve (Equestrian)
4. Barwon River & Mt Brandon
5. Barwon River Sanctuary
6. Yellow Gum Reserve

- 7. Indented Head Woodland Reserve
- 8. Lake Lorne Reserve (Equestrian)
- 9. Doolibeal
- 10. Rees Reserve (Equestrian)
- 11. Sparrovale
- 12. Portarlington Pony Club Reserve (Equestrian)
- 13. Elcho Park (Equestrian)
- 14. Barwon Heads Community Park (Equestrian)
- 15. Grinter Reserve (Equestrian)



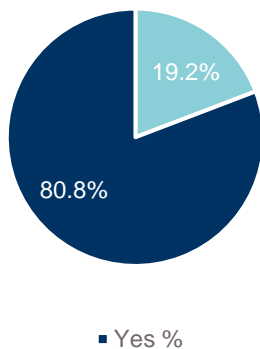
Breakdown of findings for each reserve

BUCKLEY PARK FORESHORE

Buckley Park Foreshore received the most responses, with 277 responses received.

80.8% (223) of these were dog owners and the vast majority of respondents were residents of Ocean Grove (41.4%), Point Lonsdale (34.1%).

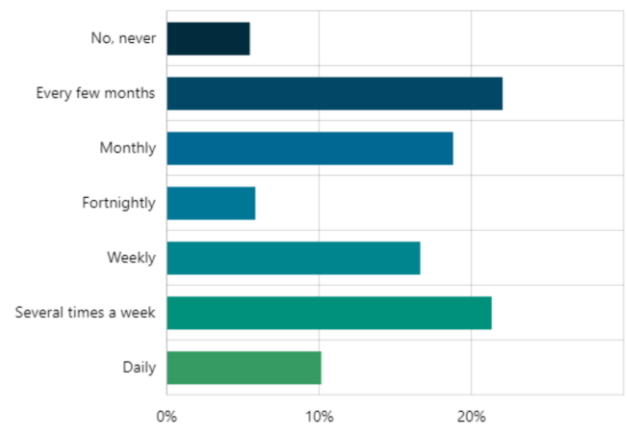
Buckley Park Foreshore - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates



Frequency of reserve usage

The frequency in which respondents reported using the Buckley Park Foreshore space was varied, with usage as follows:

1. Every few months (22.0%)
2. Several times a week (21.3%)
3. Monthly (18.8%)
4. Weekly (16.6%)
5. Daily (10.1%)
6. Fortnightly (5.8%)
7. Never (5.4%)



Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, "Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Buckley Park Foreshore acceptable?":

- 68.2% said "no"
- 24.6% said "yes"
- A further 7.2% said "somewhat"

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed and disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Don't ban dogs	28.6%
Keep dogs on lead	25.0%
Excessive ruling	20.2%

This change would negatively impact lifestyle	17.1%
Wildlife needs further protection	15.1%
Too few off leash areas available	11.5%
Other predators are the issue	9.5%
Dogs are not controlled	9.1%
Most dog owners obey the rules	8.7%
Current orders are appropriate	8.7%
Prohibit dogs	6.4%
More enforcement	6.4%
Dog walking provides health benefits	5.2%
Overcrowded off leash areas	4.8%
Agree with CoGG rationale	4.8%
Quiet beach	4.4%
Irresponsible owners	4.4%

Top feedback themes

It was widely acknowledged that the wildlife and sensitive flora in this area need further protection, however many believe this can be achieved by keeping dogs on lead in this area, rather than banning them altogether.

It is believed that other pests, such as foxes and cats are responsible for much of the decimation of hooded plovers

and other endangered birds, and that this needs to be addressed by the City.

Verbatim quotes from respondents

"The beach is the only walking path to Point Lonsdale. I keep my dog on the lead and pick up after her. How else can I walk to PL if not on the beach? Please do not stop me visiting my family & friends as the beach is my only safe path."

Agree with protection of habitat and breeding areas for wildlife and agree per rational provided for change

Leave it as it is. Surely other creatures are getting to these birds and it's not the dogs given they aren't allowed off leash during the birds breeding season.

Too many people ignore the rules around dogs and when if you politely ask them to comply, they can be aggressive. So banning dogs altogether is a great idea

I feel dogs on leads during off season and after breeding season would have no impact on the birds or other people. Most people walk along the waters edge and not up near the dunes.

Dogs should be allowed if they are on a lead

Vital to have some dog-free beaches to protect multiple natural attributes. But it is critical to also have education, publicity, enforcement. It is very worrying that the Hooded Plover volunteers will bear brunt of public backlash against this ban.

Our coastal dunes and foreshores are under enough pressure without dog owners allowing their pets loose to rampage amongst fragile breeding areas and sensitive flora.

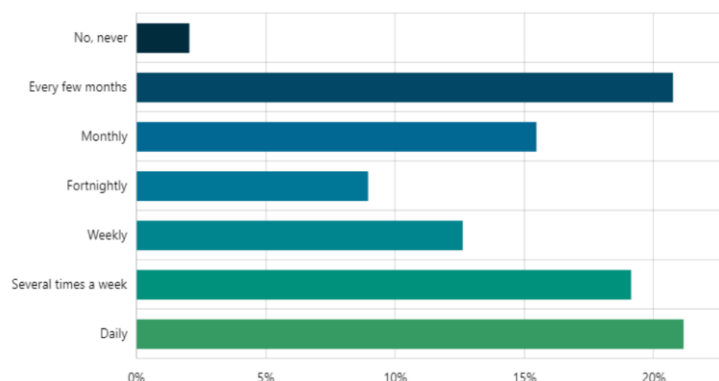
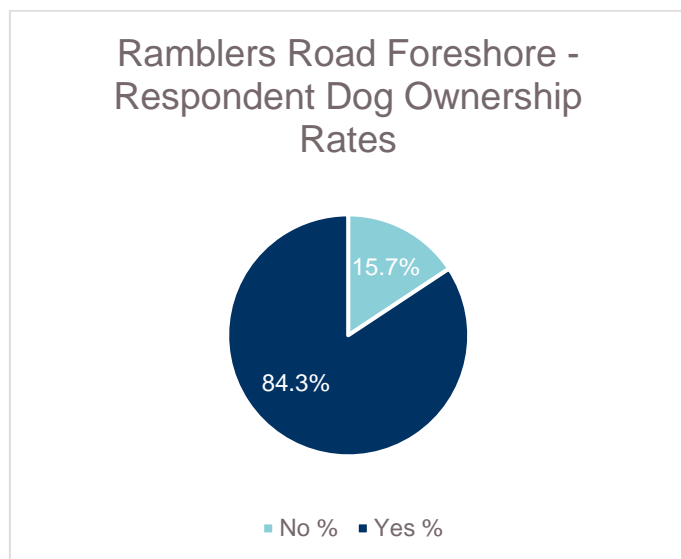
Surely dogs on leash is acceptable, it is no different to people walking there. By prohibiting dogs completely, you are reducing the number of places where people can take dogs on a leash

RAMBLERS RD FORESHORE

Ramblers Road Foreshore in Portarlington received 246 responses.

Dog ownership rates sat at 84.3% of all respondents, and almost two thirds of survey participants lived in

Portarlinton (65%), with Clifton Springs and Indented Head residents forming another 5.8% of responses from each of these locales.



Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, “Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Ramblers Road Foreshore acceptable?”:

- 79.3% said “no”
- 17.5% said “yes”
- A further 3.2% said “somewhat”

Frequency of reserve usage

Over 50% of survey respondents reported using this public space, weekly, if not more often (several times a week or daily).

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Ramblers Road Foreshore was as follows:

1. Daily (21.1%)
2. Every few months (20.7%)
3. Several times a week (19.1%)
4. Monthly (15.5%)
5. Weekly (12.6%)
6. Fortnightly (8.9%)
7. Never (2.0%)

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Don't ban dogs	40.4%
Allow dogs to be off leash	30.3%
Limited off leash options already	27.6%
Unfair for responsible dog owners	23.7%

Current orders are appropriate	22.4%
Prefer quieter beach	20.2%
Dogs need space to exercise	17.5%
Beach should be accessible to all	15.4%
Environment needs protection	12.3%
Leash in environmentally sensitive areas	11.4%
Keep dogs on leash	9.7%
Irresponsible owners	8.8%

There are more and more unnecessary restrictions on dogs on beaches. This cuts off the ability to do a long walk with our dogs from Clifton Springs to Portarlinton

There are already leash restrictions. We need more areas to exercise our dogs not less areas. If people are too scared of dogs on the leash, there are plenty of other beaches where dogs aren't allowed

I am all for better protection of existing wildlife there. Compliance checks are difficult to make, and people ignore signs. Better to have dogs on lead along paths nearby and away from significant bird habitat.

This beach is one of the least popular in the region for people to use, making it most suitable to allow dogs all year. The current orders are perfect. The proposed ban for 7 months a year harsh and will strain other beach interactions in the region.

There are already reasonable dog control orders in place for this area. Restricted access for dogs in this area will likely create overuse of other areas in Portarlinton.

Top feedback themes

Locals felt strongly that the proposed changes to this stretch of foreshore were too harsh, and the season was too long for dogs to be prohibited.

Many respondents suggested a shortened seasonal ban or keeping dogs on leash to minimise impact on nesting birds in the region through the breeding period. It was also suggested that temporary fencing be placed around known nests to alert dog owners of their presence and help protect them.

Quotes

I have been enjoying Ramblers Rd beach most days for 20 years, with and without a dog. I have never experienced or witnessed any issues with dogs on the beach. There is no need for a change to the orders. Rarely is there anyone on the beach.

I believe a total restriction on dogs during bird breeding season is unnecessary- definitely agree with dogs on lead during this time

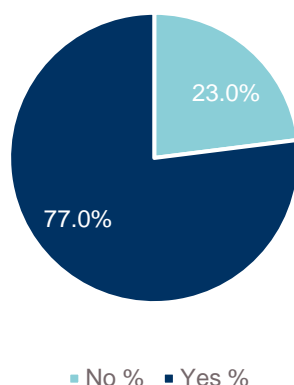
A hardcopy survey was received responding to proposed changes at Ramblers Rd, and its overall sentiment was that dogs should be kept on lead in this area to ensure the protection of wildlife (Appendix F).

BARWON RIVER AND MOUNT BRANDON

Barwon River and Mount Brandon received 113 responses.

Dog ownership rates for respondents leaving feedback on this area were 77%, and 53.2% of respondents lived in Highton, with the remainder residing across 27 other suburbs.

Barwon River & Mount Brandon - Dog Ownership Rates



Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, “Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Barwon River & Mount Brandon acceptable?”:

- 37.2% said “no”
- 51.3% said “yes”
- A further 11.5% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:

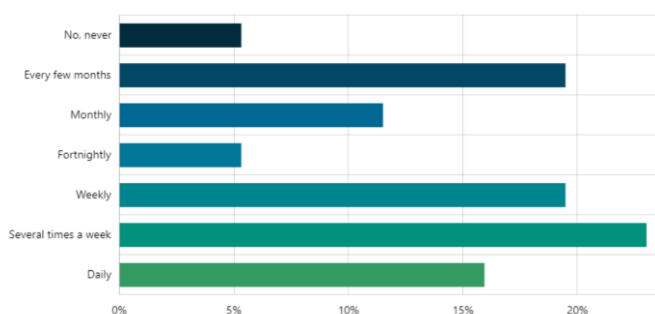


Frequency of reserve usage

Over 55% of survey respondents reported using this public space, weekly (19.5%), several times a week (23%) or daily (15.9%).

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Barwon River and Mount Brandon was as follows:

1. Several times a week (23%)
2. Weekly (19.5%)
3. Every few months (19.5%)
4. Daily (15.9%)
5. Monthly (11.5%)
6. Fortnightly & Never (5.3%)



Top themes	% of responses
Allow dogs off leash	40.0%
Keep dogs on leash	33.7%
Dogs not controlled	19.0%
Wildlife needs more protection	19.0%
More off leash areas needed	15.8%
Dangerous	12.6%
Irresponsible dog owners	12.6%
Most dog owners do the right thing	11.6%
Shared space	9.5%

Agree with rationale	8.4%
Ban dogs	7.4%
More enforcement needed	6.3%
Large unused paddock	6.3%

Top feedback themes

Many respondents find the open grassed area at the base of Stoneleigh Drive a great area to exercise dogs off leash due to its large size, the low traffic in the area and limited nearby off-leash options.

Additionally, many also note that the river environment needs protection and different orders to ensure the safety and preservation of flora and fauna in the area and suggest partitioning or zoning these two spaces and applying on-leash conditions to the river, and off-leash orders to the grassed open space.

Quotes

There needs to be at least some of this area as off leash. Dog walkers make up the majority of current users (and almost the only users of the large flat flood plain area). This area has almost no natural plantings / wildlife.

To preserve natural and cultural values, it would be preferable if dogs were not allowed in this area or at least be kept on leash at all times.

I think it is reasonable to have dogs leashed near the river. I believe the large meadow along Stoneleigh Crescent however a good place to exercise dogs that would not inhibit wildlife.

Dogs on leash is appropriate for the area. Would love if that could actually be enforced, as dogs are often off leash in on-leash areas in the queens park area which is incredibly frustrating and at times dangerous.

It is a fabulous space for dogs to be off lead. Possibly propose on leash within a certain proximity of the river

The environmental and cultural values of this area are extremely important and should be fully protected all dogs should remain on leash at all times in this location.

My dogs get uncomfortable when other dogs that are off the lead come up to them. Not all owners have control of their dogs

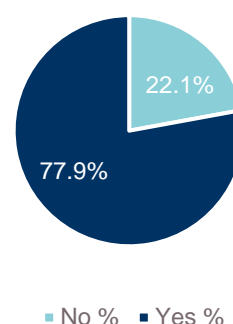
ALL reserves should be classed as on leash. There are too many untrained dogs that won't come on recall. My dog has been attacked twice on lead here and council are negligent for not providing more fenced dog parks. Signs are 1 thing, enforcement is another

BARWON RIVER SANCTUARY

Barwon River Sanctuary, which lies south-east of the Moorabool River and Redgum Island, received 105 responses.

Dog ownership rate for respondents leaving feedback on the Barwon River Sanctuary were 77.9% dog owners, to 22.1% non-dog owners. Almost half of all respondents lived in either Highton or Fyansford, which correlates strongly to the geographical location of the area being reviewed.

Barwon River Sanctuary -
Respondent Dog Ownership
Rates

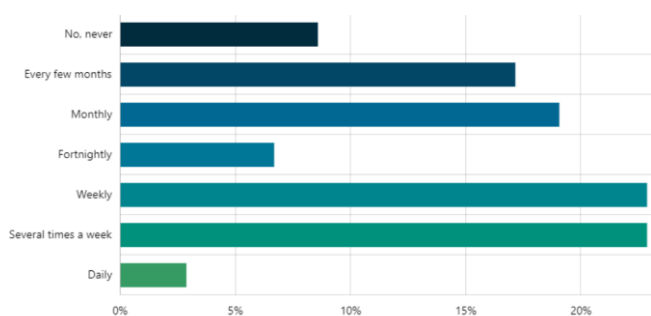


Frequency of reserve usage

The survey respondents most commonly visited it several times a week (22.9%) or weekly (22.9%), whilst 8.6% of respondents reported never using the space, yet wanted to leave feedback.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Barwon River Sanctuary was as follows:

1. Several times a week (22.9%) & Weekly (22.9%)
2. Monthly (19.1%)
3. Every few months (17.1%)
4. Never (8.6%)
5. Fortnightly (7.6%)
6. Daily (2.9%)



Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, “Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Barwon River Sanctuary acceptable?”:

- 55.2% said “no”
- 44.8% said “yes”
- 0% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Keep dogs on lead	18.4%
Wildlife needs more protection	17.2%
Don't ban dogs	17.2%
Irresponsible owners	13.8%
Ban dogs	12.6%
Agree with rationale	12.6%
Other places for dogs to exercise	10.3%
Destruction from other causes	10.3%

Top feedback themes

Commentary was mixed on this environmentally and culturally significant area, with some responses indicating that dogs need to be removed from the area altogether to ensure the area is protected. Furthermore, some stated that they regularly see dog owners be irresponsible in this area and let their dogs off-leash despite the current on lead orders.

Others felt that dogs on lead is sufficient and stated this would prevent any environmental damage, and that damage to the river banks must be caused by dog owners already disobeying the current order, and as such, more enforcement of the area is needed.

Quotes

Agree with protection of habitat and native wildlife, dogs run free in this area and are not on leads as required for the adjacent areas, need to strictly monitor and enforce no dog areas and dog on lead requirements

if you're taking away an area where dogs access the river, Please make other ones available. Not just on paper.

There are so few areas left where native flora & fauna can flourish without the devastating impact of dogs . Even dogs on lead can frighten native fauna, their faeces a bacterial issue. should be NO dogs as owners sadly don't stick to on lead rules

Dogs on leads is suitable. Banning dogs is not suitable

Happy to see native wildlife protected and natural environment thriving. I walk my dog around the Barwon and find when following the path this section is avoided. Dogs can be walked many places along the Barwon without impacting on this area.

Whilst on a lead and under the supervision of owner, minimal damage can occur. I am confused by "significant damage from dogs accessing the river here" whilst dogs should be on leads, what's to say it's not people or other animals?

This area is a sanctuary and needs to be treated as such. Few dogs appear to be obedient, and most owners seem to think everyone loves their dog as much as they do, a significant misconception.

YELLOW GUM RESERVE

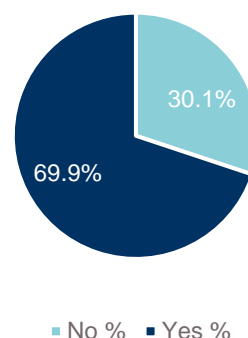
A formal decision on dog controls in this reserve has been deferred until the broader matter of public access has been determined by the City. We received 93 responses from community members regarding dog orders in this reserve during the consultation period; and this feedback will be forwarded to the Environment and Natural Resources team for consideration when determining public access.

INDENTED HEAD WOODLAND RESERVE

The Indented Head Woodland Reserve was proposed to have dogs prohibited to support native flora and fauna protection efforts.

This reserve received 89 responses and had the highest proportion of non-dog owners complete the survey (34.8%).

Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates



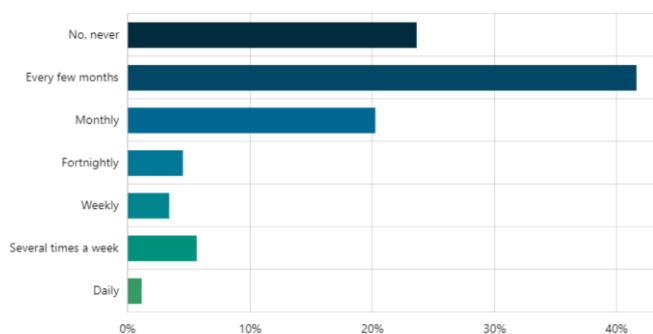
70.6% of all respondents reported they lived in Indented Heads, with the remaining 29.4% spread across St Leonards, Portarlington, Clifton Springs, Ocean Grove, Leopold, Highton, Point Lonsdale, Geelong, Geelong West, Norlane, Lovely Banks, Hamlyn Heights, Curlewis, Bell Park and Bell Post Hill.

Frequency of reserve usage

Indented Head Woodland Reserve was one of the least frequently used reserves, with over 60% of respondents using this public space, monthly or less. 23.6% of respondents reported never using the area for recreation.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using Indented Head Woodland Reserve was as follows:

1. Every few months (41.6%)
2. Never (23.6%)
3. Monthly (20.2%)
4. Several times a week (5.6%)
5. Fortnightly (4.5%)
6. Weekly (3.4%)
7. Daily (1.1%)



Keep dogs on lead	6.5%
Don't ban dogs	5.2%
Stop removing dog friendly areas	5.2%
Irresponsible dog owners	2.6%

Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, “Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve acceptable?”:

- 28.1% said “no”
- 62.9% said “yes”
- 9.0% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Wildlife needs more protection	16.9%
Prohibit dogs	15.6%
Agree with rationale	11.7%

Top feedback themes

Wildlife protection and the need to prohibit dogs (and other pests) from entering this reserve, was a widely held sentiment amongst respondents, due to dogs scaring, chasing and attacking wildlife, as well as the excrement they leave behind.

A smaller group stated dogs on-leash should be allowed anywhere, and that there are less and less public spaces available to exercise their dogs.

Quotes

This is an environmentally sensitive area with birds and small watercourse. Allowing access to dogs will result in irresponsible dog owners allowing dogs to impact the wildlife, cause erosion, pollute the watercourse and harass visitors.

Dogs are incompatible with the environmental attributes of this site, and it's important to protect these scarce remnant bits of woodland habitat and the species that rely on these woodlands.

Dogs on lead should be allowed, only wildlife we have seen in ten years is rabbits and foxes along with a few pet cats

The land was acquired primarily to protect its natural values, including presence of significant wildlife. Allowing dogs on the reserve conflicts directly with the intent of the land swap.

Dogs on lead with responsible owners will be fine and not upset bird life as much as careless humans.

I agree that prohibiting dogs is important for maintaining the natural habitat and to protect birds and wildlife. There

are many other places dogs can be walked. I hope the Council introduces a no dog policy in this space.

We find it difficult to locate natural type settings to walk our pets. This is a beautiful part of indented heads that should be open to everybody including dogs.

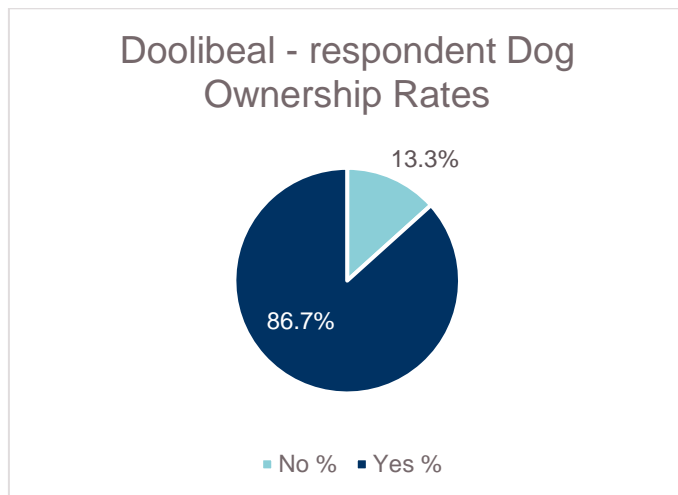
Living very close to the reserve many dog owners fail to take adequate control of their pet. Dogs are very frequently off leash, damaging gardens and defecating on grass. I have video evidence to support this. Cats are also seen, stalking wildlife.

DOOLIBEAL

Doolibea Reserve, previously called Stewarts Reserve in Armstrong Creek, received 60 contributions.

Residents living in Armstrong Creek were unsurprisingly the most common contributors, with 69.0% of responses coming from people living in this suburb. Grovedale and Highton were the next most common suburbs, 5.2% of total responses each.

86.7% of respondents reported owning a dog.

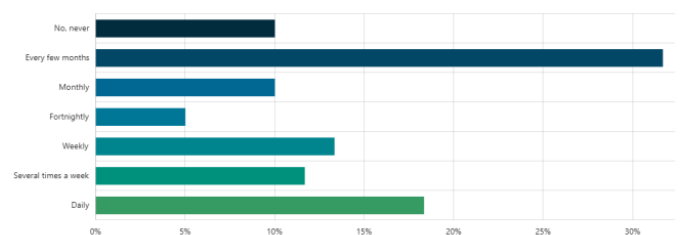


Frequency of reserve usage

The survey respondents who reported using Doolibea most commonly visited it every few months (31.7%), whilst 10% stated they never visited the area.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Doolibea Reserve was as follows:

1. Every few months (31.7%)
2. Daily (18.3%)
3. Weekly (13.3%)
4. Several times (11.7%)
5. Never and Monthly (10.0%)
7. Fortnightly (5%)



Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, “Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Doolibea Reserve acceptable?”:

- 60.0% said “no”
- 36.7% said “yes”
- 3.3% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Infrastructure needs improvement	31.4%
Wildlife needs more protection	29.4%
Keep dogs on lead	23.5%
Don't ban dogs	23.5%
Prohibit dogs	21.6%
Enjoy nature	13.7%
Not many dog friendly places	13.7%
Dogs don't pose a threat	9.8%
Irresponsible owners	7.8%
Agree with rationale	7.8%

Top feedback themes

There was strong acknowledgement for the need to protect wildlife and keep one of the few natural areas left in this large-scale development as a refuge for various native animals and plants.

The conflict came from the lack of pathway infrastructure to connect the “Sanctuary” estate to the connecting developments along Warralily Blvd and Horseshoe Bend Road. Many comments came through highlighting that this reserve acts as a safe and direct thoroughfare to other community services and amenities in the area, and if dogs were to be prohibited, it would force unsafe transiting for dog owners who live in the area.

Quotes

That is the only safe way to get from sanctuary estate to Warralily Blvd. There are insufficient paths in sanctuary estate to take any length of decent walk. Most people like myself use it as a throughway rather than a place to hang out with my dogs

Agree with rationale provided on explanation. There are great walking tracks available for dogs to use under control on lead. Dogs don't need to be free roaming in the reserve scaring native wildlife and defecating

No need for prohibiting as a responsible dog owner with a dog on a lead is no threat.

Contrary to the rationale there are not ample safe walking paths or points of access to these areas. Dog restriction to on-lead should be sufficient control to limit any environmental impact. The presence of dogs won't impact the cultural value in any way.

Compliance with 'on-leash' conditions is universally poor - more effective to ban dogs outright. Important to have precious cultural heritage sites and areas of biodiversity protected properly. Some public spaces are not appropriate to use as dog parks.

I believe the current dog orders of dogs on lead is appropriate as there is limited natural and native environment to walk the dog in "Armstrong Creek's growth area" - streets and streets of houses

There is not much native vegetation left in the Armstrong creek area so it would be great to see some spots left untouched. Also, a ban on bikes through the area would be great as well.

I live in sanctuary across from Stewart's road and go thru this area with my dog in order to access the walking track. If this change is put in place I will be unable to safely cross into this area as no other alternative

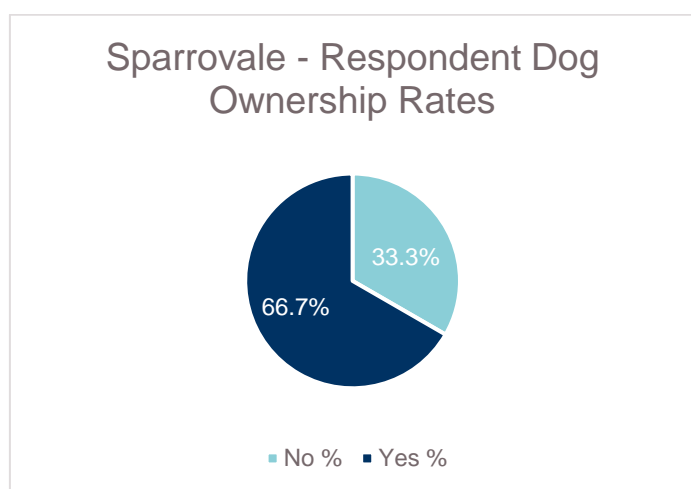
Dogs on lead cause the same problems to vegetation as humans walking. It doesn't seem reasonable that dogs are not allowed on leash in this area if humans are still allowed to walk through it.

SPARROVALE

Sparrovale, a large and currently undeveloped reserve, sits to the side of Lake Connemare, and has had its proposed dog orders suggested on the back of environmental conservation efforts as it's highly sensitive.

Of the 36 respondents who chose to leave feedback on this reserve, 20% were from Armstrong Creek, 11.4% from Ocean Grove, and the remaining 68.6% were evenly distributed across 18 other surrounding suburbs.

Two-thirds of the survey respondents reported they owned at least one dog.

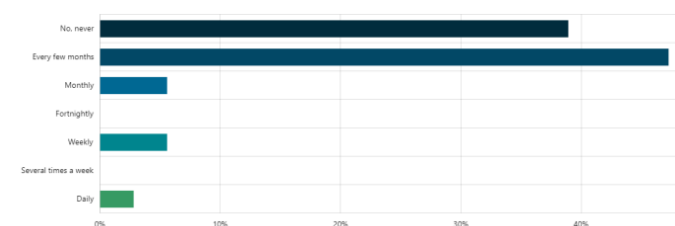


Frequency of reserve usage

Over 86% of respondents claimed that they only visited Sparrovale “every few months” (47.2%), or “never” (38.9%), leaving the remaining 14% to use it either monthly, weekly or daily.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Doolibea was as follows:

1. Every few months (47.2%)
2. Never (38.9%)
3. Monthly and Weekly (5.6%)
5. Daily (2.8%)



Level of acceptance of proposed orders

When asked, “Do you find the proposed changes to the dog orders for Sparrovale – Ngubiti Yoorree acceptable?”:

- 27.8% said “no”
- 66.7% said “yes”
- 5.5% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Wildlife needs more protection	71.0%
Prohibit dogs	48.4%
Agree with rationale	29.0%
Keep dogs on lead	22.6%
Don't ban dogs	16.1%
Consider further developments and removal of native environments	12.9%
Need more off leash areas	12.9%
Dogs not under control	6.5%

Irresponsible owners	6.5%
Enforcement needed	6.5%

and at the same time dog owners will be reluctant to give up their rights. Better to make it clear from the start.

Top feedback themes

Sparrovale had a lot of community support to be a dog prohibited area, due to its significant wetland and shorebird presence, and to preserve its environmental values.

Some dog owners put forward that keeping dogs on leash should be sufficient, and that more dog friendly areas are required across the City, particularly in this new development.

Quotes

This area of wetland is totally incompatible for dogs. This type of habitat and the species that use it cannot co-exist with dogs. But education & enforcement will be needed to ensure people understand and accept this dog ban

The majority of the area is important habitat for wetland and shorebird species who are facing increasing threats and pressures. I support this as it is a balanced approach but ultimately preserves significant and critical habitat for our wildlife.

Need to have some natural areas we can go with the dogs. We are packed in the estate like sardines and figured that was ok because of the parkland, but I need to be able to walk with the dogs!

This is fair as there are many other areas for the new locals to exercise their dogs and not impacting on the existing wildlife.

Dogs should be allowed in all public places if they are on a lead.

I like to explore and walk in many natural environments in the Geelong region. There are so few environmentally and culturally significant areas left in the region - it is paramount these areas are protected by the negative impact of dogs. Ban dogs.

It's a significant wetland hosting a wide range of waders. Inevitably dogs will chase the birds. The birds will leave

Breakdown of findings for each Equestrian Centre Reserve

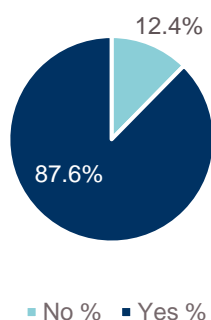
MOUNT DUNEED RECREATION RESERVE – EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve was the equestrian area with the highest level of community input, and the third highest area of interest overall, with 179 surveys completed.

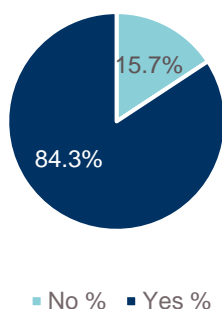
25.6% (41) of respondents resided in Mount Duneed, with at least five respondents leaving feedback from each of the following suburbs, Armstrong Creek, Belmont, Ceres, Connewarre, Grovedale, Highton, Lara, Leopold, Wallington and Waurin Ponds.

87.6% of respondents reported owning dogs, and 84.7% also owned or regularly rode a horse.

Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates



Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve - Respondents Horse Ownership Rates



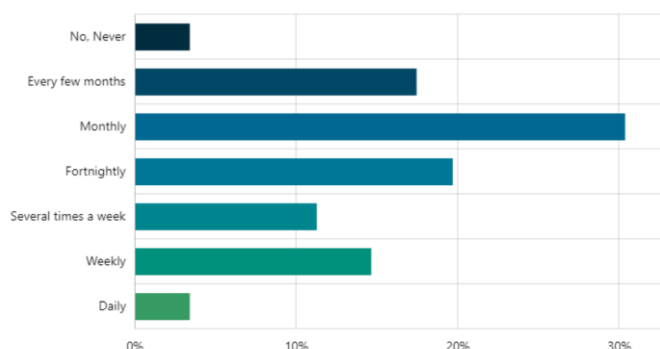
Frequency of reserve usage

The most frequently reported usage rate of the Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve was “monthly” at 30.3% of total submissions.

Only 3.4% of respondents claimed they used the area daily or never, and the remaining ~63% were quite evenly spread across “weekly”, “several times a week”, “fortnightly” and “every few months” use.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve was as follows:

1. Monthly (30.3%)
2. Fortnightly (19.7%)
3. Every few months (17.4%)
4. Weekly (14.6%)
5. Several times a week (11.2%)
6. Daily and Never (3.4%)

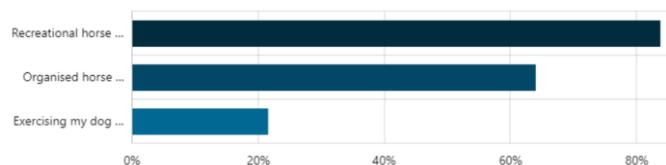


How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

83.7% used the space for recreational or non-formal riding, whilst a further 64.0% used it for formal horse meetings, club days etc.

21.5% stated they used the area for off leash exercising of their dog/s.



Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Mount Duneed Equestrian centre appropriate?”

- 27.5% said “no”
- 50.0% said “yes”
- 22.5% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Dangerous	25.3%
Keep dogs and horses separate	21.4%
Dogs not under control	16.3%
Prohibit dogs	14.6%
Allow dogs off leash	12.4%
Keep dogs on lead	11.8%

Don't ban dogs	6.2%
Area large enough to accommodate both	6.2%

The level of recreational horse-riding use of this reserve was difficult for the City to estimate, and far higher than the City was aware of, and one of the key reasons for this that became apparent, was that it is the only specialty Cross-country equestrian centre in the region.

Top feedback themes

There was strong support that the equestrian centre at Mount Duneed Recreation reserve be a dog prohibited area, or at minimum dogs on lead, to minimise the interaction between dogs and horses, due to the danger this poses to both animals, as well as horse riders.

Commentary around the proposed “off leash when no horses present” order was, that:

- It is difficult to see if horses are using the space, and when a dog is off lead, it's too late. Some believe that often owners don't have the control or interest in re-leashing their dog even when they do see horse riders using the space. A dangerous encounter is the likely outcome.
- The area is large enough that dogs do not need to use the equestrian grounds here, as there is a nearby oval that is separate and appropriate for dogs.

Conversely, others stated there are too few off lead areas for dogs across the City, and large spaces like this are preferred by dog owners over dog parks, to minimise dog fight incidences. A time-share option was put forward as a suggestion.

Quotes

Dogs and horses don't mix. Horses are large animals and accidents can easily happen when dogs are off leash around horses.

The Reserve is well used by dog owners, and increasingly so with local housing development. I would hope dogs can be off lead at all times when there are no horses present,

but still be able to be walked on lead when there are recreational riders present

No dogs, horses are very regularly at the grounds and dog owners do not respect the rules when horses are around, I have been a victim of a dog attack whilst riding a horse and I ended up in hospital, they never obey the rules

The visibility at Mt Duneed is not good for people to understand who is on the grounds. We have had a very bad experience with a dog off lead that could not be controlled and it is a very scary and dangerous situation.

This should absolutely be prioritised for dogs. There are a few horse riders that use it yet tens of thousands of dog owners in Geelong without enough dog off lead space. Thus is the perfect safe space for off lead dogs

Dogs should be allowed in all public places if they are on a lead

I have witnessed dogs off leash spooking horses on multiple occasions. I don't think dogs should be permitted off leash on the grounds.

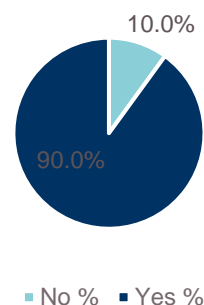
So dangerous, why would you even consider this. Equestrian riders are so restricted with where they ride. The majority of people with dogs off leash can't even recall them or understand how to train this.

LAKE LORNE RESERVE – EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

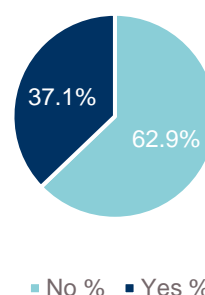
70 responses were received with 54.7% of them coming from residents of Drysdale, 18.8% from Clifton Springs, and the remaining 26.5% distributed across 14 other suburbs.

90% of the total Lake Lorne respondents reported owning a dog, and 37.1% reported owning or regularly riding a horse.

Lake Lorne Reserve - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates



Lake Lorne Reserve - Respondent Horse Ownership Rates

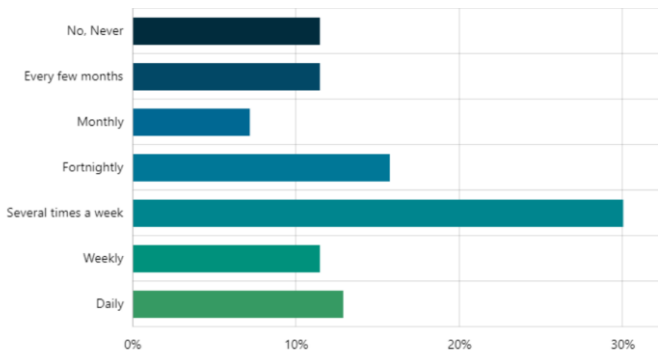


Frequency of reserve usage

30% of respondents claimed they used the Lake Lorne equestrian space "several times a week", whilst all other optional frequencies were spread very evenly and varied between 7.1% and 15.7%.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Lake Lorne Equestrian centre was as follows:

1. Several times a week (30%)
2. Fortnightly (15.7%)
3. Daily (12.9%)
4. Every few months, Weekly and Never (11.4%)
7. Monthly (7.4%)

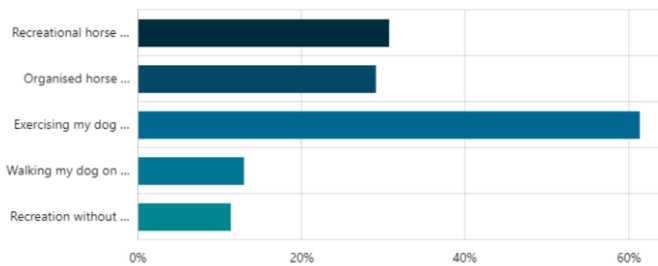


How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Lake Lorne Equestrian Centre for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

The most common response was to “exercise my dog off lead” (61.3%), followed by “recreational horse riding” (30.7%) and “organised horse riding” (29.0%).

Walking my dog on lead (12.9%) and “recreation without any pets” (11.3%) rounded out the ways in which the local community used this space.



Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Lake Lorne Equestrian centre appropriate?”

- 70% said “no”
- 18.6% said “yes”
- 11.4% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Allow dogs off leash	44.3%
Keep horses and dogs separate	37.1%
Shared space	31.4%
Timed access solution	28.6%
Underused by horses	27.1%
Dangerous	20%
Dogs not under control	18.6%
Limited off leash areas	17.1%
Infrastructure improvement needed	17.1%

Top feedback themes

Responses frequently reiterated several points:

- The area is underused by horses and would be wasted if dogs were not granted access.

- The infrastructure at this reserve, including drainage and access to pedestrian pathways, needs to be addressed, as currently reserve users cannot walk a lap of the lake without having to impede on the equestrian area due to the path being inaccessible due to regular flooding.
- Dogs should be allowed off lead when the space is not being used by horses, but dog owners need to be responsible and leash their dogs when horses are present, to reduce the danger.

Quotes

Provided there is no organised horse riding (pony club, camps etc) I do not see why dogs are not allowed to be exercised there, whilst on or off leash (under effective control)

We enjoy the open space and trees when walking and exercising our dog. We never enter the area when a horse event is in progress and always pick up the dog poo, so we feel the current practise could continue respectfully.

Lack of control from dog owners has presented a risk for pedestrians and horse riders/owners. The current restrictions in force mitigate this risk and should be sustained.

It is very common to encounter dogs being walked off and on leash on the equestrian grounds. This happens both when we are horse riding recreationally and when attending pony club rally days. It is a dangerous mix of unknown dogs around children's ponies. Pony club Australia bans dogs from pony club days for this very reason.

For those of you who are familiar with this area - the path that surrounds Lake Lorne has been underwater for over a year and is inaccessible. This has meant that for over a year it has been necessary to walk through the equestrian area to be able to do a circuit. The significant flooding issues around Lake Lorne need to be addressed for this "Tier 1" status to be fair and reasonable.

Dog walking still taking place when pony club on, Have regular interactions with dog walkers trying to get them to vacate area along lake and train line whilst pony club members using jumps. Would be extremely beneficial to have fence in place to separate walking area from cross

country jumping area. Would think only matter of time before some incident would occur when the two meet.

It is stated that Lake Lorne Equestrian Centre is subject to a high amount of horse traffic. This is clearly not true. Most days of the year there are either no horses in the area or merely one or two horses in the reserve. This space is insufficient!

This is a large area & should be able to be used by dogs when no equestrian activities are taking place. It should allow for joint usage of dogs & horses. There are many days when there are NO equestrian activities

REES RESERVE – EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

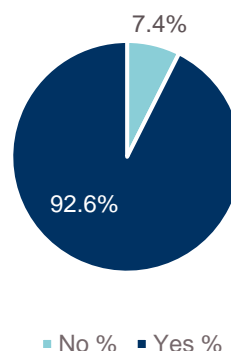
Rees Reserve received 54 responses.

69.8% of respondents resided in Little River, and another 17% from Lara. Anakie, Armstrong Creek, Bell Park, Belmont and Corio had 1-2 responses each to round out the suburbs from which submissions were received.

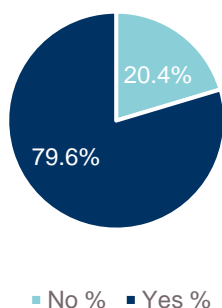
Only 7.4% of respondents did not claim they owned a dog.

79.4% of respondents reported owning or regularly riding a horse.

Rees Reserve - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates

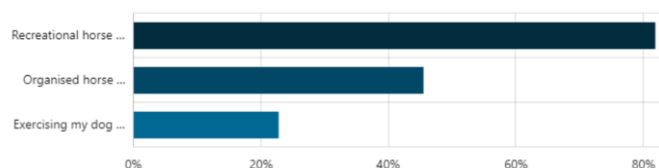


Rees Reserve - Respondent Horse Ownership Rates



81.8% of respondents reported using the reserve for recreational horse riding, whilst 45.5% stated they used the area for organised horse-riding including pony club, camps etc.

22.7% claimed that they used the area for exercising their dog/s off-leash.

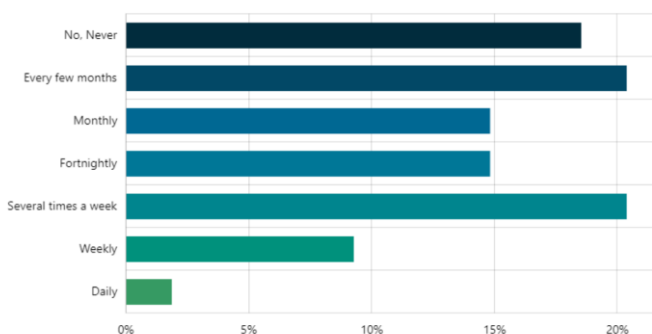


Frequency of reserve usage

Usage of Rees Reserve was evenly spread across all frequencies other than “daily” or “weekly” use which only elicited 1.8% and 9.3% of responses respectively.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Rees Reserve Equestrian centre was as follows:

- Several times a week and Every few months (20.4%)
- Never (18.5%)
- Fortnightly and Monthly (14.8%)
- Weekly (9.3%)
- Daily (1.8%)



How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Rees Reserve for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Rees Reserve Equestrian centre appropriate?”

- 46.3% said “no”
- 40.7% said “yes”
- 13% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Dangerous	44.44%
Dogs are not under control	37.04%
Horses and dogs should be separate	33.33%

Irresponsible owners	22.22%
Current orders appropriate	20.37%
Dogs should be allowed off leash	20.37%
Keep dogs on leash	14.81%
Limited horse venues	9.26%

Top feedback themes

The key themes focused on the appropriateness of the reserve being shared with dogs:

- Dangerous to mix dogs and horses. Dogs should be prohibited from Rees Reserve.
- Residents of Little River live on acreage, so an off-leash dog area isn't necessary.
- If dogs were allowed off-leash in this space, even when horses weren't present, some owners would be reluctant to re-leash them when required.
- Timed access is a reasonable option to allow dogs to use the space off-leash, and if not supported, at least permit dogs on leash.

Quotes

Used the reserve last week and people did turn up with dogs. Most dogs are not under control when off leash and horses and dogs do not mix. They should have a different park for dogs away from horses. There aren't many places to safely ride horses.

Dogs are predators, horses are prey animals. Dog owners rarely understand this and rarely understand how dangerous it is for horse owners and riders to have dogs running around. Horses may be out of sight without dog owners aware there are horses around.

People still have dogs there. If the proposed changes are put in place then there is going to be issues. There is a large of leash park in Lara that is not utilised enough. I

would think that in Little River most people live on acreage. NO NEED TO CHANGE.

I would love to be able to use this space for off leash dog exercise. We currently have to travel to either Lara, Corio or Werribee so this would be ideal for Little River locals.

There is no way of assuring that dog owners have appropriate control (or care factor) of their dogs to recall them when a horse becomes present. Big insurance risk if riders are injured due to dog behaviour.

I don't think it should be an off-lead spot for dogs when horses aren't there. As when horses arrive people will be reluctant to put the dogs back on lead. Also, people will get used to always having them off lead and will forget when horses are there.

This is rather worrying as most dog owners are responsible but if someone refuses to put their dog on lead say because they were there first or out the back when a horse turns up then someone will most likely get hurt (most likely the horse or rider).

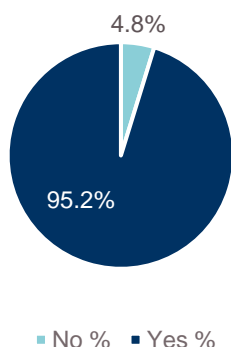
Portarlinton Pony Club Reserve – Equestrian Centre

Portarlinton Pony Club received 21 responses.

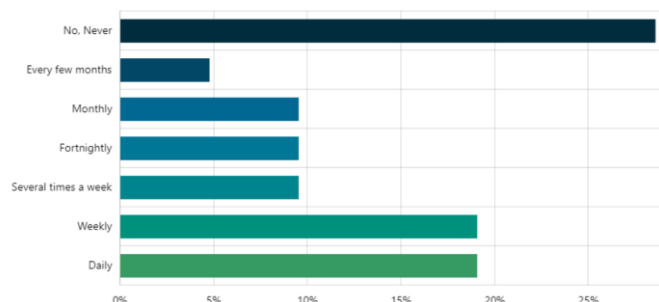
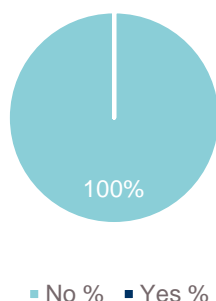
76.2% of respondents for this reserve lived in Portarlinton, with Drysdale (14.3%), Ocean Grove (4.8%) and Belmont (4.8%) making up the remainder.

It's important to highlight that 95.2% of respondents reported owning a dog and none of the respondents said they owned a horse/s.

Portarlington Pony Club Reserve - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates



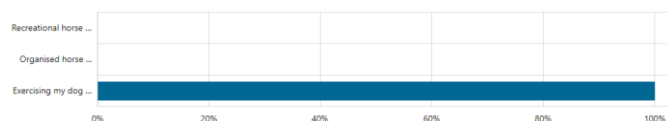
Portarlington Pony Club Reserve - Respondent Horse Ownership Rates



How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Portarlington Pony Club Reserve for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

All respondents reported using this reserve for off-leash dog exercise, with none claiming to use it for equestrian based activities.



Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Portarlington Pony Club Reserve appropriate?”

- 90.5% said “no”
- 9.5% said “yes”

Frequency of reserve usage

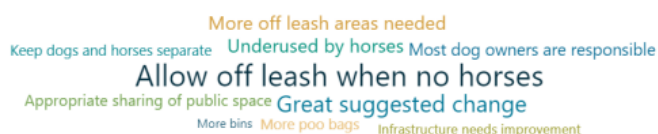
Frequency of use of Portarlington Pony Club Reserve was mixed with the most common answer being “never” (28.6%), with “daily” and “weekly” use (19.1%) each.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Portarlington Pony Club Reserve was as follows:

1. Never (28.6%)
2. Daily and Weekly (19.1%)
4. Several times a week, Fortnightly and Monthly (9.5%)
7. Every few months (4.8%)

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Allow off leash when no horses present	80.95%
Great suggested change	52.38%
Underused by horses	33.33%
More off leash areas needed	33.33%
Most dog owners are responsible	23.81%
Appropriate sharing of public space	19.05%
More poo bags	14.29%
Keep dogs and horses separate	14.29%

Top feedback themes

Respondents frequently stated:

- This reserve is underutilised by horses and allowing dogs to use it off-leash is welcomed.
- More off-leash areas needed on the Bellarine, and this land is ample-size and perfect for that use.
- Consideration needs to be given to neighbouring properties as it's a residential area. Additional tree planting and waste collection services needed to mitigate noise pollution and stench that may come from increased dog usage of this reserve.

Quotes

As responsible dog owners we do not take our dogs to the pony club if horses are present. We make sure we clean up after the dogs and place rubbish in the bin provided. Dog bags at the location would be fabulous.

I agree with council, under-utilised area. However, it would require fencing due to the closeness of vehicle traffic. Currently not safe for dogs, children or motorists.

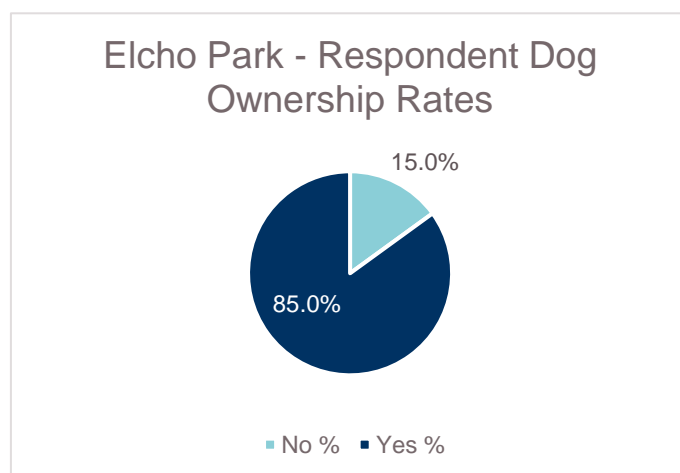
This is a fantastic, well fenced and secure off lead area to let the dogs run. In 8 months, I have only seen this area used once by ponies. It makes sense to allow dogs off lead when there are no ponies in the area.

The proposed dog control orders to allow dogs access when horses aren't present is welcomed. This is a popular well utilised public space and wonderful to see it will be shared.

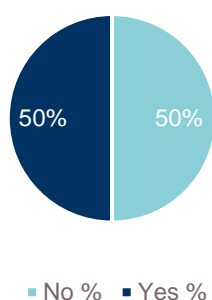
ELCHO PARK – EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Elcho Park Equestrian area received 20 contributions, with two-thirds of respondents living in Lara or Lovely Banks.

85% of respondents reported owning a dog, and 50% stated they owned or regularly rode a horse.



Elcho Park - Respondent Horse Ownership Rates



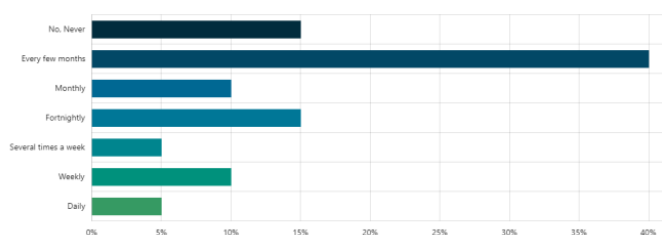
Frequency of reserve usage

The most commonly reported usage rate of Elcho Park was “every few months”, 40% of respondents.

5 – 15% of respondents used it at all other frequencies.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Elcho Park was as follows:

1. Every few months (40%)
2. Fortnightly and Never (15%)
4. Weekly and Monthly (10%)
6. Daily and Several times a week (5%)

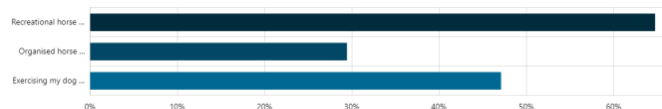


How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Elcho Park for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

Recreational horse riding was the most common use of the reserve, with 64.7% of respondents indicating this was how they used the area.

47.2% stated they used it to exercise their dog off leash, and 29.4% used it for organised horse-riding activities.



Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Elcho Park appropriate?”

- 25.0% said “no”
- 50.0% said “yes”
- 25.0% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top Themes	% of responses
Dogs and horses should be separated	55%
Dogs should be allowed when no horses present	50%
Dangerous	40%
Keep dogs on leash	20%
Dogs not under control	15%

Irresponsible owners	15%
Prohibit dogs	10%
High use by horses	10%

Top feedback themes

- The key themes focused on the appropriateness of the reserve being shared with dogs. Dogs should be prohibited when horses are present, as it's unsafe for both species to mix, but allowed off-leash at other times.
- There are lots of other areas in Lara people can take their dogs, so Elcho Park should be dogs prohibited and left to serve its original purpose, as an Equestrian Centre.
- If a dog is kept on lead, it should be allowed in public spaces like this, as the owner has full control, and no risk is posed.

Quotes

People still let their dogs run around off leash they don't care if you are riding or walking around. It's very scary

Dogs should be allowed in all public places if they are on a lead

Dogs are predators, horses are prey animals. Dog owners rarely understand this and rarely understand how dangerous it is for horse owners and riders to have dogs running around.

We as dog owners should be allowed to walk dogs off leash when people not using arenas especially when some days the people who complain are riding the horse while their dog is running free. I'm sick and tired of the double standards

My horses are used to dogs and vice versa. But a non-horse person with a dog off lead, that has no control of their dog, isn't a good thing in an equestrian centre.

It is an extremely high quite traffic area. There are regularly riders there having lessons or rides by themselves. I rarely go there or drive past and not see at

least one horse rider. A lot of dogs aren't conditioned to be around horses.

I only use it when there are no horses present. It seems unreasonable to prohibit this.

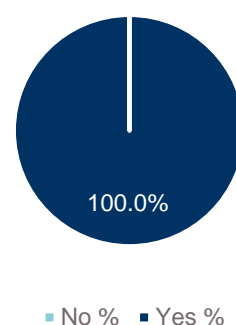
BARWON HEADS COMMUNITY PARK – EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Barwon Heads Community Park (BHCP) received the second lowest level of contributions, at 11, however this wasn't surprising considering there were no proposed changes at this location. Moreover, the current orders in this location were achieved through an independent review due to a petition being raised requesting the "dog prohibited" order in place be revoked and made to "dog off leash when no horses are present".

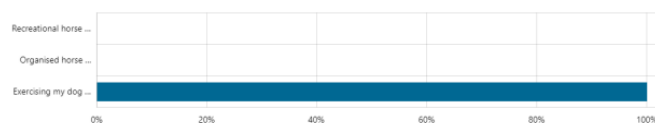
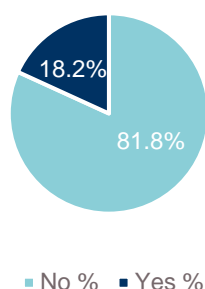
Most respondents were from Barwon Heads (45.5%), followed by Ocean Grove (18.2%) and Point Lonsdale, Bell Park, Belmont and Drysdale, all at 9.1%.

All respondents were dog owners, and only 18.2% reported owning a horse.

Barwon Heads Community Park - Respondents Dog Ownership Rates



Barwon Heads Community Park - Respondent Horse Ownership Rates



Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Barwon Heads Community Park equestrian centre appropriate?”

- 90.9% said “yes”
- 9.1% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:

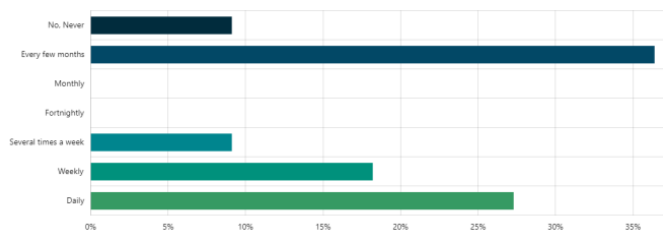


Frequency of reserve usage

The most reported usage rate of Barwon Heads Community Park was “every few months” at 36.4% of responses. However, over half of all public space users claimed to use BHCP weekly, if not more frequently.

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Barwon Heads Community Park was as follows:

1. Every few months (36.4%)
2. Daily (27.3%)
3. Weekly (18.2%)
4. Several times a week and Never (9.1%)



How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Barwon Heads Community Park for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

All respondents stated they used the area to exercise their dog/s off leash. One person skipped answering this question.

Top themes	% of responses
Current orders appropriate	81.82%
Leash dogs when horses present	18.18%
Dog walking benefits	18.18%
Dogs need off leash exercise	18.18%
Overcrowded off leash areas	9.09%
Keep dogs on leash	9.09%

Top feedback themes

Current orders of “dogs permitted off-leash when no horses present” are working well considering the limited horse usage of the area, and the need for off-leash spaces for dogs.

The overwhelming majority are happy no changes are being made to this public space.

Quotes

Great socialising with other dog owners

Pure common sense. A great offering for dogs & their owners considering scheduled equestrian activities are very limited. super grassed area for dogs instead of always giving us a beach. Good for private obedience training

It balances the needs of dog and horse owners.

Very pleased there is no change to the dog control orders. The horses are only there about once/ month and I am very happy to have my dog on lead when horses are present. I have never had an issue with any dogs whilst I've been in the park.

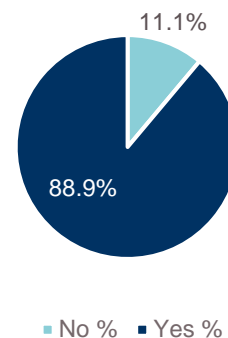
GRINTER RESERVE – EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Grinter Reserve in Whittington had our lowest level of feedback, with only nine submissions received.

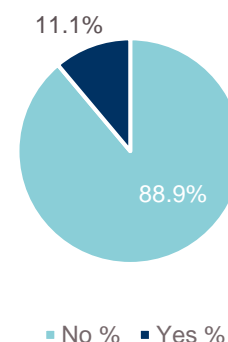
Residents from Whittington, St Albans Park, Leopold, Lara, East Geelong, Drysdale and Belmont submitted feedback for consideration.

88.9% of these respondents owned at least one dog, and only 11.1% of respondents owned or regularly rode a horse.

Grinter Reserve - Respondent Dog Ownership Rates



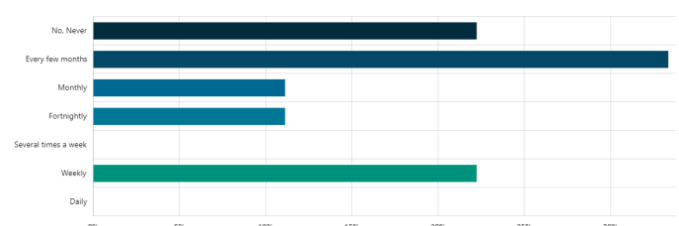
Grinter Reserve - Respondent Horse Ownership Rates



Frequency of reserve usage

The breakdown in frequency of which respondents reported using the Grinter Reserve Equestrian Centre was as follows:

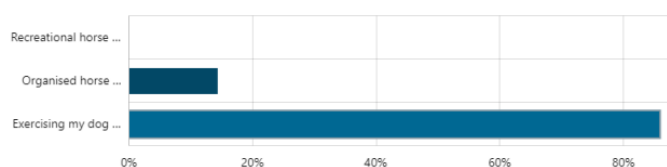
1. Every few months (33.3%)
2. Weekly and Never (22.2%)
4. Fortnightly and Monthly (11.1%)



How is the reserve used

When asked, “What do you usually use the equestrian area of Grinter Reserve for?”, respondents could select more than one answer if they used the reserve for several purposes.

85.7% of respondents stated they used the area to exercise their dog/s off-leash, 14.3% stated for “organised horse riding” and 2 people opted to skip answering this question.



Level of acceptance of current orders

When asked, “Do you find the current orders at Grinter Reserve appropriate?”

- 66.7% said “no”
- 11.1% said “yes”
- 22.2% said “somewhat”

Themes

Key themes identified as to why respondents agreed or disagreed with proposed changes in this area are captured in the word cloud below:



Top themes	% of responses
Allow dogs off leash when no horses	66.67%
Great space for dogs	66.67%
Shared space	33.33%
Underused by horses	22.22%
Dogs should not be on grounds when horses present	22.22%
Most dog owners do the right thing	11.11%
Greyhound access?	11.11%
Dogs need off leash exercise	11.11%
Timed access	11.11%

Prominent feedback trends

There is overall support for this area to have dog orders changed to allow off leash use when horses are not present, as horse usage is reported to be minimal.

Quotes

Never see a horse there and my dogs are well trained off lead and for mental health they need to run after a ball and spend time following all the scents a large space offers. A lot of money is spent on dog parks which are not needed for a dog's well-being

People are generally responsible around this area, keeping to themselves. I have only encountered a few people who have had zero control over their off-leash dogs compared to other off leash area

Discussion

Whilst there was a large degree of variance between the reserve with most public interest, Buckley Park Foreshore at 277 responses, and Grinter Reserve equestrian centre, which had only nine, the level of support for and against the current orders, and the accompanying commentary has helped us understand the community's position and preferences and will shape our recommendations to Council.

Areas with majority support to change orders

From feedback received during the consultation period, those that had significant support for change included:

- Barwon River & Mount Brandon to become on lead
- Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve to become dogs prohibited
- Sparrovale to become dogs prohibited (minus the blue section that would be dog friendly after future development)
- Portarlington Pony Club to become dogs permitted off leash when horses are not present
- Grinter Reserve to become dogs permitted off leash when horses are not present
- Lake Lorne to become dogs permitted off leash when horses are not present

Areas that preferred current orders

- Buckley Park Foreshore to remain current timed access
- Ramblers Rd to remain current timed access
- Barwon Heads Community Park to remain dogs permitted off leash when no horses present
- Mount Duneed Equestrian to remain dogs prohibited or allow **dogs on leash**
- Doolibea to remain accessible to dogs on lead
- Elcho Park to remain dogs prohibited or allow **dogs on leash**

Areas with divided feedback

There was a fairly even split between those who did and didn't support the current orders at Barwon River Sanctuary and Rees Reserve equestrian area.

Whilst Barwon Sanctuary respondents often acknowledged the need for environmental protection, as well as the ability to walk a circuit of the Barwon River, without transiting this section of land, others felt that keeping a dog on lead was sufficient to prevent any damage to the surrounds here and would prevent riverbank damage from dog access, therefore expunging the need for a dog ban.

Rees Reserve equestrian centre in Little River also had very split support, as some respondents cited:

- there are few equestrian dedicated facilities, and these should be kept for their intended purpose
- most Little River residents live on acreage, and therefore do not need to take their dog to a park to run
- visibility at this reserve is poor to see if horses are already present, and once a dog is off lead, many owners do not have the level of control required to place them back on lead – leading to dangerous interactions between horses, their riders and the off-lead dogs.

The counterarguments were that a time-share option like that proposed, keeps dogs and horses separate, and if followed, gives top priority to horses, but also lets dogs use it for off-leash exercise and training at other times.

Areas omitted from review after consultation

Yellowgum reserve in Ocean Grove, whilst having 93 responses and majority support to expand its dog prohibited area, had to be removed from review post-consultation, as the broader matter of public access has yet to be determined by the City. Dog orders are secondary to public access.

Feedback from this consultation will be forwarded to the Environment and Natural Resources team for consideration when determining public access.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUCCESSES

Total engagement uptake

The number of surveys completed for this consultation was higher by over 200% than any consultation run by the Health and Local Laws department before.

Effective advertising methods

The high level of survey completion was a great feat and showed that our advertising efforts worked efficiently, particularly our social media channels through Facebook paid ads, and Twitter, as well as our flyer mailouts to properties neighbouring the reserves being reviewed.

By having more feedback, the City now has significant statistics and a more accurate picture of the community's sentiment on these various reserves, their usage and their orders appropriateness.

Minimal complaints

Council also only received 2 comments from respondents stating they were unhappy with the way the survey was written, or the answer options provided regarding their reserves of interest, which considering there were 1382 total responses, showed a high level of satisfaction from the public in their ability to leave feedback in this format.

Primarily, this was due to a text box limitation on the last question which impeded some people's ability to leave as much feedback as they hoped.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Further advertising

Whilst we were not short on feedback, it would have been helpful to use A-Frame ads at each site being reviewed to advertise the consultation to people who were using those reserves throughout the engagement's 4-week period, and ensure they had the opportunity to leave feedback.

Additionally, the City performed a broad mail out to ~150 properties surrounding each of the reserves being reviewed, as it was reasonable to assume that these residents would be likely to use the reserve, or be impacted by changes to the use of the reserve, whether that be due to accessibility, noise, traffic etc.

Whilst 150 houses per reserve is sizable, we would presume that a lot more local property owners would use

these public spaces, and some residents who didn't receive a flyer in the mail questioned why a neighbour did, but they didn't.

Confusion shown in responses

The various equestrian centre reserves which were being reviewed for dog order changes, stated that the order being considered was for dogs to be permitted off-leash when horses are not present.

The City was never suggesting that horses and dogs should exercise in the same space, at the same time.

However, many responses made suggestions that the City was irresponsible to suggest horses and dogs interact in a public space. Whether this was a case of the City not clearly enough emphasising the order, or community members not fully reading the proposed orders and rationale, is unknown.

Incorrect details originally supplied regarding Buckley Park Foreshore

Buckley Park Foreshore needed a page revision approximately a week into the engagement, as the information provided by the department who put forward the proposed order change, had conflicting details listed regarding the extent the zone covered – listed as 4W – 5W in the rationale, and 4W – 6W in the provided description.

This led to some community confusion that needed to be clarified.

Unknown community access issues and reports regarding Yellowgum reserve

Health and Local Laws would not have included this reserve in our consultation had we been aware of the community angst regarding previously discussed access issues, nature trust agreements and various conversations held with nearby residents by other Council departments.

What we have done and next steps

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

Post-consultation, all data and community commentary has been collated and two reports have been written.

The first, a snapshot report focussing on engagement rates and advertising; and the second is this in-depth, full “Proposed Dog Order Changes Engagement Report”, which summarises all community preferences, themed feedback and quotes provided by the respondents for each of the 15 reserves consulted on, as well as information on why, how and who we consulted, areas for improvement and successes.

NEXT STEPS

This report highlights the community’s support or resistance to the proposed dog order changes for each reserve and will inform the recommendations put to Council for consideration relevant to each of the 15 reserves.

This report as well as the Council report containing recommendations, will be presented in August 2023.

Appendix A – Newspaper advert



Proposed dog order changes open for feedback

We're seeking your feedback on our proposed dog order changes at 15 locations across our region following our Dogs in Public Places review and community consultation last year.

You're encouraged to provide your feedback whether you own a dog or not.

For more information and to have your say, scan the QR code or visit geelong.link/DogOrder or call us on 5272 5272 for a feedback form by 5pm on Friday 26 May.



Appendix B – Mailout flyer for neighbouring property owners



PROPOSED DOG ORDER CHANGES

We are seeking feedback on our proposed dog order changes at 15 locations, including a reserve near you.

Last year, we ran our Dogs in Public Places review and six-week community consultation.

We received 691 survey responses and 1,701 comments about what's working well and what needs improvement, and we used that to inform our proposed dog order changes.

Regardless of whether you own a dog or not, you are encouraged to provide your feedback about the proposed changes.

Your feedback will help shape dog control orders across Greater Geelong.

Tell us what you think

- Scan the QR code or visit yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/proposeddogorderchanges to share your feedback
- Share your feedback by 5pm on **Friday 26 May**
- If you would like a form to provide feedback, call us on 5272 5272.



Appendix C – Survey hardcopy

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

SURVEY - PROPOSED DOG ORDER CHANGES FROM DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES CONSULTATION



Thank you for your interest in the proposed changes to dog orders across the Geelong Region.

These changes have been proposed due to feedback received during our previous Dogs in Public Places consultation in 2022, along with some recommendations made by internal stakeholders who help manage our public reserves.

Please leave your feedback below and once completed, return to the customer service desk.

Opportunity to leave feedback on these proposed changes, closes May 26th at 5pm.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested on this page is being collected by City of Greater Geelong for the purpose of the Proposed Dog Control Orders or any other directly related purpose. If the personal information is not collected, we may not be able to contact you for further questions or solutions. In this engagement your User Name will be published with your comment, if you wish to make a non-public comment please contact the engagement officer listed. Your personal information will only be disclosed to carry out a deeper analysis of the data or as required to do so by law. Our privacy policy is available on our website: www.geelongaustralia.com.au. If you wish to alter any of the personal information you have supplied to City of Greater Geelong, please contact us by sending an email to privacy@geelongcity.vic.gov.au.*

**In order to gain a deeper understanding of the data provided to the City and improve our services to you, we may disclose the information you provide to us to AWS Comprehend which carry out analysis of the data. Your personal information may be disclosed to AWS Comprehend based in Sydney only in relation to the primary purpose of collection.*

SURVEY:

Which suburb do you live in? _____

Do you own any dogs? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you own or ride a horse? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Which area would you like to leave feedback on?

☐ Barwon River & Mount Brandon

☐ Barwon River Sanctuary

☐ Buckley Park Foreshore

☐ Doolibea

☐ Indented Head Woodland Reserve

☐ Ramblers Road Foreshore

☐ Sparrowale – Ngubiti Yoorree

☐ Yellow Hum Nature Reserve

☐ Barwon Heads Community Park Equestrian Centre

☐ Elcho Park Equestrian Centre

☐ Lake Lorne Equestrian Centre

☐ Grinter Reserve Equestrian Centre

☐ Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve Equestrian Centre

☐ Portarlington Pony Club Reserve Equestrian Centre

☐ Rees Reserve Equestrian Centre

WWW.GEELONGAUSTRALIA.COM.AU

How often do you visit this/these reserves?

- ☐ Daily
 ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Several times a week
 ☐ Every few months
- ☐ Weekly
 ☐ Never
- ☐ Fortnightly

Do you find the proposed dog order changes appropriate?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Somewhat

Please leave your feedback below:

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

If you would like to receive updates on this project, please leave your email address if you have one, or alternatively a residential address we can post to, here:

Appendix D – Written submissions

Hi, I am a resident of Yellow Gums and own a dog. I along with most other dog owners in this estate were utterly disappointed and quite frankly angry with the council decision to close the nature reserve to dogs on leash and children on bikes.

Now it's being proposed that the pathway between Yellow Gums and Woodlands be closed too.

I strongly object to this pointless change.

Where are we supposed to exercise and walk our dogs in this area except on footpaths and on roads where there are no footpaths?

The dog owners on this estate are responsible caring people who pick up their dog waste and leave no visible signs of having been there.

I walk my dog everyday so this will greatly affect me and countless others if yet another nature area is shut off to us.

What is the point of living in this beautiful environment if every bit of public natural habitat is eroded bit by bit so there are no places left to enjoy a walk with your dog.

I wish my strong objection to this proposal be lodged with the Council.

My address is

[REDACTED]

Ocean Grove

[REDACTED]

Sincerely

[REDACTED] rate payer.

Hi,

I've realised I've missed the cut off but I hoping to add my name to the proposed changes to Yellow Gums Reserve.

I live in Yellow Gums, have 2 dogs and would like to be able to walk the dogs through the reserve.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hello Katie Young,

We just received the 'Have your say' pamphlet in the mail regarding the proposed dog order changes for Lake Lorne reserve.

The only rules that we were aware of regarding this area was that dogs had to be on a leash at all times around the reserve.

This is how most people comply. When walking between the lake and the equestrian centre walkers are forced to cut through the centre closest to the foot path as the path is always flooded & has been as long as I can remember. We always have our dog on a leash.

Your 'Have your say' survey does not allow this option & the survey can't be submitted without answering it.

I hope dog owners who do the right thing & are forced to cut through the equestrian grounds are not penalised by having their access to the reserve restricted. This would have significant implications for families, bike riders, the coffee van & dog walkers.

Please regard this email as my feedback.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Resident of Station Street,
Drysdale.

Hi Katie,

I originally answered the survey regarding "Open space reserves with proposed dog order changes".

I must admit I'm somewhat perplexed that the area around Waurin Ponds Creek and Chenin Mews didn't score a mention!

My wife and I walk our dog every day, around this area, unless it's pouring with rain. It is quite well used by cyclists, joggers, and dog walkers alike.

Consequently, I can't believe that on the "Dog Walking Map for The City of Greater Geelong", this area has no mention as a dog walking area, either on or off-leash, yet on the path it has writing stating that it is an on-leash area (If you can read it, it's so faded!)

I thought at least more signs and fixing the ones that are there would be a matter of course after the survey.

Needless to say, I'm disappointed with the results, most people obey the rules, but many don't think they are for them!

So, a little more enforcement would be a good thing.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Hello, I'm a rate payer at Ramblers Rd

I have just written on the link my feedback re the Proposed Dog Laws

DIFFICULT TO USE PROCESS

The FEEDBACK tab is NOT user friendly you cannot easily edit your response /or re-read what you have composed.....and the number of characters far too limiting

Is it designed as deterrent to limit discussion?

The proposed new restrictions at Ramblers Rd displays a total lack of knowledge / awareness of the region and how negatively impacted that stretch of beach is by human development.....the Rockwall and the resulting loss of tidal flow and natural cleansing of the waterway means the beach is UNUSABLE for all beach activity other than DOG walking.

If you restrict dog walking too then NO one will use it at all.

I paid premium price for a beachside home when the water was swimmable 5 years ago

Since the changes to the ROCKWALL the beach is unusable for swimming/wading

The first 30 /50 mts out to sea is a swamp-like quagmire; we have local photos to evidence this loss of amenity and the sudden negative change.

Virtually no walkers (without dogs) use the beach because of the seaweed accumulation that has been extreme due to the ROCKWALL.....often creating mounds as high as 80cm.....and rotting to create strong ozone stench.

When I bought on Ramblers I accepted there was

NO gas

NO sewage

But it had great beach amenity and you could enjoy it with your dog

and now NO beach amenity ...i.e. swimming/wading

and possibly

NO DOG usage

I am hoping to have my rates reviewed and reduced significantly

Ramblers now offers only a view.

If the Dog status changes the beach will be completely UNUSED.

Can this email be forwarded to the relevant people

Regards [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi

Last weekend, a neighbour in the Yellow Gums Estate alerted us to a proposed dog control order change that affects our regular dog walking. We understand the 'Have Your Say' closed on Friday, 26 May, 2023. However, we have had no notice of the proposed change notwithstanding that the part of the nature reserve affected is close to our property. After contacting the Geelong council today, we were advised to send an email. The information below adopts the format on 'Have Your Say' section of your website.

Town or Suburb - Ocean Grove

Do you own any dogs? - yes, one

Do you use the Yellow Gum Nature Reserve public space? - Yes, several times a week

Do you find the proposed changes to the dog control orders for Yellow Gum Nature Reserve acceptable? - No

Reason: Our property, in Alfred Court, abuts the buffer zone which, in turn, abuts the Nature Reserve. All of our neighbours, bar one, on the north-side (i.e. abutting the buffer zone) own at least one dog. We, and many others, walk their dogs through the buffer zone and through the 'blue' area (i.e. the 'corridor') to the off-lead area; noting that we cannot walk our dog in the reserve itself.

We keep our dog on-lead when walking through the 'blue area' and stay on the path which leads through to the back of Woodlands Drive. We very much appreciate and respect the natural values of the area which was a major reason for us moving to this area.

No evidence is provided that use of the blue outlined area by dog owners has been detrimental to either the woodland or the Swift Parrot. It is difficult to see how walking a dog in the blue outlined area would affect the Swift Parrot habitat or the Yellow Gums.

Including the blue outlined area in the dog control policy merely to achieve consistency is not a compelling rationale especially given (i) the apparent long time use by dog owners without damage to flora or fauna and (ii) the use now made of that area by many residents who own dogs.

If you would like further information or submissions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hello Katie

Unfortunately I was not aware of the 2022 Dogs in Public places Review so did not comment. I have completed a comment on the website. This is additional comment to supplement the online form as there was insufficient space for specific comment.

I have been going to Ramblers Rd foreshore for approx. 5 yrs. I very seldom see anyone else there. Occasionally other dog walkers. Even on the hottest of days there is No One using the beach! As anyone will attest it is an awful beach unsuitable for swimming due to stones and mud, as well as being unsightly with the black seaweed banked up on it. That has not been cleared for all the 5 yrs. I have gone there. The stone wall has made it even worse. It really is only suitable as a dog walking beach. Stopping rate payers using the beach means there is no dog beach in Portarlington! Why so when other areas of the Bellarine have full time dog beaches e.g., Queenscliff?

I would like to address the concerns of dogs on Native fauna and beach users.

I could count on one hand how many "beach users" I have seen there over the years apart from dog walkers. The main Portarlington beach is full on beach days and many users on the caravan park beach. None at Ramblers rd.

What is the native vegetation? If it refers to the bushes, I have not seen any dog near them. Portarlington people are very law abiding and the dogs are well controlled on the beach.

Last year there was bunting put up around "Plover nesting areas." Again, never saw dogs near those areas.

The Reserve (does this refer to the beach foreshore?) is within the area of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity. How will dog walkers affect that.? Hard to understand what argument can be put forward to support stopping its use. In Conclusion I would like to ask the Council to reconsider the ban on dogs and their walkers from September to March. It is inherently unfair to ratepayers and is unnecessarily harsh and unreasonable.

The plovers were not impacted and better protection could be erected easily if there is still concern.

Very few people use the foreshore as the beach is horrible to swim in.

Cultural sensitivity is surely not exclusive to that area.

Please reconsider Council Dog Order Changes

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Dear Katie,

I raise a concern in regard to conflicting consultation, detail information, to enable an informed and supportive submission.

This is an important consultation open to the Community, to support a fair response a clarification is sought on the consultation information.

It is unfortunate that the inconsistency of written and graphic information is provided, a clear understanding of the scope of the proposed change is not clear.

The insert below a screen print from the Councils web site illustrates part of the inconsistent information detail.

The tag to the inserted map indicates;(4W - 5W).

An identified report in the consultation detail to Council from BirdLife Australia refers to a extent of coastline, 4W - 5W.

The map illustrates an geographic extent of a control zone, is it to be the prohibition zone? 4W - 6W, this does not illustrate the extent as referenced in text.

What is the correct detail to comment on, what is to be the extent of dog prohibition, will the dog access under effective control all year be extended to 5W?

Further I express a disappointment that Council uses a sign facility as a reference to an area extent, not the name of the beach access as identified on the installed Aquatic Safety Sign at the entry to the access. Is it to be the extent of the dog prohibition zone being between; Fellows Road to Collendina Caravan Park beach accesses.

The sign facility provides a reference number that as advised is not supported by the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority for Triple 0; call takers and Emergency Dispatcher Officers, as has previously been advised to coastal land managers by ESTA.

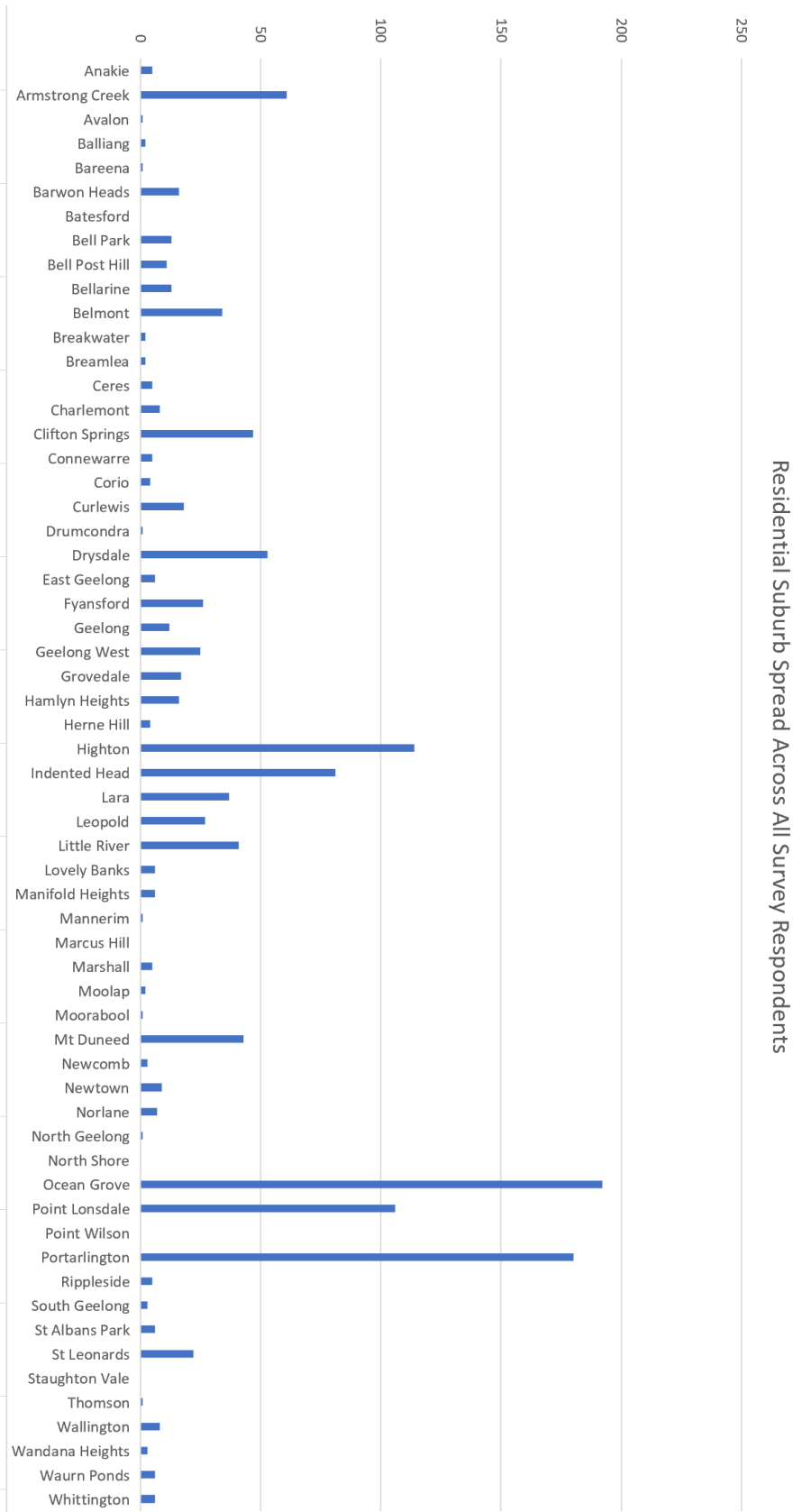
To enable a fair response to the consultation, clarification would be helpful.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Appendix E – Residential Suburb Spread Across All Survey Respondents



Appendix F – Hardcopy survey received

THE CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

ENTERED
23 MAY 2023
BY:

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

SURVEY - PROPOSED DOG ORDER CHANGES FROM DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES CONSULTATION

Thank you for your interest in the proposed changes to dog orders across the Geelong Region.

These changes have been proposed due to feedback received during our previous Dogs in Public Places consultation in 2022, along with some recommendations made by internal stakeholders who help manage our public reserves.

Please leave your feedback below and once completed, return to the customer service desk.

Opportunity to leave feedback on these proposed changes, closes May 26th at 5pm.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested on this page is being collected by City of Greater Geelong for the purpose of the Proposed Dog Control Orders or any other directly related purpose. If the personal information is not collected, we may not be able to contact you for further questions or solutions. In this engagement your User Name will be published with your comment, if you wish to make a non-public comment please contact the engagement officer listed. Your personal information will only be disclosed to carry out a deeper analysis of the data or as required to do so by law. Our privacy policy is available on our website: www.geelongaustralia.com.au. If you wish to alter any of the personal information you have supplied to City of Greater Geelong, please contact us by sending an email to privacy@geelongcity.vic.gov.au.

*In order to gain a deeper understanding of the data provided to the City and improve our services to you, we may disclose the information you provide to us to AWS Comprehend which carry out analysis of the data. Your personal information may be disclosed to AWS Comprehend based in Sydney only in relation to the primary purpose of collection.

SURVEY:

Which suburb do you live in? PORT ARLINGTON

Do you own any dogs? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Do you own or ride a horse? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Which area would you like to leave feedback on?

<input type="checkbox"/> Barwon River & Mount Brandon	<input type="checkbox"/> Barwon Heads Community Park Equestrian Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Barwon River Sanctuary	<input type="checkbox"/> Elcho Park Equestrian Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Buckley Park Foreshore	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake Lorne Equestrian Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Doolibea	<input type="checkbox"/> Grinter Reserve Equestrian Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Indented Head Woodland Reserve	<input type="checkbox"/> Mount Duneed Recreation Reserve Equestrian Centre
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ramblers Road Foreshore	<input type="checkbox"/> Portarlington Pony Club Reserve Equestrian Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Sparrowvale - Ngubiti Yoorree	<input type="checkbox"/> Rees Reserve Equestrian Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Hum Nature Reserve	

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How often do you visit this/these reserves?

☒ Daily

☐ Several times a week

☐ Weekly

☐ Fortnightly

☐ Monthly

☐ Every few months

☐ Never

Do you find the proposed dog order changes appropriate?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Somewhat

Please leave your feedback below:

We Believe that Ramblers Road Foreshore
Should Be "DOG ON LEAD AT ALL TIMES"
"BECAUSE OF THE BIRD LIFE WE HAVE" ..

AND WITH THE RAMBLERS ROAD + POINT RICHARDS
AREA DOGS ON LEAD AT ALL TIMES

If you would like to receive updates on this project, please leave your email address if you have one, or alternatively a residential address we can post to, here:

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