

HUTT CITY COUNCIL**KOMITI ITI WHAKAWĀ | HEARINGS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road,
Lower Hutt on

Monday 19 May 2025 commencing at 9:30 am

PRESENT:

Cr A Mitchell (Chair)
Cr T Stallinger

Cr K Brown

IN ATTENDANCE:

D Pratt, Animal Services Manager
S White, Policy Advisor
M Dunn, Solicitor
K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services
J Young, Democracy Advisor

PUBLIC BUSINESS

The Chair explained the hearing process, clarifying that the subcommittee would not make any final decisions. Instead, they would provide a recommendation to the Policy, Finance, and Strategy Committee, as well as to the Council meeting, based on today's hearing.

1. OPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mātaratara ki tai
E hī ake ana te atakura
He tio, he huka, he hau hū
Tihei mauri ora

Cease the winds from the west
Cease the winds from the south
Let the breeze blow over the land
Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a
sharpened air.
A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious
day.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflicts of interest declarations.

4. **DRAFT DOG CONTROL POLICY AND BYLAW HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS**

Report No. HSC2025/2/134 by the Policy Advisor

The Policy Advisor elaborated on the report.

The Chair read out a statement from Kara Puketapu-Dentice, Chief Executive of Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o Te Ika, attached as page 8 to the minutes.

5. **HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS**

Jessica Walker (via audio-visual link) (on behalf of Arnja Dale) representing SPCA, presented the submission.

In response to questions from members, Jessica Walker noted that she was aware of programmes implemented by Auckland City and Rotorua Lake Councils, such as educational initiatives and desexing efforts for menacing dogs. However, she expressed uncertainty about whether these programmes had been in place long enough to evaluate their impacts. Additionally, she mentioned an increase in roaming dog issues, particularly in the Northland area and south of Auckland, indicating a growing concern around this matter.

Belinda Moss, Chair of the Eastbourne Community Board (ECB), presented the submission.

In response to a question from a member, Belinda Moss noted that dog walkers could sometimes pose challenges, especially when dogs were not on leashes or were on long leashes and not effectively controlled. She emphasised that this is an ongoing educational issue for all users of the area.

Marty de Boer presented the submission and shared a powerpoint presentation available [here](#).

Greg Moore was not present at the hearing.

Antonia Crawford presented the submission.

Jessie Wrigglesworth was not present at the hearing.

Shelley Dunford presented the submission and tabled a written statement attached as pages 9-10 to the minutes.

Lee Davidson presented the submission.

James Fraser presented the submission and shared a powerpoint presentation available [here](#).

Harry Singh, representing the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Waka Kotahi, presented the submission.

In response to questions from members, Harry Singh explained that consent for Te Ara

Tupua / Tupua Horo Nuku was obtained in 2020 during the pandemic, which limited public interaction. He emphasised that electronic feedback indicated the pathway should include controls for dogs. Due to Council's Dog Bylaw, NZTA Waka Kotahi could not enforce this condition in resource consents. He noted the pathway's unique marine ecology highlighted the need for controlled dog use. He also mentioned that no statistical study on retractable leads existed. He advised that the conclusions were based on judgement, and suggested adding a click setting for their use.

Caroline Gardiner was not present at the hearing.

Lyall Huizer presented the submission.

Parker Jones, representing MIRO, presented the submission and shared a powerpoint presentation available [here](#).

In response to questions from members, Parker Jones advised that dotterel nesting could not be relocated because the dotterels selected their own locations.

The hearing adjourned at 10.52am and resumed at 10.56am.

Caroline Bray, representing Wainuiomata AFC, presented the submission.

In response to questions from members, Caroline Bray advised that there were issues of dog droppings on Saturday and Sunday mornings before football games. She said that there were no marked pitches for the junior games. Additionally, she pointed out that cricket players did not utilise that section of the park during the training season. She expressed that she had no issues with allowing this area of the park to be used as a space for dog exercise during the summer months.

Catherine Petrey presented the submission and tabled a written statement attached as page 11 to the minutes.

In response to a question from a member, Catherine Petrey advised that priority should be given to dogs in areas where off-leash exercise was permitted.

Michael Gendall presented the submission.

Kevin Goldsbury, representing Ignite Sport, presented the submission.

In response to a question from a member, Kevin Goldsbury advised that if dogs were on a lead and well-controlled, there would be no issues with the area also being used as a dog exercise area.

Sally Bain presented the submission.

In response to a question from a member, Sally Bain recommended that dogs be prohibited from the entire beach at Seaview.

Gavin Forrest presented the submission.

In response to a question from a member, Gavin Forrest advised that it was the dog owner's responsibility to provide water for their dogs. However, the water and bathing

station were easily accessible.

Karen Naylor, presented the submission and shared a powerpoint presentation available [here](#).

In response to a question from a member, Karen Naylor advised that the incident involving her dog occurred in the Kelson dog exercise area.

Margaret Miller presented the submission.

In response to a question from a member, Margaret Miller suggested that a sign or board could indicate which paths were designated for dogs.

Sarah Wedde presented the submission.

In response to a member's question, Sarah Wedde stated that Dog Control officers must be more careful when identifying individuals who report roaming dogs, ensuring that they do not disclose the reporters' details.

Pauline Marshall presented the submission.

Lyle Earl presented the submission and tabled a map attached as page 12 to the minutes.

Erin Cassidy presented the submission.

Elizabeth Feary presented the submission.

Merran Bakker presented the submission and shared a powerpoint presentation available [here](#).

David Tripp, representing Hutt Cycle Network, presented the submission and shared a powerpoint presentation available [here](#).

In response to a question from a member, David Tripp expressed concerns that having 2,000 cyclists, along with walkers and dogs on the path, would be unsafe.

6. RESOLVED: (Cr Mitchell/Cr Stallinger) Minute No. HSC 25201

"That the Hearings Subcommittee:

- (1) receives and notes the report;*
- (2) notes on 25 March 2025, Council approved the Statement of Proposal for the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw for formal consultation as attached as Appendix 1 to the report;*
- (3) notes that 976 surveys and 20 email submissions were circulated to the members prior to the hearing;*
- (4) receives and considers 976 survey submissions and 20 email submissions (at this [link](#)) received during the consultation period from 26 March to 2 April 2025;*

- (5) *notes that the Subcommittee's recommendations on whether to adopt the final Dog Control Policy and final Dog Control Bylaw will be considered by the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee on 1 July 2025 and by Council on 31 July 2025; and*
- (6) *notes that officers will incorporate the Subcommittee's changes into a revised final Dog Control Policy and final Dog Control Bylaw, including additional marked changes, for recommendation to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee."*

7. **CLOSING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA**

Unuhia!	Release us from the supreme sacredness
Unuhia!	of our tasks
Unuhia i te uru-tapu-nui	To be clear and free
Kia wātea, kia māmā	in heart, body and soul in our
Te ngākau, te tinana,	continuing journey
te wairua i te ara takatū	Oh Rongo, raise these words up high so
Koia rā e Rongo	that we be cleansed and be free,
whakairihia ake ki runga	Yes indeed, we are free!
Kia wātea, kia wātea!	Good and peaceful
Ae rā, kua wātea!	
Hau, pai mārire.	

The Subcommittee moved into private deliberations at 1.10pm.

RESOLVED: (Cr Mitchell/Cr Stallinger)

Minute No. HSC 25202

"That the Hearings Subcommittee:

- (1) *receives the draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw attached to Report No. HSC2025/2/134;*
- (2) *acknowledges and respects the wishes of the landowner, Mana Whenua, regarding the requirement for dogs to be on-leash at Te Puni, Mana Whenua, and asks a senior officer to discuss with the Chief Executive of Taranaki Whānui whether there is a possible compromise that would allow dogs off-leash to access the freshwater stream;*
- (3) *notes that the proposed change to the Bell Park dog exercise area (excluding sports surfaces) received strong support, with 78.7% of submitters in favour of the proposed change;*
- (4) *notes that the proposed change to the eastern section of Richard Prouse Park dog exercise area (outside the sports surfaces in the western section) received strong support, with 72.6% of submitters in support of the proposed change;*
- (5) *asks officers to confirm that the marked paths in Avalon Park are the most appropriate for dogs on-leash access;*
- (6) *agrees to the following changes to the draft policy and bylaw and asks that officers:*
 - (a) *add wording under the dog exercise area in Petone, to read "...excluding Honiana Te Puni Reserve and the Tupua Horo Nuku shared path";*

- (b) move the requirement for owners to carry waste bags from clause 6.2 of the policy to the overview section at clause 3;*
- (c) review the terminology for 'dog droppings' in both the policy and bylaw for consistency;*
- (d) review the wording for clause 8.5, specifically subclauses (d) and (e), as these do not exist;*
- (e) add wording to clause 9.1 indicating that fees are notified in Long Term and Annual Plans;*
- (f) revise clause 3.3 to discourage the use of chains;*
- (g) revise the wording in clause 8.3 to replace 'rog' with 'dog';*
- (h) revise the wording of the summertime restrictions to specify the dates, for example, from 1 December 1 to 31 March;*
- (7) asks officers to improve the signage at Eastbourne;*
- (8) asks officers to follow up on the potential desexing of multiple roaming dogs;*
- (9) asks officers to explore the possibility of the inclusion of a pathway to appeal menacing classification with eligibility based on demonstrated steps towards responsible dog ownership;*
- (10) asks officers to prioritise efforts to address the identified behaviour at the beach at the end of Seaview, recognising that this is primarily an enforcement issue. Since the beach at Seaview was not included in the formal consultation process, the Hearings Subcommittee cannot give weight to the submission. Officers should actively monitor the situation. If these efforts are unsuccessful, more significant measures may need to be considered in the future;*
- (11) asks officers to update the old signage and add new signs when additional budget becomes available; and*
- (12) delegates authority to the Hearings Subcommittee Chair and the Chief Executive to approve any minor changes or minor editorial amendments to the proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw, prior to being submitted for consideration to the Policy Finance and Strategy Committee and Council."*

RECOMMENDED: (Cr Mitchell/Cr Brown)

Minute No. HSC 25203

"That the Hearings Subcommittee recommends to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee that Council, in accordance with section 155 of the Local Government Act 2002:

- (1) agrees that the proposed Hutt City Council Dog Control Policy and Bylaw, attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes, including the marked-up version and additional mark-ups (highlighted in yellow) from the Hearings Subcommittee, is the most suitable approach to encourage responsible dog ownership and support the needs of dog owners and the general public. This approach supports the rights of people to move freely around within the city without encountering danger, distress, or nuisance from dogs;*
- (2) asks officers to create messaging and signage to support the implementation of the bylaw, emphasising key dog control provisions on shared paths and near marked sports fields;*
- (3) pursuant to sections 145 and 146 of the Local Government Act and section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996, adopts the Hutt City Council's Council Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2025, including the accepted edits, with effect from 31 July 2025;*
- (4) authorises officers to publicly notify the Hutt City Council Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2025 and the date it has effect from; and*
- (5) notes that the Hutt City Council Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2025 will need to be reviewed by December 2035."*

There being no further business, the Chair declared the hearing closed at 2.40pm.

Cr Mitchell
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 1st day of July 2025

Regarding the proposed changes to Honiana Te Puni Reserve

The position of Taranaki Whānui, the owners of the whenua.

We do not support the reserve being off-leash.

Dogs on leash is acceptable.

Significant portions of the foreshore and the area out at Hikoikoi is off leash.

There is ample space for dog off leash activities.

The reserve and its changing nature and activities are not consistent with the space being off leash.

In our view this does not negatively impact the amenity value for dog walkers and off leash activities - as I note above - there is plenty provision for dog leash activities within close proximity of the reserve.

Ngā mihi

Kara

CEO Taranaki Whānui

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes to the Dog Control Bylaw and Policy. I am writing to express particular concern about the proposed removal of the Honiana Te Puni Reserve area west of the parking lot and dog beach from the off-leash dog exercise network.

While I understand that the area is currently under development and not in active use, it has long been a popular and practical space for dog owners. Its appeal lies in the unique combination of open space and access to both seawater and fresh water at the mouth of the Korokoro Stream. For many local residents, including older adults and those without private transport, this area is a crucial, walkable location for exercising and socialising their dogs in a safe and healthy environment.

Key Points of Concern:

- **Loss of Strategic Off-Leash Space:**
The reserve's location adjacent to Petone Beach and the Korokoro Stream provides a rare blend of open space, swimmable fresh water, and a safe social environment for dogs. Removing this from the off-leash network eliminates one of the few high-quality, multi-use dog exercise areas in Lower Hutt- one that draws in dog owners from across the Wellington region.
- **Current and Future Suitability:**
Although the area is undergoing development, there is no indication that the future design would preclude continued off-leash use. A well-maintained, accessible green space could enhance the experience for dogs, their owners, and other members of the public looking to enjoy the space.
- **Public Health and Environmental Safety:**
Dog owners are mindful of avoiding areas where dogs may encounter toxic algae or poor water quality which is a seasonal risk along the Hutt River where the majority of off-leash areas are. Honiana Te Puni Reserve offers safer alternatives with reliable, clean access to both sea and stream water.
- **Equity for Dog Owners:**
Dog owners contribute to the community through registration fees and expect access to quality green spaces to enjoy their companions off-leash, not just marginal land or drainage corridors. Dogs are part of a family, not recreational gear like a bike or a boat. Their needs, and those of their owners, should be reflected in public space planning.
- **Mobility and Accessibility:**
Not all dog owners can or wish to drive to access a suitable off-leash area. This is especially true in summer, when many areas are limited due to safety issues like toxic algae, and when walking long distances on hot pavement is unsafe for dogs. Local, accessible, and comfortable spaces like this one are vital.

A Positive Opportunity

The post-Covid years have seen a growth in dog ownership, along with a renewed appreciation for the outdoors and community connection. There is a real opportunity here to enhance this well-loved area in a way that balances all users' needs without excluding responsible dog owners and their companions. Keeping Honiana Te Puni Reserve within the off-leash network would preserve a space that is already functioning well and holds strong community value.

Thank you for considering this feedback. I hope the final policy recognises the importance of this space and the positive role dogs and their owners play in our shared environment.

Kind regards,

Shelley Dunford
(on behalf of Pablo)

Presentation Dog Control policy changes

Presenter: Catherine Petrey, MNZM, B. Agr Sc (Qld), MS (UC (Davis.))

- Lower Hutt City resident for 43 years. Specifically chose to live in the Western Hills to be walking distance to the Hutt River dog walking areas. In those 43 years I have had ~~14~~ dog registered with the Council. Currently I have a 5 year old Aussie Terrier and a 2 year old Irish Setter.
- I am a Life Member, and current Committee member for the Avalon Dog Training Club,
 - I have instructed on unpaid basis for the club uninterrupted for 39 years- specialist in baby puppy and puppy training. I estimate I have assisted around 3-2000 dog owners to develop canine good citizen skills
 - I have been President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Show Secretary. I contributed to the development of Hutt's original dog control policy.

Yet the earlier survey and advice on the review was not sent to me or my husband. I would not have known about it if another club member had asked me to open the policy on my work computer. I had to phone the Council to be able to access it.

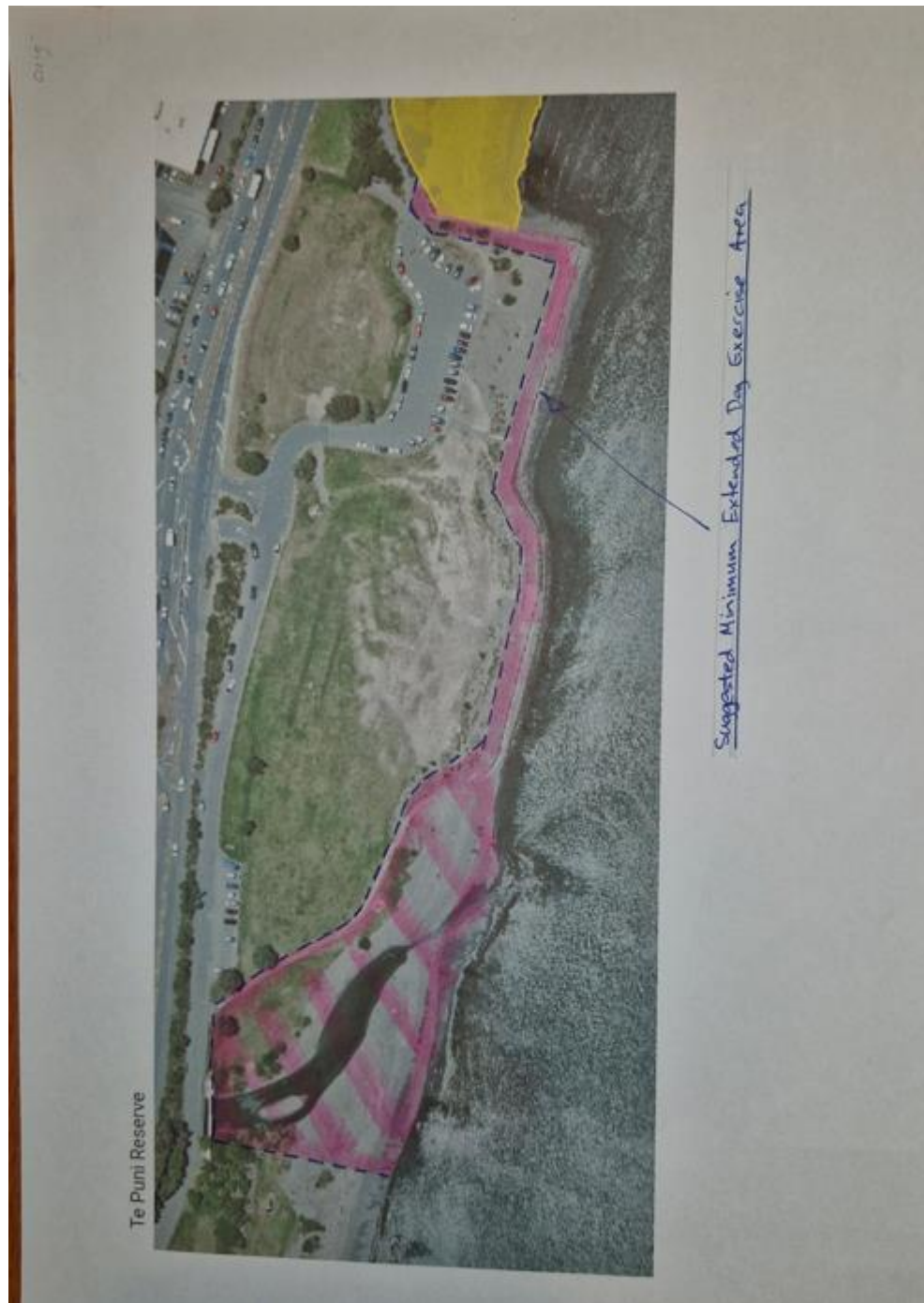
I wish to make three key points.

Firstly:

I strongly support the annual licensing of commercial dog walkers.

The fee should be set to cover actual costs of administration and not cross subsidised through the annual dog licensing fees.

There must be limits on the number of dogs a handler commercial or otherwise can walk in public areas irrespective of their being on or off lead at any one time. The maximum should be six.





Dog Control Policy

Business unit(s)	Strategy and Policy, Legal, Animal Services		
Date adopted	29/07/2025		
Date effective	31/07/2025		
Review period	Ten years, or earlier if required		
Owner	Head of Strategy and Policy		
Approved by	Council		
Implementation	Animal services		
Monitoring/Evaluation	Animal services, Strategy and Policy		
Version	Author(s)	Date	Description
V 2.0	Sam White, Miranda Dunn, Duncan Pratt	31S/07/2025	Legislatively required review
V 1.0	Graham Sewell	15/12/2015	Legislatively required review



Contents	
Dog Control Policy.....	1
1. Overview	3
2. Dog Control Act 1996	4
2.3. Dog Control	8
Overview.....	8
4. Dog Prohibition Areas	9
5. Dog Exercise Areas	11
3.6. Designation of Exercise and Prohibition Areas and Maps.....	12
4.7. Department of Conservation Land.....	12
5.8. Owner Responsibilities	13
Overview.....	13
Owner Obligations, Education and Dog Obedience	14
Responsible Dog Owner Status.....	15
Licence for Three or More Dogs	17
Owners to Keep Dogs Under Effective Confinement and Control	17
Access to Front Door.....	18
9. Administration and.....	20
Enforcement.....	20
Registration Fees	20
Enforcement.....	21
Probationary Owners.....	22
Disqualification of Owners.....	22
Menacing Dogs – Requirement to be Neutered	22
Barking Dogs.....	23
10. Implementation	25
11. Related Documents	25
Schedule One	26

1. Overview

1.1 Under the Dog Control Act 1996, ~~(the Act)~~, Hutt City Council ~~(Council)~~ is responsible for dog control within ~~Lower Hutt City~~.

Council has many powers under ~~that Act (for example the power to declare dogs to be dangerous or menacing dogs)~~, ~~the Act~~. The purpose of this policy is to let the ~~Lower Hutt City Community~~ community know how Council will ~~approach~~ approach ~~carrying out~~ its functions and powers under ~~that~~ the Act.

1.2 ~~In Hutt City Council's Annual Plan 2014 – 2015 it is noted that dog control is necessary to achieving a clean, healthy, attractive and sustainable environment. Council has established resident satisfaction targets concerning dog control.~~

1.3 The aim of this policy is to ~~balance the needs of two general groups:~~

- ~~Those people who own a dog(s). In this regard Council aims to encourage responsible dog ownership and support the needs of dog owners, for example by establishing exercise areas for dogs; and~~
- ~~The general public. In this regard Council needs to support the right for people to move freely around the city without experiencing danger, distress or nuisance from dogs, for example by establishing areas within the city where dogs are prohibited or restricted.~~

~~Council has undertaken a review of the current Hutt City Dog Policy 2005 to ensure that its approach to dog control meets the needs of dogs and their owners balanced against the needs of the wider community. This has been done in accordance with the requirements of the Dog Control Act 1996.~~

DOG CONTROL ACT 1996

1.4 ~~The Dog Control~~ This Policy has been divided into three parts. Part one sets out how dog exercise and prohibition areas are established. Part two sets out dog

owner's responsibilities and part three deals with administration and enforcement.

2. Dog Control Act 1996

- 2.1 Section 10 of the Act-1996 requires each territorial authority to adopt a ~~Dog Control Policy~~dog control policy for its district. In accordance with section 10(3) of the Act; every policy adopted under section 10:
- a. shall specify the nature and application of any bylaws made or to be made under section 20 of the Act; and
 - b. shall identify any public places where dogs are to be prohibited either generally or at specified times, pursuant to a bylaw under section 20(1)(a) of the Act; and
 - c. shall identify any particular public places, and any other areas or parts of the district in which dogs (other than working dogs) in public places are to be required by a bylaw made under section 20(1)(b) of the Act to be controlled on a leash; and
 - a. shall identify those areas or parts of the district in respect of which no public places or areas are to be identified under sections 10(3)(b) and 10(3)(c) of the Act; and
 - b. shall identify any places within areas or parts of the district specified in section 10(3)(c)(ii) of the Act that are to be designated by a bylaw under section 20(1)(d) of the Act as dog exercise areas in which dogs may be exercised at large; and
 - c. must state whether dogs classified by the territorial authority as menacing dogs under section 33A or 33C of the Act are required to

be neutered under section 33E(1)(b) of the Act and if so whether the requirement applies to all such dogs and if not, the matters taken into account by it in requiring any particular dog to be neutered; and

d. must state whether dogs classified by any other territorial authority as menacing dogs under section 33A of 33C of the Act are required to be neutered under section 33EB(2) of the Act if the dog is registered with the territorial authority and if so, whether the requirement applies to all such dogs and if not the matters taken into account by it in requiring any particular dog to be neutered; and

e. shall include such other details as the territorial authority thinks fit including, but not limited to:

- i. fees or proposed fees; and
- ii. owner education programmes;
and
- iii. dog obedience courses; and
- iv. the classification of owners; and
- v. the disqualification of owners; and
- vi. the issuing of infringement notices.

2.2 In accordance with section 10(4); when adopting a policy, a territorial authority must have regard to—:

- a. the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally; and
- b. the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by

children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults;
and

- c. the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; ~~and~~
- ~~• the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners;~~
 - ~~• in the policy, territorial authorities are required to:~~
 - ~~• specify the nature and application of any bylaws made or to be made to give effect to the Policy; and~~
 - ~~• identify any public places where dogs are to be prohibited under a bylaw; and~~
 - ~~• identify any particular public places, in which dogs (other than working dogs) are to be required by a bylaw to be controlled on a leash; and~~
 - ~~• identify those areas or parts of the district in respect of which dogs will not be prohibited or required to be controlled on a leash; and~~
 - ~~• identify any places that are to be designated by a bylaw as dog exercise areas; and~~
 - ~~• include such other details as the territorial authority thinks fit including, but not limited to:~~
 - ~~• fees or proposed fees; and~~
 - ~~• owner education programmes; and~~
 - ~~• dog obedience courses; and~~

- ~~the classification of owners; and~~
- ~~the disqualification of owners; and~~
- ~~the issuing of infringement notices.~~

~~1.42.3~~ Every statement or publication of a policy adopted under ~~this section is~~ required to ~~10(5) of the Act shall~~ identify any land within the district that is included in:

- a. a controlled dog area or open dog area under section 26ZS of the Conservation Act 1987; or
- b. a national park constituted under the National Parks Act 1980;
~~— and or~~
- c. Te Urewera, as defined in section 7 of the Te Urewera Act 2014; and
- d. may contain such other information and advice in relation to dogs as the territorial authority thinks fit.

~~1.52.4~~ The territorial authority must give effect to a policy adopted under ~~this section 10 of the Act~~ by making the necessary bylaws ~~and may under section 20 of the Act, which must come into force~~ not have in place ~~later than the adoption of the policy and by~~ repealing, before the 60th day after the adoption of the policy, any bylaws that are inconsistent with the policy.

~~This Policy has been divided into three sections. Part 1, Dog Control, sets out such matters as how dog exercise and prohibition areas are established. Part Two sets out Dog Owners Responsibilities and Part Three deals with Administration and Enforcement.~~

2.3. Dog Control

Overview

3.1 When a dog is on land or premises occupied by its owner, the owner must at all times ensure that either the dog is under the direct control of a person, or the dog is confined in such a manner that it cannot freely leave the land or premises.

3.2 Owners must ensure that meet the reasonable needs of dog owners and promote animal welfare, to clearly identify to the public where dogs may and may not be exercised, and to minimize danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally and to safeguard the welfare of children the Council will designate specified dog exercise areas and specified dog prohibition areas. are kept under control at all times. Dogs not under the control of their owners or a person in charge will be prohibited from all public places at all times. ~~The~~

3.3 Dogs must be kept on a leash or lead when in any public area, unless it's a designated dog exercise area or specified prohibited public place. Removed reference to chain as per 6(f)

3.4 Owners or anyone responsible for a dog must carry a waste bag for picking up their dog's faeces. Any faeces must be committed against the bylaw if such people remove the droppings immediately- removed and appropriately disposed of. Moved here (3.4) from 6.2 for clarity as per 6(b)

3.4 Council will put signposts at public places where dogs are prohibited or permitted during specified times.

3.5 Council will designate specific dog exercise areas and dog prohibition areas in order to:

- meet the reasonable needs of dog owners
- promote animal welfare;

- c. protect wildlife;
- d. inform the public about areas where dogs may and may not be exercised.
- e. minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally; and
- f. safeguard the welfare of children.

4. Dog Prohibition Areas

4.1 In order to minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally and to safeguard the welfare of children and wildlife, areas within Lower Hutt City will be designated as dog prohibition areas. Dogs will not be permitted to enter or remain in these areas. This is the responsibility of the dog's owner.

4.2 Dog prohibition areas areas set out in the Hutt City Council Dog Control Bylaw 2015/2025 (the Bylaw) and are:

- a. any premises used as a public library;
- b. any children's playground within the district;
- c. any swimming pool owned or controlled by Council;
- d. any land used as a kindergarten or playcentre;
- e. any marked sports surface;
- f. any unmarked sports surface when in use for sporting purposes;
- g. any area that forms part of a park or reserve where a special event that is organised and in respect of which Council has publicly notified the time, date and duration of the closure; and
- h. other area within a public place that is specified by ordinary Council resolution to be an area that dogs are prohibited to enter upon or remain in.

4.3 Dog Prohibition Areas are also set out at
<https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/services/dogs> and will be clearly
identified to the public.

4.4 Dog Prohibition Areas can also be established by ordinary Council
resolution under the Bylaw. They are set out on the Council website
at [huttcity.govt.nz](https://www.huttcity.govt.nz). Dog Prohibition areas will be clearly identified to
the public. Areas where dogs are not permitted include playing fields and
children's playgrounds within Council's parks and reserves.

1.2.3 Dog owners can have their dogs on any public places that are not
specified prohibited public places or specified dog exercise areas, as long
as the dogs are under proper control by being secured effectively by a
leash, chain or lead.

4.5 1.2.4 The matters that Council must have regard to under the Bylaw
in when making a decision to establish or disestablish a Dog Prohibition
Area are as follows:

- a. the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the
community generally;
- b. the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have
uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by
children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults;
- c. the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the
public (including families) to use streets and public amenities
without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs;
- d. the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners;
- e. impact on wildlife areas;

- ~~f.~~ whether it is necessary to consult with the public to gauge community views on a proposed dog exercise area; ~~and~~
- ~~g.~~ any other information considered by ~~the~~ Council to be relevant.

5. Dog Exercise Areas

~~5.1~~ To meet the ~~reasonable~~ needs of dog owners ~~and~~, promote animal welfare, and ~~also to clearly identify to the public~~ indicate where dogs ~~may and may not~~ can be exercised, the Council will designate ~~specified~~ specific dog exercise areas.

~~5.2~~ ~~1.3.2~~ Designated Dog Exercise Areas are set out in the Bylaw and can ~~also be~~ established by ordinary Council resolution under the ~~Hutt~~

~~City Council Dog Control Bylaw 2015~~. They are set out on ~~Council's~~ Council's website at huttcity.govt.nz. It is important to have a number of exercise areas available within Lower Hutt ~~City~~ for dogs to be exercised. These are clearly signposted and include most Council parks and reserves, ~~and~~ the Hutt River banks and drainage reserves in Wainuiomata.

~~5.3~~ The matters that Council must have regard to ~~in~~ when making a decision to establish or disestablish a Dog Exercise Area are as follows:

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

- e. impact on all wildlife ~~areas~~;
- f. whether it is necessary to consult with the public to gauge community views on a proposed dog exercise area; and
- g. any other information considered by ~~the~~ Council to be relevant.

3.6. Designation of Exercise and Prohibition Areas and Maps

6.1 Dog Exercise Areas and Dog Prohibition Areas will be clearly signposted.

6.2 Owners or anyone ~~in control of~~ responsible for a dog being exercised ~~within such~~ in a dog exercise area must carry ~~their dogs~~ a dog leash.
Moved to section 3 for clarity as per 6(b)

6.3 Owners of dogs that enter or remain in a Dog Prohibition Area will be liable for prosecution for a breach of the Bylaw.

4.7. Department of Conservation Land

7.1 Under the Conservation Act 1987, the Minister of Conservation can, by notice in the Gazette, declare any part or parts of land managed and administered by the Minister or Department under specific Acts to be either a controlled dog area or an open dog area.

7.2 To identify such areas within the Lower Hutt district, please refer to the Department of Conservation website:
www.doc.govt.nz

5.8. Owner Responsibilities

Overview

8.1 Council recognises the importance of owner responsibility and education and wishes to have in place policies and measures that support responsible dog owner status and send clear signals as to the preferred way that owners should carry out their responsibilities as dog owners. The measures that Council will have in place to support and promote responsible dog owner behaviour are as follows:

- a. ~~Pamphlets~~pamphlets will be available and, when appropriate, distributed to dog owners explaining their obligations and rights, and the provisions of the ~~Dog Control~~ Bylaw;

~~Closer links and partnerships will be sought with dog training and obedience clubs to formally recognise their role in effective owner education and dog obedience;~~

- b. ~~In~~in order to support dog owners in fulfilling their responsibilities, the Council's Animal Control Officers will be available to give dog owners advice on all matters relating to the keeping and control of dogs;
- c. ~~A~~a fee rebate is available to dog owners who qualify as responsible dog owners under Council's criteria set out below; and
- d. Council will actively enforce the ~~bylaws~~Bylaw and the ~~Dog Control~~ Act.

Owner Obligations, Education and Dog Obedience

8.2 In addition to the requirements of any other Act or of any regulations or bylaws regulating the control, keeping, and treatment of dogs, the ~~Dog Control~~ Act 1996 requires every owner of a dog—:

- a. ~~To~~ ensure that the dog is registered in accordance with this Act, and that all relevant territorial authorities are promptly notified of any change of address or ownership of the dog—;
- b. ~~To~~ ensure that the dog is kept under control at all times;
- c. to ensure that the dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with proper and sufficient food, water and shelter—;
- d. ~~To~~ ensure that the dog receives adequate exercise—;
- e. ~~To~~ take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not cause a nuisance to any other person, whether by persistent and loud barking or howling or by any other means—;
- f. ~~To~~ take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, intimidate, or otherwise cause distress to any person—;
- g. ~~To~~ take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, or cause distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife—;
- h. ~~To~~ take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not damage or endanger any property belonging to any other person—; and
- i. ~~To~~ comply with the requirements of the Act and of all regulations and bylaws made under the Act.

Responsible Dog Owner Status

8.3 Council will encourage responsible dog ownership by; formally recognising "Responsible Dog Owner" status, dog ownership education programmes and dog obedience courses. Responsible Dog Owner status will qualify owners for significantly lower registration fees under the Act.

Fixed typo as per 6(g)

8.4 ~~Tomay only be made between 1 February and 30 May in each year.~~
~~In order to~~ obtain Responsible Dog Owner Status, in addition to the obligations imposed on every dog owner by the Act, owners are required by ~~Hutt City~~ Council to:

- a. ~~Make complete a questionnaire demonstrating their knowledge of the Act and the Bylaw;~~
- b. ~~make a written declaration that they will comply with the requirements for Responsible Dog Owner status and understand that any breaches of the Dog Control Act 2003 or City Bylawsthe Bylaw will lead to the immediate cancellation of the Responsible Dog Owner status for a period of 2 years;~~
- c. ~~Register~~register their dog(s) by 31 July in any registration year;
- d. ~~Have~~ensure their property ~~is~~ fully fenced or the dogs ~~are~~ penned or controlled ~~in such a way that to allow~~ safe access to the front door ~~is assured~~ for people lawfully ~~going~~ about their business ~~and that, while preventing the dog cannot escape dogs from the property; escaping;~~

~~Demonstrate that they have full control over~~

- e. ~~ensure~~ their dogs both on and off a leash and in other situations.
~~This can be proved by presentation of a certificate from an approved trainer that the dog and owner have passed a Grade 2 Dog Obedience Course or by a practicable demonstration to a Hutt City Animal Control Officer;~~

~~The dog(s) are provided with~~ have a warm ~~and~~ dry, draft-free kennel, ~~given~~ proper exercise ~~and~~ sufficient food daily, and ~~have~~ access to ~~a~~ clean water supply at all times;

- f. ~~Clean~~ clean up after their dog if it defecates in any public place or property owned by any other person ~~and~~; **changed wording for consistency as per 6(c)**
- g. ensure ~~it~~ the dog is leashed in public places when not being exercised under control in a designated dog exercise area;
- h. ~~Notify~~ notify Council of any changes of address, transfer of ownership or death of their dogs; ~~and~~
- i. ~~Dogs need to have been~~ registered ~~their dogs~~ with Hutt City Council for a period of 12 months prior to ~~owners~~ applying for ~~responsible dog~~ Responsible Dog Owner status. Owners who ~~currently have Responsible Dog Owner status and obtain an additional dog can apply as soon as that dog is registered.~~

8.5 An Animal Control Officer may complete an inspection to verify that ~~(8.4 (d)) and (8.4 (e)) have been complied with.~~ **Added back nested lettering (a-i) for clarity**

8.6 It is desirable but not mandatory for an owner ~~status to provide a~~ certificate from an approved trainer showing that the dog and owner have ~~passed a Grade 2 Dog Obedience Course. The Animal Control Officer may~~ require a demonstration that an owner has full control over their dogs both on and off leash and in other situations.

Licence for Three or More Dogs

8.7 ~~To minimise the potential nuisance and danger to the community caused by dogs, and to ensure that adequate provision is being made for the proper care and welfare of~~ dogs, under the Bylaw a licensee is required ~~if for owners/~~occupiers ~~of premises~~ in the city ~~who~~ wish to keep three or more dogs aged three months or ~~more~~older on their premises ~~at any one time, regardless of ownership status~~. This does not apply to rural working dogs.

Owners to Keep Dogs Under Effective Confinement and Control

8.8 To enable the public, to the extent that is practicable, to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs and to minimise nuisance to the community generally caused by dogs, dog owners must prevent their dogs from wandering by keeping them under proper control or under effective confinement, especially at night. This includes, to the extent possible—:

- a. ~~Keeping~~keeping every bitch, while in season, confined or under control while being exercised;
- b. ~~Taking~~taking all practicable steps to stop their dog barking, howling or being aggressive; and
- c. ~~Cleaning~~cleaning up after their dog defecates in any public place, or on land or premises other than the owner's. Faeces must be disposed of in an ~~approved~~appropriate manner (i.e. in a bin—). **Changed wording as per 6 (c)**

Access to Front Door

8.9 Safe access to a dog owner's front door (or another safe access point) is to be provided at all times, to people lawfully going about their business. Where the gate is locked to prevent access, this requirement does not apply.

5.10 ~~2.6.2~~ The intention is to ensure that people entering a property are not attacked by aggressive or savage dogs. Owners must ensure that such dogs are penned, chained or contained in the rear yard.

Disability Assist and Working Dogs

5.10 ~~8.11~~ The Act contains some specific exceptions for certain types of dogs. Section 75 of the ~~Dog Control Act 1996~~ provides an exclusion for a Disability Assist Dog accompanying or assisting a person with a disability, or any person engaged in training such a dog. These dogs may enter and remain:

- a. in any premises registered under regulations made pursuant to Section 120 of the Health Act 1956; or
- b. in any public place, subject to compliance with any reasonable condition imposed by the occupier or person having control of the premises or public place, as the case may be.

8.12 Under section 2 of ~~that the~~ Act, Working Dogs are defined as:

- a. any Disability Assist Dog; or
- b. any dog:
 - i. kept by the Police or any constable, the New Zealand Customs Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Fisheries, or the Ministry of Defence, or any officer or employee of any such department of

- State solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Police or the department of State or that constable, officer, or employee; ~~or~~
- ii. kept solely or principally for the purposes of herding or driving stock; ~~or~~
 - iii. kept by the Department of Conservation or any officer or employee of that department solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers of that department; ~~or~~
 - iv. kept solely or principally for the purposes of destroying pests or pest agents under any pest management plan under the [Biosecurity Act 1993](#); ~~or~~
 - v. kept by the Department of Corrections or any officer or employee of that department solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers of that department; ~~or~~
 - vi. kept by the Aviation Security Service under [section 72B\(2\)\(ca\) of the Civil Aviation Act 1990](#), or any officer or employee of that service solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers of that service; ~~or~~
 - vii. certified for use by the Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers conferred by the [Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002](#);
 - viii. [Defence Emergency Management Act 2002](#); ~~or~~
 - ix. owned by a property guard as defined in [section 9 of the Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010](#) or a property guard employee as defined in [section 17 of that Act](#), and kept solely or principally for the purpose of doing the things specified in [section 9\(1\)\(a\) to \(c\) of that Act](#); or

- x. declared by resolution of the territorial authority to be a working dog for the purposes of the Act, or any dog of a class so declared by the authority, being a dog owned by any class of persons specified in the resolution and kept solely or principally for the purposes specified in the resolution.

8.13 ~~The owner of a dog or dogs wanting to register a Working Dog or Dogs shall make an online application to Council in the form set out at Schedule One and shall provide with their application any information Council requires.~~

9. Administration and Enforcement

Registration Fees

9.1 ~~Fees~~ under the ~~Dog Control~~ Act are set by Council resolution and notified in the Long Term ~~Council Community~~ Plan, Annual Plan, and on the Council's website: huttcity.govt.nz. **Added wording as per 6(e)**

9.2 Council will fix reasonable dog registration fees to allow effective management and enforcement of the ~~Dog Control Act 1996~~ and ~~Council bylaws~~ the Bylaw. All revenue received and retained under the Act will be used only for purposes authorised ~~by or~~ under the Act. The fee structure will recognise dog owners who are licensed as "responsible dog owners", or who have had their dogs neutered or spayed ~~and microchipped~~.

9.3 Incentives will be available to encourage owners to register their dogs before July 31 each year.

Enforcement

9.4 The Act and Bylaw will generally be enforced by ~~Hutt City~~ Council Animal Control Officers. There are a range of possible enforcement tools including:

- a. ~~Seizure~~~~seizure~~ of dog;
- b. ~~Issue~~~~issue~~ of infringement notices and fines;
- c. ~~Prosecution~~~~prosecution~~ with fines ~~of \$~~ being possible;
- d. ~~Declaring~~~~declaring~~ a dog menacing or dangerous;
~~and~~
- e. ~~Prohibiting~~~~prohibiting~~ people from ~~ewing~~~~owning~~ dogs.

9.5 ~~The~~ Council aims to enforce the ~~Dog Control Act 1996~~ and the ~~Dog Control~~ Bylaw in order to meet the objects of ~~that~~~~the~~ Act. ~~To that end,~~ the Council will undertake prosecutions for breaches of the ~~bylaw~~~~Act~~ ~~and the Bylaw~~, and issue infringement notices for offences specified in the First Schedule to the Act. Recovery of unpaid infringement fees will be sought through the Summary Proceedings Act 1957, in the courts.

9.6 In addition to powers of prosecution and issuing infringement notices, ~~the~~ Council has a number of other powers under the Act which will also be carried out with the aim of safeguarding the public and minimising nuisance caused by dogs and ill-treatment of dogs.

9.7 To enable the public, to the extent that is practicable, to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs, dogs found roaming in any public place or on another person's property, whether or not they are wearing collars or properly registered, will be impounded.

9.8 where ~~the~~ Council receives complaints, Animal Control Officers may take appropriate action including seizing a dog that is not being properly provided for.

Probationary Owners

[9.9](#) Council notes that the Act establishes disincentives for owners who are issued with repeat infringement notices under the ~~Dog Control~~ Act. Such behaviour can affect that person's ability to register future dogs and so impact on their ability to lawfully own dogs in the future.

[9.10](#) Section 21 of the ~~Dog Control Act 1996~~ provides for the classification of a dog owner as a probationary owner. This applies where that person has been convicted of any offence ~~against~~under the Act (except an infringement offence), or has committed three or more infringement offences within a continuous period of two years.

[9.11](#) Under the Act, "Probationary Owner" status will last for 24 months. Probationary owners will not be allowed to register any dog unless they were the registered owner of the dog at the time of the offence.

[9.12](#) Probationary owners will be required to pay a 50 percent surcharge over and above all dog control fees.

Disqualification of Owners

[9.13](#) Dog owners will be disqualified from owning a dog under Section 25 of the ~~Dog Control Act 1996~~ if they are convicted of an offence (not being an infringement offence) against the Act while a probationary owner at the time of the offence. Disqualified owners will not be allowed to own a dog for up to five years after the offence.

Menacing Dogs – Requirement to be Neutered

[9.14](#) ~~The Act 1996~~ provides that a territorial authority must classify as menacing any dog that the territorial authority has reasonable

grounds to believe belongs wholly or predominantly to one or more breeds or types listed in Schedule 4 of the Act.

9.15 ~~3.5.2~~—These breeds and type are currently Brazilian Fila, Dogo Argentino, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario and ~~American~~American Pit Bull Terrier. In addition, a territorial authority may classify a dog as menacing under the Act in relation to the dog's behaviour. An owner of a dog that is classified as menacing may object to this classification and has the right to be heard. The territorial authority may require that the owner of a menacing dog is required to produce evidence that the dog has been neutered or that it is not in a fit condition to be neutered by the specified date.

9.16 It is Council policy in all cases where dogs are classified as menacing because of their breed (~~ie~~e. because they are one of the breeds of dogs specified in the 4th Schedule to the Act) or behaviour to require evidence that the dog has been neutered or is unfit to be neutered by the specified date.

Barking Dogs

9.17 Where a dog control officer has received a complaint and has reasonable grounds for believing that a nuisance is being created by the persistent ~~and/or~~ loud barking or howling of any dog, ~~the officer~~ may:

- a. enter the premises to inspect; and
 - b. serve written notice requiring the nuisance to be reduced to a reasonable level:
- a. 9.18 In determining whether a nuisance is being created the officer will consider: barking during unsociable hours;
 - b. persistent barking of a long duration;
 - c. prolonged barking over a period of days; and
 - d. other factors which the officer deems relevant.

9.19 Owners ~~may appeal to the Council within~~ have seven days ~~against these notices to comply with the notice or object to Council about the content of the notice.~~ Where a notice has been served and the dog causes a further nuisance by barking, the ~~dog control officer~~ Animal Control Officer may remove the dog from the premises.

DOGS ATTACKING PEOPLE OR ANIMALS

9.20 Aggressive behaviour is not limited to but may include:

- a. Rushing at or startling another person or animal in a way that causes or is likely to cause them injury or endangerment;
- b. Rushing at any vehicle in a way that is likely to cause an accident; or
- c. Attacking any person or animal.

9.21 Where a dog control officer observes or believes a dog has ~~attacked a person or animal~~ acted aggressively, the officer may:

- a. ~~At~~ the time, seize the dog if it is at large; or
- b. ~~If~~ the dog continues to be a threat to the safety of people or animals, seize the dog.

~~3.7.2 The matter may also be taken to court, where the dog control officer might ask that the dog be destroyed and that penalties be imposed.~~

9.22 If a dog is seized, then a criminal prosecution against the owner of the dog may be advanced.

Dangerous Dogs

9.23 Where a dog is declared a "dangerous dog" under the Act, the dog must be muzzled at all times while in a public place and neutered or spayed within one month of the classification. The dog must also be kept in a secure area within the property and the owner must pay a higher registration fee.

10. Implementation

- [This policy is given effect by Hutt City Council's Animal Services team:](#)
- [You can find more information on our website, here:](#)
[https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/services/dogs.](https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/services/dogs)

11. Related Documents

- [Dog Control Act 1996;](#)
- [Hutt City Council's Dog Control Bylaw;](#)
- [Conservation Act 1987;](#)
- [National Parks Act 1980;](#)
- [Health Act 1956;](#)
- [Biosecurity Act 1993;](#)
- [Civil Aviation Act 1990;](#)
- [Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.](#)

Schedule One

Working Dogs

Class	Evidence Required
Working dogs as Stock dogs. Dogs that are kept principally for the purposes of herding or driving stock.	The following breeds are considered by Council to be used as stock dogs in the District: - Any "Collie" breed - Huntaway - Heading - Australian Cattle Dog - Kelpie - Sheepdog (Maremma) Any of the above crosses.
An Animal Control Officer will be notified of any registrations for other breeds. The Animal Control Officer may request a demonstration of the dog working, when it is of age.	
Working Dogs	Pest dog: Photo/copy/scan of the pest management plan under the Biosecurity Act 1993. Dogs owned by a licensed Property, Guard under section 9 or section 17 of the Private Security Personnel & Private Investigators Act 2010: Photo/copy/scan of property guard approval documentation Government dogs: Photo/copy/scan of documentation from one of the following Government agencies: - Police - Customs Service - MPI (fisheries/forestry) - Ministry of Defence - Department of Conservation - Department of Corrections - Aviation Security Service - Civil Defence Emergency Management

Declaration of Working Dog

This form is to be completed to declare that your dog(s) is a/are full time working dog(s) kept solely or principally for the purpose of herding or driving stock, pest control under a Pest Management Plan under the Biosecurity Act 1993 or guarding property under section 9 or section 17 of the Private Security Personnel & Private Investigators Act 2010. If requested you must demonstrate the dog's ability to perform its specified function to council's satisfaction.

Registered Dog Owner Details:

Full Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Address where dog(s) are kept at:	
Mobile:	Business Phone:
Email:	
Company Registration Number:	

Dog Details:

Name	Breed	Primary Colour	Secondary Colour	Age:	Sex M/F

In accordance with section 40(1) of the Dog Control Act, I hereby declare that the dog(s) listed above is a/are full time working dog/s, as defined by section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996 and is/are kept solely or principally for this purpose. I understand that if I knowingly provide any false or misleading statements in relation to this declaration that, on summary conviction, I am liable to a fine not exceeding \$3,000.

Signature:	Date: / /
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Dog Control Bylaw

Business unit(s)	Strategy & Policy, Legal, Animal Services		
Date adopted	29/07/2025		
Date effective	30/07/2025		
Review period	Ten years		
Owner	Head of Strategy & Policy		
Approved by	Full Council		
Implementation	Animal Services		
Monitoring/Evaluation	Animal Services, Strategy and Policy		
Version	Author(s)	Date	Description
V 1.3	Sam White, Miranda Dunn, Duncan Pratt	30/07/2025	Legislatively required review
V 1.2	Sam White, Bradley Cato	28/05/2024	Amendments to Eastern Bays prohibition areas
V 1.1	Graham Sewell	15/12/2015	Legislatively required review



Contents

Dog Control Bylaw1

1. Interpretation..... 3

2. Limitation on Number of Dogs Permitted on Land or Premises 4

3. Licensing of Additional Dogs 4

4. Revocation of Licence 5

5. Limitation on Numbers Not to Apply in Certain Areas 6

6. General Controls in Public Places 6

7. Dog Exercise Areas 6

8. Resolution to Specify Dog Exercise Areas.....7

9. Prohibited Areas..... 8

10. Resolution to Specify Dog Prohibition Areas 9

11. Exemption for Certain Working Dogs10

12. Owner Deemed to Have Permitted Dog to be in Public Place10

~~CONFINEMENT OF DOGS AT NIGHT~~10

~~IMPOUNDING OF DOGS~~10

13. Standards for Keeping of Dogs 11

14. Notice to Upgrade Standards 11

Schedule One13

Schedule Two14

Schedule Three.....15

Schedule Four.....17

1. Interpretation

- 1.1 In this ~~Bylaw~~bylaw, unless inconsistent with the context, or where otherwise expressly provided:
- **Commercial dog walker** means any individual or business that walks or trains dogs in public spaces in exchange for payment.
 - **Dog Exercise Area** means an area within a public place that is specified by ordinary Council resolution to be a dog exercise area where dogs may be exercised off the lead.
 - **Dog Park** means a Dog Exercise Area that is defined and fenced, used solely for the purpose of dog exercise and contains specific additional amenities.
 - **Dog Prohibition Area** has the meaning set out in clause , 9.1 and 9.2 of this ~~Bylaw~~bylaw.
 - **Household Unit** means a building or group of buildings, or part of a building or group of buildings, used principally for residential purposes and occupied exclusively as the home or residence of one household.
 - **Land** means a separately owned or occupied portion of land.
 - **Reserve** means any open space, plantation, park, garden or ground set apart for public recreation or enjoyment which is under the management and control of ~~the~~ Council and includes all land administered by ~~the~~ Council under the Reserves Act 1977.- I
 - **Sports Surface** includes any Council land used for sporting activities, whether permanently or temporarily marked, including athletic fields, playing fields, playing courts and other constructions provided for sporting purposes.
- 1.2 The expressions "Dog Control Officer", "Dog Ranger", "Owner", "Public Place", "Working Dog", "Disability Assist Dog"~~Guide Dog~~~~"Companion Dog"~~ and "~~Hearing Ear Dog~~" have the same meaning as in section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

2. Limitation on Number of Dogs Permitted on Land or Premises

- 2.2 ~~2.1~~ No person shall keep more than two dogs over the age of three months on any premises unless they have obtained a licence for additional dogs under clause 3.1. ~~No person may exercise (on-lead or off-lead) more than four dogs at any time in a public place without a Commercial Dog Walker's licence.~~
- 2.3 ~~Council will have discretion to waive licensing requirements and issue an exemption on a case-by-case basis. Any persons wishing to be considered for an exemption should contact Council's Animal Services team.~~

3. Licensing of Additional Dogs

- 3.1 The owner of a dog, or the owner or occupier of the land or premises, ~~desiring~~ wanting to obtain a licence for an additional dog or dogs shall make written application to ~~the~~ Council ~~for a licence~~ in the form set out in Schedule One ~~to~~ of this ~~part of the~~ bylaw and shall provide with their application any information ~~the~~ Council requires. ~~Council, when considering an application under clause 3.1, shall have regard to:~~
- ~~a. the adequacy of the premises for the keeping of the additional dog or dogs specified in the application;~~
 - ~~b. the likely effect that the keeping of the additional dog or dogs would have upon the surrounding neighbourhood;~~
 - ~~c. the likelihood of the dog or dogs becoming a nuisance; and~~
 - ~~d. any other relevant matter including the fact that the additional dog or dogs have previously been kept in another local authority area.~~
- 3.2 Any Commercial Dog Walker shall make written application to Council for a licence in the form set out in Schedule Three of this bylaw and shall provide with their application any information Council requires.
- 3.3 Any licence issued under clause 3.1 and 3.2 may be subject to any reasonable terms, conditions and restrictions consistent with this ~~part of the~~ bylaw ~~that the Council determines~~. Every licence shall be ~~in~~

issued on the forms set out in Schedules Two and Three ~~to~~ of this ~~part~~ of the bylaw and, subject to clause ~~4~~6.1, shall remain in force from the date of issue until the 30th of June ~~in~~ the following year.

- 3.4 For every licence the ~~applicants~~applicant(s) shall pay to ~~the~~ Council; (before the issue of the licence,) the fee, or a proportionate part of the fee in the case of a licence issued for a period of less than a year; ~~as the Council may by resolution determine.~~ The fee for the licence shall be payable in addition to the registration fees payable under the Dog Control Act 1996.

4. Revocation of Licence

- 4.1 Council may revoke a licence at any time while ~~a~~that licence is in force in accordance with clause 3 ~~of this part of the bylaw; if:~~
- ~~a.~~ Council is satisfied that the keeping of the additional dog or dogs has caused or materially contributed to a nuisance or the likelihood of injury to health; or
 - ~~b.~~ Council is satisfied that the keeping of the additional dog or dogs has caused an unduly detrimental effect upon the surrounding neighbourhood; or
 - c. There has been a failure to comply with all or any of the terms, conditions and restrictions of the licence; ~~then the Council may revoke the licence.~~
- 4.2 Any exemptions issued under 2.3 are subject to revocation under 4.1.
- 4.3 Where an owner fails to obtain a license or exemption within seven days of being notified of the requirement to do so, the Dog Control Officer will by written notice require the owner/occupier to reduce the number of dogs on their premises to no more than two dogs within 14 days. Where the owner/occupier fails to comply with this notice, Council is permitted to seize and impound the number of dogs necessary to reduce the number of dogs on the premises to two.

5. Limitation on Numbers Not to Apply in Certain Areas

- 5.1 Nothing in clauses 2 ~~and 3~~ shall apply:
- a. to premises within any rural areas under an operative or proposed District Plan prepared by Council~~;~~
 - b. to premises lawfully used exclusively or principally as a veterinary clinic including an office used by a veterinary surgeon in the course of their business~~;~~ ~~and~~
 - c. to premises lawfully used exclusively or principally for carrying on the business of boarding, ~~walking or grooming~~ dogs.

6. General Controls in Public Places

- 6.1 Except as provided in clauses 7.1 and 9.1:
- a. no dog shall be permitted in a public place; and
 - b. no person being the owner of a dog shall take the dog into or permit the dog to enter or remain in a public place unless:
 - i. the dog is kept under continuous control by~~;~~ an effectual leash held by a person and securely attached to a collar on the dog; or ~~being~~
 - ii. ~~the dog is~~ contained in a vehicle or cage.
- 6.2 If a dog defecates in a public place or on land or premises other than that occupied by the owner, the owner or other person having control of that dog shall immediately remove the faeces.

7. Dog Exercise Areas

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything contained in clause ~~6 of this Bylaw~~ ~~9~~, a person may exercise ~~that~~ ~~a~~ dog off ~~the~~ lead in any designated Dog

Exercise Area (including a Dog Park) as outlined in Schedule Three
~~Three to this part of the bylaw.~~

- 7.2 The owner or person responsible for the dog shall ensure that the dog is kept under constant supervision and control while being exercised in a Dog Exercise Area.

8. Resolution to Specify Dog Exercise Areas

- 8.1 Council may, by resolution, specify Dog Exercise Areas where dogs may be exercised off lead.
- 8.2 The Council may amend or revoke a resolution made under clause 8.1 at any time.
- 8.3 Before making a resolution under clause ~~7A8.1~~ 8.1, the Council must take into account:
- a. the need to minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally;
 - b. the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults;
 - c. the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs;
 - d. the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners;
 - e. impact on wildlife areas;

- f. whether it is necessary to consult with the public to gauge community views on a proposed Dog Exercise Area; and
- g. any other information considered by Council to be relevant.

9. Prohibited Areas

9.1 No dog shall be permitted in a ~~dog-prohibition-area~~Dog Prohibition Area, and no owner may cause or permit any dog that he or she owns to enter or remain in a ~~dog-prohibition-area~~Dog Prohibition Area.

9.2 For the purposes of clause ~~89.1~~, the following are ~~dog-prohibition areas~~Dog Prohibition Areas as outlined in Schedule ~~Three to this part of the bylaw:-~~Three:

- a. any premises used as a public library;
- b. any children's playground within the district;
- c. any swimming pool owned or controlled by Council;
- d. any land used as a kindergarten or playcentre;
- e. any marked sports surface;
- f. any unmarked sports surface when in use for sporting purposes;
- g. any area that forms part of a park or reserve where a special event that is organised and in respect of which ~~the~~ Council has publicly notified the time, date and duration of the closure-; and
- h. any other area within a public place that is specified by ordinary Council resolution to be an area that dogs are prohibited to enter upon or remain in.

10. Resolution to Specify Dog Prohibition Areas

- 10.1 Council may, by resolution, specify Dog Prohibition Areas where dogs are prohibited to enter upon or remain in.
- 10.2 A resolution made under clause ~~8A~~10.1 may specify that dogs are prohibited from the area either generally or only in relation to specified times and days or events.
- 10.3 ~~The~~ Council may amend or revoke a resolution made under clause ~~8A~~10.1 at any time.
- 10.4 Before making a resolution under clause ~~8A~~10.1, ~~the~~ Council must take into account:
- ~~The~~the need to minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally;~~;~~
 - ~~The~~the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults;~~;~~
 - ~~The~~the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs;~~;~~
 - ~~The~~the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners;~~;~~
 - ~~Impact~~impact on wildlife areas;~~;~~
 - ~~Whether~~whether it is necessary to consult with the public to gauge community views on a proposed ~~dog prohibition area~~. Dog Prohibition Area; and
 - ~~Any~~any other information considered by ~~the~~ Council to be relevant.

11. Exemption for Certain Working Dogs

- 11.1 Nothing in clauses ~~11.9 of this Bylaw~~ shall apply to ~~a working dog guide dog~~, a Disability Assist Dog ~~hearing ear dog companion dog~~ or to a ~~working dog~~Working Dog which is being used by the Police or a security guard in the course of their functions and duties.
- 11.2 Clause 6.1 shall not apply to the types of dogs referred to in ~~9.1 or 11.1~~ or to a ~~working dog~~Working Dog being lawfully used to move stock.

12. Owner Deemed to Have Permitted Dog to be in Public Place

- 12.1 The owner of a dog found in any place in breach of clauses 6.1 or 9.1 ~~and 9.2 of this Bylaw~~ shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have permitted the dog to enter or remain in that place.

CONFINEMENT OF DOGS AT NIGHT

- ~~11.1 The owner of any dog shall, during the night keep the dog:-~~
- a. ~~tied up by a leash or chain which is securely attached to a collar on the dog; or~~

b. ~~confined in an enclosed yard so that the dog cannot escape; or~~

c. ~~confined in a kennel, shed or other building so that the dog cannot escape.~~

IMPOUNDING OF DOGS

- ~~12.1 Where a dog is found at large in breach of any provision of this Bylaw it may be impounded.~~

13. Standards for Keeping of Dogs

13.1 The occupier of any premises on which a dog is kept shall take all steps reasonably necessary to:

- a. ~~e~~ Ensure the dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with proper and sufficient food, water and shelter; ~~and~~
- ~~b~~ ~~p~~ Prevent the keeping of the dog becoming a nuisance to any person or injuring, endangering or causing distress to any person.

14. Notice to Upgrade Standards

14.1 If ~~the~~ Council considers that clause 13 is breached, ~~the~~ Council may (but shall not be obliged to) serve a notice on the occupier to take action to ensure the conditions under which the dog is kept are improved so that clause 13.1 is not breached. The notice may specify all or any of the following actions to be taken ~~and~~ (except in the case of ongoing actions) ~~taken~~ within a reasonable time specified in the notice:

- a. reduce the number of dogs kept notwithstanding the existence of a licence under clause 3;
- b. construct, alter or reconstruct kennels or other places where dogs are kept;
- c. keep dogs confined or restrained in specified ways, specified areas and for specified times;
- d. clean kennels and other places where dogs are kept; and
- e. take any other action necessary to properly house any dogs or to reduce or eliminate the nuisance caused by the dogs.

14.2 Council shall only specify actions under clause 14.1 which are reasonable having regard to the inadequacy of housing, or the nature of

the nuisance. In specifying any action under clause 14.1 ~~the~~ Council shall have regard to:

- a. the need for adequate shelter and space;
- b. the need for a reasonably clean and healthy living area;
- c. the proximity of other dwellings;
- d. the separation of kennels or other places dogs are kept from boundaries;
- e. the use of materials which are easily cleaned in kennels and other places dogs are kept;
- f. the construction of the flooring or ground treatment of a kennel or other place where dogs are kept, such as whether it is graded and whether it is drained to a sewer drain; and
- g. the need for cleaning of kennels or other places where dogs are kept.

14.3 ~~The~~ Council may at any time cancel any notice given under clause 14.1 ~~by notice to the occupier~~ if it believes the notice has not been complied with and will not be complied with.

14.4 So long as a notice under this section has been issued and has not been cancelled in accordance with clause 14.3 ~~the~~ Council shall not prosecute the occupier for a breach of clause 14 before the date stated on the notice as the date by which the actions (except ongoing actions) are to be carried out.

Schedule One

APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO KEEP ADDITIONAL DOGS ON LAND OR PREMISES



HUTT CITY
COUNCIL

Adobe Acrobat V11 is required to fill this form online
Download for free <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

Name		Person ID
Address		
Work Phone	Home Phone	Mobile Phone
Email		

I hereby apply, pursuant to Clause 3 of the Hutt City Bylaw 2005 – Dog Control, for a licence in respect of the land or premises described below permitting an additional dog/s to be kept on the land or premises.

DETAILS OF ALL DOG/S TO BE KEPT ON THE PROPERTY

Address of premises on which it is intended to keep the additional dogs (if different from above)			
Dogs name	Dogs ID number	Current tag number	Owner (if different from above)
Owner signature		Date	

OFFICE USE ONLY		
Fee paid	Receipt no	RFS enquiry no
\$		

Animal Services | 21 Meachen Street, Seaview, Lower Hutt 5010 | animals@huttcity.govt.nz
Hutt City Council | 131 High Street, Private Bag 31512, Lower Hutt 5042 | 04 570 5555 | huttcity.govt.nz
RSA-FORM-114F HQC | DOC/14/185976 | December 2013

Schedule Two

LICENCE TO KEEP ADDITIONAL DOG OR DOGS ON LAND OR PREMISES



Licence number

Pursuant to Clause 3 of the Hutt City Bylaw 2005 – Hutt City Council hereby licences the land or premises, described below for the purpose of keeping the dog(s), described below on the land or premises subject to the provisions of Part 4 of the Bylaw and the conditions contained in this licence.

Name of applicant for licence		
Address of land or premises on which the additional dog or dogs are permitted to be kept		
Dog name	Dog ID	Owner (if different from above)
Conditions of Licence		

Any change to the listed address or any addition to the dogs listed will require a new application.

Any breach of Conditions of Licence will result in this Licence being cancelled.

Licence granted by	Date
Regional Manager Animal Services	

Animal Services | 21 Meachen Street, Seaview, Lower Hutt 5010 | animals@huttcity.govt.nz
 Hutt City Council | 531 High Street, Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040 | 04 570 6666 | huttcity.govt.nz
 RSA-FORM-115L HCC | DOC/14/185978 | December 2013

Schedule Three



Commercial Dog Walking

Requirement	Evidence Required
Training and Assessment You must demonstrate required knowledge and be assessed by an Animal Control Officer.	Be assessed by an Animal Control Officer. This will cover knowledge of - Dog Control Act 1996 - Hutt City Council's Dog Control Bylaw - Hutt City Council's Dog Control Policy An Animal Control Officer will require a demonstration of the dog handlers ability to control and handle multiple dogs
Insurance and Application Public Liability Insurance	You need to supply HuttCity Council with a public liability insurance certificate and submit a Commercial Dog Walkers licence application along with the required fee.
Legal Compliance	You must not have been convicted or received an infringement under the following in the past year. • Dog Control Act 1996 • Animal Welfare Act 1999 • Hutt City Council Dog Control Bylaw 2015 You must not have received a substantiated complaint in the past year or been classified as a Probationary or Disqualified dog owner at any time.
Licence Renewal:	You need to renew your licence annually with Hutt City Council

Document Name / XX Month XXXX / Version XX

P.1

Licence on request.	You are required to have your Commercial dogs walkers licence on your person and available on request by any Warranted Animal Control officer, when walking multiple dogs.
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Licensee Details:

Full Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Name of Business	
Business Mobile:	Business Phone:
Business Email:	
Company Registration Number:	

Schedule Four

Dog prohibition areas and dog exercise areas

Introduction

The following areas were adopted by Council at its meeting on ~~15 December 2015~~ [29 July 2025](#) as either Dog Prohibition Areas, or Dog Exercise Areas.

The file containing tables with descriptions relevant to each corresponding map that is indicative of the areas can be viewed [here](#).

1. Dog Prohibition Areas		
1.1	Eastbourne	
a.	The picnic and leisure areas of Point Howard where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December to 31 March between 9.00am and 8.00pm. Changed wording to address 6(h)	46
b.	The picnic and leisure areas of Lowry Bay where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December to 31 March between 9.00am and 8.00pm during Changed wording to address 6(h)	72
c.	The picnic and leisure areas of York Bay where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December to 31 March between 9.00am and 8.00pm Changed wording to address 6(h)	73
d.	The picnic and leisure areas of Mahina Bay where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December to 31 March between 9.00am and 8.00pm . Changed wording to address 6(h)	74
e.	The picnic and leisure areas of Sunshine Bay where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December to 31 March. Between 9.00am and 8.00pm Changed wording to address 6(h)	75
f.	The picnic and leisure areas of Days Bay where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December and 31 March	76

	between 9.00am and 8.00pm. Changed wording to address 6(h)	
g.	The picnic and leisure areas of Rona Bay where there are signs prohibiting dogs from 1 December and 31 March between 9.00am and 8.00pm. Changed wording to address 6(h)	77
h.	That piece of land vested in Council at Marine Drive, Days Bay, being Lots 5, 6 and 7 Deposited Plan 1694, and being all of the land contained in Certificate of Title 498/171 (Wellington Registry), more commonly known as the Days Bay Pumping Station Site and the Proposed Local Purpose Reserve (Wildlife Management).	45
i.		
j.		60
k.	Sorrento Bay – Dogs prohibited at all times from the areas where there are signs: the foreshore and beach area of Sorrento Bay; from the Southern end of the rocky outcrop and running to the Northern end of the oystercatcher managed works zone.	56
l.	Whiorau Reserve – Dogs prohibited at all times from the bird protection area as indicated by the signs.	57
m.	CL Bishop Park – Dogs prohibited at all times from the areas where there are signs: the foreshore and beach area of Rona Bay abutting Bishop Park bird protection area; and from the bird protection area.	58

n.	HW Shortt Recreation Ground – dogs to be prohibited at all times from the bird protection areas as indicated by the signs.	34
1.2	Petone	
a.	Petone Beach between Hikoikoi Reserve and the Petone Wharf from 1 December and 31 March between 9.00am and 8.00pm. Changed wording to address 6(h)	42
b.	Percy Scenic Reserve.	43
c.	Eastern section of McEwan Park	20A
d.	Memorial Park	10A
a.		
b.		
c.		
1.4	Epuni	
a.	Mitchell Park	52
1.5	Avalon	
a.	Avalon Park Three-quarters of Avalon Park from the tree line to the north of the children's bicycle track through to the Park's southern boundary be specified as a dog prohibition area. However, a dog on a leash is permitted to walk along the pathway as	53

	designated on Map 53 and coloured as a broken yellow line. Dogs are also permitted on leash at the northern end of the park as designated in Map 53.	
1.6	Stokes Valley	
a.	Speldhurt Park	1A
1.7	Belmont	
a.	Belmont Recreation Reserve Southern end.	6A
1.8	Seaview	
a.	The small, fenced section of Sunset Point where the bird protection area is located	

2. Dog Exercise Areas			
2.1	Stokes Valley	Entrances	Map
a.	Delaney Park (excluding sports surfaces)	George Street, Stokes Valley Road	1
b.	Kamahi Park (excluding sports surfaces)	Stokes Valley Road	2
2.2	Kelson		
a.	Kelson Reserve	Kelson Grove	7
2.3	Belmont		
a.	Belmont Recreation Reserve	Owen Street to the Northern end of the riverbank before	6

		the path narrows (opposite High Street at the Northern end of Taita Drive).	
b.	Redvers Drive Reserve	Redvers Drive	55
2.4	Naenae		
a.	Naenae Park (excluding sports surfaces)	Seddon Street Naenae Road Gibson Street Waddington Drive Rimu Street	8
b.	Waddington Canal	Balgownie Grove, Waddington Drive, Hill Grove, Judd Crescent, Seddon Street	63
2.5	Waiwhetu		
a.	Te Whiti Park (excluding sports surfaces)	Whites Line East, Riverside Drive	9
b.	Trafalgar Park (excluding sports surfaces)	Trafalgar Street, Brook Street	10
c.	Bell Park (excluding sports surfaces)	Bell Road, Douglas Street, Riverside Drive South	14
2.6	Petone		

a.	Portion of Te Mome Stream east side from Bracken Street along rear of Wilford School to Petone Central Croquet Club right of way.	Bracken Street, Petone Central Croquet Club right of way.	10B
b.	Sladden Park (excluding the children's playground and sports surfaces)	Bracken Street	11
c.	Ava Park	Wakefield Street	18
d.	Petone Recreation Ground (excluding children's playground and sports surfaces)	Buick Street	19
e.	North Park (excluding sports surfaces)	Roxburgh Street	21
f.	Frank Cameron Park	London Road	22
g.	Petone Beach Area (west of Petone Wharf) – excluding Honiana Te Puni Reserve and Te Ara Tupua (shared path), as indicated in the map. Additional wording to address 6(a)	The Esplanade, Honiana Te Puni Reserve carpark	17
h.	Petone Beach East	Marine Parade	20
2.7	Hutt Central		
a.	Hutt Recreation Ground (excluding sports surfaces)	Myrtle Street, Woburn Road, Bellevue Road	12

2.8	Moera		
a.	York Park	York Street, Elizabeth Street	13
2.9	Hutt Riverbanks		
a.	Eastern bank from Tirangi Road to Croft Grove, Moera.	Tirangi Road to Croft Grove, Moera	64
b.	Eastern bank from Ava Rail Bridge to Barber Grove, Moera	Ava Rail Bridge to Barber Grove, Moera	65
c.	Eastern bank from Ewen Bridge to Ava Rail Bridge	Ewen Bridge to Ava Rail Bridge	66
d.	Eastern bank from Melling Bridge to Ewen Bridge	Melling Bridge to Ewen Bridge	67
e.	Eastern bank from Kennedy Good Bridge to Melling Bridge	Kennedy Good Bridge to Melling Bridge	68
f.	Eastern bank from Stokes Valley to Kennedy Good Bridge	Stokes Valley to Kennedy Good Bridge	5
g.	Eastern bank from Reynold Bach Drive to Stokes Valley	Reynold Bach Drive to Stokes Valley	69
h.	Western bank from Manor Park Road to Benmore Crescent extension.	Benmore Crescent, Western Hutt Road, Manor Park Road.	40
i.	Western bank north of Owen St, Belmont.	Owen Street	70

j.	Western bank from Kennedy Good Bridge south to Melling Bridge	Kennedy Good Bridge, Melling Bridge	15
k.	Western bank from Melling Bridge to Ewen Bridge	Melling Bridge, Ewen Bridge	16
l.	Western bank from Ewen Bridge to Ava Park.	Ewen Bridge, Ava Park	71
2.10 Wainuiomata			
a.	Leonard Wood Park (excluding the children's playground)	Wood Street/Willow Grove/Parenga Street	23
b.	Wainuiomata River Bank	Main Road/Poole Crescent	24
c.	Hine Road Reserve	Hine Road	25
d.	Black Creek (West) Banks	Nelson Crescent, Moohan Street	26
e.	Pencarrow Hall Reserve	Tipperary Grove	27
f.	Drainage Reserve between Norfolk Street and Nelson Street.	Norfolk Street Nelson Street	28
g.	Drainage Reserve between Mohaka Street and Momona Street	Parkway Manutuke Street	29
h.	Karaka Park (excluding children's playground)	Karaka Street	30

i.	Drainage Reserve between Wainuiomata Road and Fraser Street	Fraser Street Wainuiomata Road	31
j.	Drainage Reserve between Parkway and Konini Street	Parking, Konini Street, Totara Street, Karamu Crescent	61
k.	Burden Avenue Riverbank Reserve	Faulke Avenue Main Road	32
l.	The Eastern section of Richard Prouse Park (when not in use for sporting purposes), and outside the sports surfaces in the Western section	Hine Road	33
m.	Wood Street Reserve	Wood Street	36
n.	Rotary Park	Main Road, Gibbs Crescent	37
o.	Les Dalton Dog Park	Waiu Street	62

3. Dog Exercise and Prohibition Areas			
3.1 Eastbourne			
a.	Days Bay The area in Days Bay on the beach north of the wharf is – i) A Dog Exercise Area between 8.00pm and 10.00am from 1 December to 31 March every year;	Beach area to the North of Days Bay Wharf	54

	ii) A Dog Exercise Area at all times from 1 April to 30 November; and iii) A Dog Prohibition Area between 9.00am and 8.00pm from 1 December to 31 March every year.		
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