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**MINUTES**  
of the  
**SUBMISSIONS HEARING MEETING**  
**Draft Dog Control Bylaw**  
held  
**9.00 am, Wednesday, 25 September 2024**  
at  
**Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond**

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The [video recording](#) of this meeting is available on the Council's YouTube channel.

**Present:** Councillor C Hill (Chair), Councillors C Butler, J Ellis, B Maru and D Shallcrass

**In Attendance:** Group Manager – Environmental Assurance (K Drummond), Community Policy Advisor (C Budai), Strategic Policy Manager (D Fletcher), Team Leader – Biosecurity and Biodiversity (G Coleman), Regulatory Manager (S Bruyns), Governance Manager (E Stephenson) and Executive Assistant and Advisor to the Mayor (R Scherer)

**1 OPENING, WELCOME**

Councillor Hill welcomed everyone to the meeting and offered the opening karakia.

**2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**3 REPORTS**

**3.1 Draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw Submissions Hearing**

**Moved Councillor Maru/Councillor Shallcrass**

**SH24-09-1**

**That the Draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw Submissions Hearing and Deliberations Panel**

1. receives the Draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw Submissions Hearing report, RSH24-09-3; and
2. receives and considers all [645 submissions](#) on the Draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw received by 8 September 2024; and
3. declines to accept any late Draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw submissions received after 5:00pm on 10 September.

#### **CARRIED**

- Attachment 1 Supporting documents
- Attachment 2 Sally Quickfall tabled document
- Attachment 3 Bruce Struthers presentation
- Attachment 4 Lisa Nelson tabled document
- Attachment 5 Tasman Bay Blue Penguin Trust presentation
- Attachment 6 Tracey Osbourne presentation
- Attachment 7 Waimea Inlet presentation
- Attachment 8 David Melville presentation
- Attachment 9 Mana Stratton - position statement - safe dogs
- Attachment 10 Evie South tabled document

#### **4 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS**

- 1.1 **Submitters:** Wade Quickfall (34560) and Sally Quickfall (34561) tabled supporting information.

##### **Topic:**

- Wandering/roaming dogs cause issues.
- Dogs should be allowed on the cycleway from Richmond to Rough Island.
- Owners who failed to control their dogs should be managed.
- The Rangihaeata esplanade reserve must be available for dog walking.
- Retain Hoddy Park for dog walking with some area of on-leash control.

##### **Questions and Responses:**

- Playgrounds could make dogs more excited, dogs toileting in playgrounds was an issue.
- New bylaw would be completely unmanageable; would require more staff to police it.

- 1.2 **Submitter:** Evie South on behalf of The Wakefield Bush Restoration Society (34549) tabled supporting information.

##### **Topic:**

- Concern over changes to controlled areas around reserves classified under the Reserves Act.
- Sec 122A of the Reserves Act – did not allow dog walking areas.
- What was effective dog control? Subjective and open to interpretation.

- 1.3 **Submitter:** Scott Burnett on behalf of Forest and Bird (34555)

##### **Topic:**

- We need to look after our coastal birds.
- Supportive of bylaw in general except for some specific sites, Milnthorpe, Riwaka River mouth, Motueka sandspit.
- The Council should fund more enforcement, and provide more signage.
- Dog registration fees should be in line with Nelson to pay for more enforcement.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Marsden Valley dog park was a good example of a public space for dogs.
- There were beaches where on-leash was appropriate.

1.4 **Submitter:** Heather Wallace on behalf of Mohua Penguin Trust (34557) – did not attend

1.5 **Submitter:** Andrew Taylor (33476) – did not attend

1.6 **Submitter:** Anna Perkins (33484)

**Topic:**

- Little Kaiteriteri was a recreation reserve, not a wildlife reserve.
- Locals respected the current rules. A handful of owners gave the majority of owners a bad name.
- Banning dogs on the beach would not change people from running their dogs in prohibited areas.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Divide in the community within Little Kaiteriteri was getting worse.
- Signage needed to be improved.
- Increasing number of dogs at Little Kaiteriteri.

1.7 **Submitter:** Stephen Neave (33713)

**Topic:**

- Dogs bring people together, saddened by the division within Little Kaiteriteri.
- Beach area is important to mental health.
- Negative feeling is unwarranted and upsetting. Concerned with level of emotion and hatred in submissions.
- Little Kaiteriteri is a very clean beach, no evidence of dogs bounding around.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Has only seen penguins at night on the road.
- The community supports the option of bird aversion.

1.8 **Submitter:** Peter Fullerton (33485) – did not attend

1.9 **Submitter:** Melanie Ellis (33486) – did not attend

1.10 **Submitter:** Reesa Pope (33498) – did not attend

1.11 **Submitter:** Margaret McEvedy (33518)

**Topic:**

- The new bylaw would lead to a ban on dogs on beaches.

- The current rules worked well and were fair.
- Did not agree with proposed restrictions on Dummy Bay.
- Did not agree with the option of walking dogs at Split Apple Rock instead.
- Encouraging good behaviour for all dog owners, positive advertising, not aggressive posters, encourage dog owners to become champions for the penguins.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Penguins have been deliberately relocated to the Kaiteriteri area.

1.12 **Submitter:** Emma Williams (33523) – did not attend

1.13 **Submitter:** David Martin Everton (33563) – did not attend

1.14 **Submitter:** Julie Rickley (33577) – did not attend

1.15 **Submitter:** Henriette Politano (34513)

**Topic:**

- Bylaw was punitive. People needed to be controlled, not dogs.
- Bylaw was a control act.
- Dogs are man's best friend.

1.16 **Submitter:** Deb Kernot (33578) – did not attend

1.17 **Submitter:** Kevin Armstrong (33614)

**Topic:**

- Baigent Reserve is a special area for people in Tasman; the land was gifted to the people of Tasman for all to share and enjoy.
- Any restrictions on use of the reserve and the beach would be disingenuous and a travesty.
- Strip of land at Kina – the Council does not have legal right to that land.
- Need better monitoring of community activities at Baigent Reserve.

**Questions and Responses:**

- There was no need to modify the bylaw at all.

1.18 **Submitter:** Lawson Davey on behalf of Fish and Game New Zealand (33622)

**Topic:**

- Fish and Game supported the draft bylaw in general, but there are some cases where it is unduly onerous, and some compromises could be made.
- Pleased to see estuaries included as dog-restricted areas.
- There are certain times of the year when the bylaw doesn't need to be restrictive.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Dogs used for hunting are well trained and cause minimal disturbance.
- Licensed hunters are aware that the area for shooting ducks is normally prohibited to dogs.

1.19 **Submitter:** Kirstin Young (33627) – did not attend

1.20 **Submitter:** Bruce Struthers (33699)

**Topic:**

- Mr Struthers tabled a PowerPoint presentation.

- Land development inflicts faster and longer term damage on the environment than any dog.
- Responsible owners do control their dogs.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Control of humans and dogs is the best outcome for the environment.
- Any unregistered dog apprehended by the Council should not be returned to its owner.

1.21 **Submitter:** Claire Hutt (33736)

**Topic:**

- Importance of dogs as companion animals and therapy dogs.
- Dogs need exercise areas.
- Dogs and wildlife can exist in harmony.

**Questions and Responses:**

- People do want to protect wildlife.
- Requiring dogs on a beach to be on-lead would be disastrous.

1.22 **Submitter:** Kathleen Lloyd (34464) Tasman Bay Dog Owners informal group

**Topic:**

- Restrictions should be on dog owners, not dogs.
- Wildlife protection takes an overly high part in the draft bylaw.
- Bylaw is not inclusive or innovative, people come to Tasman to live because of the amenities available for people to walk their dogs.
- Major issue is wandering dogs.
- There is lots of disinformation demonising dog owners.

**Questions and Responses:**

- The bylaw enables the Council to deal with bad dog owners.

1.23 **Submitter:** Christine Grove (33771)

**Topic:**

- Dogs need to be off-leash to get proper exercise.
- Would like the Council to provide more areas where dogs can run.

1.24 **Submitter:** Carol Dayman (33821) Zebanti GSD and Nelson District Kennel Assn

**Topic:**

- Suggested that penguins like to roost on rocky outcrops, not sandy beaches.
- The Council is not considering the people who use Kina Peninsula.
- Areas where birds are nesting could be fenced off.
- More education and bigger fines are required.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05am and reconvened at 11:15am.

1.25 **Submitter:** Tracey Walker (33831) Zatori – did not attend

1.26 **Submitter:** Yvonne Neville (33621) – Don Sache presented the submission.

**Topic:**

- Holidaymakers bring large dogs who swim and ignore swimmers.

- Dogs annoy visitors.
- Busy beach in summer, dogs chase birds, local dog minders walking dogs use the area, running everywhere off leash, have no control.
- Dog owners can be very aggressive.
- All dogs must be on a leash won't work, make Parr Beach a controlled dog area.

1.27 **Submitter:** Sue Lindsay (33860) – did not attend

1.28 **Submitter:** Lisa Nelson (33938) Essential Vitality Health and Wellness – tabled document

**Topic:**

- Concern for humans, children and elderly who are intimidated by dogs.
- Lots of people don't use the beach because of the dogs who may attack people.
- Dogs on beaches causes sanitation issues.
- Need dog parks, confined areas.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Dog defecation causes all kinds of human illnesses, some can't be treated with antibiotics.

1.29 **Submitter:** Don Sache (33961)

**Topic:**

- Strongly disagrees with proposed bylaw. It is contradictory – calls for wildlife preservation and conservation at the same time as allowing dogs running free off lead.
- Parr Beach area is covered in nesting birds, no dogs should be allowed.
- Need more dog rangers, who do we contact and how, a phone call is a waste of time.
- If the Council is changing the rules, you need to enforce them.
- Need easy to read signs.

1.30 **Submitter:** Cynthia McConville on behalf of Forest and Bird Golden Bay Branch (34059)

**Topic:**

- Concerned about variable oystercatchers nesting at Milnthorpe and Collingwood.
- Dogs and beach nesting birds are incompatible.
- Happy to compromise for on-lead, controlled off-leash from Excellence Street.
- Doesn't agree with proposed dog on-leash corridor at Parapara Inlet. Increased enforcement is required.

1.31 **Submitter:** Cynthia McConville (34113)

**Topic:**

- Agreed that it is not easy to meet the requirements of wildlife and dog control.
- Wants dogs prohibited from the entire headland at Rangihaeata.

1.32 **Submitter:** Alison McMillan (34070)

**Topic:**

- Supports increase in dog fees to provide dog parks.
- Dogs should be prohibited on Little Kaiteriteri Beach.

1.33 **Submitter:** Alexandra Purucker (34086) – did not attend

1.34 **Submitter:** Ian Price (34287) – did not attend

1.35 **Submitter:** Julia Burbury and Derek Smail (34348)

**Topic:**

- Dogs are petrified of penguins.
- Division has been caused by fanatical single issue people.
- Wants the status quo on Little Kaiteriteri Beach.

1.36 **Submitter:** Sandra LePine (34368) – did not attend

1.37 **Submitter:** Jennifer Morris (34371) – via Zoom

- Doesn't want any more dog walking restrictions on Golden Bay beaches.
- Dogs need to be able to be off lead.
- Why is area from Miles Reserve banned?
- Most responsible dog owners would put their dog on a lead where it is necessary.

1.38 **Submitter:** Grant Knowles on behalf of Golden Bay Community Board (34383) – via Zoom

**Topic:**

- Golden Bay Community Board strongly supports the proposed bylaw.
- Wants a coordinated local and central government approach to dog control measures.

1.39 **Submitter:** Dias Suwido (34388)

- Urged the Council to make space available where dogs can be off leash.
- Allow dogs in certain on leash in some areas, like Tasman's Great Taste Trail.
- Use social media to educate dog owners.
- Provide free or low cost dog poo bags.
- Owners' responsibility to manage their dogs.
- Happy for dog registration fees to increase if necessary.

1.40 **Submitter:** Martin Everton (34316)

**Topic:**

- More and more dogs in Little Kaiteriteri, off leash, defecating, intimidating children, peeing on towels.
- Constant dog attacks on wildlife, especially little blue penguins.
- Roaming uncontrolled dogs were a problem.
- Prefers no dogs on Little Kaiteriteri in summer except for a brief period in the morning.
- Wants the area patrolled more often during summer.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Extra animal control staff could be subsidised with an increase in dog registration fees.

1.41 **Submitter:** Gillian Trotter (34405) Split Apple Rock Owners' Association

**Topic:**

- Concerned that Split Apple Rock and Towers Bay Beach are not mentioned in the draft bylaw.
- Wants dog restricted in this area. Split Apple rock is a major tourist attraction.
- Greater policing and education on bylaw.

**Questions and Responses:**

- There were a lot of incidents where dogs walking in a prohibited area are not reported.

1.42 **Submitter:** Larry Lumsden (34421)

**Topic:**

- Dogs should be prohibited from Little Kaiteriteri Beach.
- Dog attacks on humans were increasing across the country, 24,000 last year, huge cost to ACC.
- Enforcement costs should be included in dog registration fees and could also be used to fund a dog park in the area.
- Need to punish irresponsible dog owners.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Current fines for dog owners are not a deterrent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:36pm and reconvened at 1:05pm.

1.43 **Submitter:** Sarah Quickfall (34396)

**Topic:**

- Disagrees with dog ban around the Rangihaeata headland.
- Never seen any misbehaving dogs or any penguins on the beach during the day.
- Also against draft bylaw proposal for Kina Beach and Hoddy Park reserve.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Supports rule that would allow dogs on leash for certain sections of reserves.

1.44 **Submitter:** Anthony McLeod (34399) – did not attend

1.45 **Submitter:** Jane and Roger Mannering (34400) - did not attend

1.46 **Submitter:** Gillian Trotter (34535) Split Apple Rock Owners Assn

**Topic:**

- Against the proposal for Tokongawa Reserve to be used as a dog exercise area. The area was not suitable for dogs, it was water logged for most of the year.

**Questions and Responses:**

- The reserve was used for community get-togethers and working bees.
- Locals knew not to exercise their dogs near any penguin nests.

1.47 **Submitter :Anthony (Tony) McLeod (34399)**

**Topic:**

- The balance between dog owners and conservation is not mutually exclusive.
- Map of Mohua doesn't show other areas of Golden Bay that are restricted for dog use.
- Two thirds of that coastline is restricted for dogs.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Supports the current dog controls at Tata Beach – a sensible solution that could be applied across the board.

1.48 **Submitter:** Linda Jenkins (34437) Tasman Bay Blue Penguin Trust – PowerPoint presentation

**Topic:**

- Supports little blue penguins.



- Dogs on beaches are agents of disturbance, fatal dog attacks have been well documented.
- Dogs kill penguins.
- Dogs on leash would continue to disturb wildlife.
- Native species should be given precedence.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Current signage was inadequate and confusing.

1.49 **Submitter:** Susan Walsh (34449) Dog Almighty

**Topic:**

- Look at options for shared access.
- The dog control policy was not dealing with the primary issues. The Council needs to fulfil its obligation to educate people about how to train their dogs
- Hoddy Park/Kina Peninsula were both perfect locations for dog walking with some rules, but not a complete ban.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Owning a dog was similar to a drivers licence.
- Education for dogs and their owners was key.

1.50 **Submitter:** Gillian Pollock (34451) Nelson Tasman Branch of Forest and Bird

**Topic:**

- Dogs instinct is to hunt and kill. Birds are upset by dogs whether they are on a leash or not.
- Very few dog owners have control of their dogs.
- Dogs need to be banned from all wetlands, bush areas and, inlets. Let them run free in open, grassy parks.
- Likes the option of a dog park, Nelson example.
- Survival of our wildlife is top priority.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Has never seen a responsible dog owner.

1.51 **Submitter:** Linda Jenkins (34446)

**Topic:**

- People pack up and leave beaches because of uncontrolled dogs.
- Hygiene was an issue with dog poo.
- Serious dog attacks are increasing and reporting them is difficult.
- Create dog parks, beaches are not for dogs.
- Enforce the rules, dog rangers should be warranted and effective.
- Use signage.

**Questions and Responses:**

- ACC claims for dog attacks are increasing in New Zealand.

1.52 **Submitter:** Jeff Maslen on behalf of Angelika Maslen (34471)

**Topic:**

- Dog owners can be environmentalists too.
- Bylaw must be rigorous and evidence-based.
- Referred to noise issues at Nelson Lakes – power boats were allowed but dogs were banned.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Enforcement and fines should be issued where dogs are out of control on a beach.

1.53 **Submitter:** Dr Tracey Osborne (34473) – Via Zoom – PowerPoint presentation

**Topic:**

- Poorly supervised dogs are a problem for penguin survival and the disturbance of shorebird nesting and roosting.
- With a little care there was room for both dogs and wildlife.
- More education was required, not just for dog owners, but also for people who use beaches for walking.
- Maintain dog walking as a priority activity from Collingwood to Milnthorpe. Remove ban on dogs at Ruataniwha Inlet, or provide an inland route around the roosting site at Aorere river mouth.
- Target known problem areas and times.

1.54 **Submitter:** David Sissons and Gillian Bishop (34492) Waimea Inlet Forum working group – PowerPoint presentation

**Topic:**

- Waimea Inlet has threatened bird species that need protection.
- Changes to land use have exacerbated the problem with dogs.
- Nesting areas have been lost. Banded rail have been driven out by dogs.

1.55 **Submitter:** Elspeth Collier (34501) – did not attend

1.56 **Submitter:** Gay Hamilton (34502) Good Dog Owners Golden Bay

**Topic:**

- Dogs were blamed for wildlife deaths when there were other predators such as weka and rats.
- Need welcoming, clear and positive information signage.
- Wants education for dogs and owners.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Good Dog Owners Golden Bay group has over 180 members and was formed in response to the Dog Control Bylaw submission process.

1.57 **Submitter:** Mana Frances Stratton (34504) tabled supporting information.

**Topic:**

- Dogs should not be allowed on beaches and should be on-leash in public areas.
- Spoke about the bylaw at Phillip Island in Australia.
- Dogs separate chicks from their parents.
- Requested that bylaw is rigidly enforced, increase the number of enforcement officers, and issue fines.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Need a clear and simple dog complaint system.

1.58 **Submitter:** Dr David Martin (34512) – did not appear

1.59 **Submitter:** Paul Dayman (34515)

**Topic:**

- We need responsible dog owners, dog ownership doesn't start with buying a puppy at Christmas.
- Dogs are companions, soul mates, night time security for older people.
- Agreed that native birds and wildlife have to be protected.
- People don't look at signs.
- Dogs should be allowed at Baigent's Reserve.

1.60 **Submitter:** Jean Frances Stratton (34520)

**Topic:**

- Dogs have become a growing problem in society. Should not be an automatic right to own a dog. Education for people before they take ownership of a dog.
- The Council needed a better complaints system to deal with problem dogs.
- Dogs are predators.
- Ban dogs on all beaches, supports dog parks.
- Enforcement should be ramped up.

1.61 **Submitter:** Mark Eldred Oldfield (34528)

**Topic:**

- Dogs should be on leads in public places, including beaches.
- The number of dogs in the region had grown.
- Doesn't want Little Kaiteriteri to become a dog park.
- People don't pick up dog faeces.
- At the very least dogs should be leashed at all times.

1.62 **Submitter:** Mr Michal Snitko (34533)

**Topic:**

- Owning an animal should be a human right.
- Most dog owners are responsible.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Proven bad dog owners should have dogs taken off them.
- Education was imperative.

**Moved Councillor Maru/Councillor Ellis**

**SH24-09-2**

**That, in accordance with Standing Order 4.2 - Meeting Duration, the meeting time be extended beyond six hours to enable the matters under discussion to be completed.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08pm and reconvened at 3:20 pm

1.63 **Submitter:** Naomi Middleton (34418) – did not appear

1.64 **Submitter:** David Melville on behalf of The Ornithological Society of New Zealand (34559) - PowerPoint presentation

**Topic:**

- We need to safeguard sites of international important for shorebirds.
- The Society supported inclusion of the Totara Avenue sandbar as a dog prohibited area in the bylaw.
- Motueka sandspit – need to consider breeding birds on the northern part of the spit.

1.65 **Submitter:** Martin Rodd on behalf of Department of Conservation (34562) – did not attend

1.66 **Submitter:** Jillian Duncan (34343) – no longer wanted to speak

1.67 **Submitter:** Samuel Pfeffer (33462) – did not attend

1.68 **Submitter:** Katrinna Stephens-Young (33556) – did not attend

1.69 **Submitter:** Mike Rose (33625) Rose Family Ltd – did not attend

1.70 **Submitter:** Zara Rogers (33645)

**Topic:**

- Has three really well trained dogs who have been taught not to chase any birds.
- Problem was owners who don't train their dogs.
- Suggested that the Council provides a permit for local residents who have well trained dogs that don't affect bird life to be able to continue to use the beach at Pakawau.

1.71 **Submitter:** Grant Williams (33702)

**Topic:**

- Lives in Collingwood - blue penguins and other shore birds live in the area.
- Doesn't want dogs in the area.
- The Council needs to make an evidence-based decision, not a political one.

1.72 **Submitter:** Kelvin Woodley (33859) – did not attend

1.73 **Submitter:** Ann Thompson (34024) – did not attend

1.74 **Submitter:** David Briggs (34345) – did not attend

1.75 **Submitter:** Mike Shannon (34351) – did not attend

1.76 **Submitter:** Roger Taylor (34420)

**Topic:**

- The proposed changes in the draft bylaw don't go far enough to protect wildlife and keep the beaches pristine.
- Wants complete ban on dogs.
- Council enforcement needs to improve.

1.77 **Submitter:** Juliette Ward (34463)

**Topic:**

- Increasing number of dogs, along with increasing number of residents and tourists, at Kaiteriteri. Time for the Council to respond to these new circumstances.
- Incumbent on the Council to uphold the Wildlife Act etc.
- Dog faeces was an issue.

- Supports dog parks, dog friendly spaces. Use Reserve Financial Contributions and increase dog registration fees to fund dog parks.
- Need more fines to act as a deterrent.
- Better signage required – make it clear of the consequences of non-compliance with the bylaw.

1.78 **Submitter:** Hayden Rolfe (34466) – did not attend

1.79 **Submitter:** Kimberley Kerrisk (34481) – did not attend

1.80 **Submitter:** Lloyd Kennedy (34529) Lloyd & Val Kennedy and Michael Kennedy – did not attend

1.81 **Submitter:** Dr Lionel Hume on behalf of Federated Farmers of New Zealand (34543) – Pax Leetch and Stephen Todd presented.

**Topic:**

- Want registration fee for working dogs reduced.
- Farmers were paying unfair dog registration fees.
- Don't want to subsidise urban dogs.
- Suggesting working dog fee is 50% of standard fee and zero after five dogs.

1.82 **Submitter:** Brandon Sparrow (34544) – did not appear

1.83 **Submitter:** Joyce Wylie (34545)

**Topic:**

- Rural dog owners were subsidising urban dog owners.
- They pay a lot of money for registration but don't get anything for it.
- Make dog registration user-pays.

**Questions and Responses:**

- Farm dogs should be classed as service dogs.

1.84 **Submitter:** Adrian Jurke (33541) – did not attend

## 5 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

Councillor Hill offered the closing karakia and the meeting concluded at 4.25 pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings by resolution on Enter date .