

Andy Armstrong

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: largely against blanket banning of dogs from specific areas and against dog exercise areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Submission to Dog Control Policy I wish to make a submission to the proposed Dog by laws changes • I am against blanket bans – areas need defining, where dogs can or cannot be, and I wonder just how much rural general would be available especially when they are the very areas that it seems toxic and dangerous poisons are laid. Please don't lay poison in the very areas that people are allowed to take dogs • I do not believe Dog exercise areas are necessary and I think they can cause issues I am also wary that they will be used as a means of saying you have your area, so anything else cannot be used If you proceed down the route of dog exercise areas please consult with dog behaviourists, if you consult 2 then the community has the right to also choose 2 • I don't think anyone should have the right to have more than 2 dogs But rather licence to hold more than 3 and that is issued on certain criteria, such as dog breed, housing conditions, fencing, owners experience • The nuisance of barking dogs need to be taken more seriously and enforced The most fundamental form of dog control is not enforced – why will other laws be enforced and respected • Dogs in CBD areas (which can be easily defined) must be on a lead. Perhaps even excluded from those areas, There are too many distractions for dogs to be off the lead • Dogs do not need to be on a lead in a urban area if they are in control, I believe people should have the right to walk dogs in this manner • Dogs should be banned from playgrounds Avoids any risk of harm in a high risk area • Dogs should be banned from School grounds and must be on lead when passing schools (as defined by school zone signage) Children should at the very least know they have areas where there will be no dogs • Dogs are allowed to be off the lead but in voice control on cycle tracks (excluding areas that are also CBD of course) The tracks around here are semi rural and have wild wide grass verges – eg all tracks by river ways • Dogs may not excrete on paths or cycle ways and faeces should be removed Off the track in bush area is ok Regards Andy Armstrong

What would you like the Council to do? listed above

Angela Jane Hook

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Policy point D - exercise and recreational needs of dogs and owners Bylaw points B and D - regulation and control of dogs in public places and policy around fouling

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Policy D - Exercise and Recreational Needs of Dogs and Owners - Strongly Support This
However I believe that the corresponding Dog By Laws are in direct conflict with this clearly stated objective of the Dog Control Policy. Restricting the access of any dog and their owner to either on-leash exercise, dog park exercise or only rural exercise (often inaccessible even in our area or to some people) is contravening to this clearly stated point in the Policy. Owners and dogs require both variety and freedom to meet their exercise and recreational needs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Dogs require the freedom to explore and exhibit natural behaviours of being part of their own pack in a stimulating environment. This includes walking off-leash in a variety of different environments. Frustration and a lack of attention to the needs of a dog (physical and psychological) are a cause of problematic behaviour. Why would any policy or by-law want to increase the creation of such frustration by limiting exercise and recreation to only dog parks, inaccessible areas and on leash? Bylaw B - I am unsure of the implications of this in the Bylaw. If the implication of this part of the Bylaw is that every dog must be on a leash in public places (the assumption of which is that walking tracks would be a part of this) then I wholeheartedly oppose this part of the bylaw. If the implication of this part of the Bylaw is that every dog must be under the control of its owner in all public places and must either remain at heel or return to heel upon command at all times then I support this part of the Bylaw. I also support that children's playgrounds, schools and events should be firmly considered and on-leash area. I support the carrying of a leash at all times when in public with a dog. I firmly believe that requiring dogs to be on leash in all public areas is contrary to the Policy (above), punishes only good dog owners and potentially creates more issues than it solves as it discourages and prevents the establishment of strong command recall behaviour. For any dog to be under good control on leash, it must also be under good control off-leash. Furthermore it is well documented in dog behaviour literature that dogs on leash can be more aggressive than dogs who are socialised to be off leash. Specifically an unstable dog on a leash is likely to be more territorial and panicked should it meet another dog (whether this dog is on leash or not). Whilst it is not clear what kind of problem the bylaw is trying to solve I strongly suggest that the solutions offered i.e. dog parks and enforcement of on-leash walking will improve the conditions of either dog owners, dogs or the relationship between these people and their co-community. There is no substitute for socialising a dog in a range of environments, including puppy school (provided by all of our vets), dog obedience classes (even the most basic form) and the practise of the behaviours established at these places in a range of different environments. DOG PARKS - absolutely oppose the idea of this being proposed as a solution (whole or in part) to dog control. Absolutely oppose the implication that Dog Parks improve dog behaviour, reduce the risks of dog attacks of any kind, or are a wise spending of dog registration fees. The literature on Dog Parks is clear (I can provide this in a separate submission or presentation if required): Dog Parks are well intended but overall they seldom deliver on this good intention for dogs, their owners, or the community. Dog Parks only work if the dogs and the people with them are already well socialised, dogs have good off-leash behaviour and the owner has full voice control, owners attend 100% to their dogs while in the park and in are in a pack leader role for their dog at all times when in the park. Dog Parks are no substitute for obedience, socialisation, freedom to exercise. Dog Parks do not solve problem behaviours of any kind. Dog Parks are of most value when they permit exercise in open spaces where there is little or no public access to these kinds of

areas i.e. in large cities or where personal space is limited. My strong belief is that the Dog Control Bylaw B will take us backwards rather than forward in the relationship between dogs and owners; punishes good owners rather than resolving issues with irresponsible ones; and is in direct conflict with the overall Policy. As a registered Dog Owner I would not support the use of my registration fees to build dog parks or to limit my access to public places with my dog. Bylaw D - I absolutely and firmly and enthusiastically support any initiative that ensures that all owners PICK UP AND REMOVE any dog poop from any public place. I would assume that this includes both facilitation of doing this (providing rubbish bins at reasonable places), reward for doing so and clear punishment for infringement. Reviewing the letters to the editor and text notice board in the local paper (an excellent source of unedited local feeling) it would seem that dog poop is a far bigger issue than dogs exercising on public walkways. In my own experiment I cleared 5.5KG of dog poop from around and over Mt Iron in ONE DAY! Most of this was gathered at the carpark areas (presumably this is where dogs like to go as soon as they get out of the car!). I would love to see my dog registration fees used to give better means of encouraging people and in some cases enforcing that people pick up after their dogs. SOME INFORMATION ON DOG PARKS AND DOG CONTROL THAT MAY BE GOOD FOR YOU TO KNOW: Vets in the USA are on record as saying that dog parks are an excellent source of revenue because so many incidents happen there. President of the Dog Park association of Montana suggests that Dog Parks are not an answer to dog control. Ed Frawley, dog trainer from Leerberg Group suggest that Dog Parks only work with with good owners and when owners are in complete control of their dogs and in Pack Leader position at all times. And that if your dog cannot behave off-leash, it should not be in a dog park. Dog Parks have been shown to marginalise dog communities and to negatively reinforce good dog and owner behaviour. We do not want to see incidences such as have occurred in Australia where people have started carrying pepper spray to Dog Parks for their own 'safety'.

What would you like the Council to do? DO NOT PUNISH RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS for the actions or fears of a minority group of infringers or those with anti-dog sentiment. PLEASE DO NOT BUILD A DOG PARK (prison yard) if that in any way means that other areas become either off limits or leash only - in fact, PLEASE DON'T USE MY REGISTRATION FEES TO FINANCE A DOG PARK OR ANY RESTRICTED DOG EXERCISE AREA. INSTIGATE A CLEAR, ENFORCED POOP CONTROL PROGRAM - provision of bins, clear signage showing that poop must be picked up AND REMOVED (not left in the bag for later) and that there are fines for non-compliance with this. This would also require some policing (which would be relatively straightforward are there are key places and times where the fouling is likely to occur (morning and evening walkers). I would consider this a good spend of my dog licensing fees even if the dog control officer thinks otherwise. We won't stop everyone, but we can stop some and send a clear message to others. I see this as akin to actions taken against drunk driving, speeding etc. Make it publicly unacceptable and show some commitment to enforcement. Development of a PREFERRED OWNER STATUS for those owners who are prepared to complete a dog ownership and socialisation test that would ensure good management and on and off leash control of their dog. Preferred owner status is its own reward so I would not expect to have any special discounts of my registration etc. This would demonstrate leadership of the council in creating a community of good dogs and owners thereby communicating to non dog owners that the council is not anti-or pro-dog; but pro community. Transparency of exactly WHERE FEES ARE SPENT as part of our registration letters including provision of QUANTITATIVE DATA ON DOG RELATED INCIDENTS in particular on what proportion of dogs impounded or complaints addressed by dog control are for

registered vs unregistered dogs; number of dog versus anything (sheep, child, person, cyclist) reported and if these are registered or unregistered dogs i.e what kinds of incidents are most prevalent in the community. This way we are able to track with data the actual occurrence and source of these things, therefore how urgently they need to be addressed and with what kind of resource.

Anna Hiatt

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Requiring Dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I oppose the proposed change that would require all dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times. This is an amazing place for dogs and their owners and I believe after living in a city the dogs in this region are vastly better socialised and in general better behaved as a result. I recommend that instead dogs must be under effective control at all times.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like the council to instead enforce that dogs must be under effective control at all time in public places instead of requiring them to be on a leash..

Anna Vickerman

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The control of dogs in public places

Supports or opposes the bylaw:

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I support the need to have dogs on a leash at a playground. However I do not support the need to have dogs on a leash in all public places, under control yes, but a well trained dog can be off the leash and under control without posing a threat to anyone or thing else. I feel I am a responsible dog owner and while exercising my dog I will put it on a leash if the area I am in is busy with other dogs or people, but I feel this bylaw will not allow me to walk my dog off the leash anywhere at all for example at the lake/rivers and quiet locations. I like to exercise with my dog, therefore I do not want to be limited to walking around and around a fenced area just so I don't have to stop walking every time my dog wants to sniff something! If this bylaw was introduced there will need to be a frequent and varied amount of areas that are dog exercising areas within the community.

What would you like the Council to do? If this bylaw were introduced I would like to see a large number of varied areas that are 'dog exercise areas' that includes walking tracks near our lakes and rivers.

Ben Farren

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs not being allowed on the main beach in Queenstown

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Dogs should not be allowed on the main beach in Queenstown. Or if they are, they should be kept on a leash.

What would you like the Council to do? Dogs should not be allowed on the main beach in Queenstown. Or if they are, they should be kept on a leash.

Bonnie Frederick

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on a leash at all times in all public places

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I oppose having to keep my dogs confined to a leash in all public places, which I assume includes the lake front and public walking tracks where dogs are allowed. As a responsible owner of two 10-year-old dogs, I have always kept them under full control and have never had any issues with them menacing or bothering anyone, nor have we ever had any issues with other dogs harassing us. Therefore I believe that this bylaw will negatively affect law-abiding, responsible dog-owners.

What would you like the Council to do? Make the bylaw less restrictive. An elderly golden retriever doesn't need to be confined to a leash every time she steps outside the yard.

Callum James Grant

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The proposal to control dogs by having them on a lead at all times

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: The existing bylaw should stay as is and NOT be changed. Dogs should and are able to be managed with voice control and a variety of other ways. If dogs pooing on or near public walking tracks is the issue then it should be noted that most dogs will poo not long after leaving car or home. Therefore it would be easy for dog control to monitor problem areas (near carparks and trailheads) by being at those areas particularly during peak times to educate owners. Perhaps a handout of training tips to first time dog owners upon registration of dog could be useful? Most owners don't realise how easy it is to train a dog to poo on command or other training commands frequently used with dogs (recall etc). Training is fun for dogs and people if done properly. If there's a problem education of owners needs to happen first. Finally I am completely apposed to the new Dog Bylaw on leading at all times. I have an avalanche control dog who needs to be trained off lead (in public places in summer and winter).

What would you like the Council to do? Leave existing bylaw in place and make No changes. Educate dog owners via other means (pamflets, dvds, education seminars, etc). Also include reasons for picking up poo (helps stop the spread of disease, etc)

Claire & Nigel Perkins

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Clause 4(2) of the Bylaw relating to dogs being on a leash everywhere except Rural General Zone and dog control areas. The same clause in the Policy requiring leashing of dogs.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: We oppose that part of the Policy and Clause 4(2) of the Bylaw requiring dogs to be leashed in all areas except Rural General Zones and dog exercise areas. While we agree that dogs should be leashed within residential areas, schools and playgrounds, they should be able to be off leash but under voice control in open space and recreation areas. Our dog, as an example, needs the freedom to be able to run at a fast pace to exercise and to be able to explore smells etc in new environments. Being on a leash would prevent this. We acknowledge that there are some dogs that cause a nuisance to others using these open spaces if they are not leashed, but these are the minority and this should be something each individual dog owner manages. If their dog annoys other people then they should put it on a leash. In the Wanaka area where we live, many of the tracks where we could take our dog for a run are not zoned Rural General so we would have to leash our dog under this new Bylaw/Policy, which severely limits the areas we could walk with our dog. I do not believe that dog exercise areas would be established within suitable timeframes or of a size and number that would balance the removal of the current right to walk our dog off leash but under voice control. The areas we do agree that dogs should be on leash is the immediate Wanaka waterfront along Roys Bay due to the proximity of car parks/tourists, residential streets (e.g. along footpaths due to proximity of cars), playgrounds, sports fields, schools and cemeteries.

What would you like the Council to do? Delete this clause and replace with one that states that dogs be on leash in the immediate Wanaka waterfront along Roys Bay due to the proximity of car

parks/tourists, residential streets (e.g. along footpaths due to proximity of cars), playgrounds, sports fields, schools and cemeteries, but only under effective voice control in all other areas.

Clare Tomkins

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs of leash in Rural General

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: i would like to submit that all dogs in the Queenstown Gardens should be on a leash, unde the proposed bylaw the gardens come under Rural General, and it would not be acceptable to have dogs of leash in the pristine Queenstown Gardens. (we currently have signs saying dogs are to be on a leash) Further to that I think signage should be erected on other council gardens where we do not wish dogs to be of leash.

What would you like the Council to do? Ensure dogs are to be kept on a Leash in Queenstown Gardens.

David Bylett

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog exercising in public areas off leash.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: As a dog owner I agree dogs need to be kept under control. It is the responsibility of a responsible owner. However the proposed blanket restriction on where dogs can be freely exercised concerns me. One of the attraction of Wanaka is the ability to walk along the water front with one's dog off the lead. When approaching other walkers I always call my dog in beside me and if they have young children ask them (with their parents permission) if they wish to pat the dog. I then show them the correct way to approach a dog. If you restrict dogs further in public areas this sort of interaction won't occur. I agree with bylaw regarding cemeteries but a physically controlled dog should be allowed at a schools and playground (i.e. another opportunity for dog owners to educated children on how to approach a dog).....Obviously if the dog displays aggressive behaviour it has no place in public areas. In NZ we appear to have a love hate culture with dogs. I put this down to the wrong dogs being available e.g. people selectively breed dogs for hunting pigs then have a surplus of puppies which they give away to others as family pets. These dogs are breed to hunt, be aggressive and hold their prey.....which are not desirable family pet traits and thus young children get mauled or they escape and maul stock. The vast majority of dog owners are responsible people however greater education for dog owners would be beneficial to both the community and dogs i.e. People should be licenced to be allowed to have a dog. To attain a licence prospective owners should have

to attend courses on dog breed selection, training and husbandry. Dog waste should be collected by the owner but the council has a responsibility to supply more rubbish bin's on tracks.`

What would you like the Council to do? The QLDC needs to appreciate that dog owners are a significant part of the Wanaka community. They don't need to use a sledge hammer to break a walnut.....issues with dogs are not great and individual irresponsible owners should be singled out for punishment rather than the current blanket approach.

David Roy Hawkins

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Control of dogs 4 clause 2 and the similar statement in the policy

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I accept that there are problem owners (rather than problem dogs) who need some rules to help prevent the worst excesses and I believe the dog control act provides more than sufficient powers to deal with any problems. In general dogs form an important part of our community and I don't believe there are sufficient grounds to inflict excessive controls over law abiding dog owners. The proposed bylaw goes beyond that required by the dog control act which is in itself more than adequate to address the actual risks that exist. The bylaw is pandering too heavily towards the paranoid minority who have an unrealistic view of the threat of injury by dogs. Every day in this region you can see runners and cyclists exercising their dogs, also you can see owners playing with their dogs in lakes and rivers. In all these scenarios, having the dog on a leash is not practicable and these dogs, being well looked after and regularly exercised and socialised are not dogs likely to cause a nuisance. To insist these dogs are kept leashed would be an infringement of that owners liberty. Any day you can also see dogs being walked by responsible owners off leash but under effective voice control, these people should also be allowed the right to continue the current practice providing there is no significant impact on other people. If there were any tangible evidence that any of the above scenarios have created actual threats on any sort of regularity in this region, then I could possibly accept there needs to be more controls, but I am unaware such statistics exist. There are owners who neglect their dogs and don't exercise them and at the same time, either fail to keep them under control or keep them chained up inflicting psychological stress to the dog. These are the dogs which are more likely to cause a problem, not the dogs which are being walked or exercised in public areas. It is the owners of neglected dogs who need educating or persuading they are not a fit person to keep a dog. This is the area that would produce the best returns for effort expended. I am not convinced that designated off leash dog exercise areas are such a wonderful idea in our generally low population areas (or indeed any area). This would only serve to encourage owners to use their vehicles to get to these areas bringing more unnecessary environmental impacts. Putting a lot of dogs together in one area can be a recipe for disaster as some dogs are not well socialised and lazy owners will see these areas as an easy way to give their dogs some exercise and not be concerned with the risk their dog poses to other dogs. I have seen this scenario first hand. In conclusion. I don't believe the current practices and privileges pose any significant risk to the public

in our region given our low population density along with the high percentage of responsible dog owners and the elevated social standing of our population. The powers of the current dog control legislation is already in excess of what is required to maintain adequate control. That the proposed bylaw should be rewritten to more reflect the national standard of the dog control act.

What would you like the Council to do? That the proposed bylaw should not include excessive controls on dog owners and the bylaw be rewritten to more reflect the national standard of the dog control act.

Debbie Roy

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog Control... Dogs on leash and dog restrictions.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Myself and my partner strongly oppose that dogs have to be on a lead at all times in all public situations and can only exercise in designated dog exercise areas. Wanaka is a community environment where families, including their pets, come to be able to enjoy life in the beautiful outdoors together. By restricting in particular where dogs are even allowed to be, restricts where families would be and discourages us from living the lifestyle that Wanaka encourages. I am hugely disappointed in these provisions and urge that it be re-considered. While I fully understand the need to ensure safety and hygiene, particularly in public places, surely this is a case of a few spoiling it for others and not something all families with dogs should be punished for. Please reconsider and continue Wanaka to be the home of people and their pets. There are already so many restricted areas, to have only dog designated areas will surely discourage people from the public places that make Wanaka thrive in the first place.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like to see the control of dogs within the current regulations being more actively policed before the punishment of a few affects everyone!

Denis Mander

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I wish to make a submission on the proposed Dog Control Bylaw. My submission relates in particular to clause 4(2) of the draft bylaw, which states

“Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except:

a) Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas;

b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery;

My two areas of concern are

- Whether the Wakatipu Dog Agility Club can continue to use Jardine Park
- Lack of clarity in the policy over the Council's plans for the declaration of dog exercise areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: WAKATIPU dOG AGILITY CLUB & JARDINE PARK

I belong to a dog club – 'the Wakatipu Dog Agility Club.' Dog agility is a sport where dogs are trained to negotiate a course of hurdles, jumps, A-frames and other obstacles. Necessarily, the dogs are off-the-lead and under varying levels of control when doing the courses.

We meet weekly on most Saturday mornings at Jardine Park, which is at the golf course end of Kelvin Peninsula. We received Council approval to use the park for this purpose in 2008.

We are a small club. A couple of members and their dogs compete at club competitions in other centres, but for the most part the club is a social thing, for the dogs and their owners. At the most, we will get 9-10 dogs at our Saturday morning sessions.

Since 2008 we have gradually built up our gear using funds we've earned through sausage sizzles outside the Warehouse at Remarkables Park and selling hotdogs at the Arrowtown Festival. Over that time we have bought about \$4,000 worth of gear.

In 2010, we won a runners-up Trustpower Community award.

In 2012/13, we obtained a licence from the Council to erect a shed at Jardine Park. The licence commenced on 1 April 2011 and runs for three five-year terms.

We put up the shed in 2011/12. It cost us \$4500 and was installed by club members with the help of a local builder.

I have read the Dog Control policy and the draft bylaw.

My immediate concern is that if the bylaw goes through as proposed, we will contravene the bylaw by having our dogs 'off-the-lead' at Jardine Park. Given past council decisions to let us use Jardine Park for dog agility and to let us invest in a shed there, I don't think this is the council's intention.

I ask that the council resolve Jardine Park to be a dog exercise area before the proposed bylaw comes into effect.

POLICY RELATING TO DOG EXERCISE AREAS

I agree with the policy to the extent that dogs should be on-the-lead on streets, in cemeteries, and in playgrounds. These are particular areas where it is important that we be sensitive to the nuisance that dogs can cause.

However I do believe there should be dog exercise areas close to where people live where, for the well-being of the dogs, dogs can be off-the-lead. The dog control policy doesn't actually provide any policy for the provision of dog exercise areas. It doesn't tell us whether Council thinks dog exercise areas are necessary or not. It is unclear how the need for dog exercise areas will be assessed, where these will be and when they'll be declared. It gives no guidance as to whether any dog exercise areas in urban areas will actually ever be provided.

I am aware that the council has directed staff to prepare a discussion paper on designated dog exercise areas, but there is no formal timeline on this. In the meantime the immediate effect of the policy and bylaw will be to prohibit dogs being off-the-lead in any public place in urban areas. This will remain the practical effect until any dog exercise areas are declared. Given the level of support that the council's survey showed for dog exercise areas (much of it I suspect being from dog owners seeing this as an acceptable trade-off to the introduction of new restrictions), it would seem reasonable for the council to give a meaningful commitment to providing dog exercise areas at the same time as it brings this bylaw into effect.

I ask that:

- The policy be re-written to detail the criteria against which the council will assess the need for dog exercise areas within urban areas
- The council resolve the locations of dog exercise areas within the district before clause 4(2) of the proposed bylaw comes into effect

What would you like the Council to do? I ask that:

- The council resolve Jardine Park to be a dog exercise area before the proposed bylaw comes into effect
- The policy be re-written to detail the criteria against which the council will assess the need for dog exercise areas within urban areas
- The council resolve the locations of dog exercise areas within the district before clause 4(2) of the proposed bylaw comes into effect

Dorothy Arnestedt

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog Fouling & Dogs on Leash

Supports or opposes the bylaw:

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: DOG FOULING - SUPPORT - "Dog fouling is not tolerated in any form across the district, they must ensure they have a suitable receptacle to collect dog faeces & remove dog faeces immediately" The above however is not being adhered to by the majority of dog owners. I live on Spence Road and a regular user of the walking/cycling trail in this area, plus member of the Wakatipu Rowing Club which is situated on the Lake Hayes track. As noted in the Scuttlebutt Issue 103 June 2014, these are popular places for public to exercise their dogs when out walking/running. People are either NOT picking up dog poo, or leaving it stashed behind bushes or "hidden" in plastic bags. DOGS ON LEASH - OPPOSE - "Dogs in Rural General Zone wouldn't have to be leashed,.... but must be under effective control at all times, this means if dog is not on leash, it will come to you straight away when you call it (THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN) The cycle/walk trails are becoming more popular, with the local population and the majority of this network is located in the Rural General Zone. With the ongoing development of subdivisions, namely Quail Rise, Lake Hayes, Shotover Country, Jacks Point, there is a marked increase in the amount of people taking their dogs on these trails for exercise. Once again I am a regular user of the tracks by either walking or cycling the trails. These trails are used by families with children also. Regularly I encounter dogs that are not kept under control, and owners do not have them on leashes. They run and jump up on people, they get in the way of cyclists and generally are a nuisance. Owners sometimes endeavour to call them back, usually unsuccessfully, they are a hazard.

What would you like the Council to do? PLEASE KEEP UP THE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND DOG OWNERS RESPONSIBILITIES. I note there is no dollar value fine applicable under Infringements, can this be incorporated in the Dog Control Policy 2014?? I understand people need places to exercise their dogs, however there should be designated "dog exercise playgrounds", or their own backyard, NOT CYCLE/WALKWAYS. If they take dogs on cycle/walkways, they MUST BE ON LEAD AT ALL TIMES. The Policy being proposed is not specific enough on "Dogs on Leash"

Douglas Holborow

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Control of dogs in a public place

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Supports

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I support the provision which requires a dog to be on a leash in all public places. While there are many public places where this will be an unnecessary restriction on the dog and its owner, it is the only way to ensure that a dog is properly under control, and it is the only way to make clear the degree of control that the Council requires owners to maintain on their dogs.

What would you like the Council to do? I wish to ensure that this clause of the bylaw is imposed without limitation.

Emily Cane

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Provisions of restricting dogs in all public places.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: 4.2 states the need for owners to have dogs leashed at all time in public, we oppose the need for a leash at all times as we are regular responsible users of many parks in the Qldc area, pooh picking and controlling dogs, leashing dogs if necessary. Creating an excersise area is unnecessary in our view as users of the tracks and parks would be unwilling to use or pay for the upkeep, even picking up pooh the excersise area is unlikely. Who would enforce it and pay for its upkeep as they are unsightly, smelly and unneeded in an area where there is so much open space for the responsible dog owners who choose to live here.

What would you like the Council to do? Not build a dog park, allow owners to police each other and be responsible as most of us already are.

Gary Anderson

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog Fouling - Dog Control -

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I support the following; Dog Fouling: A clear and decisive fine for dog owners not immediately removing dog poo, in public and private places. (eg neighbouring properties)
A clear and decisive fine for dog owners for not carrying a receptacle for the collection of dog poo. I support no more that two dogs per property. Dogs on a Leash: In rural general zone areas, any dog other than farm working dogs should be fully under control and on a lead at all times, and not allowed to wander at will. Dog owners need to have their dogs contained within their properties. Dogs Barking: Kept to a extreme minimum and fined for extreme barking. Verbal control of a dog: Is a very loose and vague statement. It needs to be clarified that a dog does respond to those commands, and fines for those who don't have full control of their dog.

What would you like the Council to do? The council needs to have the ability, resources and will to back up these by-laws.

Gemma Annette Hutton

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on a leash Dog attacks
Owning 2+ dogs

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I think that by enforcing this law on the community of the QLDC you are punishing responsible dog owners for the downfalls of others. Having to walk your dog on a lead absolutely everywhere is both cruel to the dog and takes away most of the enjoyment for both owner and pet. What is the point of having a dog if you can not enjoy walking some of our beautiful river tracks with a well controlled dog. It is an owners responsibility to ensure that their dog is well controlled off a lead and if they are not the type of dog that can do this then for sure they should be on a lead. If any poor dog management was witnessed and complained about then the owner should be held accountable not the whole community. Its all very well that in Queenstown you make these rules and regulations for the whole of the QLD however there are many of us that live more rurally on quieter tracks and this has never been an issue in the community I live in. I agree that some dog owners do not house/care for or have too many dogs for them to adequately look after and yes you should put your time into fixing these specific complaints. A blanket rule is not the answer. Dog attacks are fairly rare here and if they are they are from poorly controlled dogs whose owners should be held accountable and perhaps they should have to "apply" to own a dog in future and be monitored of their supervision of their dog. I think that if you enforce this bylaw you are going to have many unhappy community members and pets and it is an unrealistic expectation.

What would you like the Council to do? More emphasis on targeted irresponsible dog owners and not punishing everybody else for poor dog ownership from a select few. A more realistic view on this approach and actually take into account animal welfare- I dont know any dog that would be happy with being on a lead 100% of the time and locked up in a yard for the rest of the day. We dont live in central city we live in a beautiful part of NZ with access to expansive areas most of which you are already not allowed a dog on which is generally well respected.

Graeme James Perkins

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The clause 4:2 Dogs on Leash.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I oppose the wording of Clause 4:2. In Clause 4:2 the phrase "... and other public places" should be deleted. I support the remainder of the bylaw, ie: the full control of dogs in playgrounds and cemeteries. However there are many responsible dog owners who can maintain full vocal control over their dogs in public areas without the leash on, and these owners shouldn't be restricted or penalised. On the other hand I do support "coming down hard" on owners who allow

their dogs become a nuisance to others. New law or not, irresponsible owners will almost certainly continue their behaviour, while the majority of responsible owners become further and unnecessarily restricted. Please consider instead.... stiffer penalties for out-of-control dogs, and the banning of pit-bull and other dangerous breeds in QLD area. This bylaw proposal appears to be yet again the restricting of the responsible majority in an attempt to address the behaviour of the irresponsible minority.

What would you like the Council to do? In Clause 4:2 the phrase "... and other public places" should be deleted.

Heather Halliday

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: ! a and 4 (2)a

Supports or opposes the bylaw:

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: Keeping a dog on a lead in Rural General zones is not allowing the dog adequate exercise. Provision of dog exercise areas not clear so meanwhile what does one do?

What would you like the Council to do? Omitting the need to have a dog on a lead in Rural General zones and having lead available.

Heather Watt

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The dog exercise areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I support on leash areas e.g playgrounds and cemeteries and the CBD. It is really difficult to decide whether to support or oppose this bylaw when the designated dog exercise areas are not detailed. I live in Wanaka and as such, I see no reason why Kelly Park or Lismore Park should be leash only. Equally, I would be disappointed if the lake walkways (e.g. from Roy's Bay to Glendhu Bay, Eely Point and the Outlet Track from Beacon Point to Albert Town Bridge) were designated leash only - these are areas where there is minimal vehicle traffic, ideal for exercising dogs off lead and they are currently used prolifically by foot traffic, cyclists and dog owners in a responsible manner.

What would you like the Council to do? Be transparent (specific) about which areas they are proposing as dog exercise areas so that we can make submissions based on fact rather than speculation. It is difficult to decide whether to support or oppose the bylaw when the information required to make that decision is not provided.

I M Anderson.

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: sections 3 and 5 of the policy and bylaw regarding fees and definitions.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Section 3. The section of the policy covering fees allows for the council to set the fee as it sees fit and states it is a user pays system. Farm working dogs do not tend to be unattended or allowed to roam, they are seldom away from their home properties. The environment that farming in this district takes place in requires for most stock men/women to have at least 4 to 5 working dogs therefore there should be either a lower rate or a sliding rate for working dogs. the current \$30.00 per working dog while lower than a companion dog still adds up to a considerable sum for little benefit. The Qldc has one of the more expensive fee regimes for working dogs compared to nearby councils. There are exemptions to the fees for contributions to the community for disability dogs. (farm dogs contribute to the community and the economy) Section 5. section 5 covers the descriptions and definitions of everything in the policy including that of a working dog. I would like to see the pest control working dog clarified. At present i believe the intent was to include farm pest control dogs but the policy is worded so that it can be interpreted as if only people with a contract from regional council or government level can have a pest control dog. As a manager of a high country property I have a dog for pest control and also at times employ people with pest control dogs.

What would you like the Council to do? For section 3 i would like to see the working dog fees set at either \$25 per dog with a maximum fee of \$100 or match the CODC where working dogs are \$12 each. for section 5 WORKING DOG (b iv)I would like the wording to be amended to say: Kept solely or principally for the purposes of destroying pests or pest agents. leaving out the following: under any pest management strategy under the Biosecurity Act 1993; OR to add into WORKING DOG ii . Kept solely or principally for the purposes of herding or driving stock, pest control; or

Jacqueline Toepfer

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Section 20- provisions

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: Support- requiring dogs to be on a leash in schools, playgrounds and shopping areas- for the safety and comfort of children and elderly. Oppose- requiring dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times. This would make it very difficult for a lot of dogs and owners to get sufficient exercise. Some would need to spend a lot more time walking their dogs than they currently do when dogs are free to chase balls/ swim in the lake/ run around getting enough exercise that they need. Allowing them free space also gives the dogs the opportunity to socialise with other dogs (and

people)- it is often the dogs on leashes that cause the most antisocial behaviour as they have not had the chance or been taught to socialise normally. Also, if you live near a track/ forest/ lake, it is easier to allow the dog to walk from home without being on a leash. Support- bitches on heat being confined while on heat. However, they could also be allowed in certain areas on a leash. Oppose- specific dog exercise areas. The nature of Wanaka does not lend itself to this. If this bylaw came into effect, many people would have to drive to exercise their dogs. A lot of dogs would end up not being exercised and therefore create more problems. Think confining kids to indoors all day- positive or negative effect?! Additionally- I don't believe dogs should be put down when they kill stock. It is a dog's natural instinct to do so. Instead, I believe the dog's owner should be fined a LARGE sum as well as having to reimburse the farmer. This is more likely to teach owners to keep dogs under control at all times- putting a dog down does not teach anyone anything, as many owners will just get another dog and look after them the same way as the one who killed the stock. Finally, dogs, like humans, need exercise and plenty of it. We have a wonderful environment that allows us to enjoy the outdoors with our dogs. It is one of the great things about living in Wanaka. Let's continue by creating some people-friendly and dog-friendly bylaws which allow us all to be fit, healthy and happy :)

What would you like the Council to do? Remove the clause stating Require dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times. Replace it with Require dogs to be on a leash in educational grounds, playgrounds and shopping areas at all times. And under control (eg. leash or verbal control) in all other public places. Remove the idea of having specific dog exercise areas- allow dogs on all public tracks/ parks etc. Bring in penalties for DOG OWNERS in the case of dogs killing or attacking stock- do not kill the dogs.

Janet May Lennox

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs to be on leash in public places at all time

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: In my experience dogs are more likely to be aggressive when on a leash. In the 32 years I have lived here as a dog owner I have never felt threatened by an unleashed dog while walking my own in public places.

What would you like the Council to do? We should encourage more dog owners to attend classes in dog obedience so they can be under control in public areas.

Jean Kenney

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on lease everywhere public except rural areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Dogs on leash only in Wanaka /Queenstown town center and children playgrounds

What would you like the Council to do? Dogs on leash only in Wanaka /Queenstown town center and children playgrounds

Jen corish

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I disagree that dogs should be on leads everywhere

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: We have a well behaved dog and it would seem incredibly cruel to keep her on a lead at all times . Where I come from, I. England, dogs are allowed everywhere. In pubs, on national trust land. Etc etc. There are never any problems and people just get on with things. I honestly cannot see why such a fuss is made here?? Aside from native birds, and protection of those (Which I am completely in support of) I see no reason why dogs need to be on leads anywhere else. Owners need to take responsibility - not blanket rules.

What would you like the Council to do? Do not put this bylaw into place. It would be one step closer to ruin the atmosphere of the town.

Jennifer Parr

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: a) prohibiting dogs from specified public places b) regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I support requiring dog owners to carry a lead/leash at all times and to keep dogs under control at all times. I oppose requiring dogs to be on a lead/leash in all public places. There are many outdoor areas where dogs are currently allowed to be off-lead and under control. I see no problem with continuing to require dogs to remain under control and off lead in recreational areas (eg Fisherman's track, Mount Iron). Should dog owners fail to keep their dogs under control or pick up their defecation, they should be fined. Responsible dog owners and their dogs should not be forced to keep dogs on lead.

What would you like the Council to do? Strike the new bylaws requiring dogs to be on lead at all times in all public places from the new bylaw.

Jessica Warburton

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog exercise areas and leashes in public areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I am opposed to the development of dog exercise areas. From past experience, they are not effective and fairly ugly. The congregating of strange dogs into a selected area is risky. The dogs tend to show pack mentality which can be very dangerous. The dogs are safer to be in open space where any contact with strange dogs is more natural and unrestricted. The dog exercise areas that I have seen in the past are not pleasurable to experience (dog poo and unsociable dogs) and not a venue where I would take my dog for exercise. It does seem that the exercise areas are often under-utilised when considering the number of dog owners within the vicinity of the exercise areas. I am opposed to requiring dogs to be on leashes in all public areas. This should be at the discretion of the owner. Those that are well enough behaved are better to be off the leash as it is less provocative and less threatening for them. I request that on all public walkways, dog owners can decide whether their dogs are on the leash or under voice control. Keeping dogs on leashes will not necessarily reduce incidents as a restricted dog can be more dangerous. This purely restricts the owners who have spent time training and socialising their dog to ensure good behaviour when they are not the people that the bylaw or policy is trying to target.

What would you like the Council to do? Remove the consideration of dog exercise areas. Allow owner discretion regarding use of a dog leash in public areas.

Jessie Lenagh-Glue

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Regarding dogs being on leash at all times and regarding the 2 dogs on a property

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: While I understand the need to control dogs, it is unclear whether the new by law would mean that dogs would not be allowed to swim off the foreshore of the lake in town. Our dog obtains great pleasure (as do all the tourists who take pictures of her doing so) in swimming in the lake retrieving a floating throw toy. This would not be possible if she were required to be on lead. She is extremely well-trained and responsive to voice control and we have never received any complaints about her behaviour. If she would no longer be allowed to swim off the gardens or lake foreshore, I would request that there be a dedicated area near the centre of town (we live on Hallenstein Street) so that the dog could get her swimming exercise. The other issue with the bylaw that would need clarification is the two dog rule; I would assume that this refers to dogs living at the premises, but it should be clarified as as written, it would potentially mean that people visiting for a

long weekend bringing dogs (eg so the total number of dogs is greater than 2) could be aught by this policy.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like there to either be an exception to the leash rule if the dog is swimming or a dedicated dog swimming area near the centre of town if this is not going to be allowed. I would also like clarification that the multiple dog rule applies only to permanent residents and not to people who are visiting with their dogs.

Jill Dorothy Gardiner

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: the dog bylaw and policy

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I own a small dog and am opposed to stopping dogs being in public areas and walkways because I believe for the well being of the dog and owner that the dog should be allowed to run freely without being on a leash. To confine the dog to be off the leash only in specific dog parks removes the enjoyment that has been had for centuries in owning a dog. To pass this new bylaw would be to penalise ALL dog owners when only an absolute minority are a problem in attacking other dogs or people. I believe that dogs which attack should be muzzled in public and there could be a ruling on this. Surely there is a way to continue to allow non threatening dogs to enjoy their runs and walks without making leashes compulsory for ALL dogs. Please review rules around dogs which can attack and do not take away what is a fundamental love and right to walk and run dogs freely. Regards Jill Gardiner Wanaka

What would you like the Council to do? I believe that dogs which attack should be muzzled in public and there could be a ruling on this according to breed. Surely there is a way to continue to allow non threatening dogs to enjoy their runs and walks without making leashes compulsory for ALL dogs. Please review rules around dogs which can attack and do not take away what is a fundamental love and right to walk and run dogs freely. This removes one of the reasons I love to live in this environment which is to walk and run with my poodle dog. Dog owners must not be penalized because of a minority of bad dogs in public. It is unreasonable to penalize all owners. I wish to continue to walk my dog in all walk ways around Wanaka but accept no dogs should be near children play areas. Regards Jill Gardiner

Jo Dippie

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: the requirement to walk dogs on-lead

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I support the bylaw on; requiring a dog to be on a lead at school sports events, in a cemetery, on town streets. I do not support the notion that walking off-lead in reserves and walking tracks needs to be further curtailed than it currently is. Dogs need active exercise and they need to meet other dogs off lead to become well socialised. When living in Wanaka I used to walk my dog off-lead everywhere - the Outlet Track and Waterfall Creek were two particular favourites. The only time of conflict was from the occasional mountain biker who would race through at speed, expecting people to jump aside. They don't like dogs as dogs can't be relied upon to leap out of their way and they would be forced to slow down. The majority of bikers were responsible and slowed for people, there were only a few rabid bikers who didn't want to give way to walkers and dogs and who would agitate for dogs banned from shared pathways, or walked on a lead. Considering the results of your online poll - the majority wanting no change to the current by-law I wonder why Council is pursuing this costly exercise once again? ***** It seems your form doesn't have provision for the following required details - so here it is; Jo Dippie [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

What would you like the Council to do? I request the Council to keep the by-law as it is with no further restrictions on off-lead exercise areas. I ran a B&B in Wanaka and a good number of overseas visitors commented that NZ seems anti-dog. They said many NZ towns and walking tracks have no dog signs. I said National Parks ban dogs but a lot of other walks are dog friendly. They noted that Wanaka is one of the few towns they saw dogs walked on the street, on the walking tracks and how much friendlier it appears, seeing dogs with their owners at the outdoor cafes etc in town. Please keep things as they are.

Joanne Tilson

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: That dogs be kept on a lead in all public places

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I support dogs not being allowed in playgrounds and on lead in cemetery and owners needing a special permit to own more than two dogs in a residential area. I do not support dogs being on leads in reserves or on mt iron and other public areas such as waterfall creek track or river track etc. I am a dog walker and have an business called happy hound where I walk dogs in social groups. I usually have 5 or. 6 in a group and whilst I do walk then down to the lake on leads I take them off lead once there. I pick up all pooh. There has never been an issue with aggression towards children, people or other dogs whilst they are free. The dogs get much more stimulation being able to chase each other paddle in the lake or chase rabbits through the manuka. Being off lead enables me to easily walk off the track so there are not 5 or 6 dogs on the walking track at once which can seem intimidating for young children or people from other countries. the dogs I walk are all very social and nice natured but don't pay much attention to other people when we are out walking as they are Free to explore bushes driftwood burrows at their own pace. The only agreeesion I have seen when out walking (and I am out everyday on mt iron or waterfall ck track) is from dogs that

are held tightly on leads. These dogs are defensive and more likely to snap or snarl. I make a living out of walking dogs in groups. I only charge \$10 or \$12 per dog for a walk of 1.5-2 hrs. I can make this work as I have 4 pr 5 paying dogs at a time but could not do this if I had to walk them on leads as it is not nice walking 5 or 6 dogs on leads even if half the dogs are small. Despite having a group of dogs I have excellent control over them and have never had any issues of any kind with any of them. I believe that most dog owners in wanaka are responsible and if they own a dog who runs off chasing rabbits and dont come back then these dogs are usually on leads, likewise if anyone is concerned there dog might be dangerous then these will usually be on a lead But for the majority of us who have nice well domesticated dogs it would be a crime to prevent dogs from stretching their legs properly and preventing a small amount of freedom when they are out on a walk with their owners

What would you like the Council to do? 1.) Keep all of the walking tracks areas where dogs should be under control but at owners discretion i.e. verbal control is ok for most dogs 2.) provide more bins at ends of tracks and places where you can get doggy doo bags

John Hare and Hetty VanHale

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Changes to the policy and bylaw

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: We oppose the proposed changes to the policy and bylaw because they are unnecessary as the existing policy and bylaw are working satisfactorily. In the survey conducted prior to the proposed change, a majority of respondents supported the status quo so why are we now wanting to change the rules? We would like the author of the proposed changes to be named. We believe that requiring dogs to be on leashes will likely cause more aggressive behaviour as dogs are want to protect their owners if tethered to them rather than running free and not feeling their personal territory and that of their owners is being invaded. Please withdraw these ill conceived proposed changes and retain the existing policy and bylaw.

What would you like the Council to do? Withdraw the proposed changes to the policy and bylaw.

John Langley

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: All provisions

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission:

1. Objectives

I support the objectives of the Dog Control Policy with one exception

Restraint of dogs

One of the objectives of the Dog Control Policy is: "To provide for exercise and recreational needs of dogs

This is inadequate. My principle concern relates to dog socialization. It has been my experience that when dogs are aggressive to other dogs it is due to inadequate socialization. One common scenario under which this occurs is where an owner is overly protective of their dog and has it on a lead at all times, or at least times when there is a risk of interaction with another dog. A dog on a lead often feels trapped when it perceives a potential threat from another dog and consequently adopts an aggressive stance (attack is the best means of defence). It has also been my experience when both dogs are off leads that they usually sort things out without any harm to one another.

I recommend socialization be added to the objective.

Dog exercise areas provide the opportunity for dogs to roam free and interact with other dogs. I support their development.

There is a cost associated with their construction and realistically if these were developed their number would probably be very small and as such not meet the needs of a substantial portion of owners. This is well illustrated by the Dunedin situation. I live in Broad Bay on the Otago Peninsula. The nearest dog exercise area is Rotary Park, some 15km away. This clearly is not convenient and any regular use of it by me (and other dog owners on the Peninsula) purely for dog exercise would be a significant waste of fossil fuel. Instead I, like some others, use a DCC 'reserve' (Broad Bay Slip Site) just down the road. At this reserve my dog wanders freely and races around interacting with other dogs. I put the emphasis on races since he consumes substantially more energy than he would walking around several blocks on a lead. This is an important point since some incessant dog barking is directly attributable to lack of exercise and boredom.

I have a holiday home at Lake Hawea. It seems unlikely that there would be a purpose built dog exercise area built in this area purely on population grounds. Clearly, given that funds are limited Wanaka deserves priority. Currently I, like many other dog owners walk my dog along the Gladstone track. This is a very popular dog exercise, walking, and mountain biking track. The vast majority of dogs are not on leads. I have only had one instance of a dog attacking my dog (a pup at the time). I identified the owner and I am fully aware of my rights under the Dog Control Act and the implications for the offending dog were I to report it. If there is another attack I will report it. This example, illustrates that having dogs free is not risk free, however, I would argue that the benefits outweigh the risks. I have never seen a dog menace a human during my numerous walks In light of foregoing.

I am opposed to the proposed bylaw which would require dogs to be on lead at all times in public places.

2. Dog Faeces

I support the proposed provisions relating to dog faeces.

Based largely on my observations in Dunedin I would argue that this has been a success of public health policy. The issue has received a lot publicity and I suspect that that coupled with public pressure (e.g. "hey pick your dog crap up") has ensured relatively high compliance.

3. Advising the public of their rights in regard to menacing dogs

Where most local authorities have failed miserably in terms of dog control is in advising the public of their rights with respect to menacing dogs. For example, many people believe they have to be bitten by a dog before they can lay a complaint with the local authority.

I applaud the QLDC's efforts in Scuttlebutt Issue 103 to advise the public of their rights. I cannot recall any previous similar effort. I recommend more attention needs to be given to educating the public about what they can do if a dog menaces them a similar success is likely to occur with respect to controlling dogs. That is to say if a dog is in a public place and is menacing someone or another animal and member of the public are knowledge of the law and make it clear (e.g. 'get that dog on lead immediately or else I will lay a formal complaint to dog control officer)

4. Other proposed provision of the proposed Dog Control Bylaw

I support the provisions relating to: playgrounds and cemeteries, diseased and female dogs, a maximum of two dogs,

John Langley

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

22 June 2014

What would you like the Council to do? see submission

John Turnbull

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs must always be either tied up, shut away or on a lead. At no times should dogs be permitted to run free. (Apart from farm dogs on their own rural land

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: We live at Jacks Point. There are about 30 houses under construction at any one time. This means at least 30 building contractors dogs roaming the village during the day. You can imagine the rest. The 300 odd residents who now live in Jacks Point have recently spent, through the courts, thousands of dollars trying to restrict the neighbouring NZONE Skydive from making any more disturbing noise. The dog owners amongst these residents are hypocrites. Early each morning and late in to the evenings these residents dogs are going for it. I suspect they are let loose to crap and pee all over the place and then they encounter other stray dogs. And its all on. Dog owners think

their dogs are cute. They expect others people to think the same. Just walking around Jacks Point I inevitably come across raw dog poo or poo nicely wrapped in a plastic bag. Yesterday I spotted parcel laid at the base of a walking track marker peg. The big dogs have big poos. At the moment I can see Jacks Point being attractive to the irresponsible dog owner. Wide open spaces of sections to be built on and just open spaces for residents to pleasure. Oh lets get a dog or two. Big ones. Its such a lovely place to let them loose on. No. No. No. Urban areas are not for dogs and if you must have a dog please have it on a lead or securely tie it up at all times. Yes you guessed it. Thats when they start to bark. I see from the key provisions of the proposed Dog Control Bylaw stating "Requiring dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times" I fully support this proposal on the understanding that "public places" means being anywhere apart from inside the dogs owners house or section.

What would you like the Council to do? Require dogs to be on a leash in public at all times.
Definition of public space being other than the dog owners house or section.

Jon Mitchell

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: POLICY Dog Fouling (page 6) BY-LAW 6 Diseased and Female Dogs

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: POLICY DOG FOULING (page 6) (Partially support) The wording of this section is particularly draconian and overly vague, "Dog fouling is not tolerated in any form across the district", but the policy itself and rules in the by-law do not reflect the urgency contained in the opening statement. Provision for the removal of "fouling" is overly vague. Provision to require dog owners in urban to remove faeces from their own property on a daily basis would assist in ensuring that the amenity and health of communities is protected. INFRINGEMENTS (pages 6 -7) (Oppose structure) Although the Act requires the infringements provided for in the Act to be applied in each local context it would be extremely helpful if the random nature of the infringements fees, as they appear in the Policy, was modified to provide for some degree of priority. DOG EXERCISE AREAS (page 8) (Oppose) This clause is inadequate to support dog owners in meeting the controlling aspects of the Policy and By-Law. A more meaningful statement is required to reflect the moral duty of the council to provide space for dog owners to safely exercise their dogs, to compensate for the relatively draconian controls proposed elsewhere in the Policy and By-Law. DOG ON LEASH (page 8) (Oppose) This clause appears to exceed the level of intervention envisaged or intended by the Act. There is no infringement fee in the act in relation to "Dogs not on a leash", but there are infringements for "Failure to keep dog under control" and "Failure to carry a leash". To suggest that all dogs be on a leash at all times, other than in the few dog exercise areas provided in the district at present, actually contradicts the requirement of owners in the Act to ensure that their dogs are adequately exercised. The proposed clause would make it legally impossible for dog owners to have their dogs fetch sticks or frisbees, swim in waterways adjacent to urban areas, or to interact with other dogs in a safe manner. The proposed clause is unnecessarily reactionary and, for dog owners and those who are interested in the well-being of dogs, actually quite repugnant. The draft by-law, clause 4(3)

is more than adequate meet the objectives and intent of the Act. WELFARE OF DOGS DURING AN EMERGENCY (page 9) (Partially support) It is comforting to see this clause included in the policy, however the expectation that dog owners, in fact all animal owners, will prepare and care for their animals during an emergency applies to any emergency whether it is a formally declared "state of emergency" or otherwise. BY-LAW 4 CONTROL OF DOGS (Support) 4(3) This sub-clause is more than adequate to meet the active control objectives and intent of the Act and should be retained. 5 FOULING OF PUBLIC PLACES (Partially oppose) This title of this clause is too specific to be able to support the content that follows or to give effect to the relevant clause in the Policy. 6 DISEASED AND FEMALE DOGS (Partially oppose) The title for this section should more accurately reflect the topic. Rather than all "female dogs", the title should state in full "Diseased and Female Dogs In Season". Consideration should be given the separating the two classes of dogs, "diseased" and "female dogs in season", on the grounds that quite different drivers and objectives are intended to relate to each. In the case of female dogs in heat the issue is that female dogs tend to wander of they will attract males dogs. Diseased dogs, on the other hand, pose a health risk to other dogs. As the rule stands it is inadequate to provide the level of protection envisaged, as it only provides for keeping the dog(s) in question on the property when the objective intended will only be able to be achieved if fencing is adequate to prevent others dogs from entering the property.

What would you like the Council to do? POLICY Dog Fouling (page 6) Amend as follows: "Dog fouling [poses a threat to the health and amenity] of the district. Dog owners must ensure that they have a suitable receptacle to collect dog faeces and remove dog faeces [left by dogs under their control] immediately [in public places and on property that they do not control and at least once within any 24 hour period on property occupied by the owner in urban areas]. Infringements (pages 6 -7) Amend the of the table of infringement fees to reflect both the reality that some relate to initial offences whilst other are consequential, relating for failure to comply, as well as an order of seriousness of the offence by way of ordering the infringement fees from low to high within each rationalised class of infringements. Dog Exercise Areas (page 8) Amend as follows: "[1 The Council will ensure that adequately fenced and signposted dog exercise areas are provided within reasonable travelling distance of all urban areas in the district. 2] Council will review the need for [and provision of] specified dog exercise area[s] [every three years]. Dog On Leash (page 8) Substantively modify the title and content of the clause as follows: [Control Of Dogs [1 Every owner of a dog shall keep that dog [under control] [at all times] in [any] public area [, including] within the Rural General Zone or in a dog exercise area (specified either by signage or listed in a schedule of the Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2014). (As provided for in clause 4(3) of the draft by-law.) [2] Dogs must be leashed in any playground or cemetery. WELFARE OF DOGS DURING AN EMERGENCY (page 8) Amend sentence 2 as follows: "[During any] emergency dog owners must ..." BY-LAW 4 CONTROL OF DOGS 4(3) This sub-clause is more than adequate to meet the active control objectives and intent of the Act and should be retained. 5 FOULING OF PUBLIC PLACES Amend as follows, with deletion of "Public Places" from the title. Separation of the two parts the current clause 1, and the introduction of a new sub-clause 2: 5 DOG FOULING (1) The Owner of any dog that defecates in a Public place or on land or premises other than that occupied by the Owner shall immediately remove the faeces. [(2) Owners of all dogs shall remove and properly dispose of dog faeces on property that they control at least once within any 24 hour period. (3)] Where a public litter bin or similar receptacle is used to dispose of the faeces, it must be suitably wrapped or contained to prevent fouling of the receptacle.

Joseph Donald Rastrick

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Requiring dogs in public places to be on a leash at all times

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I am just concerned on how I will be able to exercise my dog if he has to be on the lead the whole time. Dogs need to run, and in Arrowtown we are blessed with some great open parks and the Millennium Walkway. If he can only exercise off his lead in "designated areas" I am concerned where these will be and what size - In Australia they are tiny. It feels this proposal is punishing the people who train their animals for the crimes of those who don't. Our puppy has great recall, and is learning everyday through our training, and training classes. Maybe people who want to own a dog should have to go through a compulsory dog training course that they have to pay for? This would remove people irresponsibly owning dogs by enforcing both a financial cost and a time cost by having to attend courses. From my experience, the importance of exercise is paramount in training and maintaining a well disciplined dog. It is often bored, hyped up animals that cause the terrible cases we read about in the papers, and I completely support the bylaw/proposals plan with these animals and owners.

What would you like the Council to do? remove the proposal to have "dogs on leads" in all public places. Use restrictions in stead on areas that are deemed unfit, and monitor the complaints to regularly update which areas should be classed as "dogs on leads" only. Otherwise I think the bylaw will get ignored, and the really important issues around training/control/discipline will be missed.

Judith Mary THOMPSON

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog Control Policy (d) Exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners Dog Control Bylaw (b) regulating and controlling dogs in public places.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I oppose the two clauses stated above as I believe the proposed bylaw (b) does not meet the stated goal (d) in the dog control policy. The implementation of the Dog control bylaw requiring dogs to be kept under physical control in public places at all times does not meet the recreational or exercise requirements of dogs and their owners. The location and fencing of designated exercise areas must be completed first. The ability to adequately exercise a medium or larger dog while on a lead is significantly limited. Poorly exercised dogs, large or small, have the potential to develop behavioural problems.

What would you like the Council to do? To progress the development of designated dog exercise areas within the Upper Clutha area. Once these are in place to reconsider clause (b) of the bylaw.

Karen Ryan

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Increasing restrictions & decreasing access of dogs to public areas Establishment of exercise areas Restriction on number of dogs owned on a property Neutering of dangerous breeds

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I support neutering of dangerous breeds & control of number of dogs greater than two on a property. I also support establishment of dog exercise areas < jointly funded by rates & dog licenses. However I oppose restricting dog access to more public areas (exception of play grounds & cemeteries) Dogs should be allowed off lead on most tracks , provided they are under supervision / control. Karen Ryan [REDACTED] 29/6/14

What would you like the Council to do? Maintain off lead access to tracks Mandate sterilisation of dangerous breeds Require certification of owners for multiple dogs

Kate Butler

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog exercise areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I am opposed to the prohibition on off-leash exercising on council reserves and other public areas. This policy has been created with a mandate from the council's constituents. Over half of the respondents to the survey carried out earlier this year indicated that they felt verbal control was sufficient for dogs exercising on council reserves and public tracks. The policy and bylaw as they currently stand appear to completely ban all off-leash exercise except in the Rural General Zone. This does not appear to support objective (g) from the DCP, to "provide for exercise and recreational needs of dogs". Dog owners in rural areas are usually able to provide their dogs with sufficient off-leash exercise on their own properties. Dog owners in urban areas, however, need to use public places to exercise their dogs and will no longer have anywhere to do so. Requiring urban dog owners to invest extra time and money in travelling to a suitable location in the Rural General Zone in order to exercise their dogs means that their dogs will be exercised less often. This will have a detrimental effect on animal welfare in the district. Here's one of the Recommended Best Practices from section 7.8 of MPI's Code of Welfare (Dogs) 2010: "Dogs should have at least 60 minutes every day off the lead or chain or out of the run, with freedom to explore their immediate environment. However, owners should seek advice on the appropriate amount of exercise for their dog according

to its age, breed and individual circumstances." This exercise is necessary for the sake of the dog's welfare, and also reduces the likelihood of behaviour problems from arising. These behaviour problems include excessive barking and dogs escaping from their properties, which are a nuisance not just for the dog's owner but for the surrounding community as well. I notice that there is a provision in the DCP for dogs to be exercise off-leash in dog exercise areas as "specified either by signage or listed in a schedule of the Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2014". However, there does not appear to be any schedule in the Bylaw listing the proposed dog exercise areas. From this it appears that the council does not intend to set aside any land for dog exercise areas in the immediate future. This means that urban dog owners will immediately lose access to the areas where they usually exercise their dogs. As the President of the Wakatipu Dog Agility Club, I am particularly alarmed that one of the affected council reserves is Jardine Park, where we hold our training sessions. Our activities will be severely impacted if we are not able to have our dogs off leash during our training sessions, and we would have to investigate relocating elsewhere. Jardine Park is in my opinion very suitable for exercising dogs, as it is nearly fully enclosed and rarely used for other purposes. Admittedly the park does have a problem with fouling, but this could be addressed by providing a receptacle for dog owners to leave their dogs' waste in, and by taking enforcement action against local dog owners who allow their dogs to visit the park unsupervised. From a personal perspective, I have discovered that I live in the Rural Lifestyle Zone (Whitechapel Rd). On a summer evening I often run with my dogs off-leash down to swim in the Arrow River, although I put them on leash when there are cyclists or children around. I also take this opportunity to train reliable off-leash recalls in a more distracting environment than I have at home. I'm disappointed that if the proposed bylaw is enacted that I will no longer be able to enjoy these experiences with my dogs. I am in agreement with the remainder of both the new Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw.

What would you like the Council to do? Remove the unnecessary punitive restrictions on off-leash exercise from the policy and bylaw - or - add a schedule to the proposed bylaw listing several suitable dog exercise areas in urban areas throughout the district.

Katie Medley

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Amend dog control policy and introduce new dog control bylaw

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Supports

Submission: I support the laws of controlling dogs with leash compulsory and muzzles if needed i also think no dog should be in a public place by their self unless tied up and i agree that bitches in season kept at home I don't support 2 dogs and having to get a license for more I think that should be depending on the breed as that is were the problem is and also depending on whether the have had complaints about aggressive dogs or not caring for their dogs sufficiently I think that law should be flexible

What would you like the Council to do? I want the council to follow up these laws and stop dogs from being dangerous to the public

Keri Garrett

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I disagree with part of Bylaw and Policy that requires dogs to be kept on a leash at all times in public places, being: - Part 4 Clause 2 of the Bylaw This part of the Policy: DOGS ON LEASH Every owner of a dog shall keep that dog on a leash in public areas at all times except within the Rural General Zone or in a dog exercise area (specified either by signage or listed in a schedule of the Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2014). Dogs must be leashed in any playground or cemetery.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I strongly object to the following wording in Part 4 Clause 2 of the proposed new Bylaw and related part of the Policy which prevents dogs being off leads in public places: "(2) Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except: a) Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas; b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery;" I also find it difficult to provide a full, meaningful submission when Council has not provided me with information on what areas Council has or is intending to designate as "Dog Exercise Areas" as I do not know whether these areas will be of sufficient number, size and location to enable me to exercise my dog freely and adequately. I believe it is unfair to add the above wording into the bylaw without first advising the public of where these areas will be and what form they will take. There are insufficient areas specifically designated as dog exercise areas at present. I submit that as a ratepayer, who's rates also contribute to public parks and reserve areas, it is unfair and unreasonable to require dogs to be on a leash in all public areas - particularly in neighborhood parks and reserves (many of which are located in Residential zoned areas). Most dog owners live in residential areas and our rates contribute to parks and reserves in these areas as much as anyone else's. We need to be able to exercise our dogs properly off the lead in our neighborhood parks/reserves which are conveniently located near our homes, not travel for miles just to find a place where we can throw the ball and play fetch or take our dogs for a swim. I strongly believe you should be able to exercise your dog off a lead in all parks and reserves providing you have your dog under verbal control at all times. However, I agree that dogs should not be allowed off the leash in designated children's "playground" areas though, being those areas where they have playground equipment such as swings, see-saws, slides etc. I agree it would be reasonable to classify some smaller parks, or designated areas within parks, dog-free areas (or at least require dogs to be on a lead). But it is ludicrous to suddenly decide that dogs can only be on a leash in almost every park/reserve and other public areas in Queenstown just because they might cause a nuisance to someone. Just because a dog has a set of teeth, doesn't mean it is going to bite people! As far as I'm aware, there is an extremely small number of dog attacks in Queenstown. The percentage of dogs involved in dog attacks or causing trouble must be so ridiculously small compared to the rest of the dog population in Queenstown, it seems unreasonable to regulate against every single dog and

owner and prevent them from exercising their dogs properly off the leash. We live next to a large recreational reserve which is partly zoned Rural and partly zoned Residential and partly unformed legal road reserve. Part of the reason we bought our property was because it was adjacent to a park where we could play with and exercise our dog. We regularly exercise and play with our dog there - without incident - throwing the ball and frisbee to him (as do many of our neighbors who are dog owners). We also take our dog for a swim at the river or lake on a regular basis. We would be unable to do this if he has to be kept on a lead because it is a "public area" and do not believe this is fair or reasonable. Our dog is fully under control (verbally, as provided for under current regulations) at all times, and is not interested in anything other than his ball or frisbee anyway... he wouldn't even acknowledge another dog or person walking passed when he is playing with his ball or frisbee. Although, being responsible dog owners, we always have his lead on hand if we needed it for any reason and would put him on his lead if children etc approached simply to remove any "perceived" threat. It would be a ridiculous and unfair proposition to prevent us from being able to play ball or frisbee with our dog in our neighborhood park in this way, or prevent us from taking him to the river or lake near our house for a swim, just because we live outside of the Rural General Zone. He has never attacked anyone and we are responsible dog owners who have never had any problems with dog control, so I don't see why we should be penalized for the sake of a small minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not control their dogs. Regarding the following statement (from the "Summary of Statement of Proposal"): "However, verbal control as the only mechanism for controlling dogs does provide the potential for nuisance or risk to the public." It is not fair to regulate against responsible dog owners just because there is a perceived (imaginary?) possibility or "potential" that having them off a lead could be a nuisance/risk to the public. The current regulations already require owners to prevent their animals from being a risk or nuisance to the public. The current regulations require owners to have their dogs under control at all times and for enforcement action to be taken against irresponsible owners who don't have their animals under control. So this law doesn't really provide any more powers or protection than what already exists under the current regulations. I don't think it is fair to force owners to have their dogs on a lead at all times providing their animals are under control off the lead, simply because a very small minority of people with dog phobias have a misguided belief that every dog they see is going to attack them. In terms of dogs being a "nuisance", I don't see how they can be a "nuisance" if they are under control at all times, as required by the current regulations. It is only those which are already breaking the law and aren't under control that cause a nuisance. I find roaming cats to be a nuisance, coming onto our property, defecating and getting into rubbish bags and making a mess, but we don't require them to be leashed up or kept within their owners property. I also find it intimidating walking passed certain undesirable looking people in the streets, but that doesn't mean they should be chained up. I don't believe adding additional regulations preventing dogs being unleashed in public areas to the Bylaw would make any significant difference whatsoever to actual dog attack incidents or nuisance dogs, given that such incidents usually arise as a result of irresponsible dog owners not supervising or controlling their animals and/or letting their animals wander on their own in public areas (or not having adequate fencing to keep them in their property). There is already scope within the current regulations for irresponsible dog owners to be penalized for not having their dogs under control, but this doesn't stop these incidents occurring. I doubt irresponsible dog owners aren't going to care about the additional requirement bylaw for their animals to be on a lead either. It is just penalizing the responsible owners. Please consider the needs of responsible dog owners to properly exercise and play with their pets in residential areas, as

most dogs live in residential areas. Simply walking a dog on a lead is not always the best form of exercise. We need the freedom to exercise our dogs off the lead in nearby neighborhood parks & reserves - providing they are under verbal control at all times as is already required under the regulations. Requiring dog owners to travel long distances to get to designated dog exercise areas is impractical and will just discourage owners from exercising their pets. I understand the desire to control the following: (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 I agree that dogs should not have uncontrolled access to public areas and should always be supervised when in public places. I would also support Council defining specific zones within parks around children's playgrounds where dogs are not allowed - e.g. I see no need for a dog to be within a defined children's playground containing children's playground equipment. And I see no reason for a dog to be off a lead in town (e.g. town centre zones and business zones). These areas could be clearly defined and sign-posted. If the Council believed it was absolutely necessary, I could also accept a requirement for dogs to be on a lead within roads/streets, although I am not entirely convinced this is necessary providing the owner has them under verbal control at all times. But please don't remove ability for responsible dog owners to exercise their pets off the lead in parks and reserves located in residential areas. Another concern I have is that I am not aware of being contacted regarding this proposed Bylaw. As noted from the "Statement of Proposal": F. DISTRIBUTION OF SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL b) The Council will make contact with each registered dog owner providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome further submissions on the matter. As a registered dog owner, I am not aware of being contacted by Council on this matter and am unsure why? I have friends who are dog-owners who also say they were not contacted. I am concerned that dog owners will miss out on making a submission because they have not been contacted and this Bylaw will be unfairly passed. I am happy to be contacted to discuss further and wish to retain the ability to make a verbal submission.

What would you like the Council to do? Remove parts of Bylaw and policy which require dogs to be on a leash at all times or amend to allow dogs to be exercised off the leash, but under supervision and control of owner, in parks and reserves in residential areas. I would accept some smaller parks/reserves being dog-free zones or having requirement for dogs to be on leash. I agree dogs must be on a lead in children's playgrounds, or not allowed in children's playgrounds at all. Council should also be required to demonstrate they have made contact with every registered dog owner regarding this Bylaw & policy to enable them to submit on it before it is passed. Council should be required to provide full details of existing and proposed dog exercise areas to all dog owners for consultation and allow them to make submissions on these before passing the bylaw & policy

Kieran Hallgate

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Keeping dogs on leash

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: My dogs need a large amount of exercise. I take them off leash for a bike ride at least 5 times a week for at least 15km. Now you are saying that I can only take them on leash, which would mean a walk for 3 or 4km? This would leave my dogs with much surplus energy and would find a way to escape even though they are in a 6 foot fenced area. The council are meant to help dog owners not the opposite. The one issue I have had with my dogs is concerning 2 dogs that they have met a couple of times that are on leash. Their owner portrays insecurity and nervousness, which the dogs feel and immitate. Leashes do not solve problems they cause problems. On top of this dogs on a leash cause large problems for those owners that don't know how to control their dogs. Dogs are animals just like us and when they find stress, such as other dogs, they go into fight or flight mode. When dogs are on leash they can't do either of these, so it causes serious psychological damage. What is the actual problem here anyway? Are dogs off leash running around the place attacking people/children? I find that hard to believe. So why are we listening to people who don't have or never have owned a dog, about how to control dogs? Would you take your car to get fixed to someone that has never spent anytime with cars or take your financial concerns to someone who cannot add up. I very much doubt it. Is this because a couple of people are scared of dogs? I know 2 people that are scared of bananas. Should we ban bananas or help those people with their fear of bananas. Dog owners should decide about dog issues, nobody else.

What would you like the Council to do? Do not make us keep our dogs on a leash. They need exercise, which they cannot get from a stroll on leash in a specific dog exercise area. This will cause more problems than it stops.

Kirsten Bylett

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on a leash

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I have an issue with all dogs required to be on a leash in all places except a dog park. Fair enough they should be on a leash around town and on the streets for safety reasons, but a dog needs to be able to run off leash. We have a GSP that needs to be able to run - she has no interest in other dogs or people and always comes back to us. She gives great joy to tourists from overseas that have left their beloved pets at home and see our girl on the move doing what she loves doing along the lakeside tracks and in the lake. We do not give her free reign - if the track is busy she is kept at heel off leash - if it is quiet she is free to run for a controlled period of time. It disappoints me greatly that a minority of people who are against dogs are able to dictate what free running dogs have. There are only a small minority of "bad dogs" so why should all dogs be judged by them?? Our closest part of Lake Wanaka is Bremner Bay and we stick to the closed season for dogs there - but over the summer most of the time there is no one there as there is no water for swimming so it seems a real shame that we still can't take our dogs there. Look at Europe and the UK - there is a real different attitude to dogs over there - they are welcome in hotels and restaurants - why has NZ got such a bad attitude to dogs?? Don't let the attitude of a minority dictate the outcome for a majority!!!

What would you like the Council to do? Let dogs run free off leash but under control along the lakeside tracks of Lake Wanaka and Mt Iron.

Krystyna Glavinovic

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs required to be on lead in nearly all public places other than dog exercise areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw:

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I oppose the part of the policy that requires a dog to be kept on lead at all times in public areas (such as public walkways and tracks). I initially got a dog with the intention of being able to run with him (off-lead but under voice control) primarily on our beautiful tracks but occasionally on the footpaths of public roads. There is a joy and freedom to running with your dog, and I made sure to diligently train him to listen to voice command. This includes sitting at every crosswalk before I give the 'okay' to cross, absolutely no harassment of any kind towards any dog or human, no crossing of the street unless I say so, and he is to stay within a certain proximity of myself while running. I recognize that untrained, off-lead dogs can be a potential danger to children and adults in public spaces and places, but until an individual dog has had a complaint placed against him/her, I cannot understand why the council would want to take away an owner's enjoyment of exercising their dog in a beautiful public space. Although my dog is off-lead, I always carry a bag for any potential feces. I also have never had any complaints of his behavior, in fact most individuals are stunned at how well behaved he is. I think a complaints policy should be put into place, and should a dog receive more than X number of complaints, then he/she be placed on a probationary period requiring good behavior. Most dogs that I've encountered that have been off lead in public places have been remarkably well behaved, and those few that haven't been are the ones that should be targeted by this policy, not the entire dog population of the Queenstown Lakes District.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like the Council to re-evaluate their proposed policy and allow dogs to remain off-lead under good behavior. Just as with humans, should poor behavior or a breaking of the law occur, then the owner and his dog need to be fined and placed under probation for a set period of time and, once the probationary period has ended, demonstrate that their behavior has changed for the better.

Leone Ward

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: 1. Amend the existing Dog Control Policy; 2. Introduce a new Dog Control Bylaw

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I wanted to express my concern at the changes that you are looking to bring in regarding dog laws. Obviously if a dog attacks or injures it is reported in the news and this is mostly what the public hear, rather than the realistic fact that very few people or dogs are attacked by percentage of dog population. I have worked and trained dogs for over 20 years in a range of disciplines including Search and Rescue for 15 years, RNZFB Guide Dog Services and NZ Epilepsy Assist Dogs and have attended seminars here and around the world on dog behaviour. In addition I have taken classes and behavioural consults for many years and in this role I have come to understand what increases and decreases problem behaviour in dogs. Sadly some of the very restrictions and changes are likely to increase problem behaviour rather than solve issues. Having come from a larger city I was very impressed by the socialisation of most dogs I see in this area. Many people here have dogs and walk them regularly on the many lovely tracks around the area. To date I have not seen any problems but undoubtedly there are from time to time and most would be dog/dog issues rather than dog/human issues. In understanding dog behaviour it is most likely that issues would occur between dogs on leash than when they are free running. A timid or anxious dog would feel restraint and the fight or flight natural instinct of a dog unable to move away would be to have to fight.. It would not normally choose this option but would feel it had no option. Dog parks or exercise areas appear to be a great option for everyone but have been found overseas to cause more problems than they solve. As dogs form small pack they often bully other dogs and without realising it owners find they end up with a dog with many issues they did not have before. This has proved true by many dog behaviourists who have experienced an increase in work due to this happening. Many behaviourists and dog experts overseas are working with local authorities to close these parks down. Without reservation I fully support well behaved dogs who should always be under the control of their handler however I would like to urge Council to reconsider restricting dogs having freedom to be off lead on most of the walking and cycling tracks in the area. The reality is that there is very little problem with dogs being off lead and sad that the majority of dogs should suffer for the sake of a very few bad owners. By all means prosecute those owners who do not have their dogs under control this would be a better solution than a blanket ban affect all owners and their dogs. Wanaka and the whole Queenstown Lakes District is an amazing and innovative region and I would love to see us not following the pack and make the mistakes of other towns and I urge the council to reconsider passing this bylaw. I would also ask who has put this proposal together and whether the council have experience to be able to judge what is best for the dogs and what would increase bad behaviour and therefore affect the safety of the general public. I would like to speak to this but very unfortunately will not be in the area at the time of the hearing.

What would you like the Council to do? Leave the policy and Bylaw as they are and enforce them more vigilantly in their current form by prosecuting owners whose dogs become a recurrent nuisance

Mark Garrett

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I oppose the parts of the Policy and Bylaw which require dogs to be kept on a leash at all times in public places, being Part 4 Clause 2 of Bylaw and related section in the Policy.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I adopt my wife's earlier submission.

I strongly object to the following wording in Part 4 Clause 2 of the proposed new bylaw and related part in policy which prevents dogs being off leads in public places:

“(2) Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except:

a) Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas;

b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery;”

I also find it difficult to provide a full, meaningful submission when Council has not provided me with information on what areas Council has or is intending to designate as "Dog Exercise Areas" as I do not know whether these areas will be of sufficient number, size and location to enable me to exercise my dog freely and adequately. I believe it is unfair to add the above wording into the bylaw without first advising the public of where these areas will be and what form they will take.

I submit that as a ratepayer, who's rates also contribute to public parks and reserve areas, it is unfair and unreasonable to require dogs to be on a leash in all public areas - particularly in neighborhood parks and reserves (many of which are located in Residential zoned areas). Most dog owners live in residential areas and our rates contribute to parks and reserves in these areas as much as anyone else's. We need to be able to exercise our dogs properly off the lead in our neighborhood parks/reserves which are conveniently located near our homes, not travel for miles just to find a place where we can throw the ball and play fetch or take our dogs for a swim.

I strongly believe you should be able to exercise your dog off a lead in all parks and reserves providing you have your dog under verbal control at all times. However, I agree that dogs should not be allowed off the leash in designated children's "playground" areas though, being those areas where they have playground equipment such as swings, see-saws, slides etc. I agree it would be reasonable to classify some smaller parks, or designated areas within parks, dog-free areas (or at least require dogs to be on a lead). But it is ludicrous to suddenly decide that dogs can only be on a leash in almost every park/reserve and other public areas in Queenstown just because they might cause a nuisance to someone. Just because a dog has a set of teeth, doesn't mean it is going to bite people! There is an extremely small number of dog attacks in Queenstown. The percentage of dogs involved in dog attacks or causing trouble must be so ridiculously small compared to the rest of the dog population in Queenstown, it seems unreasonable to regulate against every single dog and owner.

We live next to a large recreational reserve which is partly zoned Rural and partly zoned Residential and partly unformed legal road reserve. Part of the reason we bought our property was because it was adjacent to a park where we could play with and exercise our dog. We regularly exercise and play with our dog there - without incident - throwing the ball and frisbee to him (as do many of our

neighbors who are dog owners). We also take our dog for a swim at the river or lake on a regular basis. We would be unable to do this if he has to be kept on a lead because it is a "public area" and do not believe this is fair or reasonable.

Our dog is fully under control (verbally, as provided for under current regulations) at all times, and is not interested in anything other than his ball or frisbee anyway... he wouldn't even acknowledge another dog or person walking passed when he is playing with his ball or frisbee. Although, being responsible dog owners, we always have his lead on hand if we needed it for any reason and would put him on his lead if children etc approached simply to remove any "perceived" threat.

It would be a ridiculous and unfair proposition to prevent us from being able to play ball or frisbee with our dog in our neighborhood park in this way, or prevent us from taking him to the river or lake near our house for a swim, just because we live outside of the Rural General Zone. He has never attacked anyone and we are responsible dog owners who have never had any problems with dog control, so I don't see why we should be penalized for the sake of a small minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not control their dogs.

Regarding the following statement (from the "Summary of Statement of Proposal"):

" However, verbal control as the only mechanism for

controlling dogs does provide the potential for nuisance or risk to the public."

It is not fair to regulate against responsible dog owners just because there is a perceived (imaginary?) possibility or "potential" that having them off a lead could be a nuisance/risk to the public. The current regulations already require owners to prevent their animals from being a risk or nuisance to the public. The current regulations require owners to have their dogs under control at all times and for enforcement action to be taken against irresponsible owners who don't have their animals under control. So this law doesn't really provide any more powers or protection than what already exists under the current regulations.

I don't think it is fair to force owners to have their dogs on a lead at all times providing their animals are under control off the lead, simply because a very small minority of people with dog phobias have a misguided belief that every dog they see is going to attack them. In terms of dogs being a "nuisance", I don't see how they can be a "nuisance" if they are under control at all times, as required by the current regulations. It is only those which are already breaking the law and aren't under control that cause a nuisance. I find roaming cats to be a nuisance, coming onto our property, defecating and getting into rubbish bags and making a mess, but we don't require them to be leashed up or kept within their owners property. I also find it intimidating walking passed certain undesirable looking people in the streets, but that doesn't mean they should be chained up.

I don't believe adding additional regulations preventing dogs being unleashed in public areas to the Bylaw would make any significant difference whatsoever to actual dog attack incidents or nuisance dogs, given that such incidents usually arise as a result of irresponsible dog owners not supervising or controlling their animals and/or letting their animals wander on their own in public areas (or not having adequate fencing to keep them in their property). There is already scope within the current

regulations for irresponsible dog owners to be penalized for not having their dogs under control, but this doesn't stop these incidents occurring. I doubt irresponsible dog owners aren't going to care about the additional requirement bylaw for their animals to be on a lead either. It is just penalizing the responsible owners.

Please consider the needs of responsible dog owners to properly exercise and play with their pets in residential areas, as most dogs live in residential areas. Simply walking a dog on a lead is not always the best form of exercise. We need the freedom to exercise our dogs off the lead in nearby neighborhood parks & reserves - providing they are under verbal control at all times as is already required under the regulations. Requiring dog owners to travel long distances to get to designated dog exercise areas is impractical and will just discourage owners from exercising their pets.

I understand the desire to control the following:

(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

I agree that dogs should not have uncontrolled access to public areas and should always be supervised when in public places. I would also support Council defining specific zones within parks around children's playgrounds where dogs are not allowed - e.g. I see no need for a dog to be within a defined children's playground containing children's playground equipment. And I see no reason for a dog to be off a lead in town (e.g. town centre zones and business zones). These areas could be clearly defined and sign-posted.

If the Council believed it was absolutely necessary, I could also accept a requirement for dogs to be on a lead within roads/streets, although I am not entirely convinced this is necessary providing the owner has them under verbal control at all times.

But please don't remove ability for responsible dog owners to properly exercise their pets off the lead in parks and reserves located in residential areas.

Another concern I have is that I am not aware of being contacted regarding this proposed Bylaw. As noted from the "Statement of Proposal":

F. DISTRIBUTION OF SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

This proposal will be distributed in accordance with Section 83 of the LGA 2002, on the following basis:

b) The Council will make contact with each registered dog owner providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome further submissions on the matter.

As a dog owners, my wife and I are not aware of being contacted by Council on this matter and am unsure why? I have friends who are dog-owners who also say they were not contacted. I am concerned that dog owners will miss out on making a submission because they have not been contacted and this Bylaw will be unfairly passed.

What would you like the Council to do? Remove parts of Bylaw and policy with require dogs to be on a leash at all times or amend to allow dogs to be excessed off the leash, but under supervision and control of owner, in parks and reserves in residential areas. I would accept some smaller parks/reserves being dog-free zones or having requirement for dogs to be on leash. I agree dogs must be on a lead in children's playgrounds, or not allowed in children's playgrounds at all.

Council should also be required to demonstrate they have made contact with every registered dog owner regarding this Bylaw & policy to enable them to submit on it before it is passed.

Council should be required to provide full details of existing and proposed dog exercise areas to all dog owners for consultation and allow them to make submissions on these before passing the bylaw & policy

marlene laureys

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I oppose the whole bylaw.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I oppose the whole bylaw. The policy works as it is. Dogs need to be able to run free, and there is enough space in the district to allow for that. To allow council to define " dangerous breeds" will only lead to unnecessary suffering for pets and their owners. Often people have no idea what breed a dog is, but just judge it by the way it looks, and then define it as a dangerous dog. People should educate themselves as in how to deal with dogs, and educate their children about dogs as well. They are great companions, and they have a right to live accordingly to what makes them happy, thus non aggressive. A happy dog is a good dog.

What would you like the Council to do? Leave the policy as it is. No bylaw.

Matt Carr

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Having to always have your dog on a leash.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I oppose the fact that dogs will always have to be on a leash unless in rural general areas. There is talk of building specific dog exercise areas but at present these do not exist so where am I supposed to exercise my dog off leash? I do agree that dogs should have to be on leash when around town and such, but when using areas like Pembroke Park and the lakefront being under verbal control should be fine. Council time would be better spent ensuring there aren't so many roaming dogs who's owners think it's fine that they just roam around the neighbourhood all day and then approach and hassle my dog who's being walked on a leash. As the owner of a Staffordshire Bull Terrier I can only imagine how much more negative sensationalised media would be created if I let my dog roam (she doesn't, she lives in a fully fenced 1.8m high garden) and she ran up and started nipping and barking at another dog being walked on leash by their owner. However, when the little chihuahua round the corner comes running out at my dog the owner says it's fine because it's only a small dog. The same can be said for the two jack russel x foxy type dogs who constantly roam around too and shit all over everyone else lawn. If the owner isn't out with them, are they walking round later to pick up all their excrement when they're home from work? No it's just being left for the rest of us who exercise our dogs around the same area to trip over at night and also giving all dog owners a bad name throughout the community. Living in a rental property that doesn't have a fence isn't an excuse either. Either build an enclosure or keep them inside whilst you're out. Our rental property had no fence when we moved in, I built one that can be removed without damaging the property. People in this area need to realise that owning a dog is a privilege and not a right and act as such to provide adequate concessions for their pets.

What would you like the Council to do? Council needs to build specific dog exercise parks such as those found in other areas of the country like Dunedin and have these fully instated before enforcing draconian style bylaws meaning dogs can't be exercised off a leash. They also need to ensure somebody is actually employed in the position of enforcement otherwise the law abiding people like myself who will continue to exercise our dogs on leash will be hassled by those who simply don't care and are aware there is very little chance of these rules actually being enforced and therefore continuing to ignore them.

Melissa Davidson

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Leashing dogs in all areas except rural general zone is too restrictive. Also determining rural general zone from the council maps is very difficult to do which would result in confusion and difficulty in determining if you have to leash or not. Allowing dogs to run free (with verbal control) on the trails around the Wakatipu allows them to exercise safely and with their owners. There is no dog exercise areas in Queenstown, the trails are the only areas where we can let them run free and enjoy being dogs.

What would you like the Council to do? Relax the requirements for leashing dogs. I'm all for dog control but don't punish the owners and their dogs who do exercise, have verbal control and obey the law for the few who don't have control. It's not fair to the majority of dog owners and dogs.

Milo Gilmour

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The requirement that dogs be on a leash in public places at all times

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I strongly oppose the provision that would if passed require all dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times. Our dog is well trained to respond to verbal commands, and is well socialised with people, especially children. She is not aggressive to other dogs. It is not natural for a dog to walk at the same consistent pace as a person does, they naturally prefer to dart ahead, or off to the side, exploring and smelling the area. A leash prevents this natural behaviour and turns the outing into a "drag" - either the dog is dragging you or you're dragging the dog, neither is enjoying the experience. I believe that dogs in public should be "under effective control" at all times, so that those with well trained, well behaved dogs don't have to have them on a leash.

What would you like the Council to do? Please remove the requirement for dogs to be on a leash in public at all times, and replace it with all dogs under effective control at all times

Neil & Hilary Jackson

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Control of dogs and Fouling Public Places

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Supports

Supports or opposes the policy: Supports

Submission: As a previous owner of a dog for many years, we understand the need to exercise a dog and care for their well-being. We also understand the reservations of children, the elderly, and those who have never owned a dog, towards an unleashed dog. For these reasons we support the intentions of the Bylaw/Policy. Having a property immediately on the Frankton lakefront/Walking

track, we see hundreds of dogs with their owners during the year. **DOGS ON LEASH** As our beach front area is frequented by children and their families, dogs should be on a leash **AT ALL TIMES** as children, the elderly, and people who have never owned a dog, are often intimidated by dogs because of the animals boisterous and excitable behavior. **DOG FOULING** We often provide a plastic bag to an owner when we see their dog defecate. Sometimes not met with thanks, but explain that children play in the area. We would like council to provide Bag Dispensing Stations at strategic entry points to Reserves and Walking Track. **INFRINGEMENTS** A schedule of infringement penalties is listed, but nowhere is there any penalty for non-removal of dog faeces.

What would you like the Council to do? 1. Better signage on Frankton Beach/Walkway relating to dogs being on a lead and picking up their dog's faeces. 2. Provision of 'Poo Bags' at the end of Shoreline Road [and other points on the walking track] where the entry point to the Frankton Beachfront picnic area and the Walking Track is. 3. Provision for an infringement penalty for not picking up and disposing dog faeces. 4. Not to include Frankton Beachfront picnic area/reserve as a dog exercise area [i.e. dogs must be on a leash at all times in this area].

Nicky McCarthy

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Keeping dogs on leads in public areas, requiring menacing dogs to be neutered, requiring dog owners with more than two dogs on a property to have a special permit

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Supports

Supports or opposes the policy: Supports

Submission: Restricting Dogs not on leads in public places to Rural Areas except for cemeteries and children's play grounds where they must be on leads at all times - I support this A licence is required to keep more than two dogs at a property, except for working dogs on land zoned Rural General - I support this The requirement for all dogs classified as menacing to be neutered - I support this I have witnessed a pair of aggressive dogs (from the same owner) attack other dogs on two separate occasions recently, once with a group of children in attendance. These dogs are not well controlled by their owners and I firmly believe that they should always be on a lead when outside their property. They should also be neutered. These attacks have been reported to dog control.

What would you like the Council to do? Implement the bylaw and policy as proposed

Nicola Jane Dougherty

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Clause 2 of the proposed bylaw : "Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except: a) Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas; b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery"

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I do not support Clause 2 of the proposed bylaw for the following reasons: Without having any access to information about where any designated dog exercise areas are, or will likely be, I feel that this proposal simply gives council mandate to prevent dog owners exercising their dogs off-leash almost anywhere in the district. Whilst I am in favor of dogs not causing nuisance and I am also a mother of a young child and a pre-teen so completely understand the need for them to remain safe from dog attack and nuisance I am also a dog-owner and as such feel the need to defend my right to give my dog unleashed exercise in safe areas. Dogs need to be able to run and investigate their world at times for their health and sanity and so long as they will respond to a recall signal and are easily brought under control I really do not see the need to ban them being walked this way everywhere except rural general zones. For example I currently run my dog on the Hawea River Track under voice control - mainly because it is fenced and away from roads and also safe for my toddler to come with us. What would be the status of this track under the new bylaw? If I were to only walk my dog in rural general areas I see more likelihood of her getting around stock and making a nuisance there, however she does not cause a nuisance to people or other dogs. Therefore I only ever walk her leashed in areas where there is stock, as I like to be a responsible dog owner and minimise risk of any nuisance - so where would be left for me to exercise my dog under the new bylaw? I live in a rural residential area and many families here walk out with their dogs and kids in tow and it would be ridiculous if this were no longer allowed. I feel responsible dog owners will be punished under this proposed bylaw due to the actions of the few irresponsible ones, rather than those few being pursued and prosecuted for any genuine nuisance or attacks. I also took part in your survey regarding this proposal and I have to say many of the questions seem to have been interpreted a little differently than expected. For example one question asked about whether I would support a designated dog exercise area or not, which I did, but nowhere did it suggest that this would become the only option! It also asked about keeping dogs on-leash only or not in URBAN areas, which I took to mean town centres, not everywhere except rural general areas. I feel the survey has been quite badly manipulated. I think Clause 2 of the proposed bylaw is far too general and all-encompassing with no included information about where these council-designated areas are or are likely to be so could be effectively used to ban off-leash dogs from virtually everywhere except for farms. This will make dog-ownership in the area prohibitive. Perhaps that is the ultimate aim of this bylaw, perhaps not but I would think it would be a deeply unpopular move for dog owners in the district if this were to become the case. I'm sure you have a better idea of the number of dog owners in the district than me but people here certainly seem to be very fond of their dogs so I think any move by council to over-restrict their freedom will meet much resistance. I am aware that Queenstown lakes is a desirable place to live but I have no desire to live in a place so restricted by legislation that it becomes elitist and suffocating to normal people. I hope you take my views on board, many thanks for the chance to submit them.

What would you like the Council to do? Please review Clause 2 and be clearer in which areas are likely to become designated dog exercise areas and publish this information before the bylaw comes into force, giving another opportunity to submit. Please also publish the criteria used to designate such areas and what if any reasons could cause these areas to be withdrawn or changed. Please consider including rural residential and rural living areas in the designated dog exercise areas. Please

publish the original survey with responses as they were asked and not just interpretive data, it is quite misleading.

Nicola Price

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on leash

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I believe there should be public walks where dogs are not required to be on a leash in addition to the dog exercise areas. Most dogs are obedient and they need the exercise they receive from being able to roam with more freedom than a leash allows so I would like to see it made possible for people to let their dogs off the lead on several of the walks in the area where they are currently supposed to be tied up.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like several walks to be changed to leash not required.

Nicole Meldrum

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Requiring all dogs to be on a lead except in Rural general areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw:

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I oppose this as how will people know what zone they are walking their dogs in? If you walk your dog from the yacht club on the shores of Lake Wanaka to the Outlet Camp ground which part is zoned Residential and which part is zoned Rural General. Owners will find it very difficult not to break this proposed law?

What would you like the Council to do? I would like the council to require all dogs be on a leash in the centre of town, playgrounds etc and outside of that be on a leash or under control in all other places.

Paul O'Hara

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Requiring dogs to be on leash in all public places

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Supports

Submission: I oppose the aspect of the new bylaw that would require all dogs to be on a leash in all public areas and the designation of specific dog-exercise areas. I am a dog owner who regularly exercises my dog off-leash in parks in and around Wanaka. My dog is an unneutered male, very social and keen to make contact with other dogs, and sometimes other people. In the vast majority of cases, there are never any problems. Problems are only every encountered with other dogs on a leach where the owner is overly controlling the dog. By this I mean that the owner does not what their dog to have any interaction with other dogs, usually pulling their dog away from contact with other dogs. I see this a lot with my dog and with general dog interactions. If dogs are allowed to interact naturally, either on leach or off leach, they usually have a short interaction and move on, or they might what to play together, or occasionally there may be an issue. In the later case owner intervention can be appropriate. If dogs are on a leach, this generally limits the dog's ability to interact, and if approached by a non-leached dog can create a threatening situation for the leached dog. I feel that if more dog owners let their dogs off-leach for periods of time, allowing their dog more interaction and freedom, there would be less problems between dogs when they meet. I therefore do not support the proposed bylaw in its restrictive on-leach at all times constraint. Having designated dog-exercise areas seems inappropriate in our district as we have so much public space where dogs and people can co-exist without conflict. I do not see many dog issues in our public spaces under the present law, and those that I do see can be attributed much, if not more to owners who have their dogs on a leach and try to limit interaction with all other dogs. This is the issue I would like to see addressed in our district, rather than the proposed restriction of all dogs in general.

What would you like the Council to do? Remove the proposed aspect of the bylaw that would require all dogs to be on leach in all public places

Paul van Klink

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: 4) Control of Dogs

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I support & agree with the bylaw for control of dogs. However I have one issue which probably needs to be clarified before I can say that I oppose it. This relates to section 4) 2) b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery; . I have tried to identify the areas I walk my dog off the lead on your district plan and by looking at the Rural General Zone. I walk my dog along the Wanaka Lakefront between Meadowstone Drive and waterfall creek. This land and other areas is designation so owned by council. Looked up the Designations (for 111, 103, 104, 120 etc) but it didn't say anything about dogs so I would like to know from you if I can take my dog to this area off the lead. If I cannot take my dog to these areas off the lead then I oppose this bylaw. I am a responsible dog owner. My dog is a working dog (conservation) and these areas are the regular places I take her when she is not

working. For exercise she needs to be off the lead as she has plenty of energy. Thanks for your clarification Paul van Klink 30-06-2014

What would you like the Council to do? As above

Penelope Spicer

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: control of dogs

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I oppose the part of the proposed bylaw requiring dogs to be leashed at all times in public places. My reasons for this are that I believe in keeping dogs leashed at all times in public places and only being able to run free in designated areas (dog parks) will be a recipe for disaster. I have seen dog parks in other parts of the country, where dogs have been allowed to only run free in these areas and not out in public and it does not work. Under the new bylaw the only socialisation that dogs would get would be in dog parks where there are all sorts of dogs of differing temperaments. All too often there have been squabbles or fights break out where dogs run unchecked and usually exercised only in weekends. Here in Wanaka I have witnessed better socialisation as dogs mix with owners, other people and also other dogs without being hindered. It is also my belief that a restrained dog would be a vulnerable dog and can not take flight when intimidated or frightened and would then resort to attack as its best means of defence. The council would be better serving the population by educating people on how to behave around and with dogs, starting with children in schools. Knee jerk reactions like leashing a dog to placate people who not only do not understand dogs but are frightened of them, rather than an education policy is ridiculous. Humans present more of a threat on our society than dogs do and yet we do not leash them. Compared to the number of times a human assaults another human, dog attacks and bites are minimal. That is not to say that these injuries are irrelevant, but we should put things in perspective. How are these injuries caused in the first place.....are they bad owners maltreating an animal, an uneducated person/child who provokes an animal or has that animal been taught to be a fighter? None of these are really the animals fault but it is the animal that pays the price. Overseas where Dog Parks have been in use for many years, there is a move to remove them as they have proved to be more dangerous and unreliable than useful. Don't fall into the same hole that these countries have, by following along like sheep, and creating a problem to solve what a minority view as a problem. Dogs are mans best friend, its just a shame that man is not a dogs best friend. If you, the council, decide to disregard these submissions in favour of the vocal minority, you will find that the socialisation of dogs here in Wanaka and surrounds will deteriorate and there will be more problems for the public. Leave the dogs alone and educate the people. I might also add that according to the proposed Bylaw QLDC stated in the Summary of Statement of proposal Quote : "Distribution This proposal will be distributed in accordance with Section 83 of the LGA 2002, on the following basis: a) The Council will scrutinise Council's existing databases of organisations within the community with a potential interest in this matter and will write to each providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome submissions on the matter. b) The

Council will make contact with each registered dog owner providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome further submissions on the matter. c) The Council will advertise in the Otago Daily Times, Southland Times, and in the Mirror, advising that the proposal exists and inviting further submissions." To my knowledge I know of at least a couple of dog owners who have not been contacted re this proposal (B above) and suspect that there may well be many more.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like to see greater education for people on how to behave with and around dogs so that they understand that dogs do not necessarily need to be feared. License owners on their fitness to own and care for dogs rather than the dogs themselves

Penelope Wallace

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I strongly object to Part 4 Clause 2 of the proposed new bylaw and related section in policy which prevents dogs being off leads in public places.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I adopt the submission of a friend of mine who has already submitted. I strongly object to the following wording in Part 4 Clause 2 of the proposed new bylaw and related section in Policy which prevents dogs being off leads in public places: "(2) Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except: a) Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas; b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery;" I also find it difficult to provide a full, meaningful submission when Council has not provided me with information on what areas Council has or is intending to designate as "Dog Exercise Areas" as I do not know whether these areas will be of sufficient number, size and location to enable me to exercise my dog freely and adequately. I believe it is unfair to add the above wording into the bylaw without first advising the public of where these areas will be and what form they will take. I submit that it is unfair and unreasonable to require dogs to be on a leash in all public areas - particularly in neighborhood parks and reserves (many of which are located in Residential zoned areas). Most rate-paying dog owners live in residential areas and their rates contribute to parks and reserves in these areas as much as anyone else's. We need to be able to exercise our dogs properly off the lead in our neighborhood parks/reserves which are conveniently located near our homes, not travel for miles just to find a place where we can throw the ball and play fetch or take our dogs for a swim. I strongly believe you should be able to exercise your dog off a lead in all parks and reserves providing you have your dog under verbal control at all times. However, I agree that dogs should not be allowed off the leash in designated children's "playground" areas though, being those areas where they have playground equipment such as swings, see-saws, slides etc. I agree it would be reasonable to classify some smaller parks, or designated areas within parks, dog-free areas (or at least require dogs to be on a lead). But it is ludicrous to suddenly decide that dogs can only be on a leash in almost every park/reserve and other public areas in Queenstown just because they might cause a

nuisance to someone. Just because a dog has a set of teeth, doesn't mean it is going to bite people! There is an extremely small number of dog attacks in Queenstown. The percentage of dogs involved in dog attacks or causing trouble must be so ridiculously small compared to the rest of the dog population in Queenstown, it seems unreasonable to regulate against every single dog and owner. My old flatmates and I (and many of our neighbors who are dog owners), used to regularly exercise and play with our dogs in the park located between Kawarau Pl & Robertson St - without incident - throwing the ball and frisbee. We also used to take the dog for a swim at the nearby river or lake on a regular basis. We would be unable to do this if he has to be kept on a lead because it is a "public area" and do not believe this is fair or reasonable. Our dog is fully under control (verbally, as provided for under current regulations) at all times. Although, being responsible dog owners, we always have his lead on hand if we needed it for any reason and would put him on his lead if children etc approached simply to remove any "perceived" threat. It would be a ridiculous and unfair proposition to prevent us from being able to play ball or frisbee with our dog in our neighborhood park in this way, or prevent us from taking him to the river or lake near our house for a swim, just because we live outside of the Rural General Zone. He has never attacked anyone and we have never had any problems with dog control, so I don't see why we should be penalized for the sake of a small minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not control their dogs. Regarding the following statement (from the "Summary of Statement of Proposal"): " However, verbal control as the only mechanism for controlling dogs does provide the potential for nuisance or risk to the public." It is not fair to regulate against responsible dog owners just because there is a perceived (imaginary?) possibility or "potential" that having them off a lead could be a nuisance/risk to the public. The current regulations already require owners to prevent their animals from being a risk or nuisance to the public. The current regulations require owners to have their dogs under control at all times and for enforcement action to be taken against irresponsible owners who don't have their animals under control. So this law doesn't really provide any more powers or protection than what already exists under the current regulations. I don't think it is fair to force owners to have their dogs on a lead at all times providing their animals are under control off the lead, simply because a very small minority of people with dog phobias have a misguided belief that every dog they see is going to attack them. In terms of dogs being a "nuisance", I don't see how they can be a "nuisance" if they are under control at all times, as required by the current regulations. It is only those which are already breaking the law and aren't under control that cause a nuisance. I find roaming cats to be a nuisance, coming onto our property, defecating and getting into rubbish bags and making a mess, but we don't require them to be leashed up or kept within their owners property. I also find it intimidating walking passed certain undesirable looking people in the streets, but that doesn't mean they should be chained up. I don't believe adding additional regulations preventing dogs being unleashed in public areas to the Bylaw would make any significant difference whatsoever to actual dog attack incidents or nuisance dogs, given that such incidents usually arise as a result of irresponsible dog owners not supervising or controlling their animals and/or letting their animals wander on their own in public areas (or not having adequate fencing to keep them in their property). There is already scope within the current regulations for irresponsible dog owners to be penalized for not having their dogs under control, but this doesn't stop these incidents occurring. I doubt irresponsible dog owners aren't going to care about the additional requirement bylaw for their animals to be on a lead either. It is just penalizing the responsible owners. Please consider the needs of responsible dog owners to properly exercise and play with their pets in residential areas, as most dogs live in residential areas. Simply walking a dog on a lead is not always the best form of

exercise. We need the freedom to exercise our dogs off the lead in nearby neighborhood parks & reserves - providing they are under verbal control at all times as is already required under the regulations. Requiring dog owners to travel long distances to get to designated dog exercise areas is impractical and will just discourage owners from exercising their pets. I understand the desire to control the following: (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 I agree that dogs should not have uncontrolled access to public areas and should always be supervised when in public places. I would also support Council defining specific zones within parks around children's playgrounds where dogs are not allowed - e.g. I see no need for a dog to be within a defined children's playground containing children's playground equipment. And I see no reason for a dog to be off a lead in town (e.g. town centre zones and business zones). These areas could be clearly defined and sign-posted. If the Council believed it was absolutely necessary, I could also accept a requirement for dogs to be on a lead within roads/streets, although I am not entirely convinced this is necessary providing the owner has them under verbal control at all times. But please, please, please don't remove ability for responsible dog owners to exercise their pets off the lead in parks and reserves located in residential areas. Another concern I have is that I am not aware of being contacted regarding this proposed Bylaw. As noted from the "Statement of Proposal": F. DISTRIBUTION OF SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL This proposal will be distributed in accordance with Section 83 of the LGA 2002, on the following basis: b) The Council will make contact with each registered dog owner providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome further submissions on the matter. I don't believe Council has made a proper effort to contact affected/interested parties (particularly dog-owners). Contrary to what is noted in the "Statement of Proposal" above, my dog-owner friends say they have not been contacted and provided with a copy of the proposal. I am concerned that dog owners will miss out on making a submission because they have not been contacted and this Bylaw will be unfairly passed.

What would you like the Council to do? Remove parts of Bylaw and policy which require dogs to be on a leash at all times or amend to allow dogs to be exercised off the leash, but under supervision and control of owner, in parks and reserves in residential areas. I would accept some smaller parks/reserves being dog-free zones or having requirement for dogs to be on leash. I agree dogs must be on a lead in children's playgrounds, or not allowed in children's playgrounds at all. Council should also be required to demonstrate they have made contact with every registered dog owner regarding this Bylaw & policy to enable them to submit on it before it is passed. Council should be required to provide full details of existing and proposed dog exercise areas to all dog owners for consultation and allow them to make submissions on these before passing the bylaw & policy

Philip Kirk

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Requiring dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I fully support the proposed changes in regard to keeping more than 2 dogs, menacing dogs & dogs not having to be leashed in the Rural General Zone. We have a home in Wanaka. We have a dog and love the Wanaka area and being able to walk him in & around the town - the walking tracks around the lake and town, the undeveloped residential areas, as well as through the streets and the CBD. Our dog is well behaved, and in general it runs off the leash except when in the CBD or crossing busy roads. We carry a leash at all times and use it when it is sensible to do so. Wanaka is a very dog friendly town. There are almost always dogs around the CBD, sitting under tables outside cafés, tied outside shops etc. Indeed drinking bowls and places to tie your dog are often provided to encourage this. Also dogs and their owners utilise the green spaces and parks around town and along the lake shore - often unleashed. Menacing breeds are a rarity. Most people seem to clean up after their dogs, of course a few let the side down. Forcing dogs to be on a leash won't change this. A few more strategically located rubbish bins would help. There is not a problem with unleashed dogs in Wanaka, and I think losing the ability to let your dog run free (but supervised) would be sad and unnecessary, and I oppose this aspect of the proposal. I believe most Wanaka dog owners would think the same. I wish to submit that within the Wanaka township, dogs do not have to be leashed in public at all times, but must be under effective control only. Thank you. Philip Kirk

What would you like the Council to do? An amendment to the proposed policy in respect to Wanaka township, removing the requirement for dogs to be on a leash in public places at all times.

Philip Vink

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: requirement for dogs to be on a leash areas other than rural

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I wish to make a submission about the proposed dog control regulations in Wanaka being considered by council. I object to the proposal that all dogs must be on leash unless in rural/designated areas. My understanding is that this proposal is against what the majority of the community has asked for (as per ODT report 13 June). The response to 'should dogs be free to roam and no restrictions' has been skewed to come to the conclusion that all dogs should be on a leash. I would suggest that most people would say 'free to roam' means a dog is unsupervised and under no control of its owner. When taking a dog for a walk most owners would have their dog on a leash when they feel they need to given the nature of their particular dog and then they would allow their dog freedom from a leash when it is appropriate. As a dog owner I would keep away from other dogs and hence a dog park is the last place I would choose to go. As a dog owner I can testify that dogs on a leash are far more vulnerable and on edge when around other dogs on leashes as they are unable to follow their normal safety assessment and are unable to use their own natural body language. I read with interest the 1 or 2 dog attacks per month, this is convenient information which I would challenge, in my ten years of living in Wanaka the number of prosecutions and

publicised reports does not reflect this at all. This information does not say if the 'dog attacks' were against people or dogs or sheep. A report of a dog attack is often misleading and found to be far from reality. Most dog attacks require some medical attention and I would expect that the QLDC could provide information on how many of these alleged dog attacks in Wanaka say over the past ten years have required medical attention. Surely justification for a blanket policy would be based on most other practical remedies having been trialled and/or considered. The current level of enforcement by QLDC is far from satisfactory and hence rather than exhaust all of the management/control options this proposed remedy is a lazy option. It is also a significant removal of current freedoms on Wanaka dog owners and on the dogs themselves. My further challenge to the supposed 2 attacks a month is; how many dogs have been certified dangerous dogs which are then required to be muzzled. Rules of this nature have a significant cost to the rate payer, in signage/education and enforcement, the current bylaws are very poorly enforced and barely ever is there a prosecution. The cost to enforce and prosecute is enormous and as a result the responsible dog owner is losing liberties while the problem dog owners will just continue to breach current and any new bylaws. Wanaka is a rural town and as such visitors and new residents should expect a more rural approach rather than dictate their city environment of the existing community. Tailoring Wanaka purely for tourists and city folk on this front is a cost on dog owners. Dogs are a significant health benefit to their owners, both in terms of addressing fitness and companionship. Much of Wanaka is based on fitness and a growing elderly population, having to have a dog on a leash is very restrictive when running and hence dog owners would be penalised by the level of restriction being suggested. My submission is that the current dog controls in Wanaka and remedies available to the QLDC and other enforcement agencies provide the ability to remedy any real need to public safety with dogs in the Wanaka Community. If there is a need for greater dog control in the main shopping area of Wanaka then this can easily be addressed either banning dogs from the shopping area or a requirement for a leash. My strongest objection is having to have my dog on a leash once I get near the lake shore area -how is my dog going to fetch a stick from the water or just go for a swim. I could suggest that if the council is trying to make public areas safer then shouldn't it also consider bikes on all the walking tracks around Wanaka. My suggestion is that in normal residential areas there is no need to change the current regulations while perhaps in high density areas there would be a case for dogs being on a leash when on a formed footpath (ie excluding the beach front or on tracks).

What would you like the Council to do? My suggestion is that in normal residential areas there is no need to change the current regulations while perhaps in high density areas there would be a case for dogs being on a leash when on a formed footpath (ie excluding the beach front or on tracks).
Enforce the current regulations.

Prue Poole

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog control requiring dogs to be on a lead at all times

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: Dogs should be required to be under control at all times but this does not mean they should be restrained at all times and required to be on a lead at all times. Certain 'potentially aggressive' breeds should be on a lead at all times but common sense should prevail regarding dogs in general. I see no reason why elderly or disabled dogs etc should be required to be on a lead at all times. You are penalising the majority of careful dog owners because of the behaviour of a few bad owners who will not take any notice of your rules anyway. Dogs were not born to be restrained and tied up it is cruel and unfair on dogs who deserve to run free at times. Please do not spoil our well behaved dogs lives by over doing control measures.

What would you like the Council to do? Fair and reasonable dog control not aggressive restrictive excessive control

Rebecca mcmillan

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs need to be able to run and excersise, making them always be on a leash stops this. They can't play or have fun with other dogs. Make it so they can't be off leash 100m from the jetty, or some other stupid rule. My dog walks next to my side off leash and comes on command, why should we all be punished?

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: Dogs need to be able to run and excersise, making them always be on a leash stops this. They can't play or have fun with other dogs. Make it so they can't be off leash 100m from the jetty, or some other stupid rule. My dog walks next to my side off leash and comes on command, why should we all be punished? OPOSE

What would you like the Council to do? Not change the law

rob jewell

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Bylaw - control of dogs, fouling public places, licence to keep more than two dogs.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Supports

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: 4 Control of dogs: (1) Support (2) Support (3) Support (4) There should not be the option to return a dog that is not under control to its owner without penalty. Any dog found not under control should be immediately impounded and the owner penalised. A zero tolerance and tougher stance would soon have dog owners take a higher level of personal responsibility to control their dog. (5) Support. 5 Fouling Public Places. (1) Support. Penalties should be introduced for dog owners who are found and their is clear evidence of failing to meet the requirements of this Bylaw.

Far too many public places are simply being used as toilets by dog owners who not doing the right thing by removing the faeces. QLDC must take a tougher stance on the issue and penalise dog owners. 7 Licence to keep more than two dogs. Support all clauses (1 to 9)

What would you like the Council to do? Pass the Policy and Bylaw and enforce the rules strictly.

Roger North

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on leads: It is going too far to have dogs on leads in all places at all times. It would be like asking humans to stay indoors at all times and is totally inappropriate for the enjoyment of people living here, who see dog walking as there ultimate sense of freedom. Dogs behave differently on leads and are more likely to have conflict this way in many cases. The only important thing is that the dog is under control. On another subject I think its ok to limit to 2 dogs per household.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: Dogs on leads: It is going too far to have dogs on leads in all places at all times. It would be like asking humans to stay indoors at all times and is totally inappropriate for the enjoyment of people living here, who see dog walking as there ultimate sense of freedom. Dogs behave differently on leads and are more likely to have conflict this way in many cases. The only important thing is that the dog is under control and the current checks and balances address this in an appropriate manner.

What would you like the Council to do? keep existing

Ross Dungey

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I do not consider there is any need to alter the current bylaw or policy nor is there any need for additional services for which dog owners can be charged by the Council. I therefore oppose the proposed changes and the additional cost that will be associated with the proposals. There are few enough places as it is where one can take a dog & costs are already onerous.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I do not consider there is any need to alter the current bylaw or policy nor is there any need for additional services for which dog owners can be charged by the Council. I therefore oppose the proposed changes and the additional cost that will be associated with the proposals. There are few enough places as it is where one can take a dog & costs are already onerous.

What would you like the Council to do? Leave well enough alone!

Rudy Deuninck

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The new bylaw.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I oppose the entire bylaw as it is unnecessary.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like the Council to maintain the current laws, as it has proven to be effective. No bylaw is necessary.

Sarah Stacey

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Every owner of a dog shall keep that dog on a leash in public areas at all times

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: Whilst I support the overall objectives of the council wanting to control dogs in such a way to protect the wider safety interests of the public, I think it is unreasonable and very limiting to require dogs to be kept on a leash at all times in a public area (outside playgrounds, schools and cemeteries which I totally agree with). There are so many great open spaces and tracks within our region where it is entirely appropriate for safe, well behaved dogs to walk with their owners of their leash. It is even more unreasonable to then note that dogs may be off their leash in specified dog exercise areas and then not have any specified dog exercise areas and I read in the policy that council is considering the "need" for these areas. It seems unfair to take away the ability to walk the dog without a leash without providing an alternative area for this. It is not always feasible to enter a Rural General Zone to walk the dog for those of us with 'town' dogs!

What would you like the Council to do? Review this aspect of the bylaw and either remove it or simultaneously introduce specified dog exercise areas.

Scott Throne

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog on lead at all times in any public place except in exercise area.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I oppose that dogs should always be kept on a lead at all times ,and restricted to designated dog exercise areas the only time they can be off the lead in public. I feel I have been a responsible dog owner of two dogs for the past ten years in Wanaka .I have always carried a lead and have only let them exercise in areas and at times I feel they would not cause problem to other public place users. To be restricted only to so called dog exercise areas where they can finally be off the lead. Is far to restrictive and where are the areas going to be? I feel living in Wanaka, I count still a rural town with lots of outdoor options, I like to enjoy them as much as I can with my dogs. Going for bike rides , running with my dogs trotting along able to sniff and stop when they need and not always strangled by a lead. The by law policy in my understanding would also include the lake foreshore where my dogs like to enjoy swimming and chancing sticks one of there favourite summer pastimes. With bremner bay already having restrictions which I have always abided to.

What would you like the Council to do? Make the by law not so restrictive. So my dogs can walk run next to me. Let them burn there energy off so they are happy dogs and not permanently restrained.

Sean stahlhut

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on leashes

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I disagree that all dogs need to be kept on leashes in public areas , unless they are a council designated dog walking / exercise area. I accept dogs should be on leashes in the central business district , around schools and early child hood centres and play grounds. However , to make this a rule in all public places is unacceptable. The various walking trails and tracks in the district are ideal places for dogs to roam of their leashes . I live close to the luggate creek , and consider it pointless for my dog to be on a leash while swimming and exploring along the creek side and along the walking . The same could be said for dogs in and around the lakes . We already have dog free areas such as bremmner bay , this is surely enough space for members of the public who wish to use a dog free area . Dogs and their owners have enjoyed using these areas for many years and making such a drastic change is un acceptable . Thank you for reading my point if view. Kind regards Sean Stahlhut

What would you like the Council to do? I would like the council to continue to allow dogs to be in public areas under control , but not on leashes. Dogs should be on leashes around schools , the central business district , around children's play grounds and early child hood centres .

Shonagh North

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dog registration & ownership. Dog exercise areas and defining 'control'.

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: I am in support of tightening up the rules with regard to dog ownership, registration, number of dogs residing at an address. I am very much AGAINST the proposal of specific dog exercise areas only and 'leash only' control in most areas. Dogs need to be socialised. They need the freedom to move, run and swim. Some dogs need a lot more exercise than others! On the lead would be impossible to exercise adequately certain breeds of dog. Exercise areas from what I have read about and seen just do not seem to work. Often these areas are too small and have dogs running amok. Dogs fight one another in these environments, working the 'pack' so to speak. I believe that dogs should be trained well enough to come back and heel when required by the owner. Please QLDC. We are not in Auckland CBD. We are Wanaka. Worlds first "lifestyle reserve". Lets be sensible here.....

What would you like the Council to do? Not impose "lead only" walking. "Under control" be the correct term to use. Dont make dog exercise areas....they create more problems than they solve.

Stefan Roth

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: Dogs on a leash on public areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: As it is already a rule that dogs have to be under control at all times, I don't believe a amended law is necessary, as it only restricts the freedom of responsible owners and common sense of dog owners should be considered. Regarding recent events of stock beeing attacked, these owners already breached the existing law, so that an amendment would not improve the current situation, which I believe is sufficient regulated. Regards Stefan Roth

What would you like the Council to do? Leave the law as is.

Stewart James Burt

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: a. Prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places b. Regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place c. Designating specified areas as dog exercise areas

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: My submission is: a. I oppose prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places b. I oppose regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place c. I oppose designating specified areas as dog exercise areas The reasons for my submission are: a. I oppose prohibiting dogs from specified public places. Restriction of owners to be able to

take their dogs into the central shopping/café area of Wanaka would mean a loss of recreation benefit to dog owners and which would mitigate against people living in Wanaka enjoying the outdoor eating areas of cafes. This would also mean a loss of revenue for café owners. b. All public recreational areas should remain a dog off leash area. The lake provides great swimming for dogs and cooling off on hot summer days, this cannot be done on a leash. Wanaka offers great tracks and parks, these spaces allow dogs good areas to exercise. c. A designated exercise area is not a compromise. All dogs should be allowed off leash on all public tracks and parks. These tracks have been put in place for all of us living here to enjoy, it is unfair to put a restriction against those who own a dog. I don't wish to be heard in support of my submission. Stew Burt [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

What would you like the Council to do? Be tough on people that don't control dogs well and leave the well behaved dogs and handlers alone.

Stuart John Dever

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: section 5

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Supports

Supports or opposes the policy: Supports

Submission: Regarding dogs fouling public places....I walk my dog every day, and I often see other people walking their dogs....lots of other people do not have a dog lead with them, nor do they have a plastic bag or other container to pick up their dogs droppings....in Melbourne they have a by law whereby the owner/person in charge of a dog in a public place, must have a dog lead, and must be in immediate possession of a plastic bag or receptacle whilst that dog is being walked in a public place....I submit that that idea should be brought in here as well, so the owners/persons in charge of the dog have no excuses not to pick up after their dogs. In Melbourne they regularly patrol the parks and gardens where dogs are permitted, and if you don't have a bag/receptacle, the inspector can issue you with a \$200 instant fine.....

What would you like the Council to do? As above

susan austen

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: dogs to be walked on lead

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Opposes

Submission: I particularly have a problem with the dogs to be on a lead most places. I think this is overkill. We live in the country, and I agree with walking dogs on lead in the town, fencing yards etc etc but places like Waterfall creek, outlet track? they should be able to run free.....how do we

exercise our dogs properly, a fenced designated exercise field won't work, it causes too many dogs who aren't socialised to be together us sensible owners who fence our yards walk our dogs daily etc should be able to walk on a path out of town with a dog off the lead.....? They need to run. This is overkill.

What would you like the Council to do? I would like the council to leave things as they are regarding walking dogs off lead (except for town centre) as long as they are under control.

Ulrich Staufenberg

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: The definition of a working dog

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy:

Submission: I would like to see the definition of a working dog should include dogs kept solely or principally for the purposes of destroying pests in rural properties. This is a necessary requirement to comply with ORC bylaw to control pest e.g. Rabbits accordingly. Depend on the individual circumstance of the property this can be the only useful way of controlling the pest.

What would you like the Council to do? Include this in the definition of a working dog

yolande margaret hamilton

Specific provisions of the proposal the submission relates to are: I believe it may be too draconian and excessive to require all dogs classed as menacing to be neutered. For example, it is an instinctive behaviour for a dog to chase cats, and is unlucky - kill the cat. This would automatically mean the dog would be classed as menacing - and therefore under proposed changes, cause the dog to be neutered. Perhaps this could be limited to dogs that have attacked children/adults/ and particular breeds that are recognised as menacing. If this bylaw change was adopted, it could mean that a relatively young dog may be neutered before development and/or exclude an owner from having the right to breed. The changes to the dog bylaw 2013, mean now that a dog can be classed as menacing without remission, and without concession for mitigating circumstances. There are numerous court examples of this. It would be good to review whether dog parks could be arranged in Wanaka/Queenstown areas could be organised - to give freedom and safety to dogs off lead - somewhere to train safely will always give the best opportunity for better behaviour off lead in reserves and tracks

Supports or opposes the bylaw: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Supports or opposes the policy: Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Submission: Dog classification as menacing and dangerous should not be the total reason for requiring a dog to be neutered

What would you like the Council to do? I support the dogs on lead in public places. However, having worked towards canine good citizen with my dog, it is difficult to train a young dog off lead in a suburban area if the rules are so narrow as to prevent this happening - especially when there is no dog park in Wanaka. I do not support the classification menacing requiring neutering. At present there is no room for mitigating circumstances in the NZ by law, and the classification 'menacing' can be given very easily.. . However, in saying so, I do recognise the need to keep real menacing and dangerous dogs from reproducing.

Submissions Received by Email and Post

Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control
Bylaw and Policy Submissions 2014

1. John Harrington:

I commend Council in addressing the ever increasing problem of dog control. I wish to comment on the unspecified designated areas solely as regards the main street of Arrowtown. There has been some local publicity seeking to allow dogs on Buckingham Street Arrowtown, and I strongly oppose such a move because

1/ The footpaths in Buckingham Street, are simply too narrow. I can recall a couple of years ago, visiting one of the prestige villages, St Ives, which is in Cornwall in the United Kingdom. It is a very picturesque seaside village, but I spent my time when walking the streets, either on the road or in shop entrances. The footpaths were inundated with people walking dogs, leaving no room for visitors to walk and enjoy the tranquility of the place.

The dog traffic simply didnt allow for pedestrians.

2/One of the many unique features of Arrowtown is Buckingham Square. Any lifting of the current restrictions of dogs in the main street, would see this become a dog park even though the dogs would presumably be on leads. Simply the tranquility of this special area would be severely diminished.

3/ Many residents and visitors own very large dogs, and if these were walked on the main street they would surely prove very intimidating to the majority of residents and visitors.

Hopefully Buckingham Street, Arrowtown will not be a designated area for people to walk their dogs, but in the unlikely event it is, I would appreciate you considering the above comments.

2. Jean Kenney & Milo Gilmour

Hi there, its been very difficult to find out how to submit an opinion regarding dogs in Wanaka. There are articles in the newspaper asking for opinions from the Council, but neither the website nor the staff at the Wanaka QLDC office know where to send comments.

We are both completely against any policy or law that prohibits dogs to walk without a lead outside of the Wanaka town centre. Fair enough to have dogs on a lead in Wanaka town centre, but not anywhere else

The idea of having a dog off a lead only at a designated dog exercise area is completely ridiculous and unfair to dogs and their owners. Its not possible to play with our dog on the hawea beach while she's on a lead. It seems a lot of the issues are when small children hit and play roughly with dogs, surely their parents should protect the children and keep them under control.

3. Cr Cath Gilmour on behalf of a constituent

just had my community clinic. One of the people I spoke with wanted me to put in a submission on her behalf re the dog policy. She believes that if you are going to charge you are \$55 registration fee for her small, untroublesome dog, then it would be a good idea if you included a doggy-do bag roll for the price. She believed that would help reduce the amount of dog poo around by encouraging people to think about it.

Ursula Krebs

It is really not acceptable to have more dog restriction here. We don't need it as most dog owners here are very responsible. Dog have a right of freedom too. if you take that away and a dog can only be on a leash or chained up that's when you get a crazy dog. They need their needs met too. We have already way way way to many no dog signs etc enough is enough. Go to Europe and see how well dog can be a part of daily life. there dogs are allowed in public transportations, restaurant, parks, cities etc..and no problem. Why does it work, because dog owners are responsible and if not they get heavy fines and not another no dog sign. This is the easy open here for the council but only makes the problem bigger. Also for many people a dog is their best friend, it's the best therapy !!! get real and stop this none sense with more no dog signs and restrictions. also address the issue that in this country you can mistreat you dog/ animal in a horrendous way and get hardly fined but pay high fines for not having your dog on a lead or have it on a lead in a place no dogs are allowed. This is absolutely not right!!!! Dogs/ animals are part of our lifes. For some it's their best friend or even as their child. It's not on us to judge, but it is on us to make it work for everybody. to create a happy solution which works for all humans and animals. Take Europe as a example e.g. Switzerland, it does work to integrate dogs, instead just look them up!

Celia Bowmar

I would like to submit my thoughts regarding dogs on tracks. I have been walking dogs on tracks around Wanaka for many years (always carry plastic bags). To insist that a dog needs to be on a lead on our tracks is totally cruel – and over regulating us – I guess it will be children next that will need to be on a lead, when some selfish person wants them totally controlled. I think that dogs almost have more fun than humans on the tracks and it is the one place that they can really run – and I have found them to be better behaved than humans on the odd occasion. To insist that a dog has to be on a lead around the town is quite justifiable. In these areas any dogs that aren't on a leash are normally totally under control and with their owner. It should be like that anywhere – the under control part – but the dogs will hurtle off after a rabbit and then circuit back to their owners. I have a Jack Russell that caught at least 20 rabbits last summer – surely that is a bonus!! He is never far away and always reports in every few minutes.

Megan George

I want to put in a submission against the ridiculous plan of council to make all dogs walked on a leash in Queenstown, Wanaka etc. It would be far better for council to ban dangerous dog breeds from the area to stop attacks happening, or just provide bins where dog walkers can put the dog waste into, once they have picked it up - instead of us having to walk past discarded plastic bags on dog poo on our tracks.

It seems the council is creating a problem where one does not exist, and ignoring all the problems obvious to us ratepayers.

Leslie Oorschot

My name is Leslie Oorschot of Albert Town and I am wishing to have my say re dogs on leads.

We walk our dog on the Outlet Track and through the bike tracks of the reserve and are thrilled that we can let the dog run freely and chase rabbits.

Please do not change these laws and let the dogs have their freedom providing we as the owners are responsible and ensure that any doggie doos are collected and that our animals are adequately trained.

One suggestion would be a doggie doo collection bin and hopefully it might encourage other dog owners to pick up.

A rubbish bin regardless would be a good thing particularly at the Albert Town end of the Outlet track.

Kylie Krippner

I wish to formally oppose the proposal to introduce a new bylaw on dog control.

The reasons are:

- 1 Like many others in my neighbourhood, we have chosen Luggate to live in so that we do have access to tracks, greenways with our dogs. We specifically moved away from built up areas i.e. township to enjoy a semi-rural lifestyle which is family and pet friendly.
- 2 People from many nationalities who grow up in and live in cities have little to no contact with pets, in particular dogs. As a result these children grow into adults with a fear of dogs and other animals. This is really sad when you look at the benefits a dog/pets provide to humans through companionship, love and exercise etc.

It is unfortunate that there is the occasional irresponsible dog owner or dangerous dog, but we should not be moulding our community around such a minority.

Thanks for allowing me to have my say.
Freedom to the dogs and dog walkers!

Nigel Lloyd & Vanessa Harwood

Firstly, apologies for the late submission but we request the opportunity for this to be included in the submissions given that the minor lateness is unlikely to affect processing of submissions. We would appreciate the opportunity to be informed of the outcome of this and also the opportunity to be heard in support of our submission.

The first point that we wish to raise is that we consider the draft bylaw to be incomplete due to the wide ranging changes that are proposed and the absence of any designated dog exercise areas being put forward as a part of the consultation process. Until these such areas are disclosed (in draft) it is simply not possible to make a fully assessment of the proposed bylaw. We strongly disagree that the proposed bylaw has been provided for consultation in the current form without proposed exercise areas being included. We would go as far as to question whether this upholds the requirements and principles required of local government?

Secondly, we are strongly opposed to the extreme nature of the changes that are proposed by the bylaw when compared to the current bylaw. If approved in the current form the proposed bylaw will see dog controls requirements going from generally permissive to generally restrictive in nature with regards to the ability to exercise dogs off leash. In our personal experience the ability to exercise a dog off leash is key to being able to effectively exercise a dog to a degree whereby they are physically tired, a tired dog is a happy dog. It is widely recognised that dog behaviour and trainability is greatly improved when dogs are given sufficient exercise.

Thirdly, the proposed bylaw relies on the district plan zones to differentiate between differing dog control standards. While we accept that the district plan is readily accessible online in reality this is fairly cumbersome and has significant negative appeal for the general public. We strongly disagree with this provision.

If the proposed bylaw is to be approved it is imperative that adequate dog exercise areas are provided for immediately. In the first instance the focus on this should be in and around the major built up residential areas where there is lesser opportunity for ready access to the rural general area. It is more common for residents to not have a personal motor vehicle in these areas and the vast majority of people reside in them. It is not acceptable to expect that all dog owners will have the ability to travel via private transport to dog exercise areas, nor is it environmentally sustainable to expect that this should occur on what should be at least a daily basis for responsible dog owners. Additionally, the provision of rubbish bins and dog bags (such as provided on the Queenstown waterfront) needs to be increased. In recent times a number of public rubbish bins have been removed from areas where dog walking is common. E.g. Lake Esplanade, One Mile, Fernhill Road and Robins Road by the Primary School. This makes it significantly harder for dog owners to do the right thing and rubbish bins should be reinstated.

John Walton

I am a Wanaka ratepayer, and dog owner. I understand that the Council proposes to introduce a new bylaw requiring all dogs to be on a lead in public places (I should say that I have no difficulty with the rest of the bylaw, or the requirements on responsible dog owners). I would like to record that I object to this bylaw. I can understand the perception that a dog on a lead is under control, and the assumption that a dog off a lead is out of control. I guess this arises from the simplistic logic that out of control dogs are all off the lead, therefore all dogs off the lead are out of control. Even my 11 year old daughter understand the deftness of this logic. I do understand that dog control is important, but rather than having a simplistic rules to be blindly enforced by council officers, it would be more effective to simply penalise people who do not exercise appropriate control. My dogs are totally under control, and only on a lead when in crowded places. They are perfectly trained to be that way for good reason. A dog that learns to wLk with you without a lead is far better trained and far more under control than one straining at a lead. More problematic ally, are you saying that it is to be unlawful to play fetch, frisbee or otherwise run a dog in a public place in Queenstown or Wanaka, or anywhere else in the Southern Lakes district? Not really the best piece of policy making, particularly in what is otherwise a friendly, responsible and pleasant place to live.

Queenstown Lakes District Council,
Private Bag 50072,
Queenstown 9348.

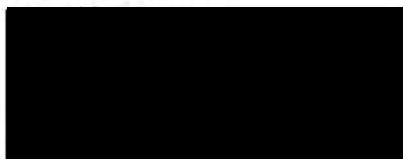
re Dog Control Bylaw

Attached please find my submission of the proposed Dog Control Bylaw.

I would have sent it on line but the system you have set up for on-line submissions does not seem friendly to larger submission as attachments. If you want an digital copy please let me know with an email address.



Graham Dickson



QLDC
13 JUN 2014
QUEENSTOWN

Submission on proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2014

My submission is against the proposal that dogs should be leashed in all public places at all times and I ask that the current bylaw should be retained in this regard. I also have concerns over the banning of dogs from schools at all times.

Background

In 2005 the Council introduced a draft dog control bylaw. In this draft, dogs were required to be leashed in all public places. This proposal aroused considerable opposition in Wanaka and following much publicity and hearing of submissions, the Council modified its position and the current bylaw was enacted.

In the current 2006 bylaw, dogs are required to be leashed on streets but in most other public places such as reserves and walkways, dogs only have to be under control which is defined in the bylaw. Dogs are not permitted in playgrounds and on some beaches.

These controls have in my opinion worked well and caused few problems, and have enabled dogs and their owners to enjoy needed exercise. One only has to use the Millennium walkway on a Sunday afternoon to see this in action. A large proportion of users have dogs, some on leads and some running free as the owners deem appropriate. There are few problems or conflicts given the number of participants. The main issue on the walkway is from cyclists who generally travel at high speeds, give no warning of their approach and expect to take precedence over other users.

I would also note that being on a leash does not guarantee there will be no problems. The only attack on my dog while walking on the walkway has been from a large dog on a leash.

Bylaw Review

The Council has recently initiated a review of the bylaw. As part of this an on line survey was held. This gave results very much in line with the current controls, with a majority favouring verbal control on reserves and tracks. (It should be noted that the present by law requires the dog to be under control, not verbal control. The control can be verbal or on a leash as appropriate to the particular dog which is somewhat different to the question posed.)

The survey also asked for comments on control and other matters. On reading through these there are opinions both for and against leashes in public places but the main concerns coming through are over poos not being picked up and about dogs roaming in urban areas.

These later matters are of course already controlled by the current bylaw and are supported by the bulk of the population, but are not effectively enforced.

The survey does not in my opinion by itself give a strong mandate to alter the current control regime.

Proposed Bylaw – Use of Leash

The proposed bylaw changes the regime from requiring dogs to be under control on reserves and walkways to one where dogs are required to be on a leash. This is a major change which will severely impact the ability to exercise dogs and will reduce quality of life for both dogs and owners.

In the papers with the bylaw change I can find no reasoning or justification for the proposed change, it just seems from the school of thought that more control is better. Such a major change should be justified with good arguments and a full analysis of the costs and benefits to the community.

I have read the officers report that went to the council recommending the adoption of this bylaw. Surprisingly it made no mention of the fact that the proposed bylaw made major changes in the way people could exercise their dogs by requiring them to be leashed at all times, nor did it justify the change or discuss the impact this would have on the welfare of dogs and their owners. It also did not mention the provisions of the Dog Control Act with respect to the need to have regard to exercise needs. It is probable that councillors may not have been fully aware of the magnitude of the change proposed.

Dog Control Act

Under the Dog Control Act a Dog Policy must have regard, amongst other things, to “*the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.*”

The proposed bylaw clearly does not do this. It provides no opportunity to adequately exercise dogs and as such fails to comply with the Act. No exercise areas are proposed and it will be difficult to provide such areas that are in or close to the urban areas.

Prohibited Areas

The proposed bylaw lists a number of areas where dogs are not permitted under any conditions. All schools are included in this list.

Currently people with dogs do use the two major Wanaka schools. Such uses include:

- Walking through the school grounds as part of exercising dogs. The schools include good pedestrian linkages such as the Totara Tce. to Kings Drive roadway which is remote from classrooms, and other important footpath links. It is hard to see what the perceived problem is with such use out of school hours.
- Families with dogs attending out of school hours activities such as sports training and weekend football.
- Parents walking to school with their dogs to drop off and pick up children.

These activities seem to cause little problems and are important community activities.

I have contacted Mt Aspiring College and they say they have not been contacted by the Council over the proposed restriction on the use of their site. I note that the College has signs restricting dogs from the classroom part of the site which the College says are fairly well respected. I gather they are comfortable with the present situation. I would have thought that the Council would have developed controls on school land in consultation with the school. I assume the same situation also applies at other school such as Makarora and Hawea Flat. There does not seem to be a problem with out of hours use which justifies this control, and if there is, the schools should be involved.

Summary

- In 2005 the Council introduced a draft bylaw requiring dogs to be leashed in all public places.
- Following extensive objection and submissions the proposal was withdrawn and the 2006 bylaw which permits dogs off the leash but under control in public places was introduced.
- The controls in the 2006 bylaw have worked well with few problems.
- The majority in the recent Council survey favoured dogs off leashes in reserves and walkways.
- The proposed bylaw will have severe detrimental effect on the welfare and enjoyment of dogs and their owners with little public benefit.
- The prohibition of dogs on school property has been developed in isolation from the schools who control the land and is probably unnecessary.
- The proposed bylaw does not provide for the exercise needs of dogs as required by the Dog Control Act.

Submission

I request that the proposed policy and bylaw requirement to have dogs on leashes in reserves and walkways at all times be withdrawn and the existing bylaw control for these areas be retained. I also request that any policy for control of dogs on school grounds be developed in conjunction with the schools affected.

Graham Dickson

[REDACTED]

Wanaka

[REDACTED]

DOG CONTROL BYLAW SUBMISSION.

I applaud council in this endeavor to update and improve dog control and regulations. The dog laws in NZ are not working and it is my belief that local councils could lead the way in change. Let Queenstown be a leader.

As an owner of a very small fragile dog I have noticed an increase in the number of what I term menacing dogs in the Queenstown area over the last few years. I am afraid for my little dog when I take her for walks. Small dogs can die within seconds if grabbed and shaken.

Because of this I am supportive of anything that reduces the number of menacing dogs and supportive of anything that helps keep them under control.

At the same time I like for my dog to be able to run freely off lead, and I'd like to take her to town, to be able to sit at a café with her tied up somewhere close outside, so I agree with dog owners in general that want to retain or gain more freedom for dogs.

My submission addresses these issues:

Classification of menacing dogs: I want to see the classification of menacing dogs increased to include a much wider range of breeds and mixed breeds. If this can happen then I recommend the following changes:

Clause 4 (3) Control of dogs: Remove voice control from this clause. Very few owners have absolute control over their dogs in the presence of other dogs and small animals. Instead give the owners of menacing or dangerous breeds a choice of either having their dog on lead or having it muzzled. Muzzles should be made compulsory for menacing breeds and be supplied with

dog registration tags (increase fees to cover it) The appropriate sized muzzle would get sent out with the name tag which should be a different colour/shape/size to identify the menacing breed and would enable people to identify the dog and know that it should be on lead or muzzled. Muzzles would allow dogs to be exercised in the way most dog owners want – off lead.

Clause 4 (1) Control of dogs: If the classification for menacing breed is extended and these dogs are muzzled when running free then I would like to extend the designated areas dogs are allowed to be because the danger will have been reduced. This extension will compensate for having to be on lead or muzzled if off lead.

The requirement for menacing breeds to be de sexed should remain. I would like to see these breeds slowly being bred out so NZ becomes a safer place. We hear all the time that the problem is the owners and we should work on ownership not the dog to change the problem. This is to a degree true, but we all know that in many cases there are problems with the owners of these dogs – they have them as status symbols and instead of socializing them as is necessary they encourage aggressiveness and we will never change this. Menacing dogs under the control of irresponsible owners are like weapons and it is much easier to get rid of the weapon. NZ is in the unique position of isolation that would enable us to rid ourselves of dangerous breeds but the government is slow to move on this, if it comes from local councils government may follow.

Some people will say its unfair to label a dog as menacing, nevertheless, it can't be helped that some dog breeds have more potential to cause serious harm to a person if the dog were to attack. Therefore, when classifying the most dangerous dog breeds we should focus on the potential of a dog to cause serious injury to a victim. The menacing dog list could have as many as 30 different breeds. List of the most dangerous dogs are readily available. In the case of mixed breeds its not that

difficult to identify features which would have to be done by a vet or reputable breeders and would need to be a requirement for registration.

Clare Waddick,

(Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission, I would speak on this but unfortunately will be away from Queenstown when this happens)

Submission on the following proposed plan change or variation:

QLDC Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy 2014

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are:

- a. Prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places
- b. Regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place
- c. Designating specified areas as dog exercise areas

My submission is:

- a. I oppose prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places
- b. I oppose regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place
- c. I oppose designating specified areas as dog exercise areas

The reasons for my submission are:

- a. Dogs should not be prohibited from specified public places. Dogs should be allowed in the central Wanaka shopping and café area, but on a leash at all times. As a responsible dog owner, I walk my dog into town on the weekend and enjoy what Wanaka has to offer with their lovely cafes. I am often approached by strangers (most of these overseas visitors) who want to give attention to the dog or ask about the dog's breed. They are often dog owners themselves and are missing those they have left behind.
- b. I oppose regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place. As a responsible dog owner I exercise my dog everyday. I love the tracks that have been developed around our town, I cannot imagine not allowing my dog off the leash, I feel this would be mean. Dogs need to run, they need to be able to enjoy the tracks and parks as much as we do. Tracks and parks should remain a dog off leash area.
- c. A designated exercise area is not a compromise. As a responsible dog owner living in Wanaka I feel entitled to enjoy all tracks and parks as offered to the public and to be able to access these places with my dog.

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission.

**Trudie Carter
Albert Town**

25th June 2014

QLDC

23 JUN 2014

QUEENSTOWN

Wanaka

Central Otago

16 June 2014

The Chief E.O.

Queen Lakes District Council,
Private Bag 50072,
10 Gorge Road,
Queen
Central Otago.

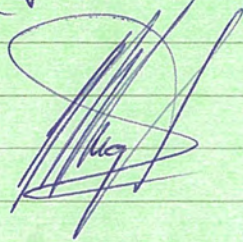
Dear Sir,

re: Dog restrictions.

1. For the past half century I have enjoyed exercising myself and my dogs on the Wanaka walking tracks.
2. I used when younger to run with my dog but now I walk or ride a mountain bike. This is good exercise for us both.
3. I am concerned that I will now be denied this simple pleasure.
4. Walking a dog on a lead is no substitute.
5. Having done this for half a century I can assure you there is no problem. You are attempting to fix a problem that does not exist. An example of the bureaucratic process.
6. If you can afford to waste money in this area I would prefer you reduced my rates.
7. You have a survey. The majority don't want change. We are in a democracy and you should stop being a pander to a small minority.
8. Finally should the Council be misguided enough to

oppose these unnecessary and repressive laws please let
me those who voted in favour of their abolition.
At the next election we can make sure we get
rid of them.

Yours faithfully,

A stylized handwritten signature, possibly reading 'WJ Wright', enclosed within a large, loopy circular flourish.

WJ Wright.

(concerned rate payer).

27 JUN 2014

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL DOG CONTROL BYLAW AND POLICY 2014 STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

CONTEXT:

My names is Brian Heward I am a dog trainer and an ex dog/handler assessor for Land SAR and Alpine Search Dogs. I have one pet dog he is registered and neutered.

Dogs are social animals and they are also integral to our society. The area covered by QLDC is also not an urban district – dogs, for better or worse, play a very important and close part in the lifestyle of the people in this rural and suburban area. The more we can train owners and understand dog behaviour the better everyone's dog experience will be.

I would like the opportunity to talk on the subject:

Restricting Dogs not on leads in public places to Rural Areas except for cemeteries and children's play grounds where they must be on leads at all times.

The syntax on the above proposal is very unclear. What public areas and what rural areas? I understand and agree with the playgrounds and cemeteries but I believe the proposal needs clarification.

Apart from the above, the bulk of the proposal looks fair to myself as a dog owner, however I would like to put forward a few suggestions:

DOG PLAY/EXERSIZE AREAS:

1: That if a dog play/exercise area is proposed it is on dry, high ground. Dogs will soon rip up a low, wet area making it an eyesore to the public and not usable by owners or dogs. People will not want to clean the car and dog after a romp in the mud!

2: That the area be split into three smaller areas: one for hyper, hard playing dogs, one for medium players and one for pups, the timid and old dogs. This is how successful doggy day care areas are often run. Note: these are DOG play areas; owners should be restricted in their access as they are often the underlying cause of dog fights and hinder natural dog socialisation.

3: Ideally the area would have a high-pressure fire hose to break up dog fights. Most fights don't result in anything more than a lot of noise and showing of teeth. But people interfering in a fight, by trying to pull their dogs out of it, often end up getting bitten, escalating the fight with their own aggressive behaviour or worsen a dog's injuries by causing a latched on dog to tear the skin of another dog when they are forcibly pulled apart. A fire hose can therefore be used on the dogs, or the owners – which ever is more effective!

DOGS ON LEADS:

Dogs on leads are more likely to fight, as they have no flight option left. This is a well-known and studied phenomenon called Lead Aggression. The added shouting of dog owner joined to the dog by a straining lead can escalate a situation.

Some dog owners have no control over the dog when it is off the lead. The play areas can help with this by properly socializing dogs. This does not fix the biggest problem – the dog owner's lack of control – but it does allow the dog to be calmer in a dog socialising situation.

A BASIC DOG HANDLING TEST:

I would also suggest the Council could implement a program for owners to pass a basic dog handling test. This could reward the owner with the right to have their dogs off lead in public areas such as on the lake walking tracks. Dogs could be colour tagged on the collar so people would know the owner had basic handling skills. Studying for this would also slightly upgrade the general dog owner's abilities.

A Basic Dog Handling skill test:

- 1: Command dog to sit.
- 2: Command the dog to stay.
- 3: Walk away for 25 meters, stop, turn around and call the dog.
- 4: Dog should come to owner.
- 5: Command the dog to sit.
- 6: Owner to then walk back to with the dog at heel.

This basic test requires trust between both handler and dog. If an owner and dog cannot manage this very simple set of tasks they could be given access to cheap dog school.

The overall outcome is to have dogs and people (dog owners and non dog owners) living in as much harmony as possible.



27 June 2014



Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Submission on Draft Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw and Policy 2014

30 June 2014

SUBMISSION TO QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THE DRAFT DOG CONTROL BYLAW AND POLICY 2014

To: Queenstown Lakes District Council
services@qldc.govt.nz

Submission on: Draft Dog Control Bylaw and Policy 2014

Date: 30 June 2014

From: Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Contact: Tanith Robb
Senior Policy Advisor

Federated Farmers of New Zealand
PO Box 176, Invercargill 9840, New Zealand

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SUBMISSION TO QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THE DRAFT DOG CONTROL BYLAW AND POLICY 2014

1. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Federated Farmers welcomes the opportunity to submit on Queenstown Lakes District Council's draft Dog Control Bylaw and Policy 2014.
- 2.2 Federated Farmers submits on the draft Dog Control Bylaw and Policy on behalf of our Queenstown Lakes members because working dogs are a vital part of many farming operations, and wandering dogs can cause problems in rural areas, especially in regards to livestock.
- 2.3 Farmers are keen to ensure that rural dog registration costs accurately reflect the relative contribution these dogs make to Council's dog control expenditure. Currently, there seems to be a disjoint between rural working dog registration fees and the service demands these dogs place on Council.
- 2.4 Federated Farmers broadly supports the draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw, however, we do have concerns about some of the aspects of the policy and bylaw.

2. DRAFT DOG CONTROL POLICY 2014

Principal Objectives

- 2.1 One of the Council's principal objectives is "to minimise the fear of dogs attacking or intimidating people". We oppose this objective and consider it is too subjective to form part of a council policy. It also risks Council's integrity by being largely unachievable. The Council has no control over people's fears, and the implication that the bylaw and policy might somehow placate people is inappropriate and inaccurate. Even with the proposed measures in the policy and bylaw, there will always be a risk that people and other animals could be bitten or attacked by dogs. Moreover, a healthy respect and understanding of what dogs are capable of is beneficial for dog control in general.
- 2.2 As we discuss later in this submission, Federated Farmers does not consider that the policy and bylaw achieve the following objective, "to provide for exercise and recreational needs of dogs." To maintain a dog's health and wellbeing, off-leash running and exploring (for mental stimulation) in large and safe areas is necessary. Parks and reserves are ideal for this because of the open spaces and distance from busy roads, and for the fact that they are easily accessible and close to where people live.
- 2.3 Preventing dogs from having regular off-leash time actually increases the risk of dogs becoming unmanageable and prone to states of high energy and excitement, which is when incidents can happen. Relegating urban off-leash dog exercise to rural areas is not a solution because these dogs are unlikely to be stock-proof, have respect for electric fences, be road aware, and not wander into areas where they are at risk, or cause risks to other people and/or animals. It is vital that the policy and bylaw provide for urban and residential areas where dogs can run off-leash.

Submissions

Federated Farmers opposes principal objective (d) and recommends that it is deleted from the policy.

We consider that the policy and bylaw do not adequately provide for the “exercise and recreational needs of dogs”. (Further submissions on this point below).

Dog Exercise Areas

- 2.4 The policy states that “the Council will review the need for a specified dog exercise area and suitable locations as necessary.” Federated Farmers considers that the Council has a responsibility to provide urban dog owners with suitable areas for exercising their dogs off-leash in urban and residential areas. It is inadequate for Council to use the Dog Control Policy to remove all off-leash areas within towns, and then point to a review of this situation at some unspecified point in the future. It is a significant concern for rural landowners given the risk of stock worrying, should urban dogs be pushed out into the rural area.
- 2.5 Federated Farmers commends the Council for seeking public feedback on dog control in the Queenstown Lakes area through a survey. But we consider that for transparency and accountability, Council should still be required to develop an adequate problem definition and rationale for change to support any new policy or bylaw. In this case, we cannot see evidence of such work having been undertaken and we consider Council has gone too far in responding to the survey without fully considering the implications.
- 2.6 The following comment features on page 2 of the summary of the statement of proposal, “public comment has strongly supported the implementation of a Dog Control Bylaw and respective Policy to address the following:
- (a) the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally; and
 - (b) the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults; and
 - (c) the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; and
 - (d) the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.”
- 2.7 We consider that the Council can achieve (a)-(c) without banning off-leash exercise in urban and residential areas, and in order to achieve (d), accessible off-leash exercise areas in towns are essential. We recommend that the Council designates certain appropriate parks and reserves, or parts of parks and reserves, as areas where people can exercise their dogs off-leash.
- 2.8 The draft policy gives blanket approval for dog owners to exercise their dogs off-leash in rural areas. Exercising dogs in rural areas raises its own risks and issues. While we do not in principal disagree that people should be able to exercise their dogs off-lead in

rural areas, some guidance needs to be provided in the policy, and also issued separately, so that dog owners are aware of the issues and risks associated with exercising dogs in a rural area. For example:

- ensuring dogs are vaccinated for sheep measles;
- keeping dogs away from livestock, especially important at certain times of year, e.g. lambing and calving;
- the importance of keeping dogs off private property, for the safety of the dog and for the safety of other people/animals;
- keeping dogs off roads where they can be a hazard to drivers; and
- ensuring dogs do not create biosecurity risks, e.g spreading cattle ticks.

2.9 Other councils around New Zealand recognise that both dog owners and people without dogs should have their recreational needs accommodated in town planning. Most achieve this by creating dog parks, providing areas where dogs can exercise off-leash, and assigning areas where dogs are not allowed/not allowed off-leash. Waitaki District Council's current draft dog control bylaw and policy are a good example of this.

Submissions

That Council identifies urban and residential areas where dogs can be let off-leash and include these areas in the policy and bylaw.

That Council develops guidance in collaboration with rural landowners and other stakeholders, such as Federated Farmers, on exercising dogs off-leash in rural areas.

Council is commended for seeking people's views on dog control, but we consider the Council has taken feedback too far by prohibiting any off-leash exercise in the urban and residential areas.

Dogs On Leash

2.10 It is entirely appropriate that there are areas in the Queenstown Lakes district where dogs must be leashed. We support the proposal that dogs must be leashed in playgrounds and cemeteries. We are aware that in some other districts, dogs are banned from children's playgrounds.

2.11 As noted above, we do not support the proposal that dogs must be kept on leash everywhere except the rural zone and the currently non-existent 'specified dog exercise areas'.

Submissions

Federated Farmers supports the creation of areas where dogs are not allowed off-leash. Specifically, we support playgrounds and cemeteries as being areas that dogs are required to be kept on a lead.

It is unacceptable that there are no urban or residential areas where dog owners can exercise their dogs off-leash.

3. DOG CONTROL BYLAW

Control of Dogs

3.1 Federated Farmers opposes the following clauses in the bylaw:

- (2) *Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except:*
- a) *Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas;*
 - b) *The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery;*

3.2 As noted above, we oppose the restriction of dogs off-leash to the rural zone and areas designated as dog exercise areas. There is no requirement for Council to designate areas under the bylaw, and therefore the Council may decide not to designate any areas as dog exercise areas. We would oppose Council creating 'dog exercise areas' within the rural zone. A high influx of dogs in specified areas would cause a great deal of disruption for neighbouring farms and for other activities undertaken within the rural zone.

3.3 We consider that Council should identify areas in the urban and residential zones where people can exercise their dogs off-leash, in order to meet the exercise needs of dogs and the recreational needs of dog owners in the district.

3.4 In addition to our submission (above) on guidance for dog owners exercising their dogs in a rural area, we consider it would be appropriate for the bylaw and policy to require dog owners to keep their dog on-lead in the rural zone if the dog is likely to injure, endanger, or cause distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife. This would reinforce to dog owners that they have a responsibility for the welfare of other animals when exercising their dog in the rural zone.

Submission

Council amends clause 4(2) of the bylaw by specifying designated areas for off-lead dog exercise in urban and residential areas that are easily accessible and provide appropriate open spaces for dog exercise.

That any areas designated by Council as dog exercise areas, be located within the urban or residential zones.

Council includes the following clause in the bylaw and policy:

Every dog shall be kept on-lead and under continuous control when it is likely to injure, endanger, or cause distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife (excluding working dogs that are under the control of their owner, and/or being taken by their owner to or from the place where the dog is to be or has been employed as a working dog).

Diseased and Female Dogs

- 3.5 We consider that the term “diseased” is too broad and would potentially cover illnesses in dogs that are non-communicable, such as kidney disease or cancer.

Submission

Council amends clause 6(1)(a) by changing ‘diseased’ to ‘has a communicable disease’ (or something to a similar effect).

4. OTHER ISSUES

Dog Registration Fees

- 4.1 Federated Farmers considers that rural working dogs are low demand users of Council dog control services, creating significantly lower relative costs for Council. Subsequently we approve of Council’s policy of having lower registration fees for working dogs.
- 4.2 It would be interesting to review the classification of impounded dogs (i.e. whether they are ‘working’ dogs or not) and look at the number of complaints relating to working dogs, as a rough generalisation of the level of work that working dogs create for dog control services. We consider that even with the lower registration fees for working dogs, the fees would still cost more than the services utilised by working dogs.
- 4.3 We also support a registration fee rebate for multiple working dogs on the same property. The nature of farm work means that farmers will often keep teams of dogs, and some for different purposes (e.g. heading dogs, eye dogs, huntaways, lambing dogs etc). These are kept as a necessity, and regardless on the number of working dogs on a property, they are unlikely to generate additional work for the Council.

Submissions

Council continue its policy of having lower registration fees for working dogs, in light of the low service demand these dogs place on Council dog control services.

Council reviews available dog control information with a view to aligning more closely the cost of dog control for working dogs versus the amount of funding generated by working dog registrations.

Council give registration fee rebates of \$10 per additional dog, for rural dog owners that keep more than one working dog on a property.

Rural Dog Classification

- 4.4 Federated Farmers recommends adding a ‘rural dog’ category to the schedule of dog types for registration purposes. The current clause relevant to farm dogs in the definition of working dog does not adequately capture the suite of roles dogs can have in rural areas, “any dog kept solely or principally for the purposes of herding or driving

stock". Dogs on farms can be used for a variety of work, for example, pest control, hunting, training younger dogs, stock minding/guarding. In addition, the definition does not include a working dog that has been retired.

- 4.5 Federated Farmers wishes to avoid farmers and Council disagreeing over what constitutes a 'working dog', and potentially wasting a great deal of time and money. As discussed above, rural dogs, including those used for purposes outside of herding or driving of stock, do not generate demand for Council dog control services, and therefore all rural dogs should have a discounted registration rate.

Submission

Council include a new registration category of 'rural dog', of which the registration fees are the same as that of a working dog.

5. FEDERATED FARMERS

- 5.1 Federated Farmers of New Zealand is a voluntary, member-based organisation that represents farming and other rural businesses. Federated Farmers has a long and proud history of representing the needs and interests of New Zealand farmers.
- 5.2 The Federation aims to add value to its members' farming businesses. Our key strategic outcomes include the need for New Zealand to provide an economic and social environment within which:
- Our members may operate their business in a fair and flexible commercial environment;
 - Our members' families and their staff have access to services essential to the needs of the rural community; and
 - Our members adopt responsible management and environmental practices.

Dog Bylaw / Policy Submission

Draft Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy 2014

On 22 May 2014 the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolved to consult with the public on the proposed Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw: Any person or organisation has a right to comment on the draft Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy 2014 and the Council encourages everyone with an interest in Dog Control in the Queenstown Lakes District to do so. Full information can be [viewed on our website](#).

Contact Details:

Please enter either your name or organisation/company. Note that the Council is not able to consider anonymous submissions or those with no valid contact details.

Full Name: MARTIN KOHN

Organisation/Company: _____

Would you like to be contacted via email? (please tick)

☒ Yes

☐ No

Email Address:

Martin@remarkablecreative.co.nz

Service Address:

Name: MARTIN KOHN

Street Address/PO Box: [REDACTED]

Suburb: Kingston 9748

Area: _____

Please enter your submission below.

Your submission should include whether you support or oppose the specific provisions or wish to have them amended; and the reasons for your views. Please make clear which parts of the Bylaw or Policy you support or oppose.

I wish for specific provisions allowing for and promoting training, play and socialisation. These allowances would do more to ensure that dogs and people interact in a healthy and mutually enjoyable way.

What would you like the Council to do?

Please be as precise as possible in explaining what you are seeking from the Council relating to the proposed Bylaw or Policy.

- Acknowledge that only a few dogs and types of dogs cause problems.
- Acknowledge that keeping dogs confined in small spaces (i.e. backyards) creates more problems - nervous dogs with bad behavior towards other dogs and humans.
 - That dogs need interaction and exercise.
- ~~Also~~ Ensure that areas that allow for the exercise and social needs of dogs and owners are created and kept.
- Ensure provisions are in place to deal with problem dogs by offering training and rehabilitation, before harsher measures are used.

This is a submission on the proposed Queenstown Lakes District Dog Control Bylaw and Policy 2014

What would you like to make a submission on? (please tick)

- ☐ I would like to only make a submission on the bylaw.
- ☐ I would like to only make a submission on the policy.
- ☒ I would like make a submission on both the bylaw and the policy

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are:

opportunities for dogs and owners for exercise and socialisation so as to promote healthy interaction with other dogs and people.

Please select whether your submission supports the bylaw. (please tick)

- ☐ Supports
- ☐ Opposes
- ☒ Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Please select whether your submission supports or opposes the policy. (please tick)

- ☐ Supports
- ☐ Opposes
- ☒ Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Please select the statement that applies to you. (please tick)

- ☐ I DO wish to be heard in support of my submission.
- ☒ I DO NOT wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Please select the statement that applies to you. (please tick)

- ☒ I WILL consider presenting a joint case with others presenting similar submissions.
- ☐ I WILL NOT consider presenting a joint case with others presenting similar submissions.



Signature - to be signed for or on behalf of submitter



Date

Queenstown Lakes District Council Phone 03 441 0499
Private Bag 50072, Queenstown 9348
Gorge Road, Queenstown 9300

Website www.qldc.govt.nz



Private Bag 50072, Queenstown 9348, New Zealand
QUEENSTOWN, 10 Gorge Road, Phone +643 441 0499, Fax +643 450 2222
WANAKA, 47 Ardmore Street, Phone +643 4430024, Fax +643 450 2223



www.qldc.govt.nz

Dog Bylaw / Policy Submission

Draft Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy 2014

On 22 May 2014 the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolved to consult with the public on the proposed Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw: Any person or organisation has a right to comment on the draft Queenstown Lakes District Council Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy 2014 and the Council encourages everyone with an interest in Dog Control in the Queenstown Lakes District to do so. Full information can be [viewed on our website](#).

Contact Details:

Please enter either your name or organisation/company. Note that the Council is not able to consider anonymous submissions or those with no valid contact details.

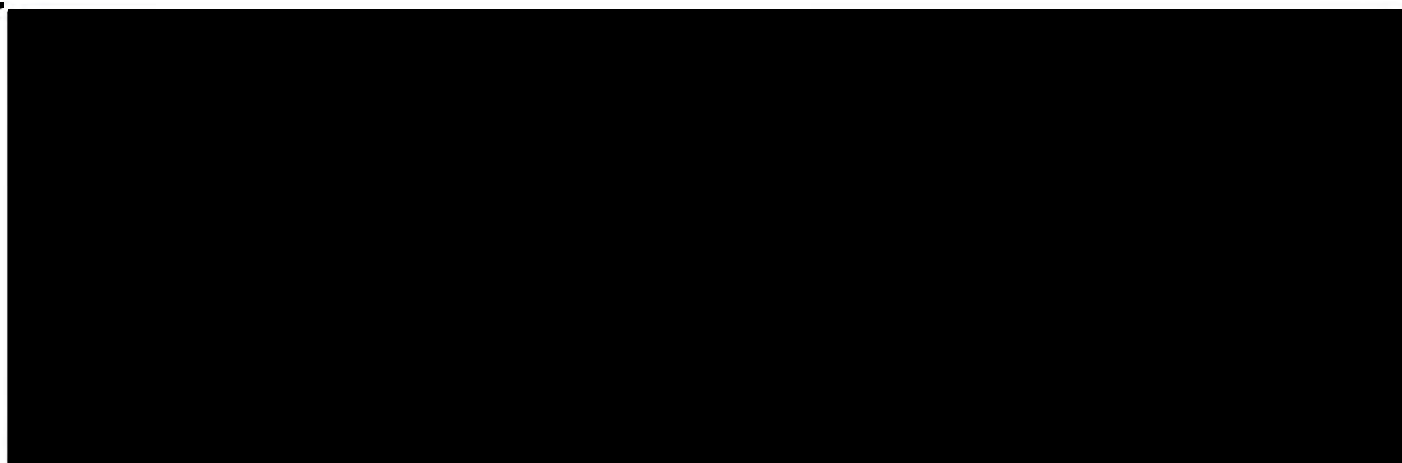
Full Name: Graham Dalziel

Organisation/Company: n/a (I am a member of the public)

Would you like to be contacted via email? (please tick)

☒ Yes

☐ No



This is a submission on the proposed Queenstown Lakes District Dog Control Bylaw and Policy 2014

What would you like to make a submission on? (please tick)

- ☐ I would like to only make a submission on the bylaw.
- ☐ I would like to only make a submission on the policy.
- ☒ I would like make a submission on both the bylaw and the policy

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are:

My main concerns relate to (but are not limited to) "the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners."

I wish to address how the proposed bylaw relates to Kingston.

Please select whether your submission supports the bylaw. (please tick)

- ☐ Supports
- ☐ Opposes
- ☒ Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Please select whether your submission supports or opposes the policy. (please tick)

- ☐ Supports
- ☐ Opposes
- ☒ Partly Supports/Partly Opposes

Please enter your submission below.

Your submission should include whether you support or oppose the specific provisions or wish to have them amended; and the reasons for your views. Please make clear which parts of the Bylaw or Policy you support or oppose. - opt to make an oral submission covering:

Introduction - In defence of dogs

- I want specific provisions to be ammended for certain categories of dogs to allow for effective training including appropriate play and socialisatio
- These activities make for a well adjusted dog.

What would you like the Council to do?

Please be as precise as possible in explaining what you are seeking from the Council relating to the proposed Bylaw or Policy.


- To acknowledge that some training and agility activities can not be practised on a leash and to find a suitable solution to allow for such activities.
- To refrain from introducing harsh and restrictive bylaws for dogs who have not caused any serious problems.
- plan to introduce areas that support dog welfare before introducing new bylaws.
- Study the bylaws from other regions (many of these seem more workable)
- Better utilise the provisions to enforce troublesome dogs and their owners to attend obedience training.
- To not be the "fun Police" for ^{all} dogs.

Please select the statement that applies to you. (please tick)

- ☒ I DO wish to be heard in support of my submission.
- ☐ I DO NOT wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Please select the statement that applies to you. (please tick)

- ☐ I WILL consider presenting a joint case with others presenting similar submissions.
- ☒ I WILL NOT consider presenting a joint case with others presenting similar submissions.


Signature - to be signed for or on behalf of submitter

30/6/14
Date

Queenstown Lakes District Council Phone 03 441 0499
Private Bag 50072, Queenstown 9348
Gorge Road, Queenstown 9300

Website www.qldc.govt.nz

To the Manager: Regulatory

I strongly object to the following wording in Part 4 Clause 2 of the proposed new bylaw and related section in the proposed Policy which prevents dogs being off leads in public places:

*“(2) Every Owner of a dog shall keep that dog under control on a leash in all cemeteries, playgrounds and other public places except:
a) Areas designated (by Council resolution) as dog exercise areas;
b) The Rural General Zone (as described in the Queenstown Lakes District Plan), unless that area is a playground or cemetery;”*

I also find it difficult to provide a full, meaningful submission when Council has not provided me with information on what areas Council has or is intending to designate as "Dog Exercise Areas" as I do not know whether these areas will be of sufficient number, size and location to enable me to exercise my dog freely and adequately. I believe it is unfair to add the above wording into the bylaw without first advising the public of where these areas will be and what form they will take.

I submit that as a ratepayer, who's rates also contribute to public parks and reserve areas, it is unfair and unreasonable to require dogs to be on a leash in all public areas - particularly in neighborhood parks and reserves (many of which are located in Residential zoned areas). Most dog owners live in residential areas and our rates contribute to parks and reserves in these areas as much as anyone else's. We need to be able to exercise our dogs properly off the lead in our neighborhood parks/reserves (including walking tracks) which are conveniently located near our homes, not travel for miles just to find a place where we can throw the ball and play fetch or take our dogs for a swim.

It would be a ridiculous and unfair proposition to prevent us from being able to play ball or frisbee with our dog in our neighborhood park in this way, or prevent us from taking him to the river or lake near our house for a swim, just because we live outside of the Rural General Zone. .

Regarding the following statement (from the "Summary of Statement of Proposal"):

" However, verbal control as the only mechanism for controlling dogs does provide the potential for nuisance or risk to the public."

It is not fair to regulate against responsible dog owners just because there is a perceived possibility or "***potential***" that having them off a lead could be a

nuisance/risk to the public. The current regulations already require owners to prevent their animals from being a risk or nuisance to the public. The current regulations require owners to have their dogs under control at all times and for enforcement action to be taken against irresponsible owners who don't have their animals under control. So this law doesn't really provide any more protection than what already exists under the current regulations.

I would support the Bylaw if the following requirement to keep dogs on a lead in all public places was removed from Part 4, Clause 2 of the bylaw. As a minimum, dog owners should be permitted to exercise their dogs off leads in parks and reserve areas.

Please consider the needs of responsible dog owners to exercise their pets in residential areas, as most dogs live in residential areas. Simply walking a dog on a lead is not always the best form of exercise. We need the freedom to exercise our dogs off the lead in nearby neighborhood parks & reserves - providing they are under verbal control at all times as is already required under the regulations. Requiring dog owners to travel long distances to get to designated dog exercise areas is impractical and will just discourage owners from exercising their pets.

I would support Council defining specific zones within parks around children's playgrounds where dogs need to be on a lead - e.g. I see no need for a dog to be within a defined children's playground containing children's playground equipment. Also, I see no reason for a dog to be off a lead in town (e.g. town centre zones and business zones). These areas could be clearly defined and sign-posted.

But **please, please, please** don't remove ability for responsible dog owners to exercise their pets off the lead in parks and reserves located in residential areas.

Another concern, noted from the "Statement of Proposal":

F. DISTRIBUTION OF SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

This proposal will be distributed in accordance with Section 83 of the LGA 2002, on the following basis:

a) The Council will scrutinise Council's existing databases of organisations within the community with a potential interest in this matter and will write to each providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome submissions on the matter.

b) The Council will make contact with each registered dog owner providing a copy of the proposal and indicating that the Council would welcome further submissions on the matter.

As a dog owner, I am not aware of being contacted by Council on this matter and am unsure why? I have friends who are dog-owners who also say they were not contacted. I am concerned that dog owners will miss out on making a submission because they have not been contacted and this Bylaw will be unfairly passed.

I am happy to be contacted to discuss further and wish to retain the ability to make a verbal submission.

Regards,

Kat Coulter

What you want Council to do:

Delete or amend Section 2 Part 4 from the proposed Bylaw and related Section in Policy so that dogs are allowed to be exercised off the lead in majority of neighbourhood parks & reserves.