



**MARLBOROUGH  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

# **Proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw Review**

## **Statement of Proposal**



**Submissions close 5.00 pm Monday 9 November 2020**

**[www.marlborough.govt.nz](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz)**

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This Statement of Proposal has been prepared as part of consultation regarding the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw under the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act) and the Local Government Act 2002.

The special consultative procedure gives the public an opportunity to make submissions and provide feedback on the proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw.

Once the submission period closes, hearings will be conducted if people indicate they want to speak in support of their submissions.

## 1. Introduction

Animal Control has a variety of functions and duties under the Dog Control Act 1996. The Act requires territorial authorities have a dog control policy and to set bylaws.

This proposal considers changes for access for dogs to public places in the Marlborough District. Council has reviewed the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw. This statement of proposal includes:

- The reasons for the proposal;
- How people can present their views on the proposal; and
- A draft of the proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw.

## 2. Reasons for the Review and Proposed Changes

Council is required to review the Bylaw every 10 years and the previous review was completed in 2012.

A review of current Dog Control Policy and Bylaw has been undertaken. Consideration of the review included:

- a) Dog access to all public places in Marlborough.
- b) The ability of the Animal Control to meet the statutory requirements and enforce the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw.

The reasons for any proposed changes to dog access to public places relate to potential conflict between users, ecological reasons, and areas where there have been issues with uncontrolled dogs and dog fouling.

### 3. Summary of Proposed Changes

The Policy and Bylaw have been reviewed and Council considers that the proposed changes are required to ensure they are consistent with each other and the requirements of the Act.

#### **Council is proposing the following changes to the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw:**

- a) It is proposed to include all new reserves that have been developed since the previous review was undertaken.
- b) It is proposed to change the Blenheim Central Business District from the current Bylaw that prohibits dogs to allow dogs on-leash.
- c) It is proposed to change dog access near playgrounds. The current Bylaw provides that dogs are not permitted within 3 metres of any playground and this restriction is considered inadequate. It is proposed that the restriction should be increased to 10 metres.
- d) It is proposed to prohibit dogs from Pollard Park and Ward Beach.

Details of the proposed dog access to public places are contained in the Schedules attached to the draft Policy and Bylaw. Some changes have been proposed from current off-leash dog areas to propose on-leash areas in response to conflict with users from uncontrolled dogs and issues with dog fouling.

### 4. Options

Council has reviewed the Policy and Bylaw and considers the proposed changes are required to achieve a balance between the control of dogs, safety of others and recognition of the community benefits of responsible dog ownership.

In accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996 Council is required to have a Dog Control Policy and Bylaw which has regard to a number of issues, including regulating access for dogs to public places.

The changes outlined in the Statement of Proposal represent areas where Council considers that there needs to be detail to ensure that the Bylaw is clear, consistent and enforceable.

## 5. Have Your Say

We want your feedback about our proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw.

Anyone can make a submission. Your submission can support or oppose the proposals.

- You can make a submission online at [www.marlborough.govt.nz/have-your-say-consultations](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/have-your-say-consultations)
- Alternatively you can collect a submission form from Council offices, libraries or the Animal Control Office at 56 Main Street Blenheim.
- Completed forms can be submitted by hand, emailed to [dogcontrolbylawreview@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:dogcontrolbylawreview@marlborough.govt.nz), or posted to the Picton or Blenheim Council offices.

## Want More Information?

Submissions close 5.00 pm, Monday 9 November 2020.

If you have any questions about the proposed Policy and Bylaw or need further information you can email Council [dogcontrolbylawreview@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:dogcontrolbylawreview@marlborough.govt.nz) or phone **03 520 7400**.

## Timeline

Timeline for considering the proposed Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw.

<b>18 September 2020</b>	Submissions open
<b>9 November 2020</b>	Submissions close at 5pm
<b>30 November, 1 &amp; 2 December 2020</b>	Council considers submissions/hearings before the Sub-Committee
<b>To be determined</b>	Council decision on the proposed Policy and Bylaw
<b>To be determined</b>	New Policy and Bylaw become operative