



City of  
**Canada Bay**



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# 1. Foreword from the Mayor



Mayor Angelo Tsirekas

I have great pleasure in presenting the Dogs in Public Places Strategy. The development of this strategy follows a commitment made in late 2018 to prepare a City-wide plan for our canine companions. This commitment was made after meeting with residents who expressed a desire for more space where dogs can roam freely, while also taking into consideration feedback from residents without dogs regarding the utilisation of our open spaces.

I am pleased to announce several achievements since this public commitment. These include:

- A number of off-leash dog exercise area trials and an extensive community engagement process
- A new fenced off-leash dog exercise area in Kendall Reserve, Cabarita
- New fenced off-leash dog exercise areas in Lower Phoenix Park and King George V Park, Rhodes
- A commitment for improvements to existing off-leash dog exercise areas
- The development of this Dogs in Public Places Strategy.

Nearly 40 per cent of households within the City of Canada Bay own a dog. We recognise the needs of these residents, while also acknowledging the importance of our public places to cater for other recreational needs.

Some of the benefits of this strategy include:

- Resolving confusion around which parks include off-leash dog exercise areas, and where the boundaries of these areas are located
- Addressing issues that are important to open space users such as approaches to fencing dog parks, shared usage and wildlife protection
- Considering future population growth forecasts and gaps in provision.

Thank you to everyone who collaborated with Council during the development of this strategy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angelo Tsirekas".

**Mayor Angelo Tsirekas**





# 2. Background

## Why are dog off-leash exercise areas important?

Nearly 40 per cent of households within the City of Canada Bay own a dog. Dogs are important to our community and are considered members of our families. These canine companions play an important role in our lives including helping to improve physical and mental health and reducing the effects of stress. Walking the dog is a popular recreational activity. Engagement for the Local Strategic Planning Statement identified that 26 per cent of residents walk the dog as a method of informal recreation.

Increasing density and decreasing backyard sizes mean that in urban environments there is a growing trend to exercising dogs out of the home with an increased need for off-leash dog parks. Dog parks can be a social connector, facilitating connections between people walking their dogs and helping to build social capital and a sense of community. However, they can also be spaces of conflict if effective controls are not in place as users, in particular dogs and children, have different needs and may sometimes interact negatively.

By providing off-leash dog exercise areas, the City of Canada Bay is meeting a legislative requirement and encouraging responsible behaviour by dog owners.

## Why was this strategy prepared?

The City of Canada Bay has made a commitment to be one of Sydney's most dog friendly councils. In order to achieve this commitment there is a need to adopt a holistic strategic approach.

A need for clearer signage within our parks regarding dog rules and responsible dog ownership has been identified, as well as improvements to dog information displayed on Council's website. Information within this strategy will be promoted via these avenues.

This strategy has also been prepared to prevent confusion around which parks include off-leash dog exercise areas, and where the boundaries of the off-leash dog exercise areas are located. In clarifying the rules it allows Council greater ability to educate the public and take enforcement action if required.

This strategy identifies an objective for households to be within 800 metres of a dog exercise area, in accordance with the draft NSW Greener Places – Open Space for Recreation Guideline.

The objectives of this strategy are to clearly identify (with community input):

- The locations of dog off-leash exercise areas across the City of Canada Bay (including maps)
- If each of these dog exercise areas will be unrestricted off-leash or during set times of the day only
- How the issue of fencing dog exercise areas will be addressed
- What infrastructure is required
- Develop an implementation plan.

In doing the above, Council will consider:

- Existing off-leash dog exercise areas and supporting infrastructure
- Gaps in provision
- Forecasted population growth trends and dog ownership trends
- Balancing the needs of dog owners with the needs of other park users
- Legislative requirements
- Community consultation
- Success of off-leash trial areas.

It is Council's intention that the implementation of this strategy will benefit both dog owners and non-dog owners using public places in the City of Canada Bay.

## How was this strategy prepared?

Prior to developing this strategy, trials of new dog off-leash exercise areas occurred within four parks in late 2018. These trials, along with community consultation, were used to identify the key issues regarding dog exercise areas in our community.

A Council project team was established to provide input into the development of this strategy. The project team reviewed the existing off-leash dog exercise areas within the City of Canada Bay and identified where new infrastructure was required. The project team have also assisted in preparing the policy statements.

A public exhibition period occurred in October 2019. This resulted in final amendments being made to the strategy prior to Council adoption in December 2019.



## Recent trials and community engagement

**2014/15:** Trials of off-leash dog exercise areas occurred in Rhodes from November 2015 to January 2016, following Council's adoption of the Rhodes Peninsula Open Space Plan of Management. Following the trials and community engagement, Council resolved (at its meeting on 16 February 2016) that an area of McIlwaine Park and an area at Mill Park be made permanent off-leash dog exercise areas. Time restrictions were applied at these sites.

**2018:** In response to dog ownership growth and community requests, the City of Canada Bay undertook off-leash dog exercise area trials and community consultation from 24 October to 20 November 2018. The consultation helped inform the development of this strategy, and it also sought specific feedback on off-leash dog exercise area trials at the following parks:

- Kendall Reserve, Kendall Street, Cabarita
- Timbrell Park, Henley Marine Drive, Five Dock
- King George V Park, Concord Road, Rhodes
- Lower Phoenix Park, Shoreline Drive, Rhodes.

Following the trials and community consultation, Council resolved at its meeting on 4 December 2018 that permanent off-leash dog exercise areas be established at:

- Kendall Reserve, Kendall Street, Cabarita
- King George V Park, Concord Road, Rhodes
- Lower Phoenix Park, Shoreline Drive, Rhodes.

Council resolved that the trial at Timbrell Park be extended for an additional four months (in light of the conflicting views presented by users of Timbrell Park during the trial and consultation period).

The 2018 community consultation also identified the following community views relevant to this strategy:

The three biggest concerns about dogs being off-leash are:

1. Dogs running out onto nearby roads
2. Owners not picking up their dog's droppings
3. Young children being left unattended.

The most important elements identified which contribute to a successful off-leash dog exercise area are:

- Regular maintenance and turf management
- Provision of dog litter bags and bins
- Provision of a drinking fountain with pet bowl
- Located within walking distance of households
- Provision of double gated entrances (at fenced off-leash exercise areas)
- Signage
- Shade
- Seating.

Note: although Five Dock Park was not one of the trial sites, there was feedback from a number of people that the current fenced off-leash dog exercise area at this park is not large enough. The need to expand this site is reflected within this strategy.

## 2019 (Timbrell Park - four month dog off-leash trial extension)

A second trial and consultation period occurred at Timbrell Park (sportsfield location) from 18 December 2018 until 17 April 2019. As with the initial trial there were conflicting views presented by the park users.

Council resolved for improvements to the existing off-leash areas at Timbrell Park and Five Dock Park to be undertaken after further consultation occurs.

Note: the existing off-leash area at Timbrell Park will be utilised as part of future stormwater canal naturalisation works to be undertaken by Sydney Water. Any investment in off-leash dog exercise improvements are expected to be of a temporary nature.

## 2020 Henley Park dog trial

A dog off-leash trial was held at Henley Park in early 2020 after the Concord/North Strathfield suburbs were identified as a priority site for a future off-leash dog exercise area. During consultation, 85 per cent of people supported Henley Park as a permanent dog off-leash area. In May 2020 Council passed a resolution in favour of this.



# 3. Current provision of off-leash dog exercise areas

## Designated unrestricted off-leash dog exercise areas are located in the following parks:

- Battersea Park – Battersea Street, Abbotsford
- Cintra Park – Lyons Road West, Canada Bay
- Drummoyne Park – Bayswater Street, Drummoyne
- Five Dock Park – Ingham Avenue, Five Dock
- Henley Park – Pitt Street, Concord
- Kendall Reserve – Kendall Street, Cabarita
- King George V Park – Concord Road, Rhodes
- Lysaght Park – Byrne Avenue, Chiswick
- Majors Bay Reserve – Nullawarra Avenue, Concord
- Powells Creek Reserve – Conway Avenue, North Strathfield
- St Georges Crescent Reserve – St Georges Crescent, Drummoyne
- Storey Park – McKinnon Avenue (off Lyons Road), Five Dock
- Timbrell Park – Henley Marine Drive, Five Dock.

Note: this strategy is proposing the removal of Charles Heath Reserve on Queens Road, Five Dock from the list of unrestricted off-leash dog exercise areas. Off-leash dogs will not be compatible with future improvements planned for this reserve.

## Designated off-leash dog exercise areas are located in the following parks between 6am and 10pm:

- Lower Phoenix Park – Shoreline Drive, Rhodes

## Designated off-leash dog exercise areas are located in the following parks before 9am and after 5pm only:

- Brett Park – Sisters Crescent, Drummoyne
- Halliday Park – Udall Avenue, Five Dock
- McIlwaine Park – Concord Road, Rhodes
- Mill Park – Shoreline Drive, Rhodes
- Queen Victoria Reserve and Pelican Reserve – Queen Victoria Street, Drummoyne
- Taplin Park – End of Thompson Street, Drummoyne.

The adjacent map shows where each of these parks is located within the City.







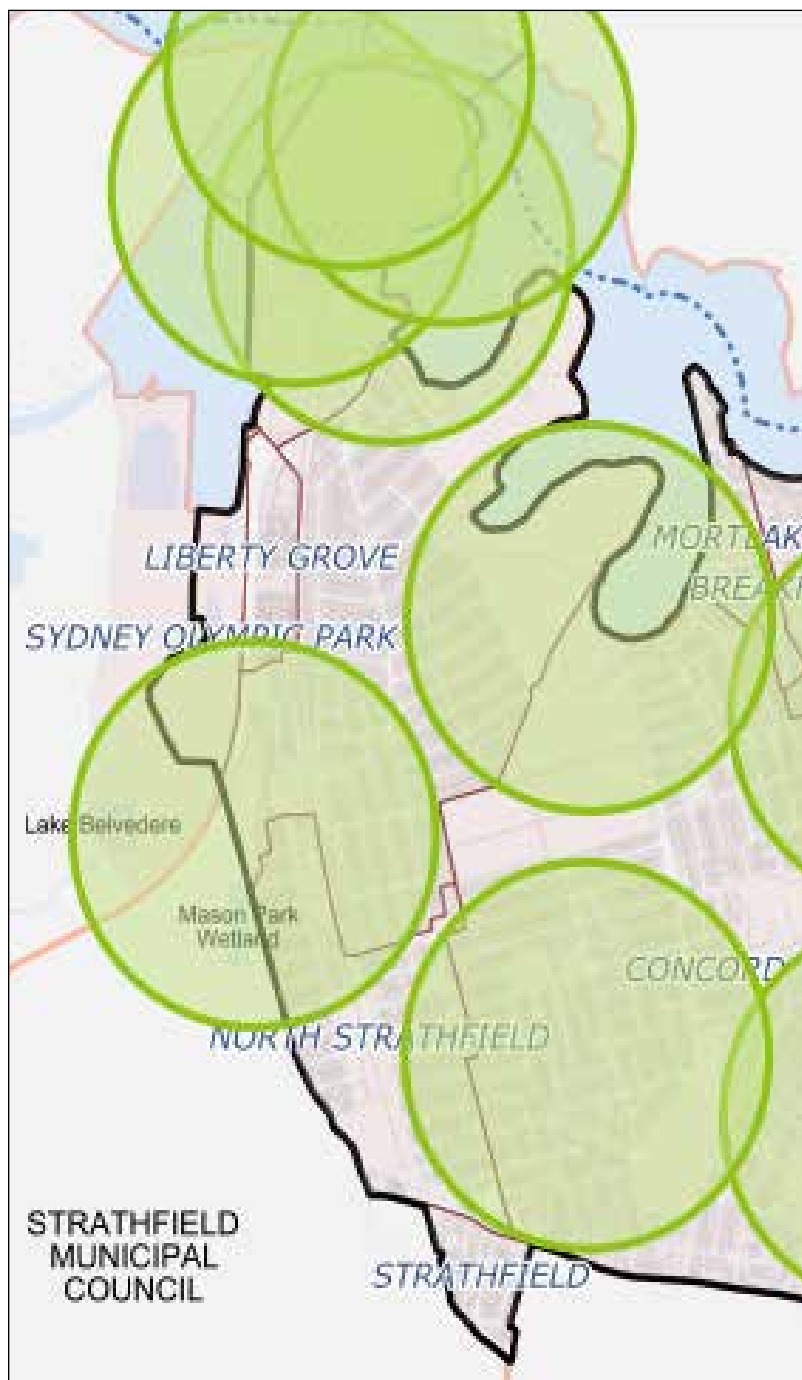


## Number of registered dogs

As at June 2019 there are 13,624 registered dogs in the City of Canada Bay. The 2019 estimate number of households is 37,060. With 37 per cent of households owning a dog, the City is closely aligned with the national average of 38 per cent.

A breakdown of registered dogs for each suburb is provided below:

Suburb	Number of registered dogs June 2019	Estimate population June 2019	Ratio of dogs to people
Abbotsford – Wareemba	1,018	7,312	1:7.2
Breakfast Point – Mortlake	559	6,805	1:12.2
Cabarita	341	2,139	1:6.3
Chiswick	370	3,088	1:8.3
Concord	2,940	15,223	1:5.2
Concord West	1,290	6,346	1:4.9
Drummoyne	1,846	13,394	1:7.3
Five Dock – Canada Bay	2,036	11,605	1:5.7
Liberty Grove	159	2,353	1:14.8
North Strathfield (including Strathfield Triangle)	590	7,991	1:13.5
Rhodes	1039	12,728	1:12.3
Russell Lea – Rodd Point	1,094	6,634	1:6.1
Registered to an address outside the City of Canada Bay	342	n/a	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,624</b>		

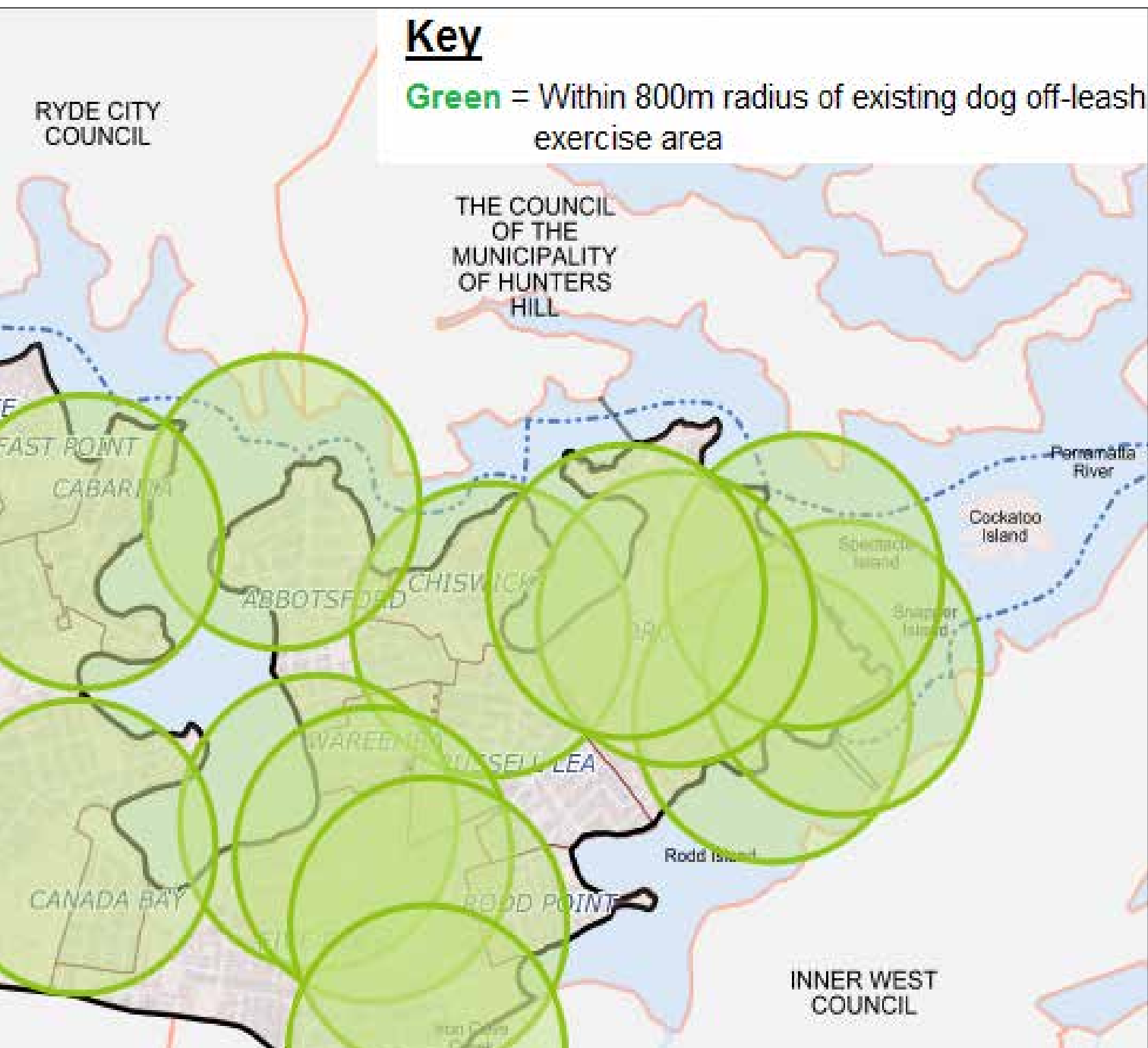


## Is there currently an undersupply/ oversupply of dog parks?

The draft NSW Greener Places – Open Space for Recreation Guide includes performance criteria for household proximity to dog exercise areas. It states that there should be:

“Access to an off-leash opportunity within 10 minutes (800m) walking distance of all houses.”





The map above shows the portion of our City that falls within an 800m radius of an existing off-leash dog exercise area. It shows a high supply of dog parks in high density areas such as Rhodes and Drummoyne.

The first version of this strategy identified the Concord/North Strathfield suburbs as a priority site for a future off-leash dog exercise area if the above performance criteria is to be achieved. With this in

mind, a dog off-leash trial was held in Henley Park in early 2020. During consultation, 85 per cent of people supported Henley Park as a permanent dog off-leash area. In May 2020 Council passed a resolution in favour of this.

Council also encourages community associations such as those in Breakfast Point and Liberty Grove to consider opportunities to provide dog off-leash exercise areas for their residents.



# 4. Forecasted demand for off-leash dog exercise areas

The City of Canada Bay population estimate for 2019 is 95,618. This is forecast to grow to 119,858 by 2036. The number of households in the City of Canada Bay is forecast to increase from 35,904 in 2016 to 47,535 in 2036.

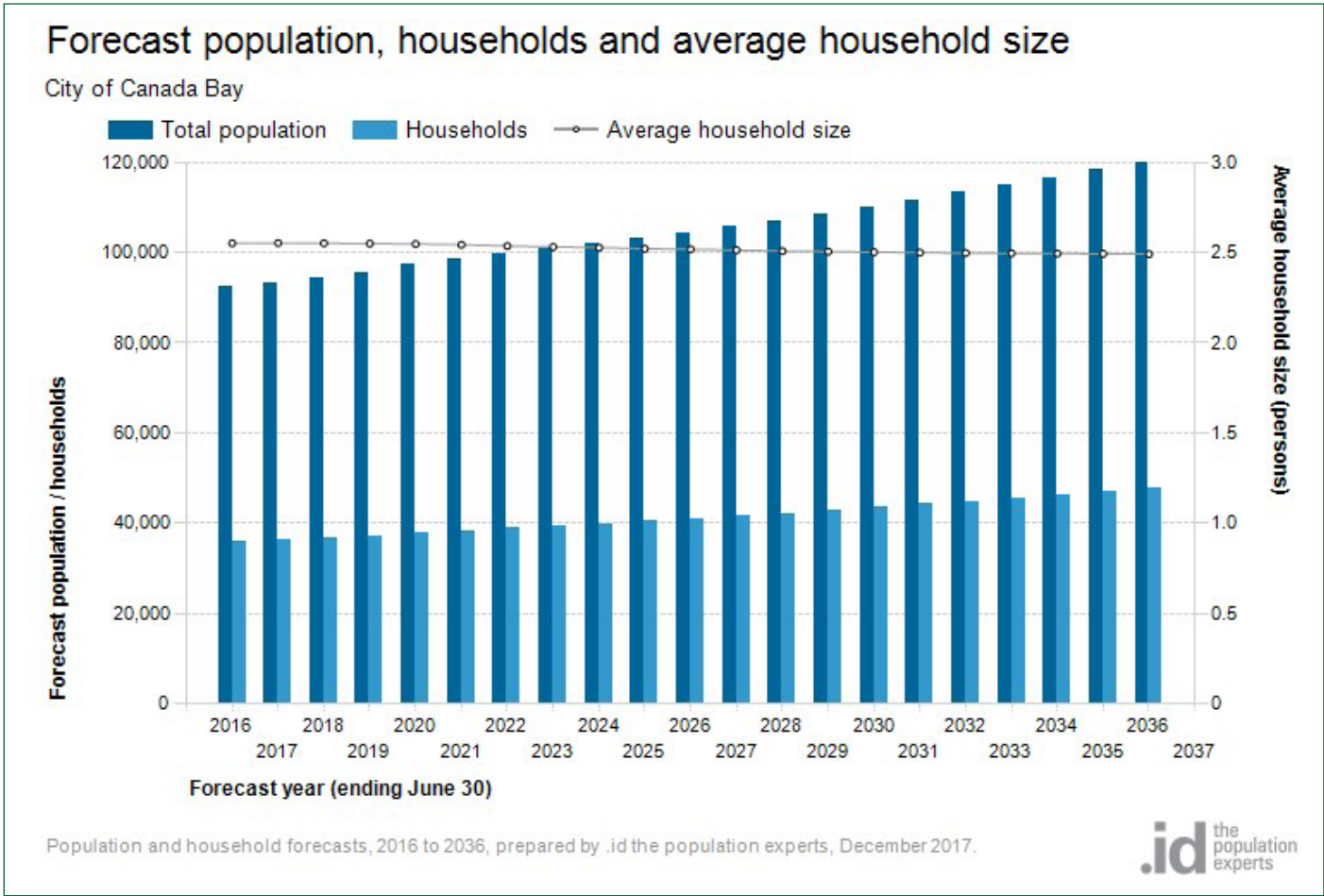
## Will additional off-leash dog exercise areas be needed?

This population growth will result in an increase in dogs and therefore an increased demand for dog exercise areas. Assuming that the percentage of households that own a dog remains at 37 per cent, this would result in an additional 4,000 dogs between 2019 and 2036. However, it must also be noted that population growth will also result in additional demand for open space for informal and organised purposes. The needs of dog owners and the needs of all other park users need to be addressed in a manner that is fair for all.

This also increases the importance of other initiatives highlighted in this strategy such as providing clear guidance (for example onsite signage, web guidance and educational events) as to what is permitted in public places and what constitutes responsible dog ownership.

Where there is already an adequate supply of off-leash dog exercise areas the priority will be on increased maintenance schedules as opposed to an increase in the number of dog exercise areas.

There are policy statements in Section 6 of this strategy that identify factors that will be considered when planning for future off-leash dog exercise areas.





# 5. Legislative context

There are legislative requirements regarding dogs in public places that Council and dog owners need to comply with. These are outlined in the Companion Animals Act 1998 and the Local Government Act 1993. The following requirements are of particular relevance:

- There must at all times be at least one public place in the area of a local authority that is an off-leash dog exercise area
- Dogs are prohibited:
  - Within 10 metres of playground equipment
  - Within 10 metres of food preparation and eating areas such as barbecues and picnic tables
  - In public places used for public recreation or the playing of organised games and in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited
  - In public places used for, or in conjunction with, public bathing or public recreation (including a beach), in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited
  - In public places set apart by the local authority for the protection of wildlife and in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited for the purposes of the protection of wildlife (note: the Council report The Fauna of City of Canada Bay Local Government Area: 2013-2014 and The City of Canada Bay Biodiversity Framework and Action Plan also discuss the potential disturbance to wildlife by dogs. The implementation of this strategy will assist in achieving the recommendations of these documents).
- It is the duty of a local authority for a place that is commonly used for exercising dogs (including an off-leash area) to provide sufficient rubbish receptacles for the proper disposal of the faeces of dogs that defecate in the place
- Dogs are required to be under effective control of their owner when they are in a public place. This includes off-leash exercise areas
- If a dog defecates in a public place it is the responsibility of the dog owner/guardian to immediately remove the dog's faeces and properly dispose of it by placing it in a bin provided or removing it from the public place.

There is also legislation in place to support wildlife protection and conservation initiatives, including:

- NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994
- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.





# 6. Policy statements

The following policies apply to this strategy. An implementation plan will be developed to assist with prioritising and budgeting future actions.

## Signage

Policies
All sites with off-leash dog exercise areas will have signage installed that includes a map outlining boundaries.
Signage will include responsible dog ownership guidelines and a contact number for community members to ring to report any issues.
Reserves that don't contain off-leash dog exercise areas will also have signage, outlining their on-leash and/or dogs prohibited requirements.
Maps showing off-leash dog exercise areas will also be available to view on Council's website.

## Fencing and delineation

Policies
Council's draft Social Infrastructure (Open Space and Recreation) Strategy notes that fencing dog parks can reduce conflict between dogs and other users. It also notes that this can concentrate use in one area, increase wear and tear and maintenance costs, and that it is challenging to design fenced areas to be multipurpose spaces available for a range of users and uses. Council's preference is not to fence dog parks. Dog exercise areas may be fenced when other options have been considered and a need is still identified for the safety of dogs and/or people.
Council may undertake partial fencing when there is the need to reduce a risk but a site is not suitable for full fencing.
Double gated entrances are to be included when new fences are installed.
<p>The following reserves contain off-leash dog exercise areas that may require delineation. Alternative forms of delineation to fencing such as landscaping or line marking may be more appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cintra Park (to separate the off-leash area from the northernmost netball courts, and for enforcement purposes)</li><li>• Drummoyne Park (around the playground to allow the no dogs within 10 metres of playgrounds rule to be enforceable and due to its close proximity to an off-leash dog exercise area)</li><li>• Five Dock Park (this strategy identifies a need to expand the fenced off-leash exercise area. Creating this into a feature off-leash exercise area for our community by adding dog obstacles or by providing separate sections for large and small dogs may also be of benefit to local dog owners). June 2020 update: the fenced dog park at Five Dock Park was extended in early 2020 and an area has been allocated for small dogs.</li><li>• Timbrell Park (fencing is required due to the close proximity of the road)</li><li>• McIlwaine Park (fencing or line marking are required to clearly identify the off-leash area for enforcement purposes. Lighting is also recommended). Note: if fencing is erected, consultation is recommended to consider if time restrictions should still apply. Consultation is also recommended prior to lighting being installed</li><li>• Mill Park (additional fencing may be required if conflicts arise due to the close proximity of outdoor exercise equipment)</li><li>• Taplin Park (fencing is required to clearly identify the off-leash area for enforcement purposes. A more suitable approach may be to identify the off-leash area through line marking and fence the playground).</li></ul>
Note: Kendall Reserve, King George V Park and Lower Phoenix Park had fencing installed in February/March 2019.



## Amenities

### Policies

Prominent signage, bins, bags and drinking fountains (for dogs and people) should be provided in all dog off-leash areas.

Additional site appropriate provisions to be considered for existing and future off-leash dog exercise areas in the City of Canada Bay includes:

- Seating
- Shade
- Maintenance access
- Fencing (with double gated entry)
- Pathways
- Off street parking
- Drainage
- Agility/educational equipment.

An audit will be undertaken of existing off-leash dog exercise areas to identify sites where additional amenities are required.

Access to and within off-leash dog exercise areas should incorporate inclusive design principles to allow for different age ranges and abilities.

Site lighting may be considered to provide extended hours of park use, particularly during winter months. However, lighting should be compatible with adjacent land uses and consultation will occur with neighbouring properties prior to lighting decisions being made.





## Planning for future dog off-leash exercise areas

<b>Policies</b>
<p>When considering potential future off-leash dog exercise areas (including requests from the community), the following are factors that will be investigated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proximity of proposed site to existing off-leash areas</li> <li>• Local population growth forecasts</li> <li>• Current usage of the proposed site</li> <li>• Is an alternative site better suited?</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Size/ability for containment</li> <li>• Will the site support a range of age groups, abilities and uses?</li> <li>• Can any additional experiences be catered for? e.g. beach access for dogs.</li> </ul> <p>Note: potential dedicated dog beaches would need to consider the potential impacts on Godwits and other fauna and flora.</p>
<p>Additional off-leash dog exercise areas will not be allocated without prior community consultation. Council may choose to undertake temporary trials in conjunction with consultation.</p>
<p>It is preferable that sportsgrounds and playing fields will not be designated as off-leash dog exercise areas when there is an opportunity to cater for these user groups separately. Sportsgrounds and playing fields may be considered when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is strong community demand and there are no suitable alternative existing or potential off-leash sites in close proximity</li> <li>• Community and user group consultation has occurred in conjunction with a trial</li> <li>• Following consultation, Council has formally resolved dog off-leash exercise usage to be appropriate when organised sport is not occurring.</li> </ul> <p>The intensity of alternative usages and the size of the park/ability for containment will also be taken into consideration.</p> <p>Existing parks that cater for both user groups are Lysaght Park and Taplin Park.</p>
<p>Off-leash dog exercise areas will only be located adjacent to high traffic roads if they are fenced, to ensure the safety of dogs and people.</p>
<p>The NSW Greener Places guideline that recommends an off-leash opportunity is located within 800 metres of households will be considered.</p>
<p>June 2020 update: following a trial in early 2020, Council resolved for Henley Park to become a dog off-leash area. Previously, there were no dog off-leash exercise areas in close proximity to this location.</p>
<p>Where there is already an adequate supply of off-leash dog exercise areas the priority will be on increased maintenance schedules as opposed to an increase in the number of dog exercise areas.</p>



## Maintenance

Policies
With the recent addition of three new fenced off-leash dog exercise areas there has been an increase on financial and staff resourcing requirements for ongoing maintenance. Increased maintenance requirements are greatest for fenced off-leash dog exercise areas where whipper snipping is required around the fencing. As additional off-leash dog exercise areas and infrastructure is introduced the resourcing will also be increased.
In some cases grass is worn away over time in off-leash dog exercise areas. This is particularly prevalent in fenced dog parks. Returfing is not a simple solution as the new turf requires time to establish and is often worn away again once the dog park is re-opened.  Improvements will be undertaken when the condition of an off-leash dog exercise area surface is identified as unsafe. In some cases this may involve returfing, or an investigation in to alternative surfaces to turf. When returfing is undertaken there will be a requirement for the off-leash dog exercise area to be closed during an establishment period. An unsafe surface is a surface that is identified as being at risk of causing injuries due to defects. For example, these surfaces may be unstable, slippery or uneven.
Staff may undertake trials to identify turf (or other surface) options that will be sustainable and hardwearing to cope with high usage levels. This will require off-leash dog exercise areas to be closed during an establishment period.

## Responsible ownership and Council enforcement

Policies
Owners must pick up dog poo and place it in the doggy bins provided.
Dog owners must ensure the safety of other community members and their pets.
Pets must be identified and registered.
A dog in a public place must be under the effective control of a competent person by means of an adequate chain, cord or leash. A dog is not required to be attached to a chain, cord or leash within a Council declared off-leash dog exercise area.
Greyhounds, dangerous dogs and restricted dogs must be muzzled (some greyhounds are exempt).
Owners must be able to maintain voice control over their dog if allowing them to run free within an off-leash dog exercise area.
Council staff will enforce this strategy. Dog owners who do not comply with the rules may be penalised in accordance with legislation.
Note: all penalties are outlined in the Companion Animals Act 1998. More information regarding penalties and fines is also provided on the NSW Office of Local Government's website under 'Responsible Pet Ownership'. Breaches can be reported to Council by phoning 9911 6555.  Exemptions: assistance animals (e.g. guide dogs) are allowed to accompany their owners in any transport vehicle, public place or eating area. Owners do not have to pick up their dog droppings if it is not reasonably practicable.  Working dogs (as defined in the NSW Companion Animal Act 1998) do not need to be registered, identified or be on a leash. Dog droppings must be picked up.



## Education and awareness

### Policies

Community education to address responsible dog ownership may involve:

- Community events
- Tailored education to address reported incidents of anti-social dog behaviour
- Litter strategy campaigns e.g. Towards Zero: Tacking Dog Poo Litter, biodegradable doggy bags
- Establishment of new off-leash dog exercise areas.

Communication collateral inclusions:

- Online/print material developed for communities, considering key languages spoken in target areas
- Clear Council guidelines – signage within reserves and Council's website
- Resource links – local dog clubs, RSPCA etc.
- Development of a one page fact sheet that provides dog owners with the locations and characteristics of dog off-leash exercise areas.

Education and awareness initiatives will occur to assist recommendations within the Fauna of City of Canada Bay Local Government Area: 2013-2014 report and the City of Canada Bay Biodiversity Framework and Action Plan, in regards to protecting our fauna and flora.

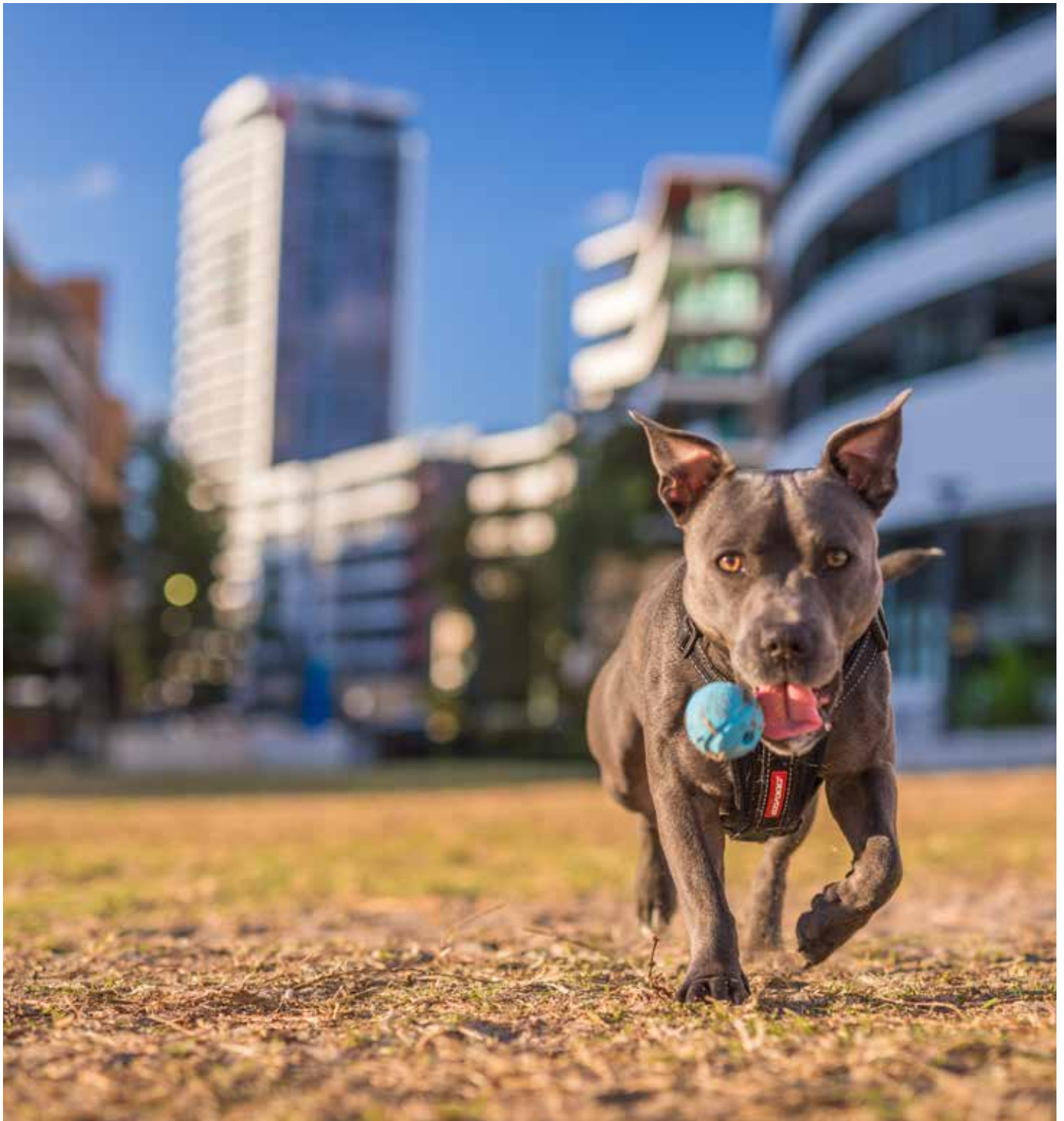




# 7. Dog exercise, on-leash and prohibited areas

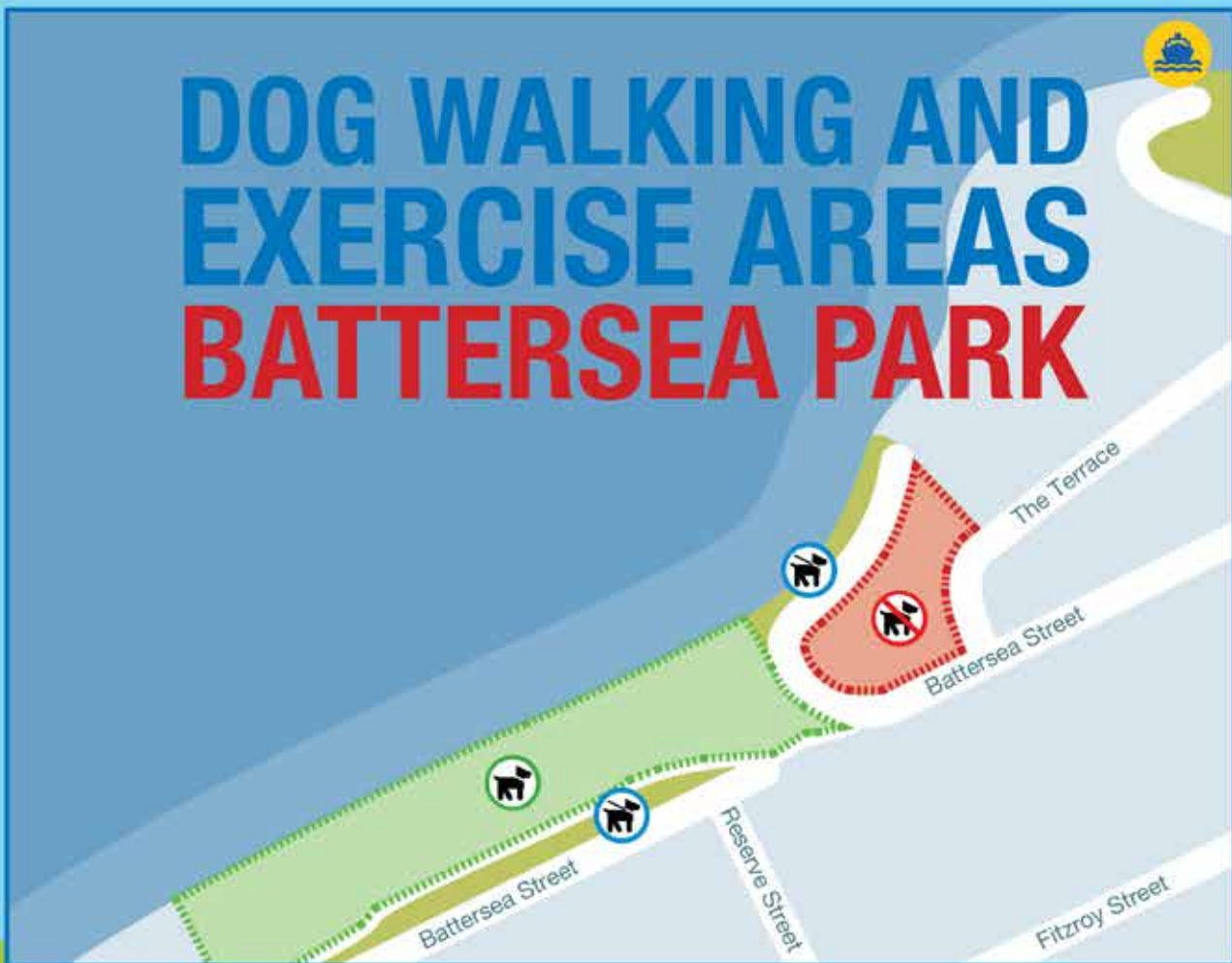
## Dog exercise areas

The following parks include either unrestricted or time restricted off-leash dog exercise areas. 'Unrestricted' means that dogs are allowed off-leash within the designated dog exercise area at any time of the day, seven days a week. 'Time restricted' means that dogs are allowed off-leash within the designated dog exercise area at designated times only. The rules within this strategy and relevant legislation regarding responsible dog ownership and maintaining effective control over dogs apply at all times.





# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS BATTERSEA PARK



**NOTE:** this off-leash dog exercise area also allows beach access for dogs.

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



City of  
**Canada Bay**

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Web: [canadabay.nsw.gov.au](http://canadabay.nsw.gov.au)



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## BRETT PARK



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area before 9am and after 5pm.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



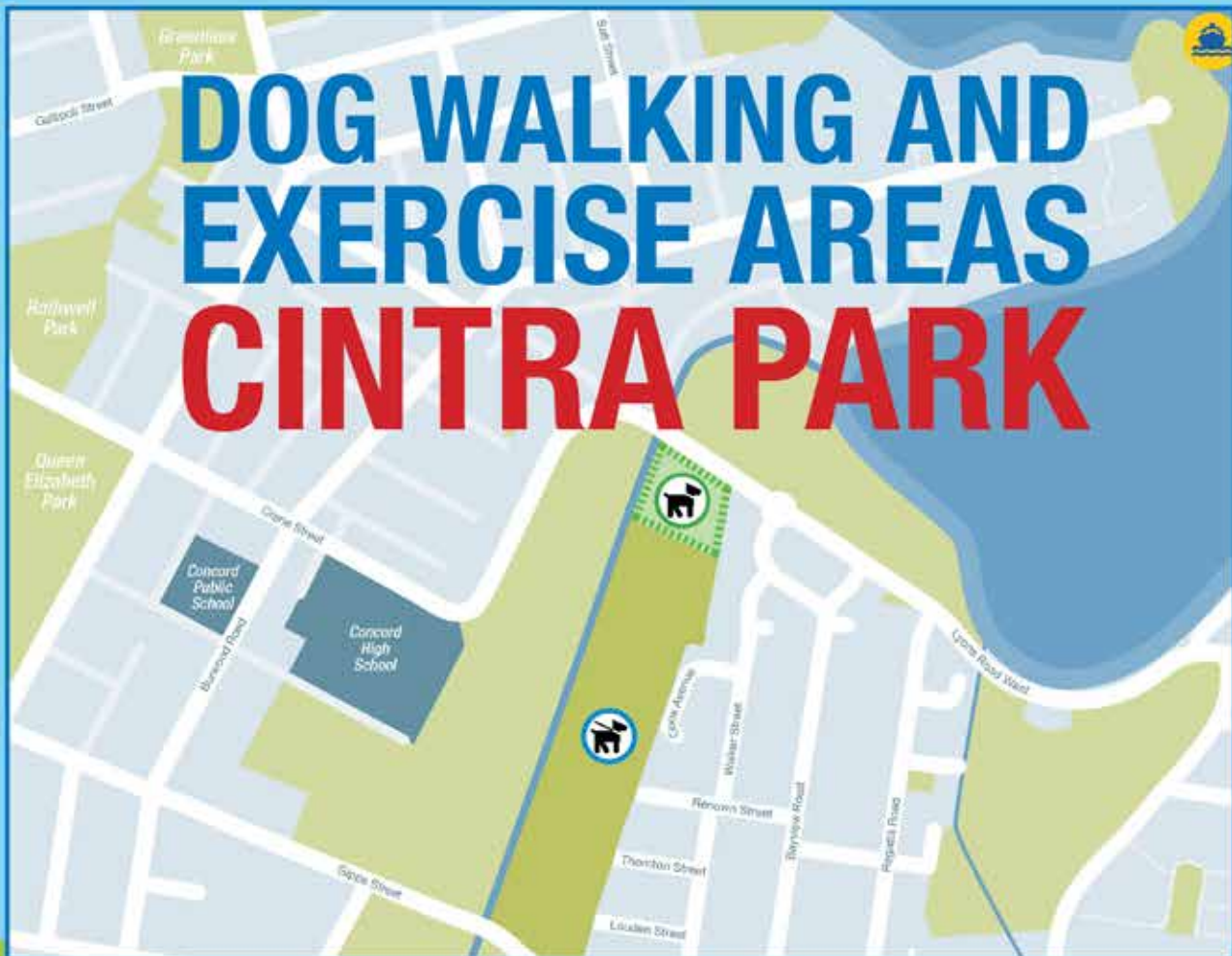
#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS CINTRA PARK



**NOTE:** this off-leash dog exercise area is north of the netball courts.

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



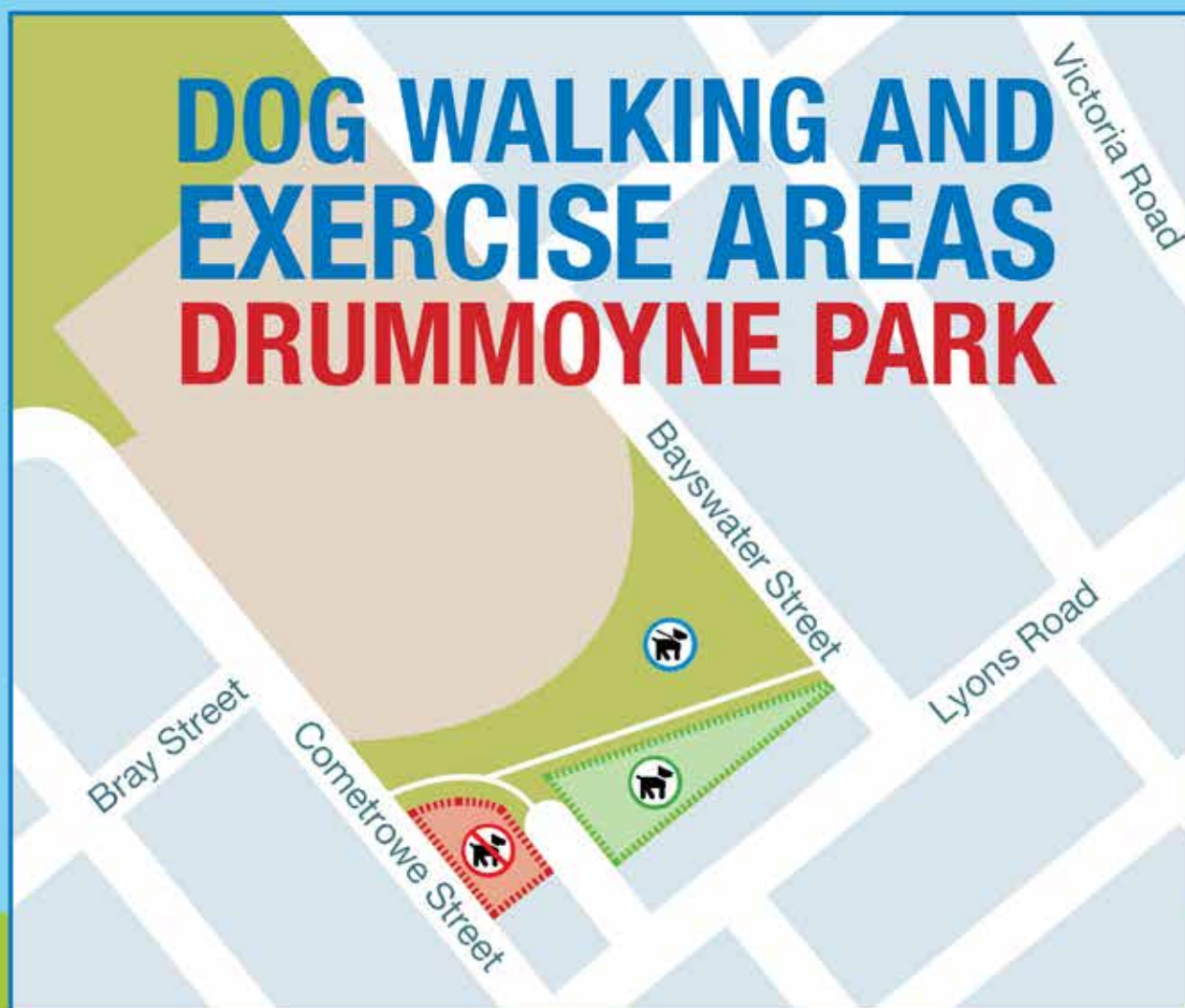
### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS DRUMMOYNE PARK



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



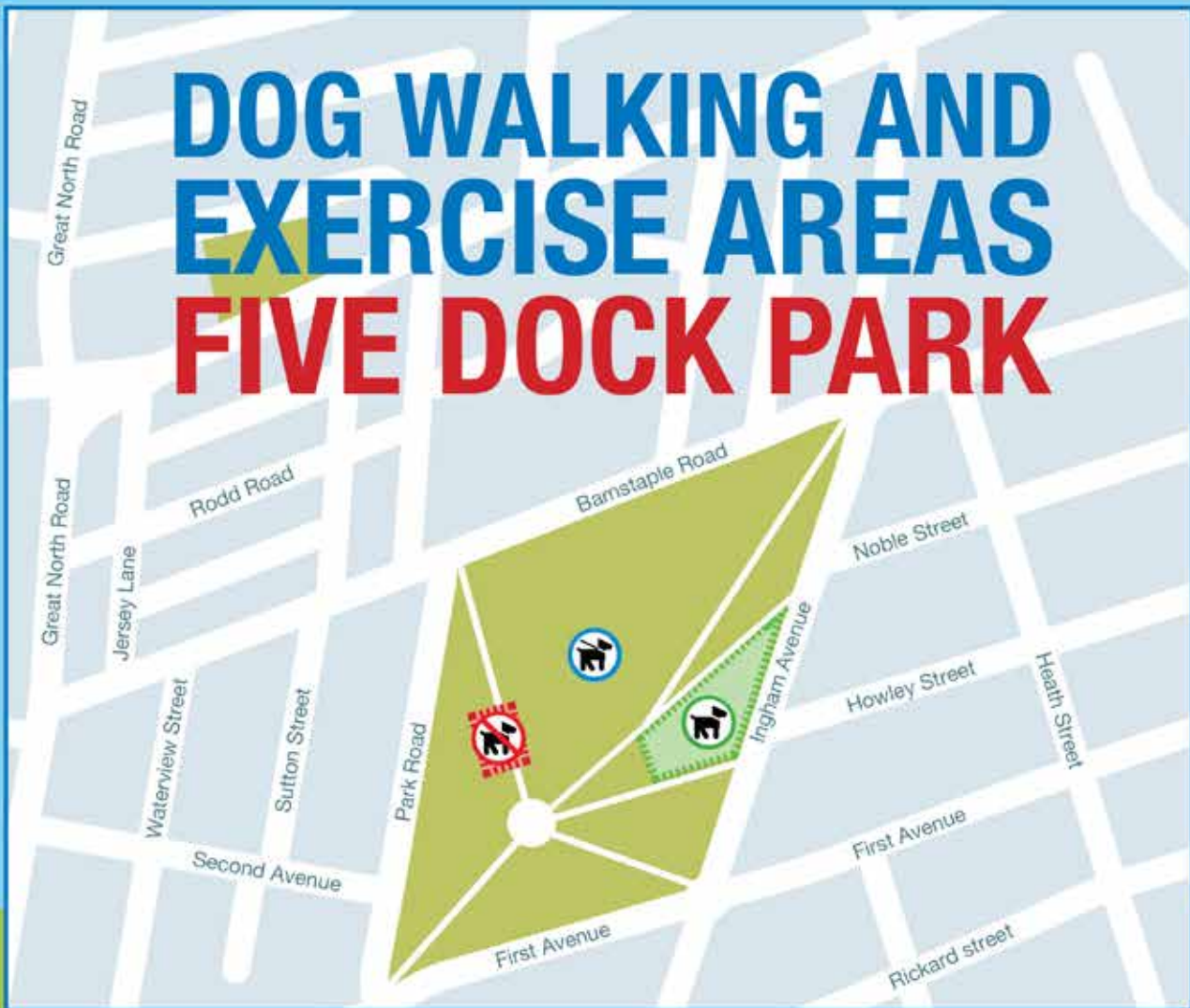
### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS FIVE DOCK PARK



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area.  
Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS HALLIDAY PARK



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area before 9am and after 5pm.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area.  
Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## HENLEY PARK

Machnamara Avenue

Castlereagh Street

Flavelle Street

Shackel Avenue

Pitt Street

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## KENDALL RESERVE



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## KING GEORGE V PARK



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

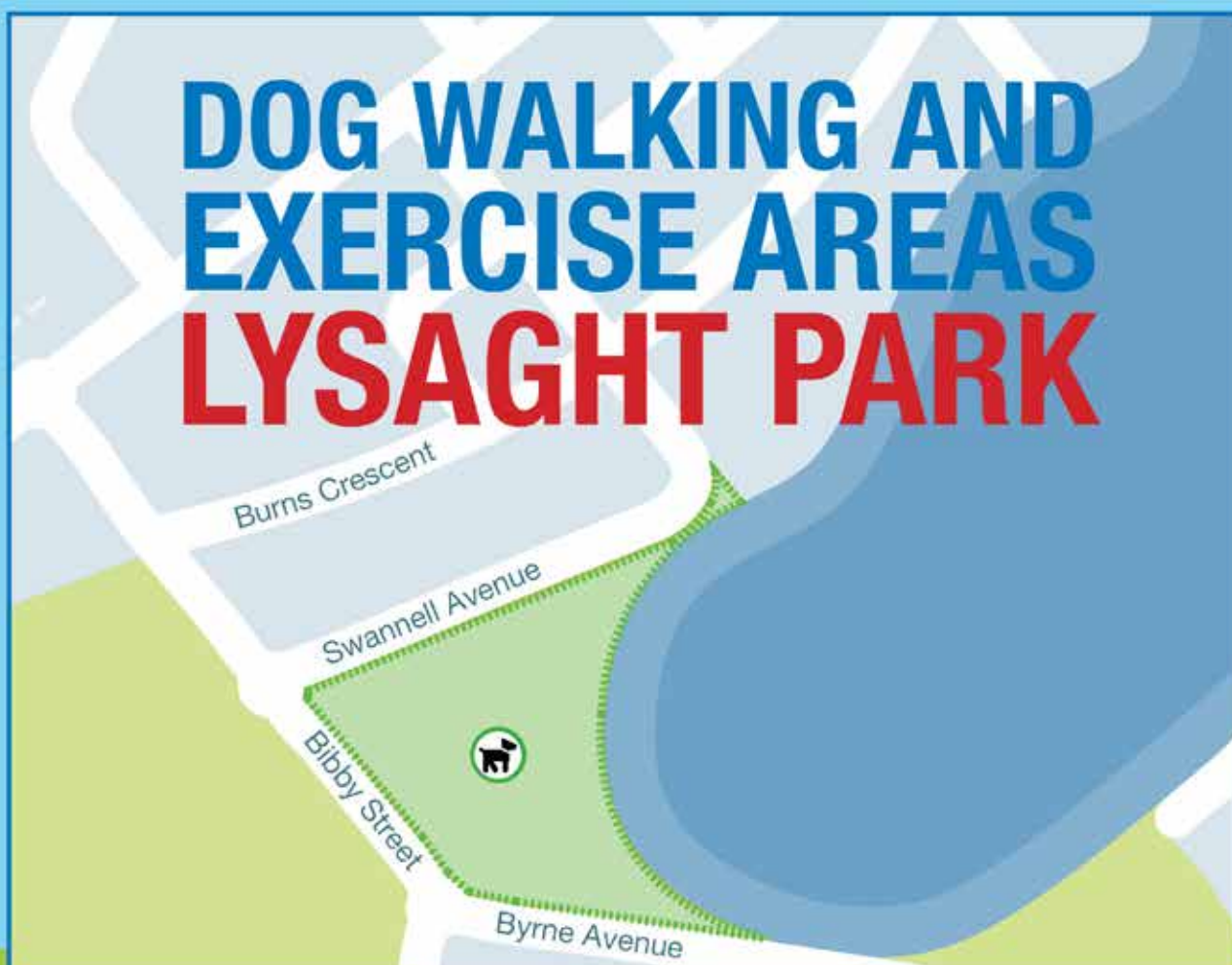
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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS LYSAGHT PARK



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed on the marked sportsfield when no organised sporting games and trainings are taking place.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## MAJORS BAY RESERVE



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

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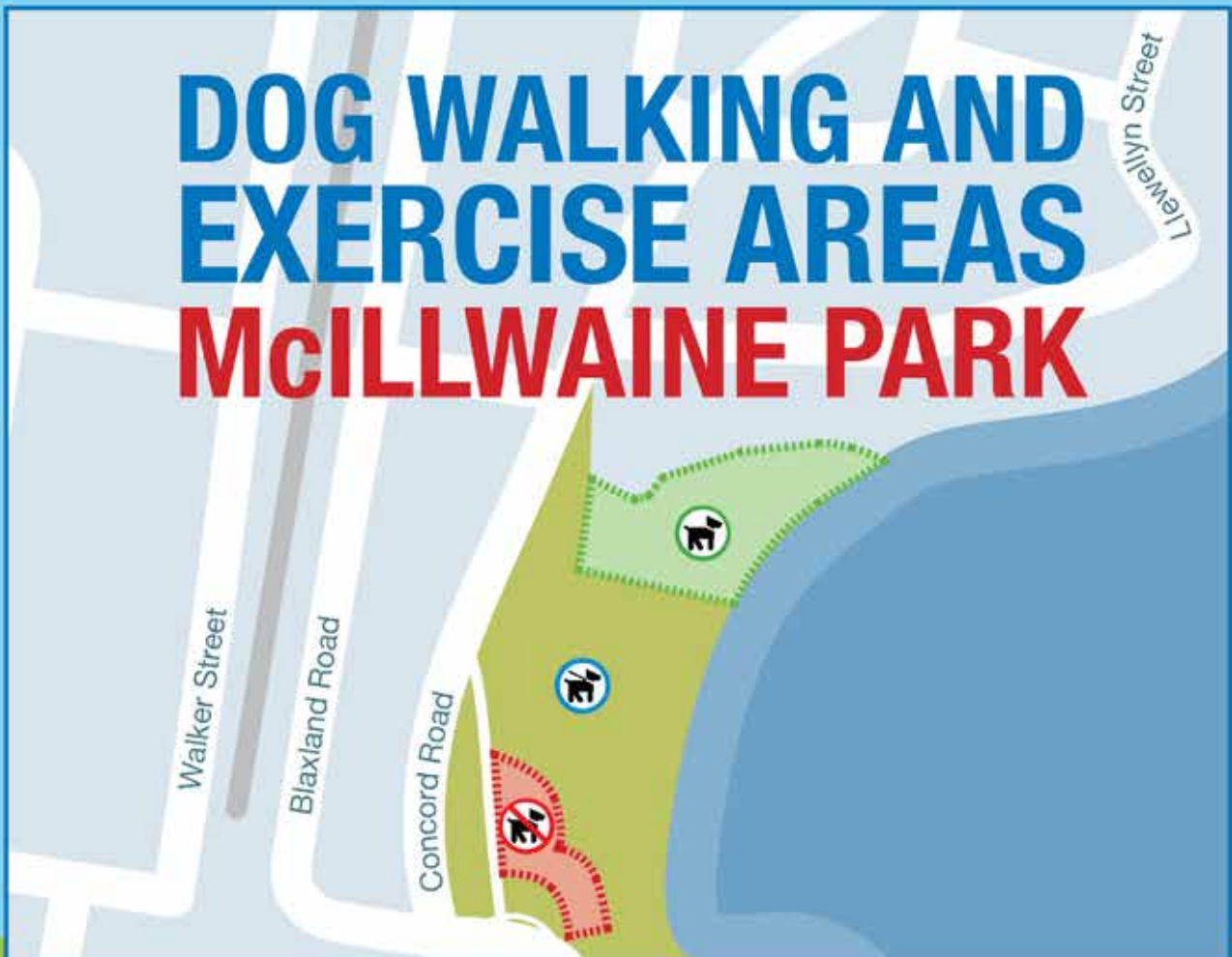


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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## McILLWAIN PARK



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area before 9am and after 5pm. This off-leash dog exercise area does not allow beach access for dogs.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## MILL PARK



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area before 9am and after 5pm.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area.  
Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



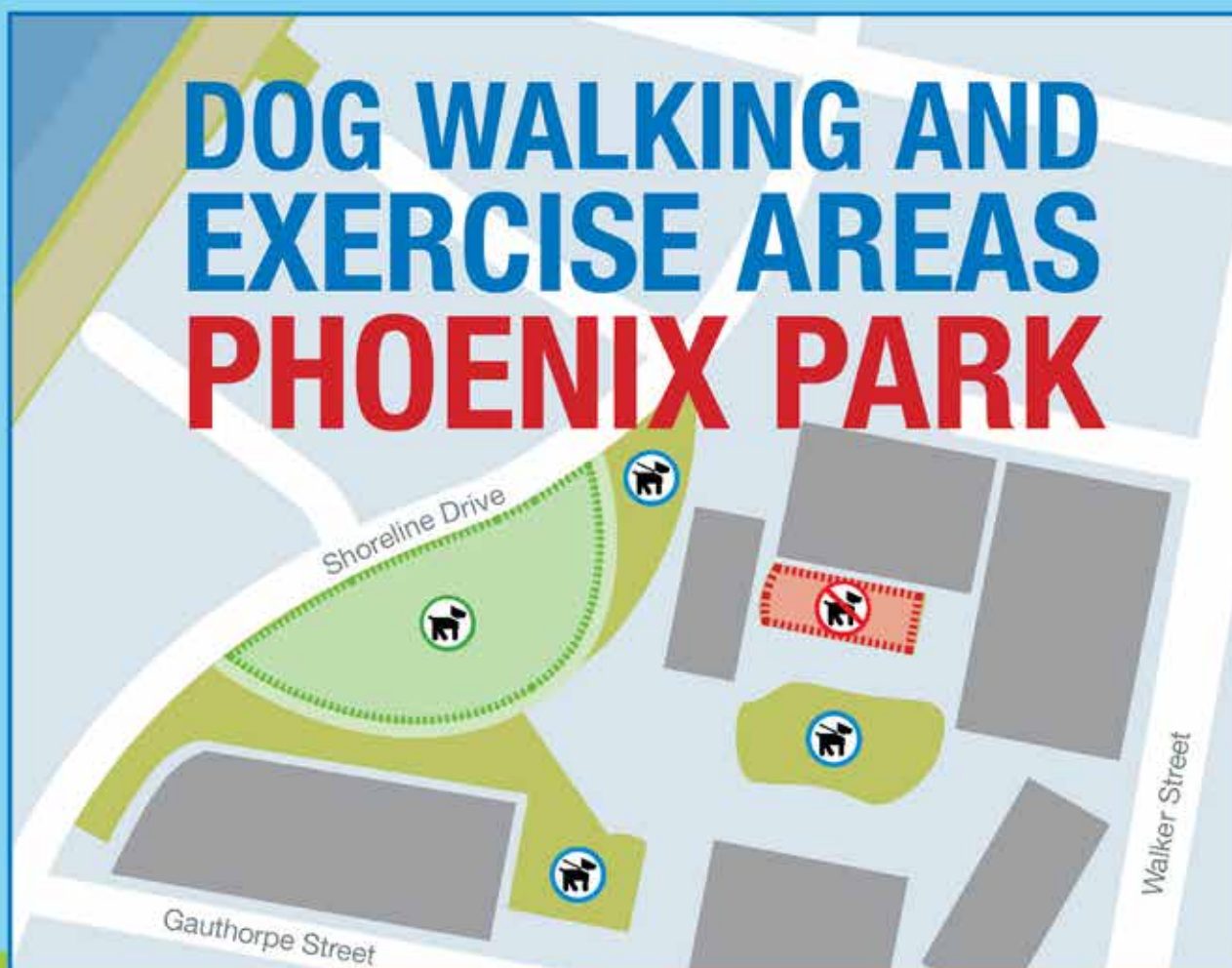
#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS PHOENIX PARK



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area between 6am and 10pm.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

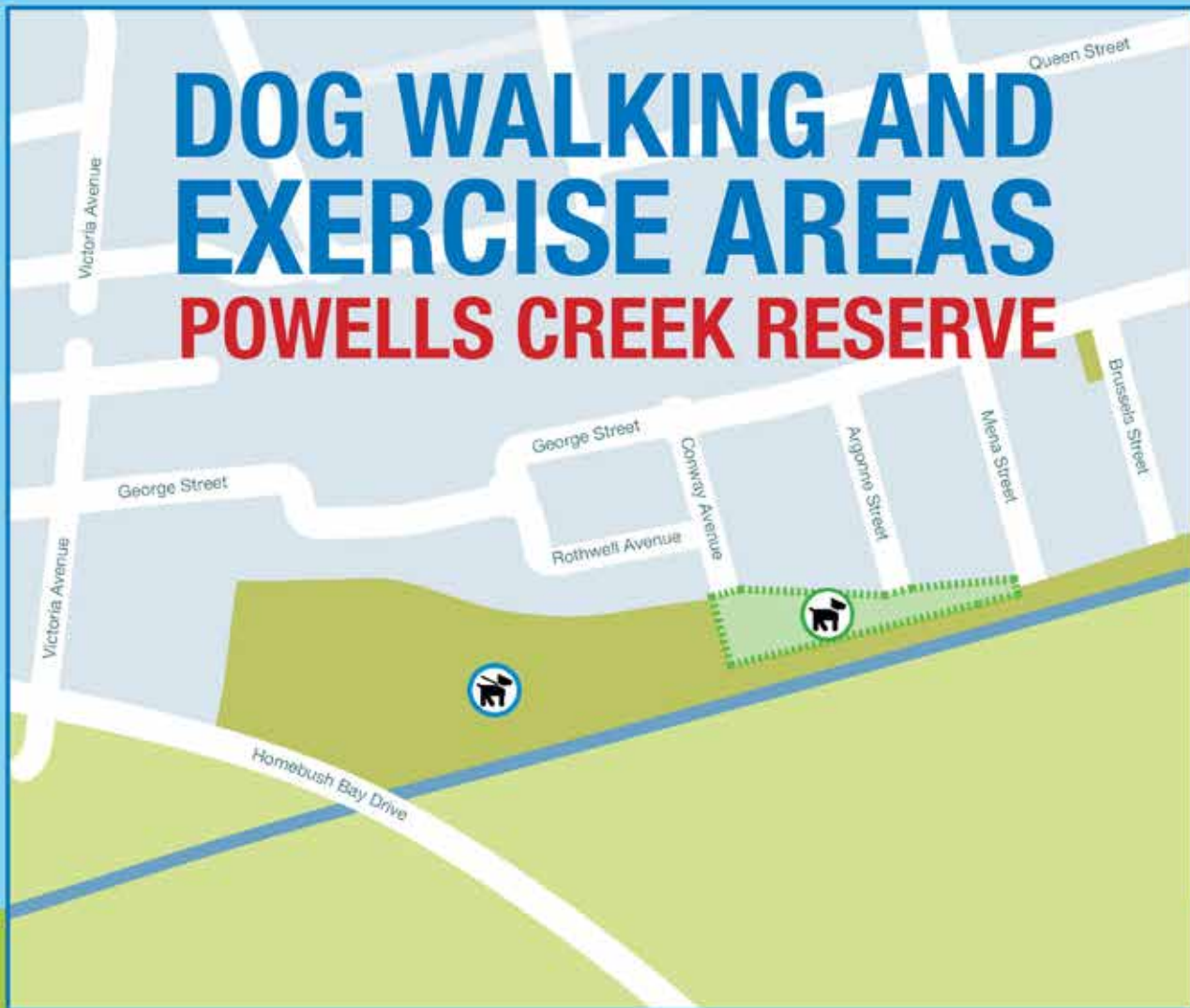
- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## POWELLS CREEK RESERVE



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area.  
Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## QUEEN VICTORIA RESERVE AND PELICAN RESERVE

Lyons Road  
Albert Street  
St Georges Crescent



**NOTE: dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area before 9am and after 5pm. This off-leash dog exercise area also allows beach access for dogs.**

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS

## ST GEORGES CRESCENT RESERVE



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

### LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



### YOUR DOG TYPE:



#### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



#### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS STOREY PARK

Great North Road

McKinnon Avenue

Lyons Road

Trevanion Street

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



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# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS TAPLIN PARK



**NOTE:** dogs are only allowed to be off-leash in the designated area before 9am and after 5pm.  
Dogs are not permitted when organised sporting games and trainings are taking place.

Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area.  
Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



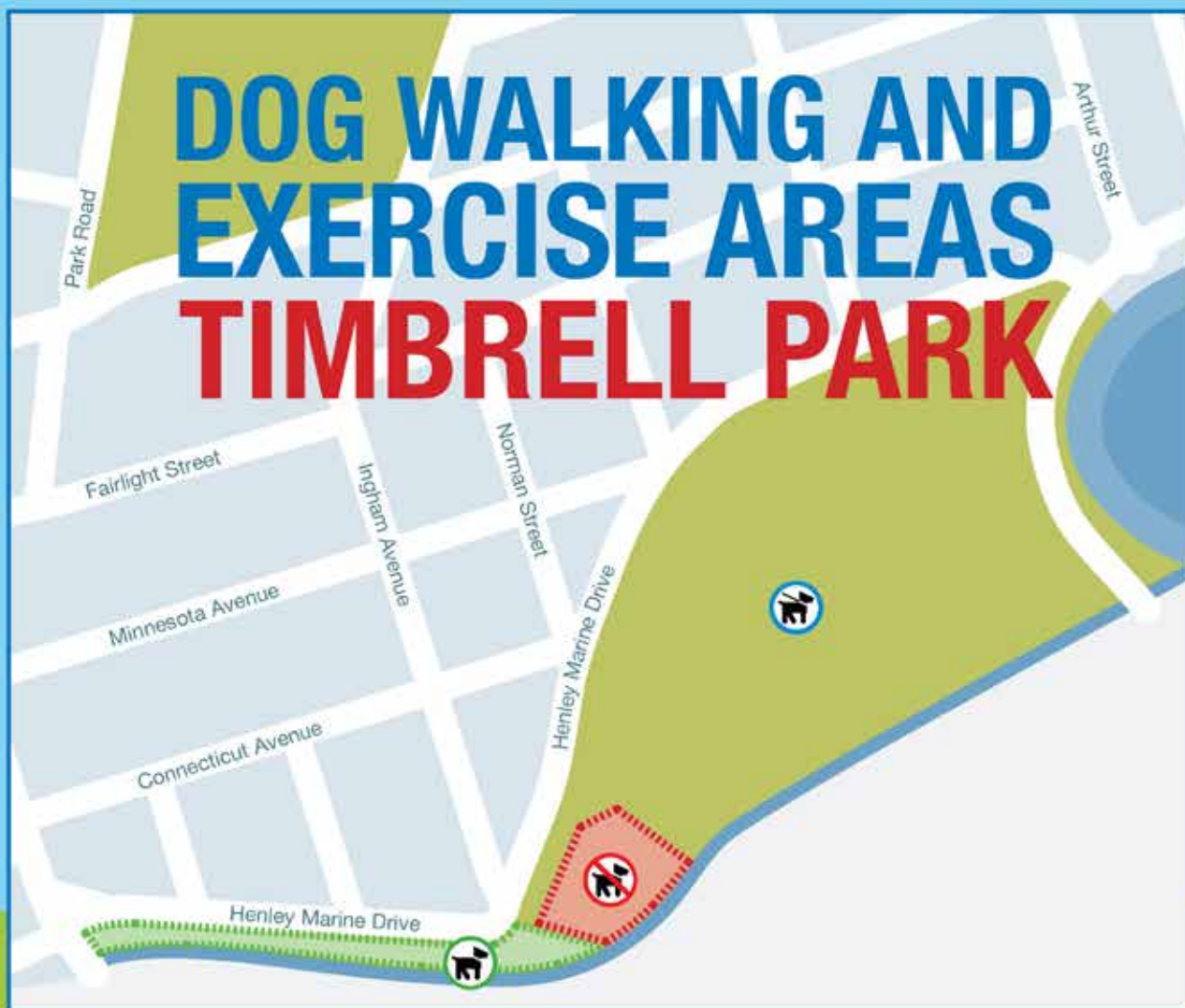
### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



# DOG WALKING AND EXERCISE AREAS TIMBRELL PARK



Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are not permitted in this area. Penalties apply under the Local Government Act 1993 and Companion Animals Act 1998.

## LEGEND:



Dogs  
off-leash



Dogs  
on-leash



Dogs  
prohibited

Dispose of  
dog poo:  
bag it and  
bin it



## YOUR DOG TYPE:



### SUITABLE FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Responds well to voice commands and instructions
- Well behaved
- Sociable.



### SUITABLE FOR ON-LEASH AREAS

- Unresponsive to voice commands and instructions
- Very playful
- Aggressive.

Please respect other park users and their dogs if they appear frightened of your dog. Leash and restrain your dog – and release only in designated off-leash areas. Do not release your dog if you cannot maintain control of it.



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# 8. Dog prohibited areas

In accordance with legislative requirements, dogs are prohibited from the following public places:

- Within 10 metres of playground equipment
- Within 10 metre of food preparation and eating areas such as barbecues and picnic tables
- A public place used for public recreation or the playing of organised games and in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited
- A public place used for or in conjunction with public bathing or public recreation (including a beach), in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited
- A public place set apart by the local authority for the protection of wildlife and in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited for the purposes of the protection of wildlife.

During organised public events there may be occasions whereby dogs are temporarily prohibited from certain areas within public places.

## Wildlife protection

In addition to considering the needs of both dog owners and non-dog owners accessing our public places, Council also needs to consider protection of wildlife. The Local Government Act 1993 states that dogs are “prohibited in public places set apart by the local authority for the protection of wildlife and in which the local authority has ordered that dogs are prohibited for the purposes of the protection of wildlife”. This strategy includes policies to ensure:

- Dog beaches consider the potential impacts on Godwits and other fauna and flora. Note: Battersea Park and Queen Victoria Reserve are existing dog off-leash exercise areas that allow beach access for dogs.
- The recommendations within the report The Fauna of City of Canada Bay Local Government Area: 2013-2014 are considered. Note: this report recorded all fauna species present at numerous sites with a particular focus on daytime-active birds. The purpose of the report is to assist Council and the community with protecting and managing biodiversity within the City of Canada Bay.
- The objectives of the City of Canada Bay Biodiversity Framework and Action Plan are adhered to. This plan will provide the overarching framework to assist management, enhancement and protection of natural areas and biodiversity in the City of Canada Bay for the next 10 years. This plan notes that dogs in foreshore habitats have been directly observed chasing and scaring resting shorebirds, including the listed migratory Bar-Tailed Godwit.

Council is a member of the Parramatta River Catchment Group. This group is working to transform the

Parramatta River and its tributaries into living waterways. Policies that prevent negative impacts from dogs on wildlife will support the initiatives of this group.

## Bar-Tailed Godwits

Bar-Tailed Godwits are an important shorebird which visits the Canada Bay area during their feeding season. They are world record holders for non-stop flight, and have been recorded travelling 11,000km from Alaska to New Zealand in only eight days, flying at an average of more than 50km/h. This journey is also a fantastic weight-loss program, as the birds lose almost half of their body weight along the way. Luckily, once they arrive in Australia, our mudflats are waiting, and they feed on molluscs, worms and aquatic insects to help them recuperate from their long flight.

It is vitally important that they are not disturbed during their feeding time on river beaches, salt marsh and mangrove areas. If they are not able to replace their body weight they will die on the return journey to Alaska.

Bar-Tailed Godwits leave Australian shores during March and April for their breeding grounds in eastern Siberia and Alaska. They return to Australia in August and September. Some birds stay over winter in Australia. Particular care needs to be taken by dog owners during this period not to disturb these and other shorebirds during their feeding time. Keep dogs away from foreshore areas to ensure the Godwits can feed undisturbed.

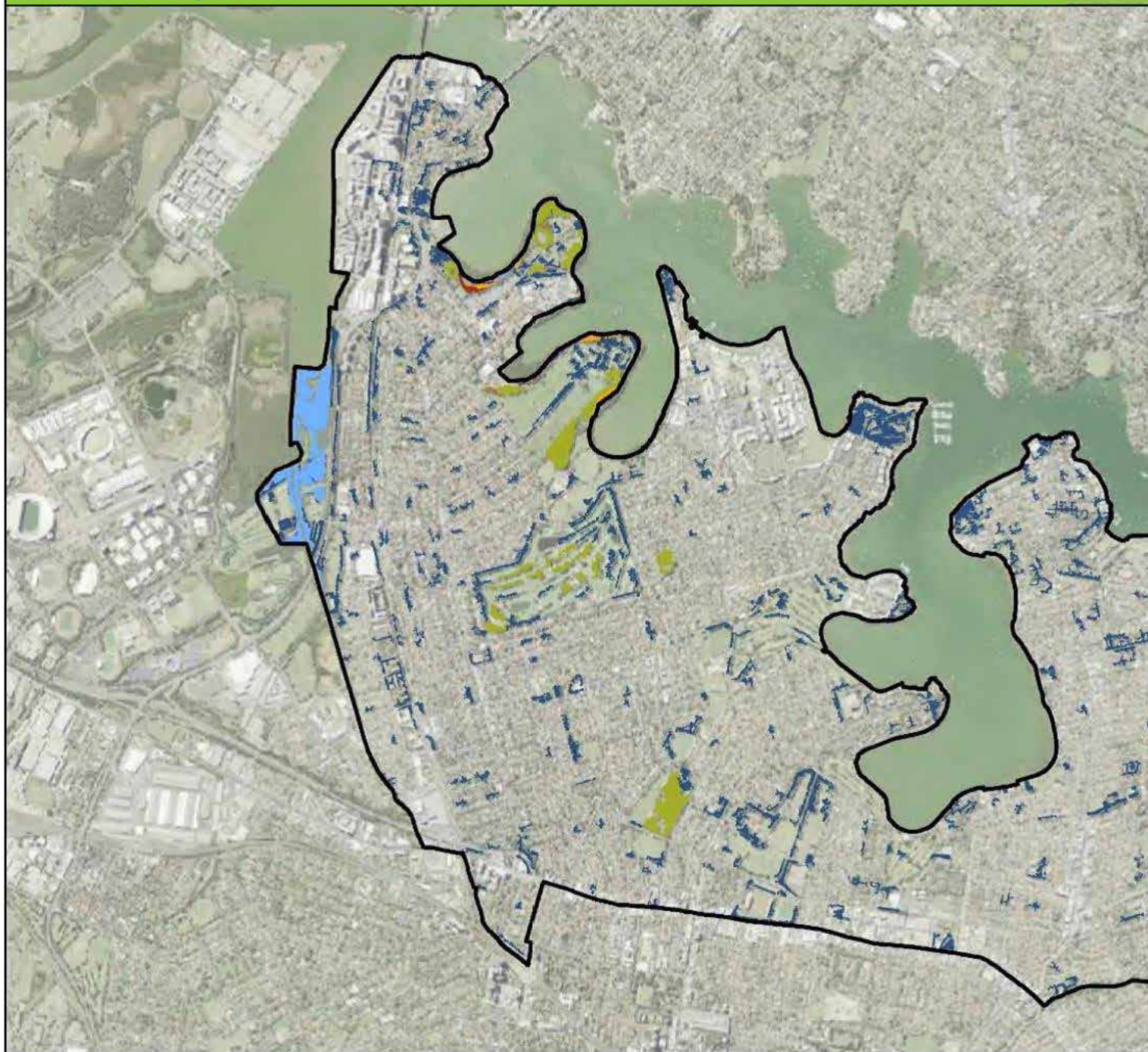
Protecting areas of significant vegetation such as saltmarsh and mangroves is important for protecting threatened ecological communities (such as Godwits) from detrimental impacts by dogs. A map of vegetation within the City of Canada Bay is shown on this page.



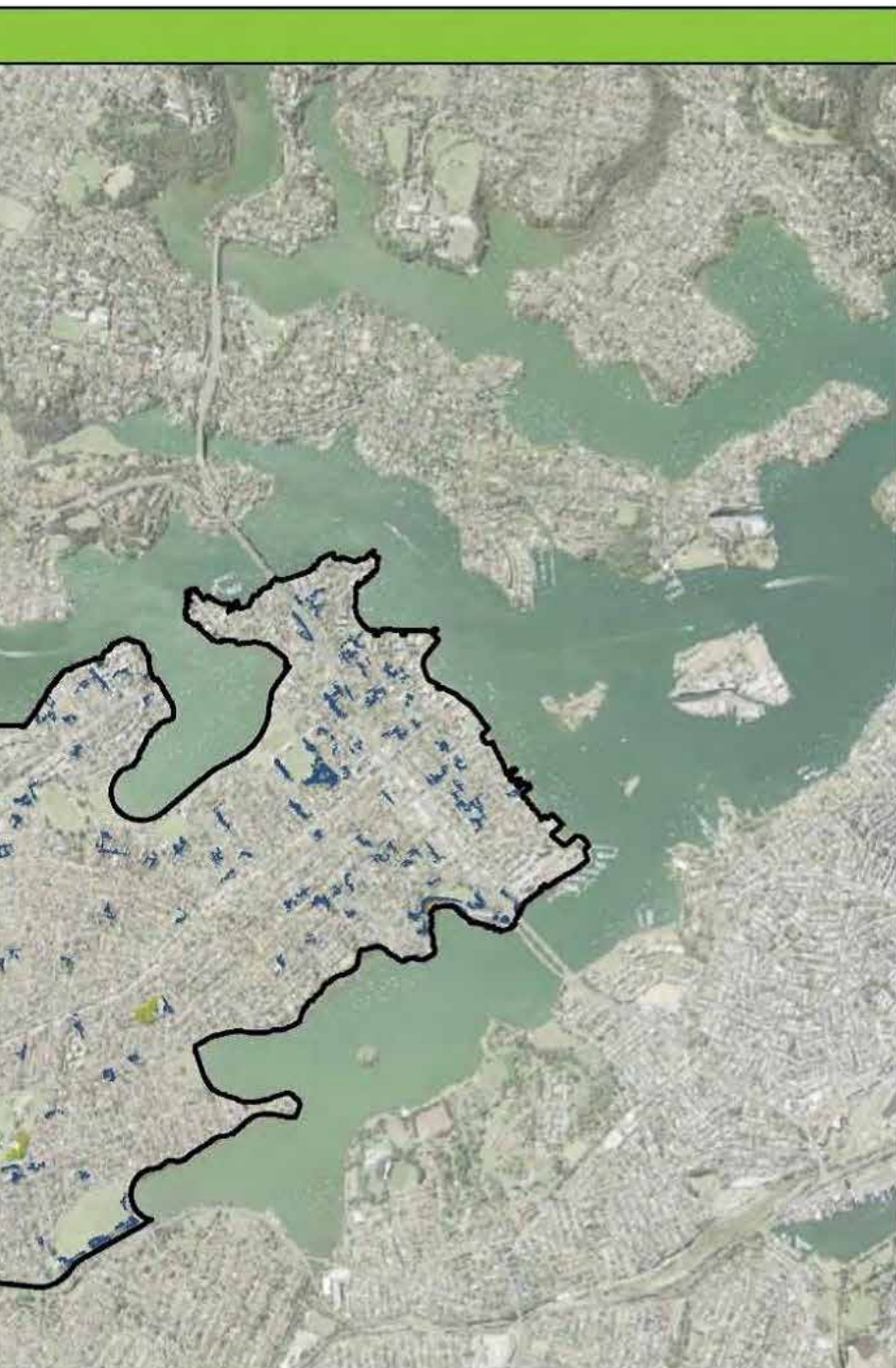




## Mapped vegetation in the City of Canada Bay







- City of Canada Bay Local Government Area
- Coastal Enriched Sandstone Dry Forest
- Riverflat Paperbark Swamp Forest
- Estuarine Swamp Oak Forest
- Estuarine Mangrove Forest
- Estuarine Saltmarsh
- Seagrass Meadows
- Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest
- Urban Exotic/Native
- Weeds and Exotics

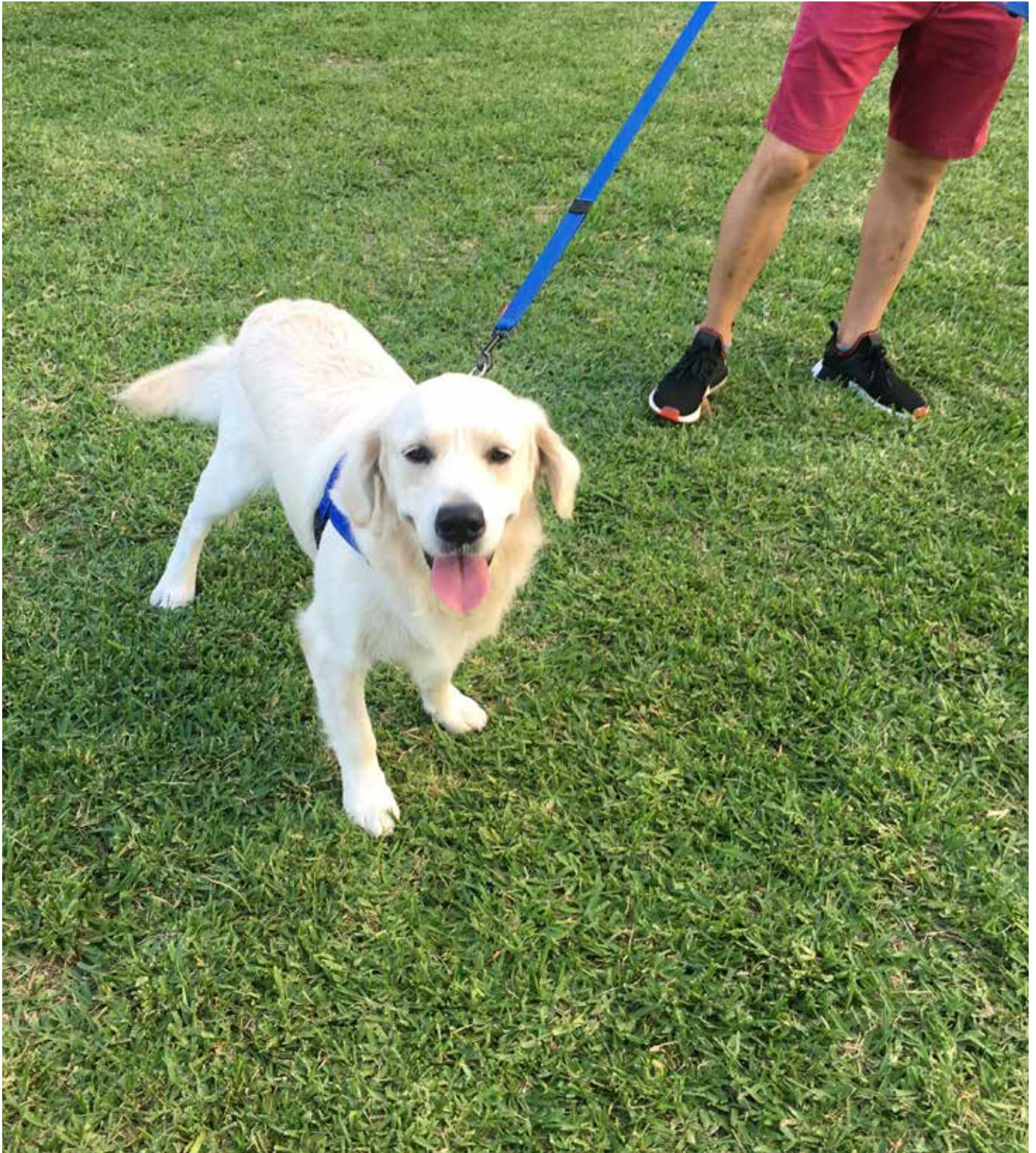
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## 9. On-leash areas

Dogs are permitted on a leash if under effective control of the owner in Council's public places that have not been identified within this strategy as dog prohibited areas, unless Council has advised otherwise by erecting signage and/or advertising such restrictions on its website.





# 10. Monitoring and review

Monitoring will occur on an ongoing basis as to the success and suitability of:

- The policies within this strategy
- Existing off-leash dog exercise areas (including their impacts on residents and natural environments).

Feedback from the community and staff will be a key method of identifying future improvements.

There may be opportunities to improve existing off-leash dog exercise areas or for additional dog off-leash areas to be provided. Council may undertake additional consultation and/or further trials, and this may lead to amendments to our off-leash, on-leash and dogs prohibited areas as well as updates to this strategy.

Within five years of adoption of this strategy an assessment will be made as to whether a full review is required.





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