



Community Engagement Summary

Application of By-laws
December 2023



Community Engagement Summary:

Application of By-laws

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide details of community consultation undertaken in relation to the application of Council's by-laws. This report outlines a summary of the consultation activities that were undertaken, and the feedback gathered during the engagement period.

Background

On Thursday, 3 August 2023, Council's seven by-laws were gazetted in the South Australian Government Gazette. They will come into operation four months from this date (Sunday, 3 December 2023).

In accordance with Section 246(2)(e) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, specific provisions within the by-laws only apply to those portions of land which have been identified by Council resolution.

This primarily relates to locations where there are specific needs or desires for non-standard dog leashing requirements, and to locations where there are specific needs in relation to undertaking activities on local government land.

The provisions that apply to areas are to be determined by the Council cannot be enforced until Council determines the areas in respect of which they apply.

The purpose of this community consultation was to:

- Encourage community participation and feedback on the draft locations for non-standard dog leashing requirements and activities on local government land.
- Identify and gauge community attitudes relating to the specific locations for the relevant by-laws.
- Reinforce Council's commitment to open, transparent and informed decision-making, and encouraging appropriate community participation in the affairs of the Council.

Council endorsed public consultation at its Ordinary Council meeting on 23 October 2023.

Consultation Methodology

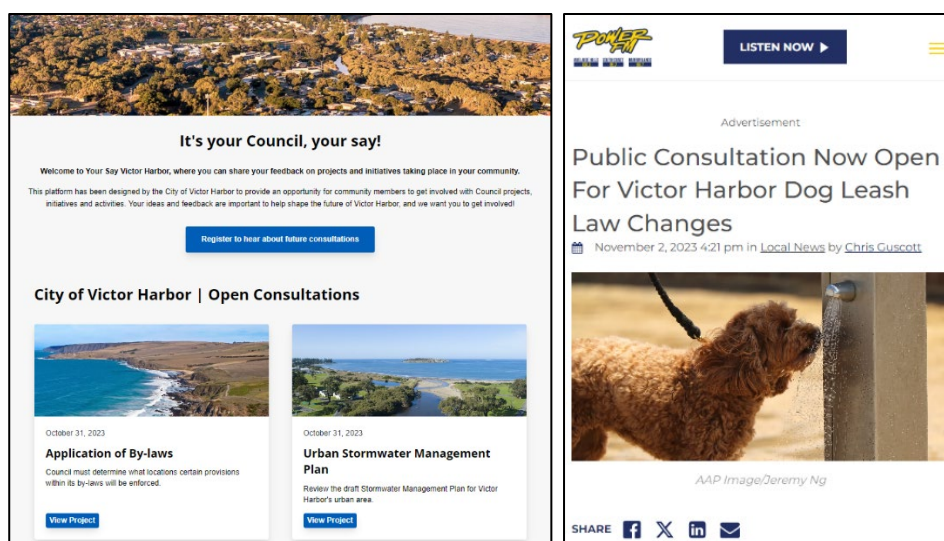
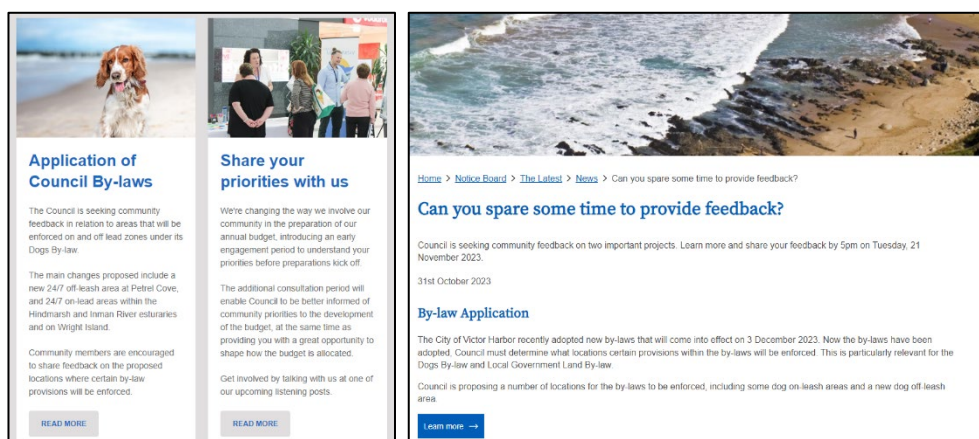
The community consultation period ran from 9am on Tuesday, 31 October 2023 until 5pm on Tuesday, 21 November 2023.

The City of Victor Harbor collected the views of the community through several different methods including a **survey** (both hardcopy and digital) and **drop-in sessions**.

The topic was covered by a number of media outlets prior to consultation commencing, including [The Advertiser](#) (28 October) and [ABC](#) (30 October). It was also covered during the consultation period by the [Fleurieu Sun](#), [The Times](#), [Fleurieu App](#) and [Power FM](#).

The opportunity to have a say was actively promoted in the following ways:

- **Public Notice in The Times** – 31 October 2023
- **Direct email to Your Say database** – 1 November 2023 (54% open rate)
- **Social media posts** (total reach of 6,500 across all channels)
 - **Facebook** – 1 November 2023, 2 November 2023, 14 November 2023
 - **Instagram** – 1 November 2023, 14 November 2023
- **Victor Viewpoint newsletter** – 10 November 2023 (57% open rate)
- **Radio interviews**
 - **Happy FM** – 3 November 2023
 - **Fleurieu FM** – 10 November 2023
- **Websites**
 - **Victor.sa.gov.au** – (58 views on news item)
 - **Yoursay.victor.sa.gov.au** (739 page views, 200 document downloads)
- **Displays in the Civic Centre**



Community Feedback

Drop-in Sessions

An initial community drop-in session took place from 7:30 – 10am on Wednesday, 8 November 2023 at Bridge Point (near the Hindmarsh River Estuary). It is estimated that around 60 community members spoke to Council staff, including some who had specifically come to share feedback and others who happened to be walking by the area at the time.

A second drop-in session took place from 7:30 – 10am on Wednesday, 15 November 2023 at the Causeway Plaza (near the Causeway Café and Horse Tram). It is estimated that around 25 community members spoke to Council staff.



The key themes that emerged during the drop-in sessions are tabled below.

Petrel Cove	
Key Theme	Officer Response
Almost all feedback was consistent that Petrel Cove is <i>not</i> an appropriate location for a permanent off-lead dog area. This is due to: • dangerous waters, potential risk of drowning • limited/difficult access for people with mobility challenges (stairs and steep descent) • limited facilities including lack of parking.	For Council Members' consideration: Petrel Cove is approximately 150m long south facing beach, which is bordered and backed by the 20-metre-high steep bluffs of Rosetta Head. Petrel Cove is considered a dangerous place to swim due to the presence of jagged rocks and rips. Because of the steep decline to the beach, it proves difficult for people with a disability and the older demographic to access the beach. To ensure the safety of the community and dogs, Petrel Cove is not considered an appropriate location for Council to establish a 24/7 off-leash dog area. It would be recommended that Council supports the feedback that Petrel Cove is not a 24/7 dog off-leash

	area and current hours remain for dogs to be on-leash 24/7.
Some community members suggested an alternative off-lead area on the beach between the Hindmarsh River and the Causeway, or between Kent Reserve and The Bluff.	For Council Members' consideration: The proposed alternative 24/7 off-leash dog areas are known common breeding sites for vulnerable bird species, the Hooded Plover. Over the years there has been an increase in chicks fledging these sites. If these areas were to become a 24/7 off-leash dog area, this would pose a direct threat to the chicks and eggs but may also disturb incubating adults. This may result in temporary nest abandonment, which exposes the eggs to harsh temperatures and predators. It is recommended that Council does not support the area between Hindmarsh River and the Causeway or between Kent Reserve and the Bluff to be a 24/7 dog off-leash area.

Beaches from Chiton Rocks to The Bluff

Key Theme	Officer Response
There was a generous consensus that hours for on-lead and off-lead dog walking should <i>remain</i> as they currently are, as the existing system works well.	For Council Members' consideration: Retaining the current hours for having dogs on-lead and off-lead will ensure there is minimal confusion within the community and meets the interests of the community. It is recommended that Council supports the hours for having a dog on-leash and off-leash between Chiton Rocks to the Bluff (excluding the Hindmarsh and Inman Estuaries) remaining unchanged as detailed below: Daylight Savings (October to March) - Dogs must be on-leash between 10am and 8pm during daylight savings; and - Dogs may be off-leash (must be under effective control) during 8pm and 10am during daylight saving (October to March) Non-Daylight Savings (April to September) Dogs may be off-leash (must be under effective control) during non-daylight saving.

Several community members suggested that dogs off-lead hours be extended to 6pm – 10am during daylight savings (instead of 8pm – 10am). This would be to allow more opportunity for active wellbeing, and more consistency with Alexandrina Council.	For Council Members' consideration: This suggestion would allow for more opportunity for active wellbeing and provides consistency with Alexandrina Council. However, if Council were to adjust the hours for dogs on-leash and off-leash, this could create confusion among our community, as this was not a proposed change within the engagement period. In addition, Councils signage would need to update to reflect any adjustment to current requirements, which will incur a financial cost. It is recommended that Council does not support the change to hours for dogs to be on-leash and off-leash. However, there is nothing to prevent Council in the future, trialling an adjustment to the hours when dogs are on-leash and permitted to be off-leash, though this would be subject of a separate report to Council and will require further community consultation.
A minority felt that dogs should be on a lead all the time, on all beaches.	For Council Members' consideration: Having a balanced outcome that meets the interests of the community, visitors and dogs, will ensure they are enjoyed by everyone. It is recommended that Council does not support Dogs on-leash 24/7.

Hindmarsh River/Inman River/Wright Island

Key Theme	Officer Response
Majority of community members felt it <i>is</i> appropriate to have an on-leash area around the estuaries, as long as the shoreline remains off-leash during the specified hours.	For Council Members' consideration: Council has recognised the importance of protecting and conserving our environment for some time. Councils Biodiversity and Natural Assets Plan (the Plan) has a key focus on prioritising rehabilitation, revegetation and management of unique areas and species. The Plan has an objective and action plan for protecting and enhancing biodiversity which considers the effects from and on, natural assets. One of the objectives within the Plan is:

	<i>Objective - 9.0 – Protect beach-nesting birds, Action - Create a dog on-leash or exclusion zone around the Hindmarsh River Estuary incorporate into updated Dog and Cat Management Plan 2024-2029, subject to relevant by-law review”.</i> It is recommended that Council supports Hindmarsh and Inman River Estuaries to be 24/7 dog on-leash area to align with Council’s Strategic Plan and direction. In addition, it is recommended that Council supports dogs on-leash and off-leash between the estuary and the watermark remaining unchanged as detailed below: Daylight Savings (October to March) • Dogs must be on-leash between 10am and 8pm during daylight savings; and • Dogs may be off-leash (must be under effective control) during 8pm and 10am during daylight saving (October to March) Non-Daylight Savings (April to September) Dogs may be off-leash (must be under effective control) during non-daylight saving.
Some community members felt that the river, sand dunes and vegetation should be off-leash areas to allow for dogs to swim in the calm waters of the river.	For Council Members’ consideration: If the rivers, sand dunes and vegetation were to be 24/7 dog off-leash area, this would be contrary to one of Council’s key focuses on prioritising rehabilitation, revegetation and management of unique areas and species as outlined within Council’s Biodiversity and Natural Assets Plan. It is recommended that Council does not support dog off-leash areas within the river, sand dunes and vegetation areas.
A minority felt that dogs should not be allowed in these areas at all.	For Council Members’ consideration: Council could consider having the Hindmarsh River Estuary as an exclusion to align with Councils Biodiversity and Natural Assets Plan. However, there needs to be a balanced outcome that meets the interests of our community as a whole.

	It is recommended that Council does not support a dog exclusion zone for Hindmarsh River/Inman River/Wright Island.
Other Feedback	
Key Theme	Officer Response
Foxes, feral cats and other pests in high biodiversity areas are a concern.	Council's Biodiversity and Natural Assets Plan recognises the threat that pests pose to our biodiversity. One of the key objectives in the Plan is to reduce pest animals and plants. Current efforts are centred around an integrated management approach to rabbits. The City of Victor Harbor will continue to work with Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu, Green Adelaide, Birdlife Australia and Department for Environment and Water as opportunities arise to target foxes, particularly in the vicinity of Hooded Plover nests and other high value fauna habitat areas.
By-law maps provided in the Council Meeting Agenda were difficult to interpret.	Improved maps were made ahead of the public consultation period commencing and provided on the Council's Your Say website. Hardcopy versions of these maps/fat sheets were available at the Civic Centre and during drop-in sessions.
Consistency with Alexandrina Council would be valuable regarding daylight savings times.	Alexandrina Council currently requires dogs to be on leash on most coastal foreshore areas between 10am – 6pm between 1 February and 30 April. This feedback was addressed in more detail earlier in this report.
Limited understanding by visitors/tourists about by-laws and regulations	Council will communicate any changes to the application of its by-laws (if required) using a number of communications methods, including the website, signage and education by our Public Safety team.
General support for the flexibility that has been designed into the proposed By-laws.	For Council Members' consideration: The by-laws have been designed to allow for flexibility for applying the application of the by-laws. This primarily relates to locations where there are specific needs or desires for non-standard dog lead requirements and to locations where there are specific needs in relation to undertaking activities on local Government Land.

	This is referred to the application of a by-law and at any time Council may review and amend the application of the by-law to meet community needs and align with Council's strategic documents should they change.
Lack of understanding why Council has reviewed its by-laws	The City of Victor Harbor's current by-laws were due to expire on 1 January 2024. To ensure new by-laws were in place when the current ones expire, Council needed to initiate a review process in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999. Community members were made aware they can propose to Council Members future changes and not have to undergo a full review of the by-laws if supported through Council resolution.
Lack of understanding on how high biodiversity is determined.	Areas like the Hindmarsh River Estuary and Inman River Estuary have a high biodiversity value because of the vegetation, animals and micro-organisms located there. The Hindmarsh River Estuary is a useful island-refuge and corridor for birds. The Estuary with its associated estuarine vegetation is uncommon in SA. The strip of near natural vegetation in a built-up area is significant, including valuable swamp paperbark woodland and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh (listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act). The Inman River Estuary supports remnant vegetation once widespread along estuaries in the region. Few estuaries in South Australia still support natural vegetation. It is one of two remaining localities of swamp paperbark communities on the Fleurieu Peninsula; swamp paperbark communities are considered rare in South Australia. The area is an important habitat for wading and other bird species and is an important corridor for bird movement from the coast to wooded inland areas. Bird species known from the Estuary, which are uncommon, rare or vulnerable in South Australia, include the royal spoonbill, hooded plover, yellow thornbill and black chinned honeyeater. The Estuary, with its near natural vegetation and location within a built-up urban area, is also of high aesthetic significance.



Uncertainty on how Council would effectively enforce by-laws.	Council will communicate any changes to the application of its by-laws (if required) using a number of communications methods, including the website and signage. Council's General Inspectors undertake focused patrols/monitoring in areas across the City Victor Harbor when required to ensure compliance.
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Community members were appreciative of the opportunity to speak to Council staff in person. Most community members thanked staff for their conversations.

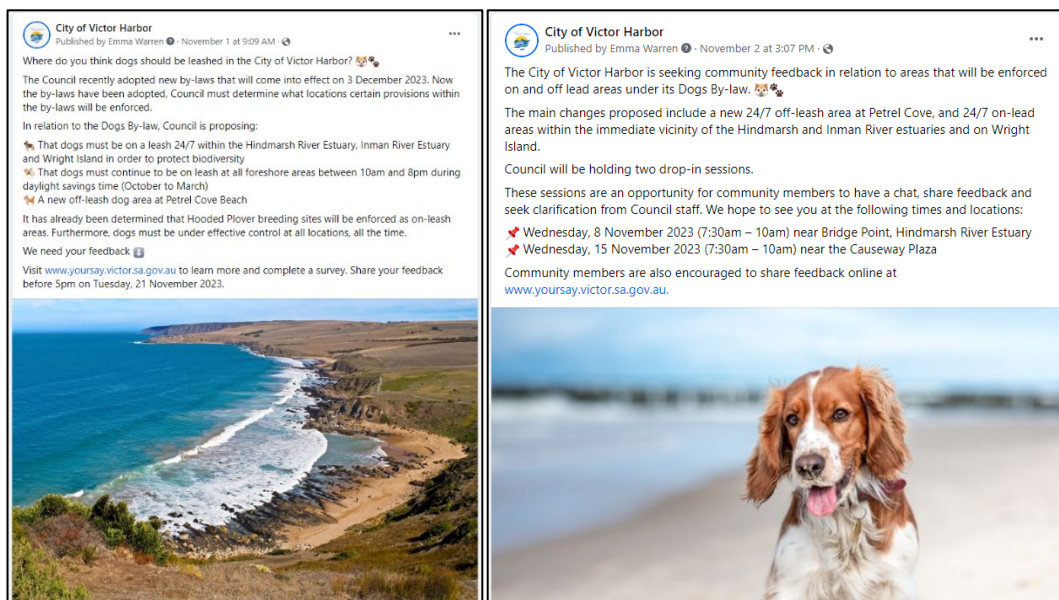
Further face-to-face conversations were had with community members:

- Over the counter at the Civic Centre throughout the consultation period
- During Listening Posts for the 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget, held at:
 - Victor Central on 16 November 2023
 - Farmer's Market on 18 November 2023
 - Ocean Street on 21 November 2023
 - Victor Harbor Library on 22 November 2023

Similar key themes emerged from these additional conversations with community members.

Social Media

Several social media posts (Facebook and Instagram) were made on Council's official channels during the consultation period. The posts had a combined reach of 6,500 people.



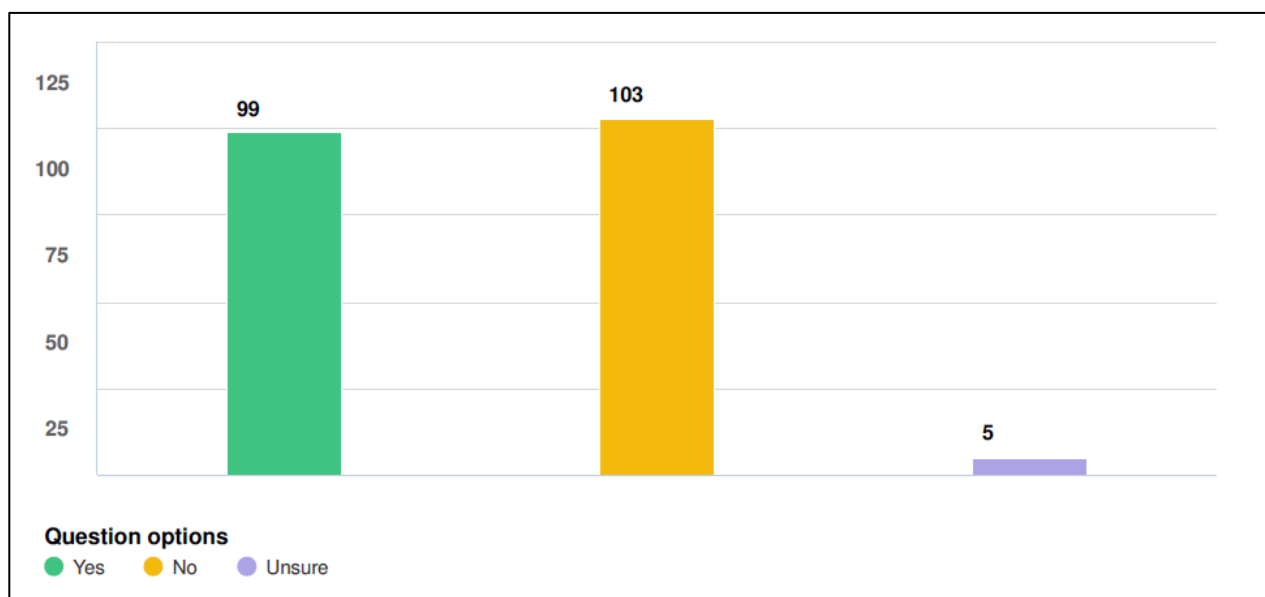
The following comments were received on social media:

- *dogs have become prisoners... they need freedom too*
- *Fantastic initiative and congratulations for protecting our precious high biodiversity areas so future generations can enjoy the wildlife on our beaches too! I love walking my dog on the beach as much as the next person but more than happy to pop her on a lead when we're near wildlife. It's really not that hard! #beachesarehabitat #sharingourshore #Ilovemydogtoo #BiodiversityMatters*
- *Completed survey. The areas around the breeding grounds is AOK. Petrel Cove proposal is about as stupid as it can get.*
- *Goody good doers stuffing it up for everyone else and don't even see them on the beach.*
- *I can't believe there is a suggestion from council about using Petrels Cove for off lead dog walking. Do you visit regularly? Often it is nothing but rocks not sand and as for the access to it! Think again.*
- *Reading fact sheet indicates there is much more to consider than the dog issues.*
- *Our dog walked every morning and, off lead. Never any problems with him or other muts. Has council done anything about the fox problem on Granite island? Bet they haven't*
- *I exercise my whippets on the beach at Kent reserve and on Inman River bank. Have never seen a plover's nest in this area it is flooded by tides regularly. I believe more plovers are impacted by seagulls than any other. And believe that the regulations should remain as they are..*
- *I don't see the need for daylight saving changes. Why ? There's hardly any increase of people walking their dogs, swimming. Not many tourists or visitors Ridiculous!!!!*
- *How many of the elderly population will be able to walk down to Petrel Cove??? We will become like other states where dogs won't be allowed anywhere soon!*

Survey

Community members were encouraged to complete a survey (either online or in hard copy). A total of 206 surveys were submitted during the consultation period. The following outlines the key themes that emerged from the survey responses.

Q1. Do you support the proposal that dogs must be on a leash 24/7 within the Hindmarsh River Estuary, Inman River Estuary and Wright Island in order to protect biodiversity?

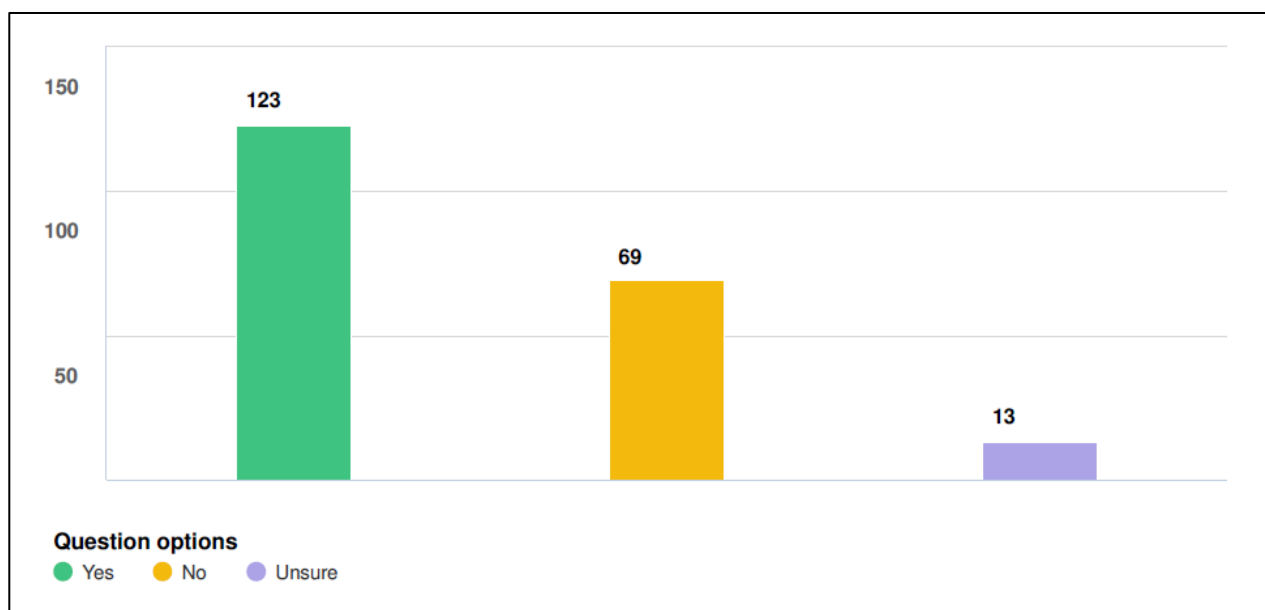


Q1A. Why or why not?

Responses to the open-ended question were varied, with some respondents in favour of the proposal, and others against the proposal. Key themes to emerge in the comments included:

Comments <u>for</u> proposal	Comments <u>against</u> proposal
Biodiversity/protecting the environment is important, and these areas are vulnerable.	Dogs should be able to run free and swim in rivers.
Native animals and birds need protection where possible.	Dogs particularly like to run free at the Hindmarsh River Estuary
Dogs off-leash present too much danger to environment and people.	Current laws are sufficient / the proposal is over-regulation.
The dog park is already available as an off-leash area, plus the beach at certain times.	Restricts the freedom of dogs and people too much.
	It will be challenging to monitor/implement this rule, and people may not comply.

Q2. Do you support the proposal that dogs must continue to be on leash at all foreshore areas between 10am and 8pm during daylight savings time (October to March)?

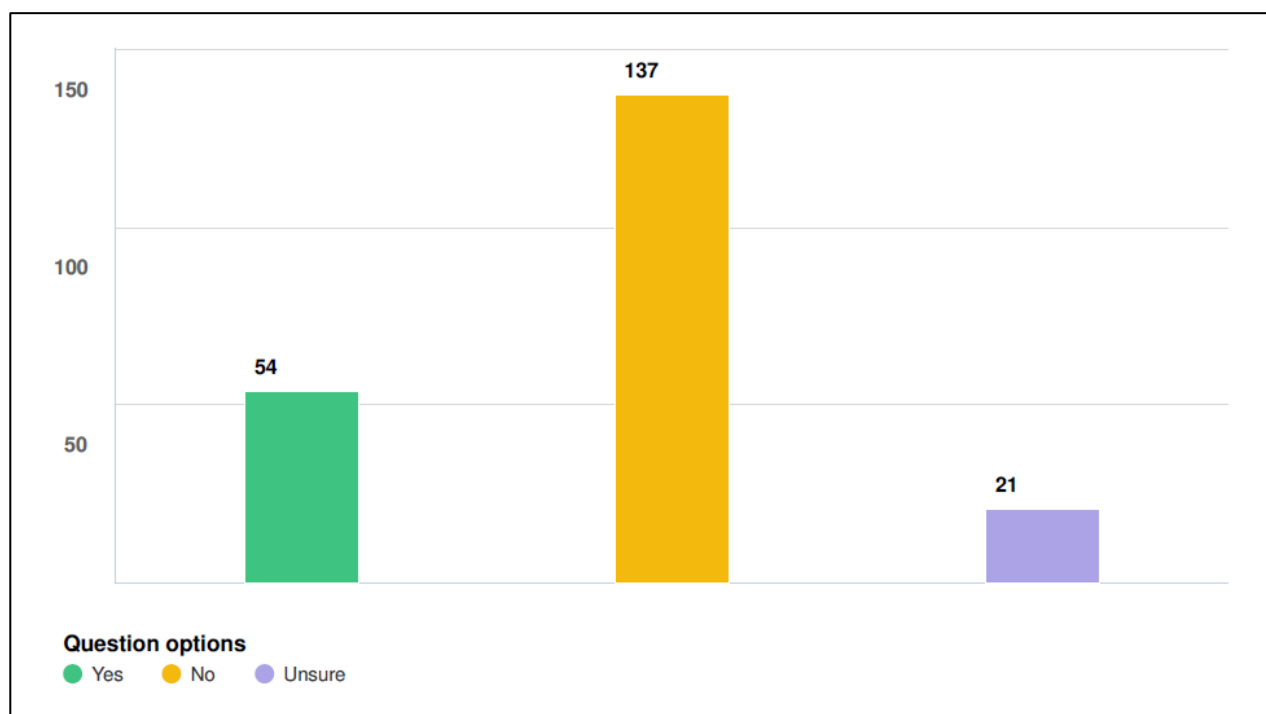


Q2A. Why or why not?

Key themes to emerge in the comments included:

Comments <u>for</u> proposal	Comments <u>against</u> proposal
These existing rules work well.	8pm is too late to commence off-leash walking (could be brought forward to 7pm, 6pm or earlier) as no one likes to walk in the dark
Safety is important for beachgoers, and off-lead dogs can interfere with this.	10am – 6pm would be a more balanced approach, as most beach goers have left the beach by that time.
Protects beach users during the day in summer, allows families to enjoy the beach without dogs off-leash.	Consistent times with neighbouring councils would be beneficial.
Off-leash dogs can be frightening for children	It is too restrictive and limits exercise opportunities for dogs.
Safety for walkers, runners, swimmers	Dogs need an area to be free.
It is a sensible compromise for all beach users.	There is poor compliance amongst dog owners.
Makes it less likely for dog droppings to be left as litter.	
There is poor compliance amongst dog owners.	

Q3. Do you support an off-leash dog area at Petrel Cove Beach?

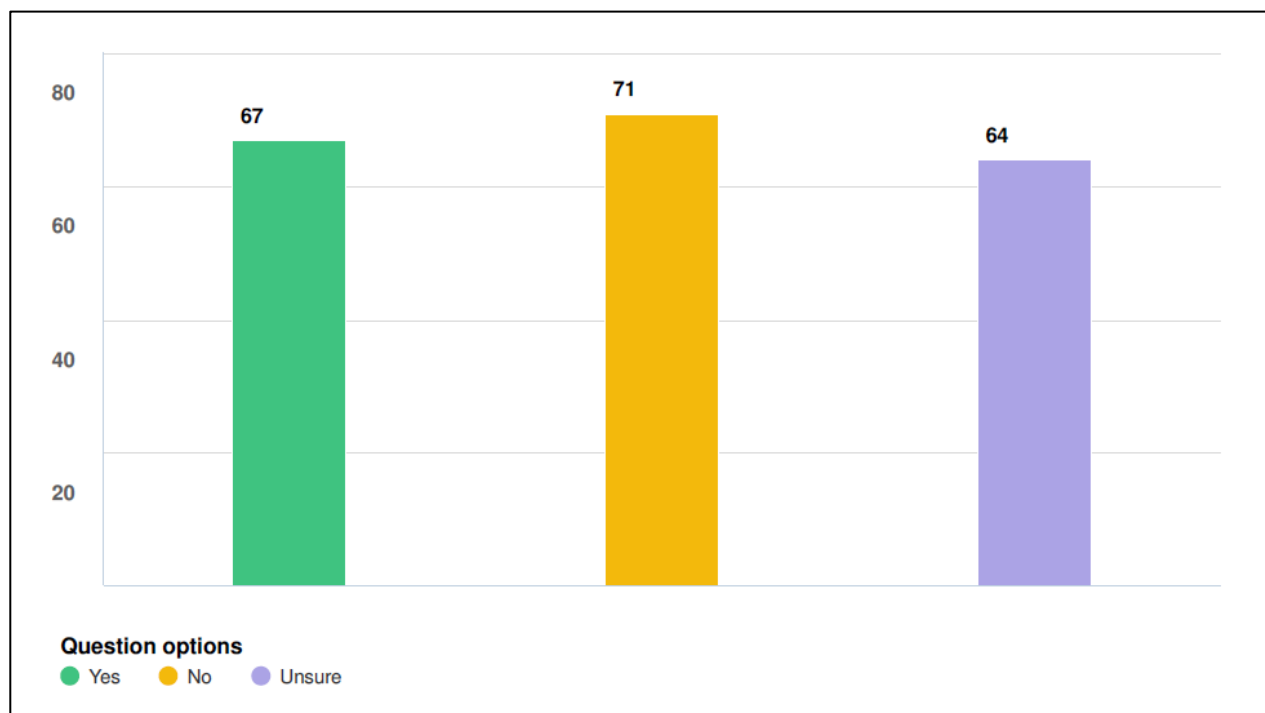


Q3A. Why or why not?

Key themes to emerge in the comments included:

Comments <u>for</u> proposal	Comments <u>against</u> proposal
Provides a quiet area for dog owners that is unlikely to be crowded with general public.	It is too dangerous/risky for dogs and owners to be near Petrel Cove waters. Dogs may get caught in rips, potential for drownings.
An extra place for dogs to play freely is welcomed.	Petrel Cove is not easy to access for people with low mobility (due to stairs and steep descent)
A secluded beach is preferable.	Petrel Cove is too remote/far from town.
	There are not enough facilities for dog owners and walkers at Petrel Cove
	Lack of car parking spaces
	An off-leash dog area is needed but Petrel Cove is not appropriate.
	Unsuitable for elderly people due to unsafe access

Q4. Council is proposing a number of locations where certain activities require Council permission. This includes launching and retrieving boats, using e-scooters and segways, operating floodlighting, allowing animals to swim, playing organised sport/games, and flying model aircraft, amongst others. Do you support the locations proposed?



Q4A. Why or why not?

Key themes to emerge in the comments included:

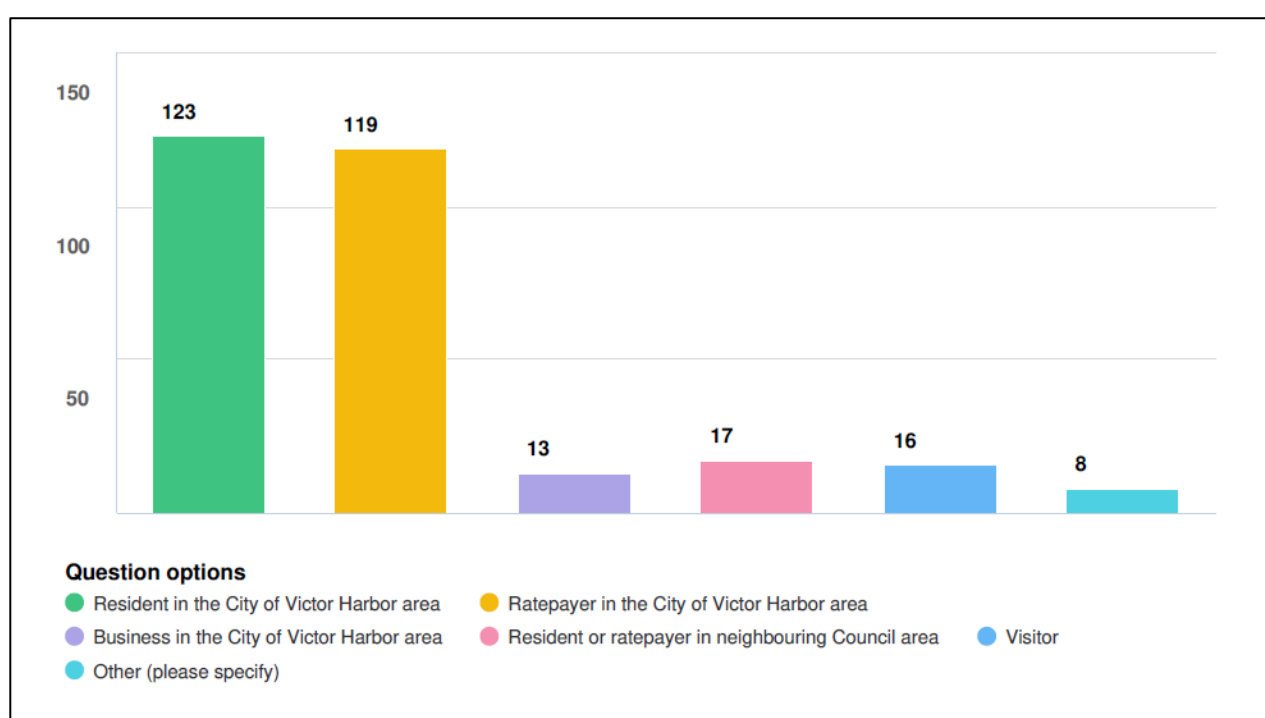
Comments <u>for</u> proposal	Comments <u>against</u> proposal	Unsure
Control/coordination of these activities is important for public safety.	Excessive regulation is not desired for Victor Harbor	Unsure about what is being proposed, more detail needed.
Regulation is necessary to protect our people, environment and land.	There is no issue with the current regulations in place.	Not interested in Local Government Land By-law, more concerned about Dog By-law
The proposal seems appropriate	Obstacles will stop people from enjoying these activities.	Not clear how the process for permission would work, not sure how this would impact.
	There should be more leeway for organised games.	

Q5. Do you have any further feedback on the application of the City of Victor Harbor's by-laws?

Key themes to emerge in the comments included:

- Improved community education, monitoring and enforcement by inspectors is needed.
- Public land should be safe, shared and liveable for all, without any fear or discomfort.
- Being able to use open spaces is important for pets and pet owner wellbeing.
- The environment is an important feature of Victor Harbor and should be protected.

Q6. What best describes you?



Responses to 'other' included:

- Disappointed visitor to area
- My family are ratepayers. We own a beach house in Victor.
- 22 years of living in the area, retired citizen and community member, we matter.
- Currently resident in Alexandrina but will be moving into Victor Council area in a few months.
- Conservationist involved in beach bird observations.
- Resident of the Fleurieu Peninsula
- I grew up here and my parents live here.
- Hooded Plover volunteer on the Fleurieu Peninsula

Written submissions

A total of 26 written submissions (letters or emails) were received. The following is a summary of the feedback received:

Petrel Cove	
Key Theme	Officer Response
Not supportive of Petrel Cove as an off-lead area	For Council Members' consideration: Petrel Cove is approximately 200m long south facing beach, which is bordered and backed by the 20-metre-high steep bluffs of Rosetta Head. Petrel Cove is considered a dangerous place to swim due to the presence of jagged rocks and rips. Because of the steep decline to the beach, it proves difficult for people with a disability and the older demographic to access the beach. To ensure the safety of the community and their pets, Petrel Cove is not considered an appropriate location for Council to establish a 24/7 off-leash dog area. It is recommended that Council supports the feedback that Petrel Cove is not a 24/7 dog off-leash area and current hours remain for dogs to be on-leash 24/7.
Dog poo bags would need to be easily available at Petrel Cove	For Council Members' consideration: It is not recommended for Petrel Cove to become a permanent off-leash zone for dogs, the placement and demand of dog bag dispensers is monitored regularly depending on usage and traffic flow. Council supplies the option for dog walkers to use our dog bag dispensers but should always bring their own as it is not mandatory for Council to supply these bags.
Beaches from Chiton Rocks to The Bluff	
Key Theme	Officer Response
Off-leash dogs can impact public safety.	For Council Members' consideration: Council's role is to facilitate and educate responsible animal ownership within our community, balancing outcomes for all animal owners within our incredible City is a priority.

Existing rules work and do not need to be changed / regulations should remain unchanged and consistent.	For Council Members' consideration: Minor changes have been proposed to reflect the environment we are lucky to live, work and play within. The current recommendations aim to reduce some restrictions outside of daylight savings and planned recommendations have been considered to provide a consistent approach to the application and regulation of By-laws.
Dogs need somewhere to run, swim and play freely.	Council is not banning dogs from beaches. Council is providing options that seek to balance protection of our environment, while still giving dogs as much freedom as possible. Under the proposal, community members would still be able to walk their dogs on the beach all the way from Chiton Rocks to The Bluff during specific hours (depending on daylight savings/non-daylight savings).
Do not ban beach access for dog owners.	Council is not banning dogs from beaches. Council is providing options that seek to balance protection of our environment, while still giving dogs as much freedom as possible. Under the proposal, community members would still be able to walk their dogs on the beach all the way from Chiton Rocks to The Bluff during specific hours (depending on daylight savings/non-daylight savings).

Hindmarsh River/Inman River/Wright Island

Key Theme	Officer Response
Council's intention to protect biodiversity is commendable.	For Council Members' consideration.
Support for protection of biodiversity	Council has recognised the importance of protecting and conserving our environment for some time. Council's Biodiversity and Natural Asset Plan and Environment Management Plan outlines the Council's commitment to protecting our biodiversity.
Not supportive of dogs being restricted from the Hindmarsh River and Inman River areas.	The proposal to have a 24/7 on-leash area at the Hindmarsh River Estuary and Inman River Estuary would not restrict dogs from these areas entirely. Dogs would still be able to be off-leash along the ocean shoreline during specified hours (depending on daylight savings/non daylight savings).

	However, dogs would need to be on a lead when in the immediate vicinity of the estuaries (in the dunes area).
Victor Harbor has a large dog community, and the proposal is not equitable.	The current recommendations have been framed to ensure an equitable approach of responsible animal ownership across our community.
Suggestion that Hooded Plover nesting sites should have improved fencing (meshing)	The suggestion is noted and will be given further consideration. The proposal to have a 24/7 on-leash area at the Hindmarsh River Estuary, Inman River Estuary and Wright Island is not solely to protect Hooded Plovers. The Hindmarsh River Estuary is a useful island-refuge and corridor for many birds. The Estuary also has valuable swamp paperbark woodland and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh (Vulnerable under the EPBC Act). The Inman River Estuary is an important habitat for wading and other bird species and is an important corridor for bird movement from the coast to wooded inland areas. Bird species known from the Estuary, which are uncommon, rare or vulnerable in South Australia, include the royal spoonbill, yellow thornbill and black chinned honeyeater.
Other Feedback	
Key Theme	Officer Response
Clear signage and information about boundaries will be necessary.	For Council Members' consideration: Council's signage can be reviewed, and future budget bids can be created for the upgrading of the foreshore signs.
The consultation has been confusing and unclear for community members.	This feedback will be taken on board. Fact sheets and maps were provided on the Council's Your Say website to assist community members understanding of what is being proposed. Council's drop-in sessions were an opportunity for community to ask questions and chat directly with Council staff.
More off-leash dog walking areas are needed.	In 2024 Council will be reviewing its Dog and Cat Management Plan, part of this review may include



	provisions for parks where dogs may be exercised off-leash. It is recommended that Council take this feedback on board when the Dog and Cat Management Plan is reviewed.
More community education needed to assist with understanding of 'effective control'.	Council will consider educational opportunities and improved enforcement for animal management. Your dog is considered to be under effective control if: • You can see your dog at all times. • You are able to control your dog in any circumstance. • Your dog is in close proximity to you. • Your dog does not run up to other people or animals without permission. • Your dog does not chase, harass or cause a nuisance to any person, animal or bird. This <i>may</i> mean that to be under effective control your dog needs to be on a lead at all times.



Conclusion

The consultation process has proven valuable for understanding community sentiment about where provisions within Council's by-laws should be applied.

Community members were extremely engaged with this topic, particularly about dog on-lead and off-lead walking, with a large number of people downloading information from Council's website, submitting a survey response and/or attending a drop-in session. The detail and depth of submissions demonstrates a clear interest in this body of work being undertaken by Council.

The drop-in sessions were particularly useful for Council staff to communicate the proposal with community members and hear feedback in-person. The face-to-face opportunity was well received by the community.

Some of the most common themes to emerge through the consultation process include:

- Petrel Cove is not an appropriate location for an off-lead dog area.
- Dog walking is important for both pet and owner wellbeing.
- Victor Harbor's natural environment is very special and should be protected where possible.
- More monitoring and effective enforcement is needed from Council's inspectors.

Following a decision by Council, the outcomes of the consultation will be shared publicly.