

## **7 PROPOSED LEASH FREE DOG AREA - GOLDSBOROUGH DRIVE, OFFICER**

FILE REFERENCE INT1940851

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council not proceed with the proposed leash free dog area in Goldsbrough Drive Reserve Officer, and respond to the head petitioner advising them of the decision.

### **Attachments**

1 Leash Free Dog Area Hierarchy 1 Page

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A leash free dog area review was completed in March 2018, proposing a hierarchal management model of leash free dog areas across the Shire.

A public consultation process was undertaken for the proposed leash free dog area within Goldsbrough Drive Reserve, Officer receiving feedback via a range of medium.

A petition with 26 signatures was acknowledged and received at the 15 April 2019 Council meeting. This petition opposes the proposed Goldsbrough Drive Reserve leash free dog area.

The community consultation process results indicate that the majority of the local community within the Timbertop, Timbertop West and The Rise estates do not support the proposed leash free dog area within Goldsbrough Drive Reserve, Officer.

### **BACKGROUND**

Following a review of leash free dog areas in March 2018, a hierarchal management model of leash free dog areas was proposed to guide the appropriate distribution and management of leash free dog areas and associated infrastructure to meet community expectations.

The following list represents the proposed implementation of a hierarchical approach to leash free dog area across the Shire:

- Regional Leash Free Dog Areas:
  - Toomuc Creek Linear Reserve, Pakenham.
  - Alma Treloar Reserve - Cockatoo.
  - Don Jackson Reserve, Pakenham
  - Cochrane Park, Koo Wee Rup.
- District Leash Free Dog Areas:
  - Pepi's Land, Emerald.
  - Victory Drive Reserve, Pakenham.
  - Garfield Recreation Reserve, Garfield.
- Neighbourhood Leash Free Dog Area:

- Hammerwood Green Reserve, Beaconsfield.
- Bob Burgess Park Reserve, Beaconsfield.
- Vantage Drive Reserve, Pakenham.
- Simon Drive Reserve, Pakenham.
- Ray Canobie Reserve, Pakenham.
- Harris Reserve, Upper Beaconsfield.
- Tynong Recreation Reserve.
- Goldsborough Drive, Officer.

A targeted public consultation process was undertaken in February and March 2019 to ascertain the local community response to the proposed neighbourhood leash free dog area at Goldsborough Drive, Officer.

A social media poll was run in conjunction with the Timbertop Residents Group, commencing in April and extending over a period of two weeks; with a target audience of Timbertop, Timbertop West and The Rise estate residents.

A petition from 26 residents who opposed the proposed dog park for Goldsborough Drive, Officer was acknowledged and received at the 15 April 2019 Council meeting.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed Goldsborough Drive Reserve dog leash free area was part of the implementation of Council's Dog Leash Free Area Implementation Program 2018.

## **RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN**

5.1.2 Enhance the community's confidence in Council's community engagement.

## **CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION**

A public consultation process was undertaken in February and March 2019 for the proposed leash free dog area within Goldsborough Drive Reserve, Officer. Feedback was received via a range of medium including:

- Discussion tent on site
- Face to face communication with Council officers.
- Telephone communication.
- Email correspondence

Initial indications and feedback suggested that the local community was against the proposed Goldsborough Drive Reserve leash free dog area. As a verification exercise, a social media poll was run between Wednesday 3 April 2019 and Wednesday 17 April 2019. Residents were asked to select either;

- I support the leash free dog area.
- I do not support the leash free dog area.

206 residents responded to the social media poll with the following results:

- 165 do not support the leash free dog area.
- 41 did support the leash free area.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**CONCLUSION**

The community consultation process results indicate that the majority of the local community within the Timbertop, Timbertop West and the Rise estates do not support the proposed leash free dog area within Goldsborough Drive Reserve, Officer. It is therefore proposed that Council resolve not to proceed with the proposed leash free dog area within Goldsborough Drive Reserve Officer.

Off Leash Dog Area Hierarchy			
	Regional	District	Neighbourhood
<b>Purpose</b>	Open space that provides off leash dog areas with a number of activities and infrastructure available. Attracts use from within the local community as well as beyond the Shire. May be located within popular sites that contain other recreational opportunities.	Open space that provides dedicated off leash dog areas. Attracts use from across the Shire. May be located within prominent sites that contain other recreational opportunities.	Open space that provides dedicated off leash dog areas. Attracts use from local residents regularly utilising the site.
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agility activities</li> <li>• Exercise</li> <li>• Dog socialisation</li> <li>• Relaxation and enjoyment of open space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise</li> <li>• Dog socialisation</li> <li>• Relaxation and enjoyment of open space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise</li> <li>• Dog socialisation</li> <li>• Relaxation and enjoyment of open space</li> </ul>
<b>Reserve type</b>	Non-Specific	Within district reserves	Within neighbourhood reserves
<b>Visitor Catchment</b>	Caters for residents of Cardinia and beyond	Attracts people from within the municipality	Generally caters for local residents, and surrounding neighbourhoods
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog agility equipment</li> <li>• Fencing</li> <li>• Drinking fountain with dog bowl</li> <li>• Seating</li> <li>• Rubbish bins</li> <li>• Natural and built shade structures</li> <li>• Arboriculture assets</li> <li>• Pathways</li> <li>• Garden beds</li> <li>• Signage</li> <li>• Sealed car parking</li> <li>• Turf cells at gate entrance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partial fencing</li> <li>• Drinking fountain with dog bowl</li> <li>• Seating</li> <li>• Rubbish bins</li> <li>• Natural and built shade structures</li> <li>• Pathways</li> <li>• Garden beds</li> <li>• Signage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partial or no fencing</li> <li>• Seating</li> <li>• Natural shade</li> <li>• Pathways</li> <li>• Garden beds</li> <li>• Signage</li> </ul>
<b>Replacement cost</b>	\$50,000	\$20,000	\$5,000