

Dogs In Open Space Action Plan

Engagement Summary



Central
Coast
Council

Summary

Between 1 July and 26 August 2022, Central Coast Council exhibited the draft Dogs In Open Space Action Plan (draft Plan).

The draft plan was developed in recognition of the high rates of dog ownership and to improve the opportunities for, and management of, Off-Leash Areas (OLAs) on the Central Coast.

We invited the community to provide input and feedback on the provision and improvement of dedicated OLAs and Fenced Off-Leash Areas (FOLAs) via a guided submission form. The form also explored the framework for future planning, management and prioritisation of infrastructure.

Engagement Results

The community were invited to provide feedback across twelve questions that explored key topics and actions highlighted throughout the draft Plan.

Initial high-level results revealed the following:

- **37.3%** of participants agreed with the actions identified under planning for dog owners and their dogs; **45%** did not agree and **17.7%** were unsure.
- **15.5%** of participants agreed with the decommissioning/relocation of specific OLAs; **69.3%** did not agree and **15.2%** were unsure.
- **15.8%** of participants agreed with the boundary changes of specific OLAs; **52.2%** did not agree and **32%** were unsure.
- **51.9%** of participants agreed with the additional OLAs listed; **29.5%** did not agree and **18.6%** were unsure.
- **37.7%** of participants agreed with the actions identified under dog exclusion areas; **44.8%** did not agree and **17.5%** were unsure.
- **26.3%** of participants agreed with actions identified under compliance with dog control regulations; **64.4%** did not agree and **12.3%** were unsure.
- **57.5%** agreed with actions identified under access to foreshore off-leash areas; **21.4%** did not agree and **21.1%** were unsure.
- **61%** of participants agree with actions identified under dog registrations; **22%** did not agree and **17%** were unsure.

How you connected



12,387 visits to the Your Voice Our Coast website



The Action Plan was downloaded 2,693 times



More than 52,955 social media users were reached, generating 219 reactions and shares.



83,105 stakeholders were kept up-to-date through e-news.



1,542 visits to the interactive map.



Over 3,200 submissions received via the online form

- **45.5%** of participants agreed with the actions identified under fencing off-leash areas; **21.1%** did not agree and **33.4%** were unsure.
- **48.1%** of participants agreed with the actions identified under effective control of dogs; **39.8%** did not agree and **12.1%** were unsure.
- **46.3%** of participants agreed with the actions listed under management of off-leash areas; **23.2%** did not agree and **30.5%** were unsure.
- **63.2%** of participants agreed with the actions listed under community partnerships, education and communication; **22.1%** did not agree and **14.6%** were unsure.

Comments associated with each of the questions are currently being analysed.



What's next?

Council is currently undertaking detailed analysis on the feedback received. This feedback will be made available in a detailed Consultation Report and may lead to focus groups or other targeted consultation with our community.

We will use your feedback to refine the actions and inform the final Dogs In Open Space Action Plan.

Once finalised, the document will be presented to Council for adoption.

We will keep the community updated as the Dogs In Open Space Action Plan progresses.

Find out more and stay up to date at yourvoiceourcoast.com

November 2022