

Dog Management Policy - Working Group

Minutes – 7 March 2022

1. Opening Meeting		
1.0	Welcome AT welcomed all members and thanked them for agreeing to participate in the working group	
1.1	Present:	PWS: Ben Hill, Lara Connell, David Pembleton Multiple Use of Conservation Areas Doctors Rocks (MUCA): Leanne Raw, Chris Marimon Penguin experts: Perviz Marker, Kathy Grieveson WWC: Ashley Thornton, Mathew Jamieson
1.2	Apologies:	Nil
1.3	Previous Minutes:	Nil

Date:	7 March 2022
Start Time:	4:00pm
End Time:	5:10pm
Venue:	Teams
Chairperson:	Ashley Thornton
Minutes:	Ashley Thornton

2. Agenda Items							
Item	Topic/Detail		Actions Required	Responsible Person/s	Timeframe		
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation to accept TOR Confirmation to accept minutes from previous meeting Information on length of beach by declared area type was circulated to the group. Approximately 4.8km of each restriction (Off lead, on lead and prohibited). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil 				
2	Identifying solutions to issues raised in previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each issue raised in the previous meeting was read out, and the group offered resolutions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible, data is required to support suggestions and responses. All working group members to prepare and provide at next meeting PWS and Perviz have submitted documents for circulation Perviz to provide link to shorebird study 	All	Next meeting		
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Issue</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>No footpath or walkway from the residences at Doctors Rocks to the declared dog beaches</td> <td>Coastal pathway coming in next 2 years. Residential developments will extend footpath network closer to Doctors Rocks</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Issue		No footpath or walkway from the residences at Doctors Rocks to the declared dog beaches	Coastal pathway coming in next 2 years. Residential developments will extend footpath network closer to Doctors Rocks
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2. Agenda Items

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	Scope – can the focus be narrowed to Wynyard beaches?	No. Offsets or push and pull could be a possible solution			
	Dogs being walked and exercised are not the problem, it is dogs at large that cause issues/attacks	Dogs leave scents, which then attract other dogs – indirect impact Dogs on leads have been responsible for penguin deaths, but not on mass			
	Have to drive to a dog beach	Level of service issue. Is Council expected to provide dog exercise locations within walking distance of all residents?			
	Co-use of beaches	Trail to do research on the stretch between Burntwood Point and Seabrook Creek for 3 years. Not clear who would be responsible, or how it would work. PWS suggested that such a trial would need to establish a baseline first, so first stage would mean still Prohibited. Precautionary principle should also apply. NRM has a rating for the beach after a research project. Perviz to provide link to study. Could apply On Lead restrictions – the off lead time period would clash with penguin movements. Requests from previous community consultation for a			

2. Agenda Items

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		dog free beach. This is the only sandy beach that is dog-free.			
	Ill feeling from previous process	Addressing with this working group			
	Colony growing, even with dogs	Case of good luck rather than good management. Colony slowly returning to numbers prior to big attack in 1991. Shorebird numbers have decreased.			
	Default position under the Nature Conservation Act is no dogs	Risk assessment being developed, but won't be completed within the timeframe of the Dog policy Review matters considered in the risk assessment are: Pre-existing dog walking, adjacent dog walking, Social impacts, Biosecurity, Environmental values, birds.			
	Why is this extra 1km stretch so important for dog exercise	For Doctors Rocks residents to have a space to walk to Lack of footpaths for access Other areas require driving too Continuity/extra length not necessary. Better beach than in front of Bruce's			
	Other birds require protection	More info to be provided by Pervis and PWS			

2. Agenda Items				
Item	Topic/Detail	Actions Required	Responsible Person/s	Timeframe
3	Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 March 2022 		AT	Circulate with minutes

6. Meeting Closure		
Item	Topic/Detail	Arrangements
4.1	Next meeting	
	Date:	21 March 2022
	Time:	4pm
	Location:	Teams
4.2	Meeting Closed:	5:10pm