ATTACHMENT 3

WILLOUGHBY DOG RECREATION STRATEGY

ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES REPORT



JANUARY 2026

WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL
City of Diversity

Prepared by Otium Planning Group Pty Ltd
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Otium acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our company is located and where we conduct our business. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past, present and emerging. Otium is committed to national reconciliation and respect for Indigenous peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contributions to society.

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Acknowledgement

Project acknowledgement

Otium Planning Group would like to acknowledge Willoughby Council staff, community and other stakeholders who have contributed their expertise and input to the **Willoughby Dog Recreation Strategy.**

Their valuable insights and feedback have been instrumental in shaping the strategic directions for the Strategy.

Acknowledgement of Country

Gangaalang

We respectfully acknowledge the Gamarigal people as the traditional owners of the land on which we work and live. We pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the original inhabitants of the land and their long and continuing connection to Country.

We are committed to national reconciliation and respect for Indigenous peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships with the land and waters, as well as their rich contributions to society.



Figure 1: Castlecrag Northern Escarpment

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Executive Summary

The Willoughby Dog Recreation Strategy (Strategy) considers the existing and future dog recreation opportunities and facilities within Willoughby City Council Local Government Area (LGA) in the context of increasing population density, changing legislation and whole-of-community demand for public spaces. The initial community consultation phase of this project enables the community to provide feedback, allowing us to understand their recreation habits, whether with or without dogs. Several engagement activities were planned and conducted between October and November 2025 by Willoughby City Council (Council) and Otium Planning Group (Otium) staff.

T**he community survey** received 979 submissions prior to closing on November 12. Most respondents were residents (84%), used the parks and public spaces (92%), and did so at a frequency of at least once per day (55%). Regarding ownership, 72% owned a dog and of the 28% of non-owners, 24% indicated a willingness to own one in the future. Nineteen respondents own or manage a dog-related business or organisation in the LGA.

Walking (59%) and driving (40%) are the two key modes of transport to and from dog off-leash areas. The top five most popular dog off-leash areas are also five of the six most popular parks, reserves and public spaces in Willoughby, indicating the high dog and non-dog related recreation occurring at these sites. The main reasons that respondents do not use dog recreation areas are safety concerns, missing infrastructure, and proximity to outside LGA dog recreation areas.

There are high levels of satisfaction with dog recreation areas in the LGA, and low levels of dissatisfaction. More respondents believe that human access to parks and public spaces is more important than the access of dogs, as identified by the variance in scores for very important (190 more) and important (28 more). Dog waste management, enforcement, signage, fencing, and shared-use conflicts are the most urgent and frequently mentioned issues in the suggestions and ideas section.

A further 23 **written submissions** were completed and contained feedback from local business owners, sporting clubs, and residents. This feedback comprised appreciation for the parks and public spaces in the LGA, the common occurrence of poor dog owner behaviours in public and a listing of issues that have occurred with dogs on synthetic turf, on the streets, and in shared spaces. Common recommendations include designated, fenced off-leash areas to allow for adequate recreation and separation from other users.

Four **drop-in sessions** were hosted and approximately 93 attendees stopped by across the three dates. Feedback from dog owners highlighted the demand for designated dog recreation areas, the frequency of conflicts with other user groups, and complaints about poor dog owner behaviour, such as leaving dog waste and inadequate supervision of their dogs.

Key themes and opportunities identified within Stage 1 Engagement for the Willoughby Dog Recreation Strategy include:

- Rising dog ownership and limited open space are creating a high demand for dog recreation areas.
- Regular conflict between dogs and other users of public spaces, including other dogs.
- The signage, rules and awareness of dog recreation areas need to be improved and made clearer for all users.
- Recommendation for Council to prepare and provide dog training and obedience programs or education to help improve the dog ownership behaviours.
- Fencing is recommended to help contain dogs in recreation areas and keep them separated from places such as roads, car parks, playgrounds, and wildlife areas.

- Ranger presence must be increased to reinforce positive dog ownership behaviours and punish the minority who do the wrong thing.

1. Introduction and Summary of Engagement Activities

1.1 Introduction

Council engaged Otium to develop a Strategy that considers the existing and future provision of dog recreation opportunities and facilities in the context of increasing population density, changing legislation and increasing whole-of-community demand for public spaces, over the next 10 years (up to and including 2036).

The Strategy provides Council with a framework for the ongoing management of dog recreation, recommendations and assessment tools for future public space decision-making, and guidance for responsible dog ownership. This Engagement Findings Report details all the activities and findings captured in Stage 2 of the Strategy. All project stages are outlined below.



Figure 2: Dog Recreation Strategy Stages

1.2 Summary of Engagement Activities

The following methods were used to undertake the community and stakeholder engagement from October to November 2025. The tasks were undertaken by Council and Otium staff.

- An online **community survey,** which received **979** submissions.
- A further **23 written submissions** were sent directly to Council staff.
- **Four** community **drop-in sessions** hosted across three days.
- Information on Council's website '**Have Your Say'.**
- **Social media** promotions across Council social media pages, reaching 2,782 social media account holders, viewed **5,032** times, received 51 engagements, including comments and likes, and resulted in 23 clicks to project pages.
- **80 posters** exhibited at **37 key parks and open spaces** with a QR link to the community survey.
- **A4 and A5 flyers** developed and distributed to **10,000+** addresses via letterbox drop, at Council service centres, and during site visits and drop-in sessions.
- **Site visits, intercept surveys and site observations. Five** intercept surveys were completed.
- **Print advertisements and radio interviews** to raise awareness.

Flyers, posters, social media content, and their statistics are available in ***Appendix 1.***

2. Community Survey

A community survey was available on Council's Have Your Say page from Wednesday, 15 October to Friday, 12 November 2025. A total of 979 submissions were received.

2.1 Respondent Profile

This section summarises the user profile from the Community Survey. ***Appendix 2*** provides the full answer detail including graphs.

The profile of the respondents demonstrates that:

- 819 live in the LGA, 687 use the parks and public spaces in the LGA, and 537 live near a park or public space in the LGA.
- 567 are female (58%), 348 are male (36%), and 43 preferred not to say (4%). The remaining 2% included non-binary and other genders.
- The breakdown of age shows that most survey representation was formed from those 35 to 64:

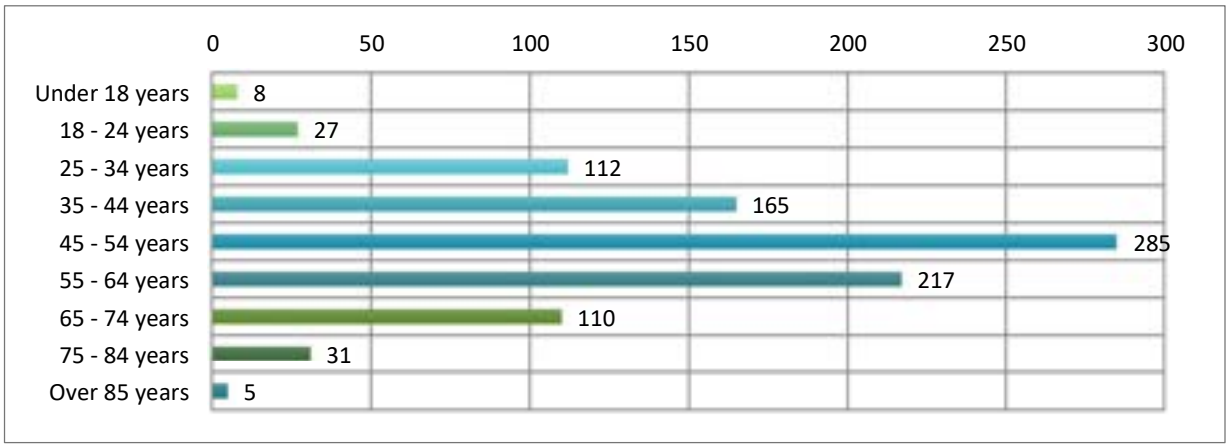


Figure 3: What is your age?

- Approximately 89% of respondents reside in Willoughby. Top suburbs of residence include Naremburn (131), Willoughby (114), Chatswood (96), Northbridge (96) and Artarmon (91).
    - 101 reside outside of Willoughby. Common suburbs include Greenwich (10), Lane Cove and Wollstonecraft (seven), Crow's Nest, Manly, North Sydney, Turramurra and Wahroonga (four each). More than 40 other suburbs appeared at a frequency of three or less respondents.
- Most respondents live in a freestanding house (64%), and the remaining live in a townhouse, semi or terrace house (11%), or apartment/ units (24%). The most common apartment/ unit type is midrise (three to six) (11%).
- 144 respondents indicated they are a member of a relevant community group or organisation. These include progress associations (18), local sporting groups (75), bushcare (10) and community garden groups. Seventeen respondents (12%) were in fact members of multiple groups.

2.2 Park Usage

2.2.1 Parks and Reserve Usage

Over 950 respondents use the parks and public spaces in the LGA. The most commonly used spaces include Willoughby Park (411), Artarmon Reserve (404), Flat Rock Gully (357), and Naremburn Park (314). All the spaces and usage by the community are displayed below in order of most to least used:

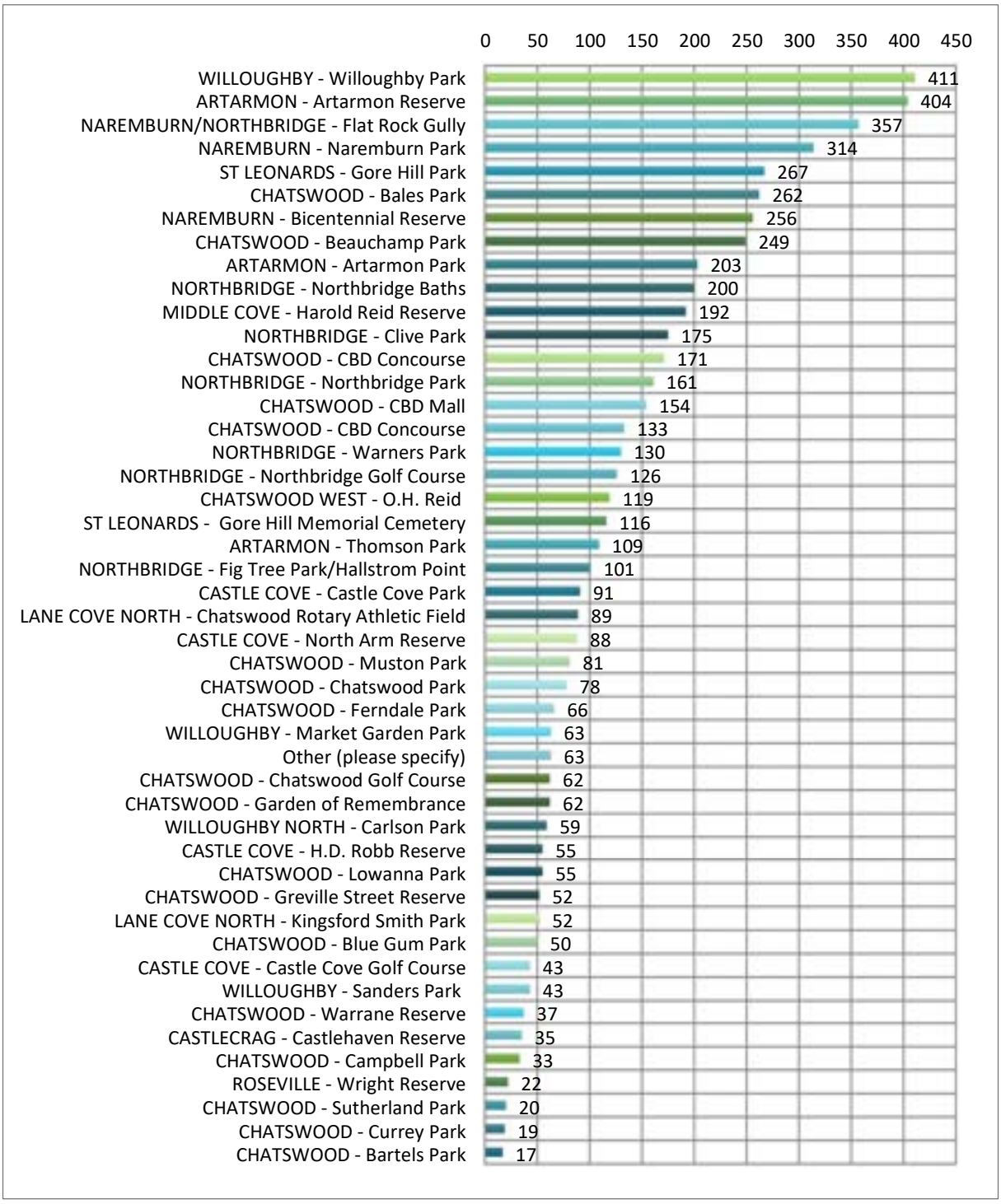


Figure 4: Which parks and public spaces in the Willoughby Council area do you regularly use?

Other spaces mentioned include:

- Popular parks outside of the LGA
- Northbridge Oval, which is part of Northbridge Park
- Bicentennial Park and/ or Halstrom Park, near the netball courts and leisure centre
- Marlow Street Reserve
- Mowbray Public School Oval.

2.2.2 Frequency of Usage

40% of respondents use these parks and public spaces once a day, and an additional 15% use them multiple times per day. 12% of respondents use these spaces less than once a week, indicating the high community use of the LGA's parks and open spaces.

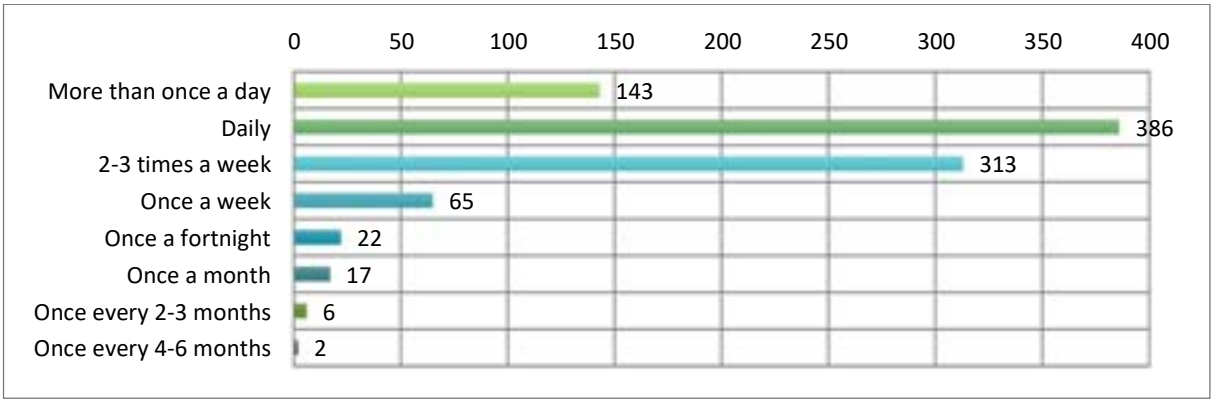


Figure 5: How often do you typically use these parks and public spaces?

2.2.3 Activities of Usage

Exercise recreation (680) and dog recreation (663) make up the most common activities participated in at these spaces. The range of activities is presented below:

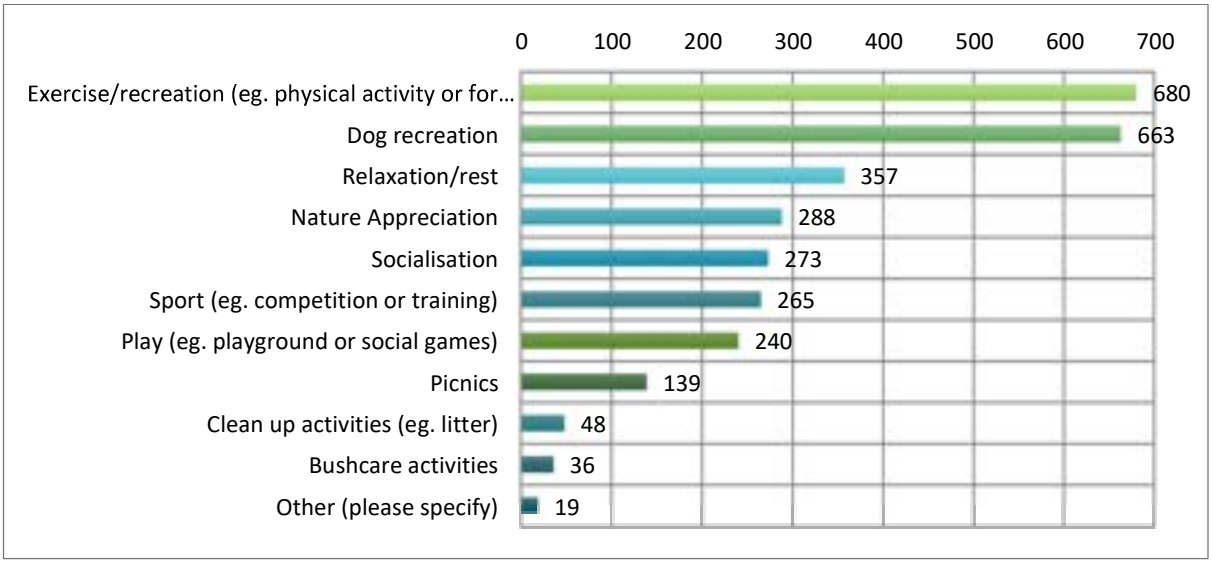


Figure 6: What activities do you typically do in these parks and public spaces?

Other activities listed by respondents include:

- Walking
- Attending events
- Bike riding
- Watching their children play/ ride bikes.

2.2.4 Usage Type

Respondents were asked who they typically use parks and public spaces with. The most common answers were:

- With their family (29%)
- With their dog(s) (25%)
- By themselves (22%)
- With friends (17%).

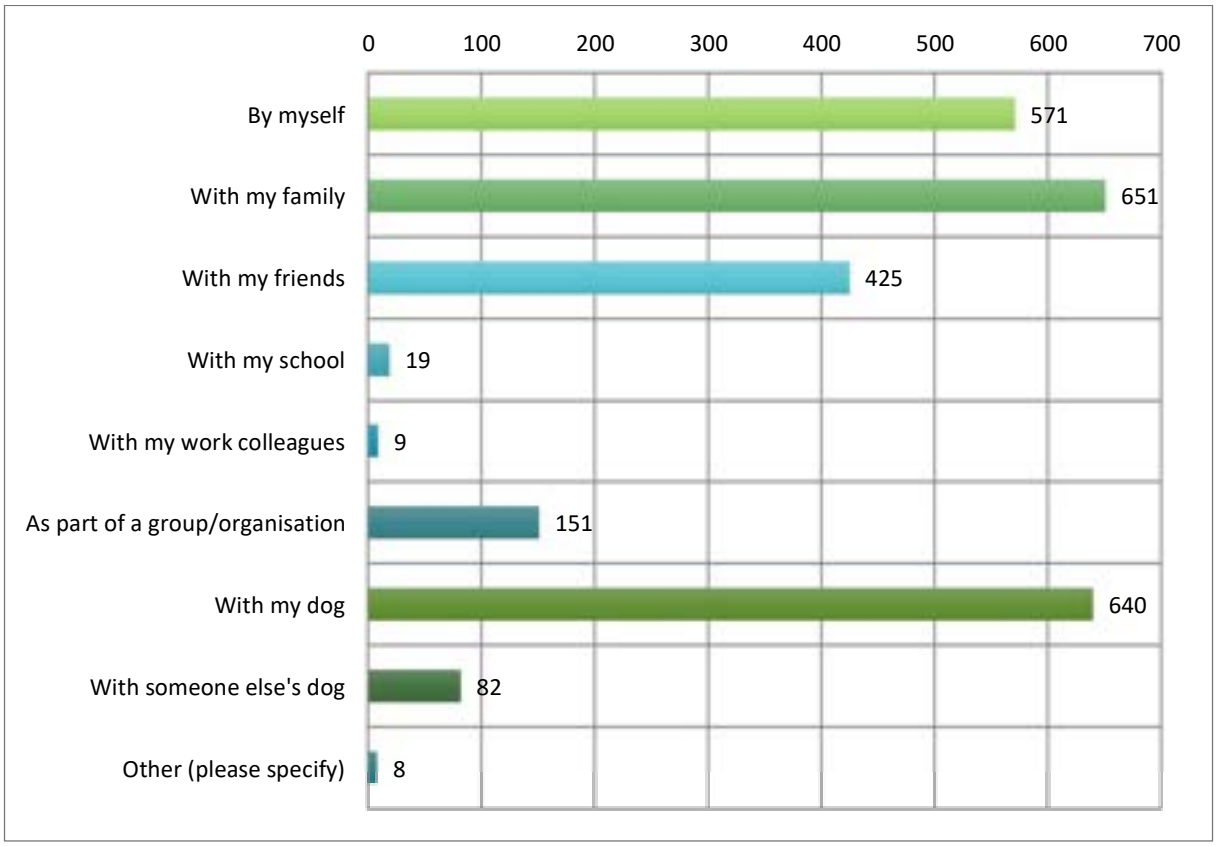


Figure 7: Who do you typically use the parks and spaces with?

Other responses include Bushcare, Anzac and Remembrance Day services, and meetings with local community groups such as other dog owners.

2.3 Dog Ownership Profile

2.3.1 Current Dog Ownership

Regarding dog ownership, 72% of respondents currently own a dog. Among those who do not currently own a dog, there was mixed interest in future dog ownership. 24% indicated 'yes', 29% were unsure, and the remainder indicated 'no' (47%).

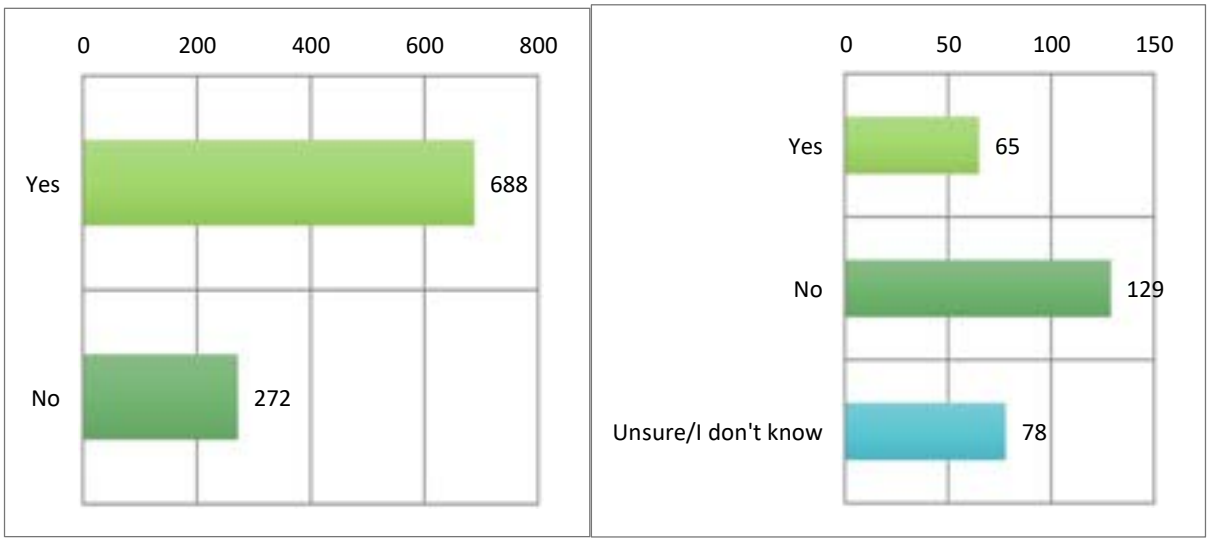


Figure 8: Do you currently own a dog, and would you like to own a dog(s) in the future?

2.3.2 Dog Ownership Per Person/ Family

Most dog-owning respondents have one (55%) or two (19%) dogs.

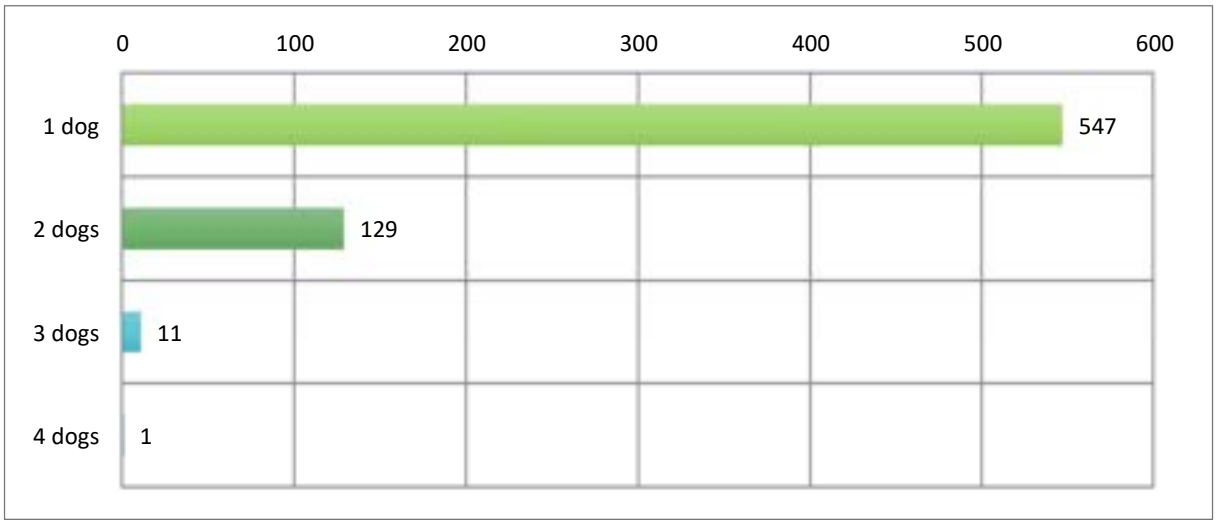


Figure 9: How many dog(s) do you own?

2.3.3 Dog Size

The prevalence of single-dog ownership is reinforced through the figure below. One medium-sized dog is the most common to own (38%), followed by one small (28%) and one large (19%).

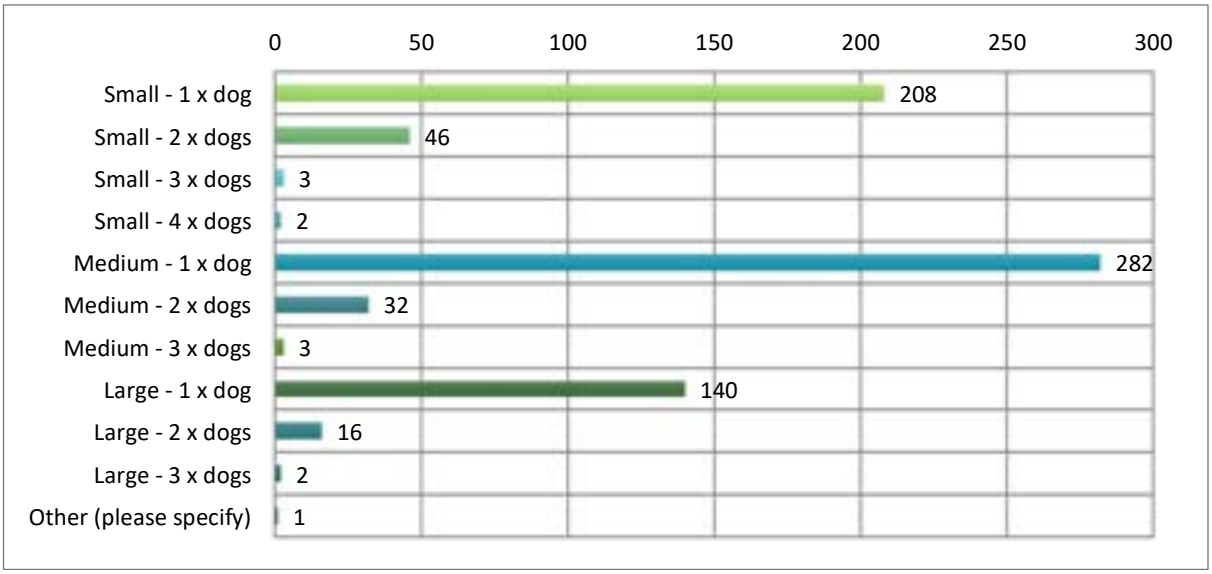


Figure 10: What size is your dog(s)?

2.3.4 Typical Dog Exercise Routine

The most common exercise routines for their dogs are walking on leash on footpaths and grass verges (608), off-leash at parks or public space (589), and on-leash at parks or public space (452).

Furthermore, 169 exercise their dogs at home, and 67 do so via a commercial dog walker.

Other (6) options include biking with a dog on a leash, swimming, and attending dog training classes.

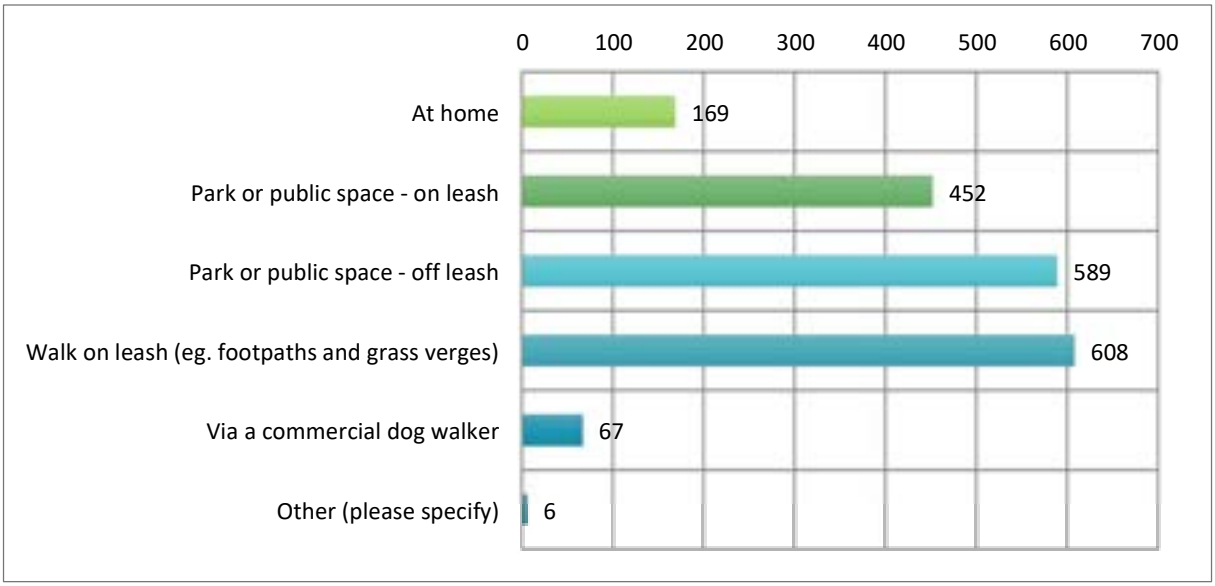


Figure 11: How do you typically exercise your dog(s)?

2.3.5 Frequency of Dog Exercise

The majority of dog owners exercise their dog(s) more than once a day (385) or daily (265). This accounts for 94% of respondents, highlighting the demand for dog exercise.

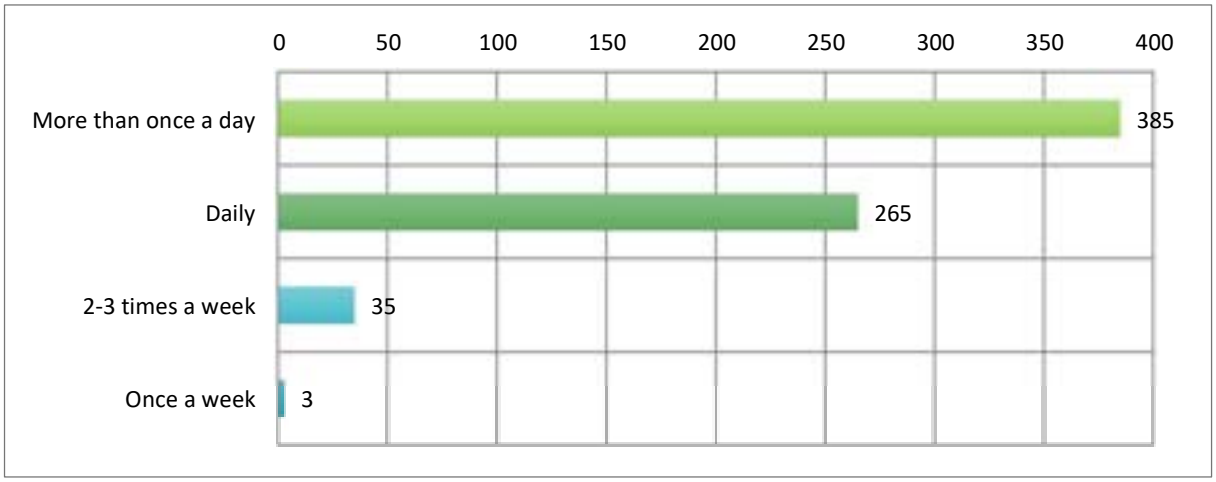


Figure 12: How often do you typically exercise your dog(s)?

2.3.6 Typical Dog Exercise Time:

During the week (Monday to Friday), the most common times to exercise dogs are before 9am and after 5pm. On weekends, the daytime between 9am and 5pm is the most popular.

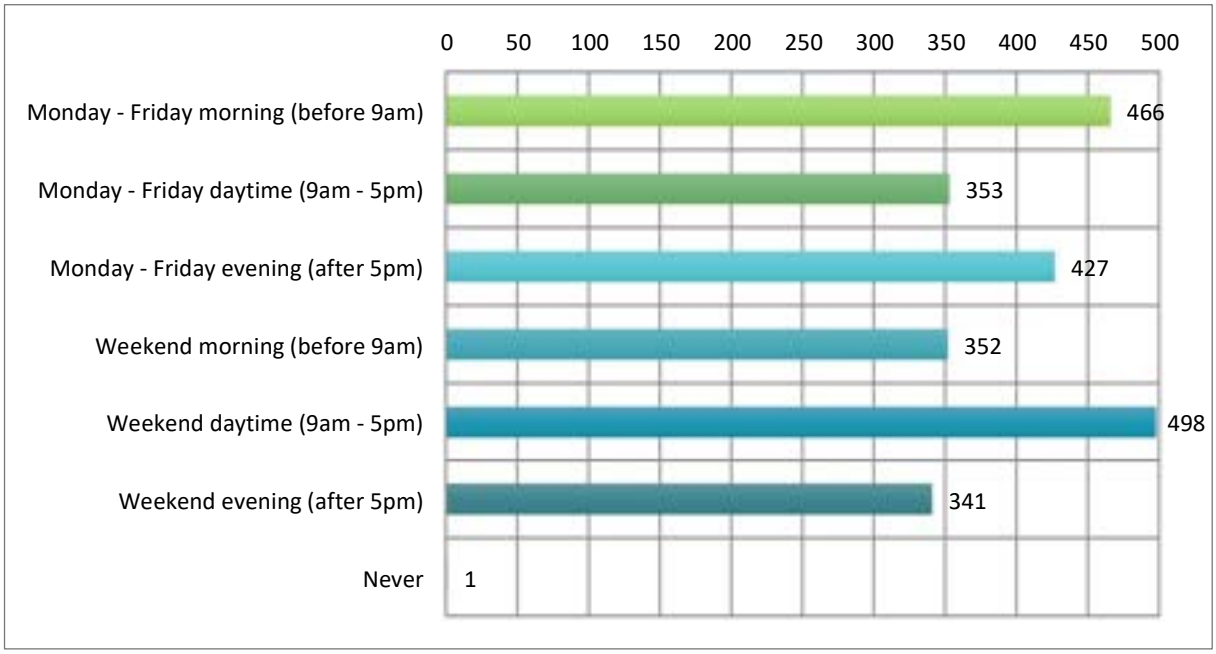


Figure 13: What time of day do you typically exercise your dog(s)?

2.4 Existing Parks, Reserves and Dog Off-Leash Areas

2.4.1 Usage of Dog Off-Leash Areas in the LGA

Most responding dog owners (85%) use a dog off-leash area in the LGA.

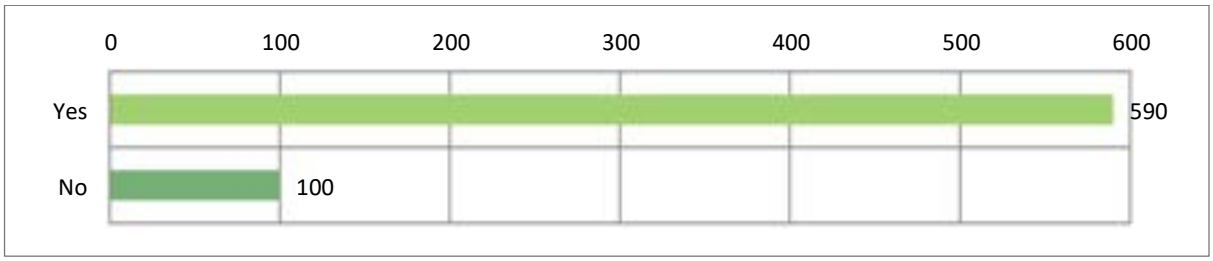


Figure 14: Do you use any dog off-leash areas in the Willoughby Council area?

The key themes as to why people do not use the dog off-leash areas in the LGA are:

- Safety concerns, including the fear of dog attacks, lack of appropriate supervision from other owners, and some dogs being unsocialised or aggressive. Having small children or anxious or reactive dogs also prevents people from using off-leash areas for fear of unpredictable interactions with other dogs.
- Infrastructure concerns, such as a lack of perimeter fencing and conflicts when sharing use with others.
- None being close enough to travel to, or it being easier to access a park in a neighbouring LGA, e.g. Tunks Park.
- Not being aware of what off-leash areas are available.
- A desire for better enforcement and education of responsible dog ownership to make a safer and more pleasant experience when using them.

2.4.2 Mode of Transport to the Dog Off-Leash Areas

The two key modes of transport that respondents use to get to dog off-leash areas include walking to the park with their dog on-leash (59%) and in their car (40%).

The remaining 1% includes public transport, riding a bike, and entering through a back fence, as their homes back onto an off-leash area.

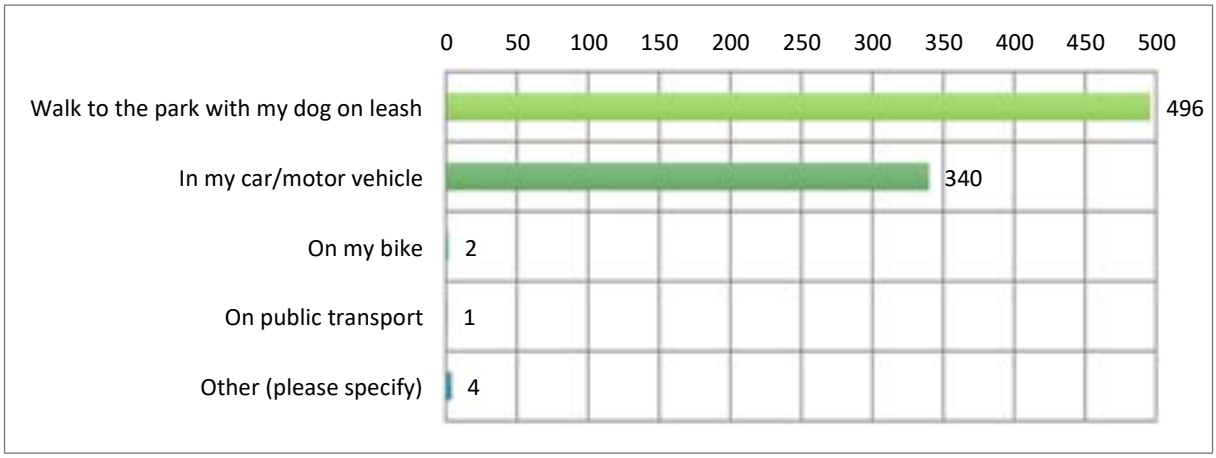


Figure 15: How do you typically get to the dog off-leash areas in the Willoughby Council area?

2.4.3 Existing Dog Off-Leash Area Usage

The most used dog off-leash areas are Artarmon Reserve, Willoughby Park, Naremburn Park and Flat Rock Gully. The top five most utilised dog off-leash areas are five of the six most used parks and open spaces by community survey respondents.

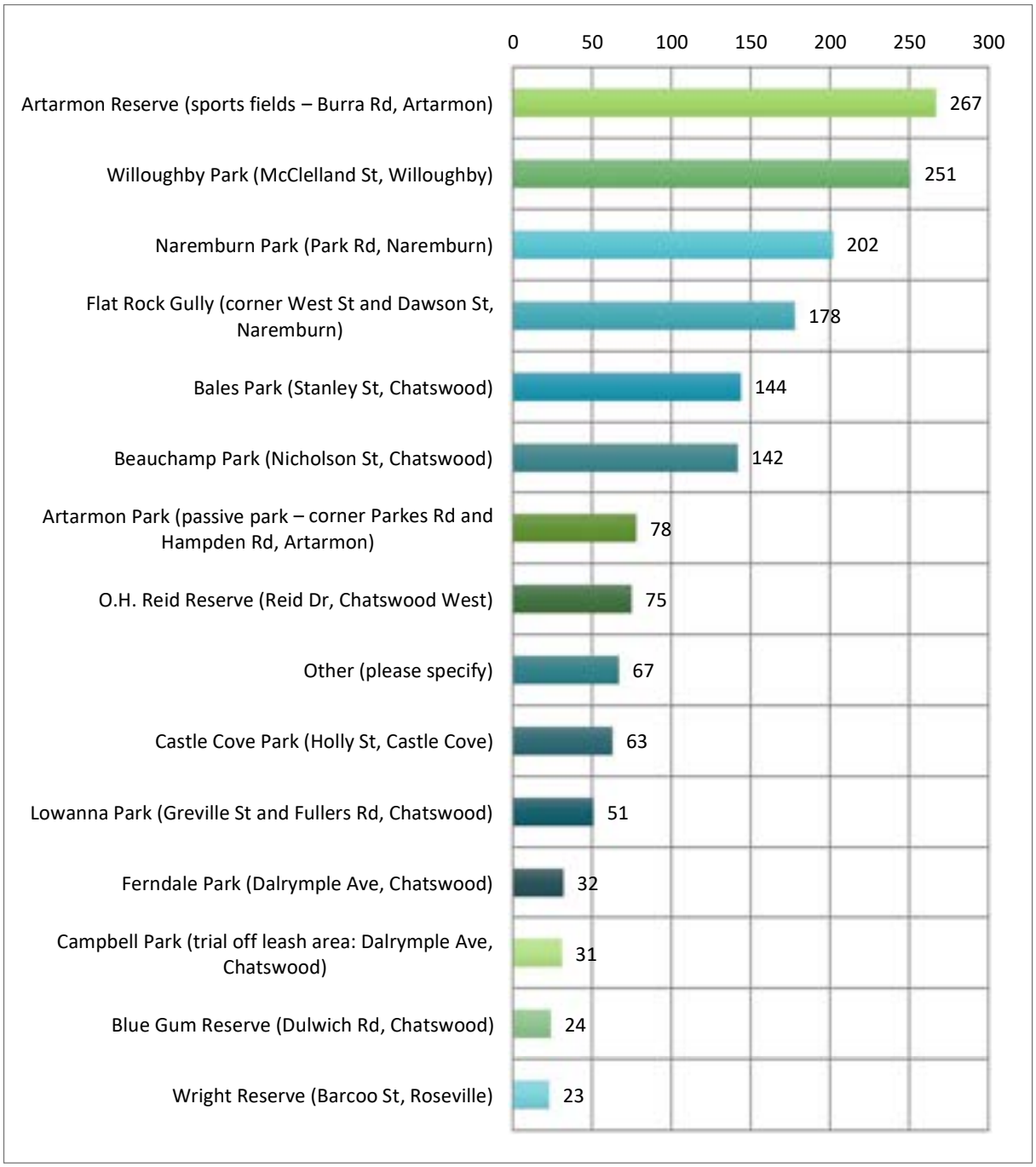


Figure 16: Which dog on-leash areas do you use in the Willoughby Council area?

Analysis of the 'other' (67) locations used demonstrates a high community use of non-off-leash areas in the LGA as off-leash areas. Some of these include Northbridge Oval (7), Carlson Park (11) and Bicentennial Park (6). Dog off-leash parks in neighbouring council areas were also listed.

Level of Satisfaction with Existing Dog Off-Leash Areas

Most respondents are satisfied (42%) with the existing dog off-leash areas in the LGA, followed by those who are highly satisfied (22%) and those who are neutral (19%).

Importantly, there are low reports (5%) of very unsatisfied respondents, despite 12% being unsatisfied.

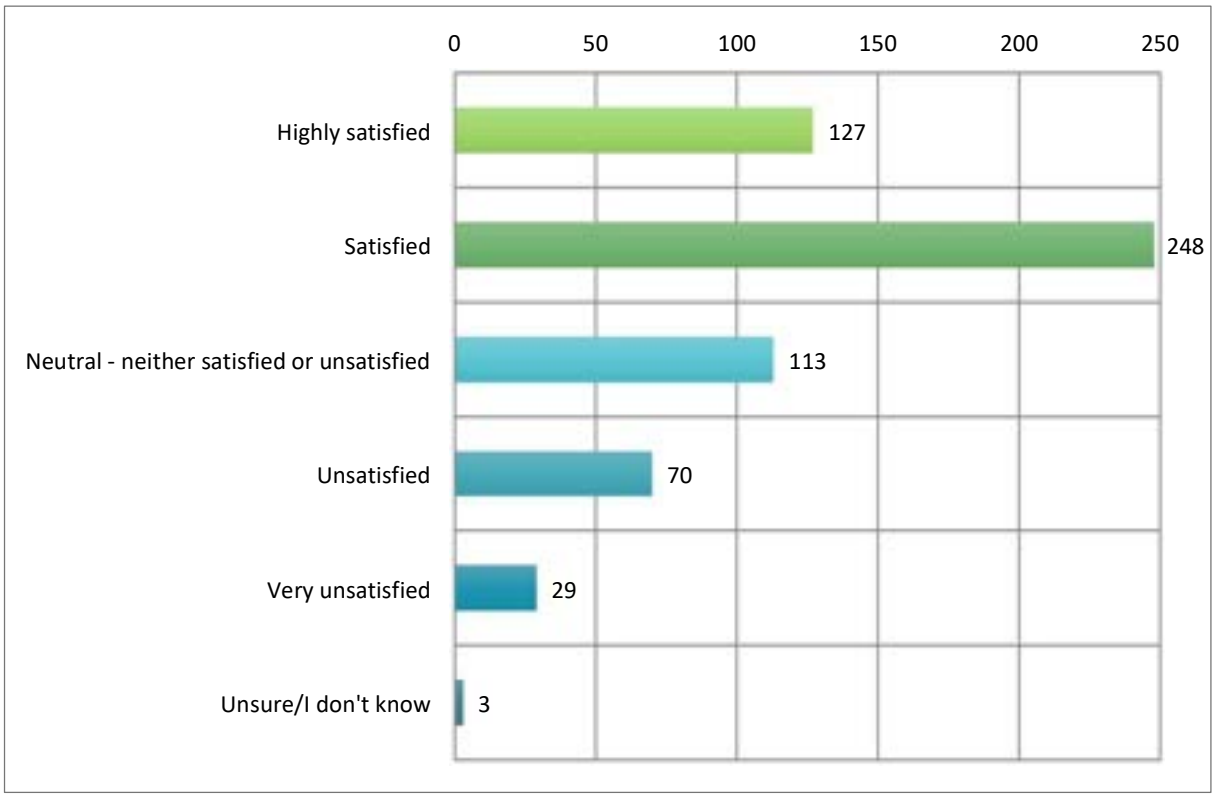


Figure 17: How satisfied are you with existing dog off-leash areas?

2.4.4 Important Aspects of Dog Off-Leash Areas

The top six selected elements of an off-leash area are:

- Dog waste – bag dispenser and bins
- Drinking water for dogs
- General maintenance and cleanliness
- Fully enclosed fencing
- Shade
- Lighting for evening use.

The lesser selected items, deemed less important, include education, training, and obedience programs, signage, separate areas for small and large dogs, and ranger presence.

All responses are provided below.

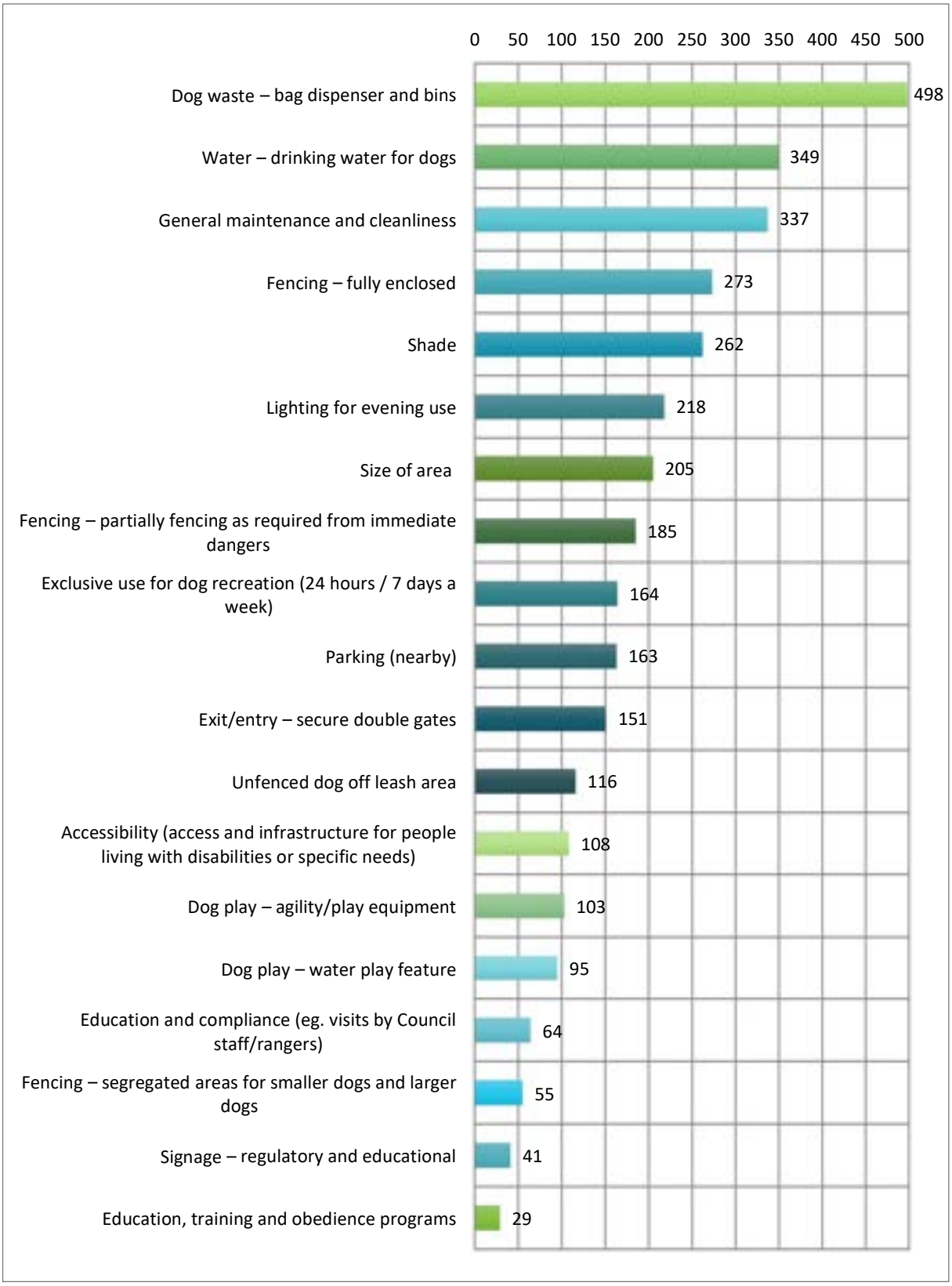


Figure 18: What are the most important elements of a dog off-leash area for you/ your dog(s)?

2.5 Dog-related Businesses or Organisations

Nineteen respondents to the community survey are involved in a dog-related business or organisation. The most common types of dog-related businesses or organisations include dog obedience and training (8), dog walking (8), dog daycare (3), and veterinary clinics or animal hospitals (2). “Other” businesses include a dog-friendly Pilates studio, pet insurance, and VRA Rescue NSW.



Figure 19: What best describes your dog-related business/ organisation?

At any one time, all responding dog-related businesses or organisations have up to four dogs, excluding the veterinary clinic, which can have up to 30 dogs at once, and up to nine in a dog obedience training class.

All 19 businesses or organisations need to exercise the dogs in their care. The methods by which they do this are outlined below. This includes both on- and off-leash walking in public areas and at their place of business.

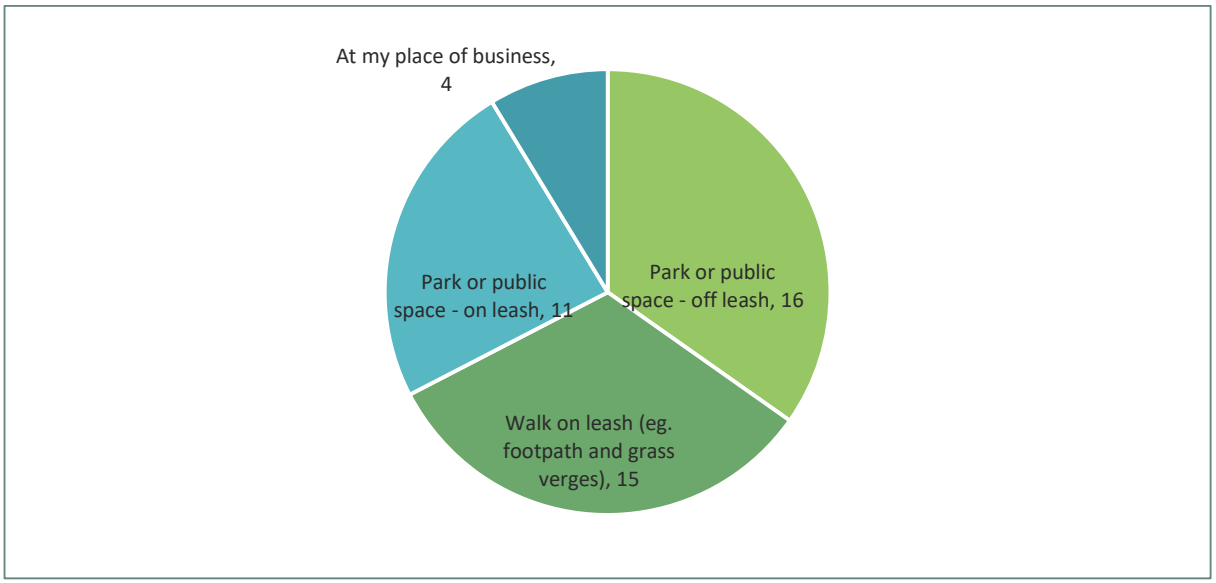


Figure 20: How do you typically exercise the dog/s in your care?

These businesses frequently use Willoughby Park, Beauchamp Park, Artarmon Reserve, Bales Park, O.H. Reid Reserve, and Naremburn Park.

Other parks mentioned once or twice by businesses or organisations include Chatswood Park, CBD, and Bicentennial Park. Several parks outside of the LGA were also listed as occasionally used.
These businesses and organisations exercise the dogs in their care more frequently through the week (Monday to Friday) compared to weekends. During the day is the most common time, regardless of which day it is.

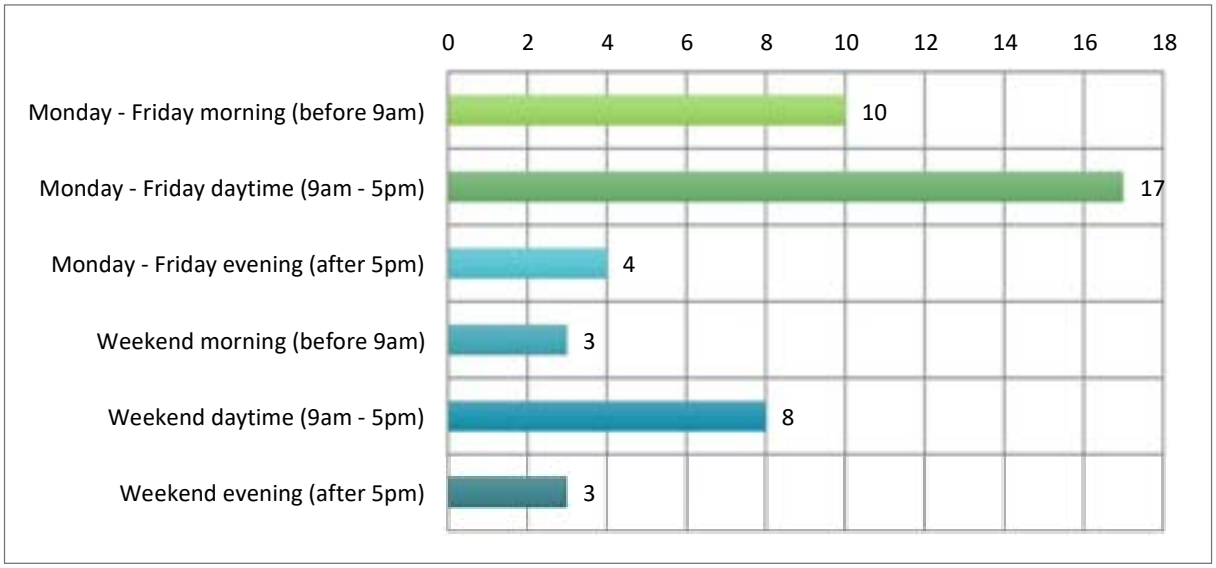


Figure 21: What time of day do you typically exercise the dog/s in your care?

Most businesses and organisations spend between six and 10 hours exercising the dogs in their care each week (7), followed by more than 20 hours per week (5). Only two operate with fewer than 20, to more than 10 dogs, and five businesses spend less than five hours per week exercising the dogs in their care.

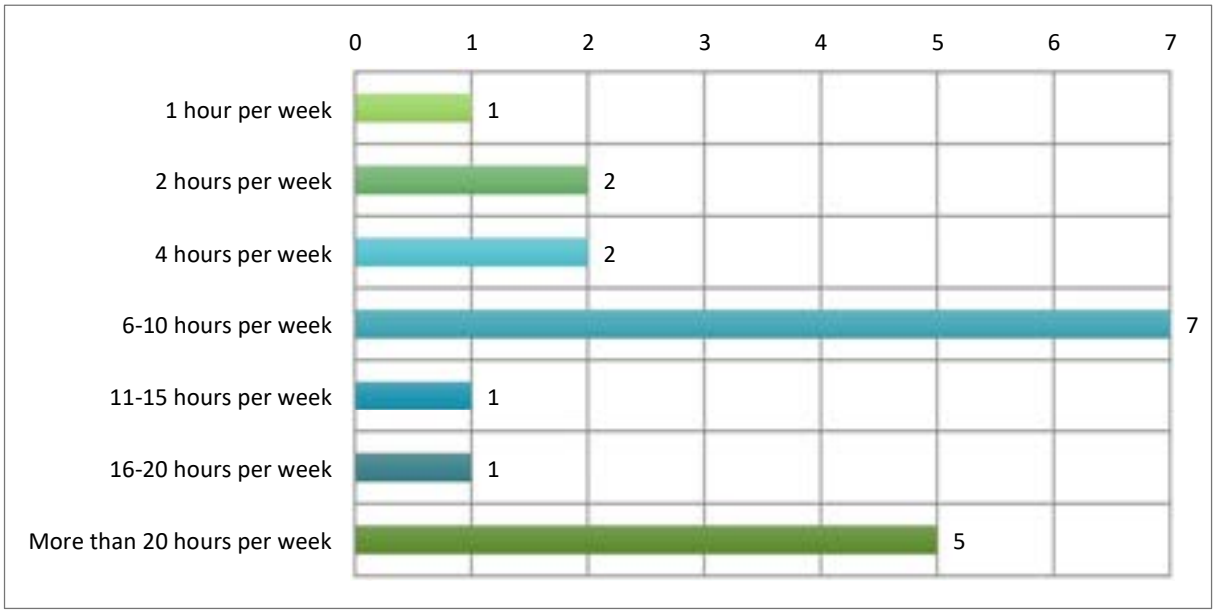


Figure 22: In total, how many hours per week do you typically spend exercising dogs in your care?

2.6 Future of Dog Off-Leash Areas

2.6.1 Public Access for Dog Parks

The community was asked about the importance of access to parks and public spaces for both humans and dogs. Access for humans was mostly considered extremely (77%) or very (18%) important, more than access for dogs (57% and 15%, respectively). 107 considered access for dogs to be not important at all, 104 more than the same question received for people.

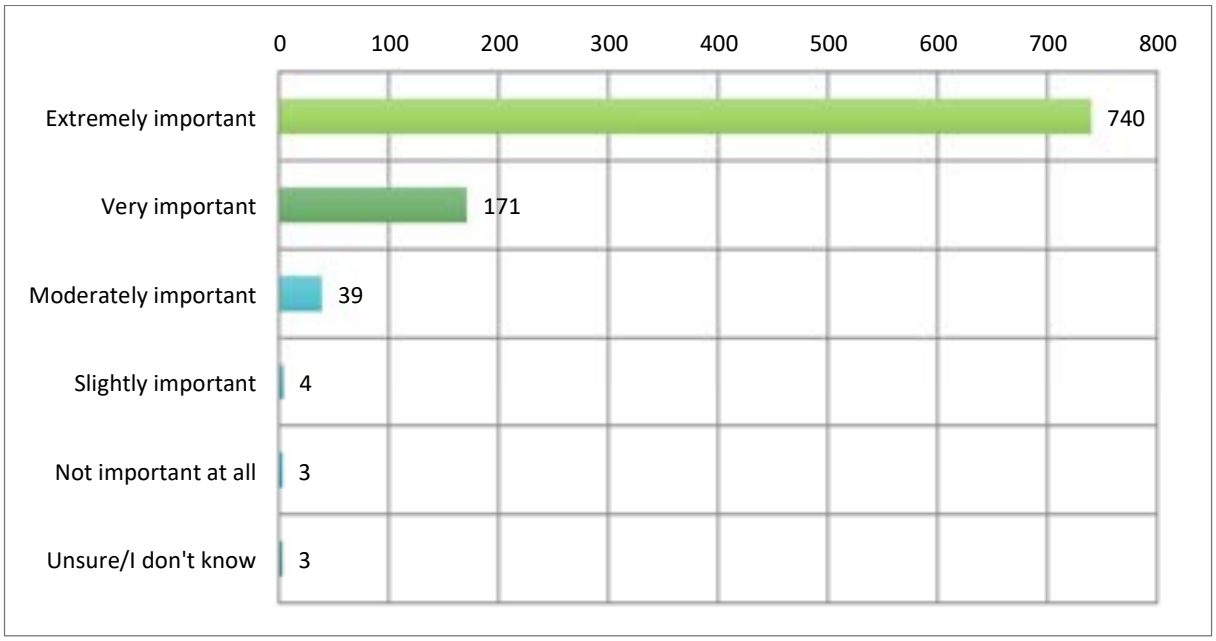


Figure 23: How important is public access for people to parks/ public spaces to you?

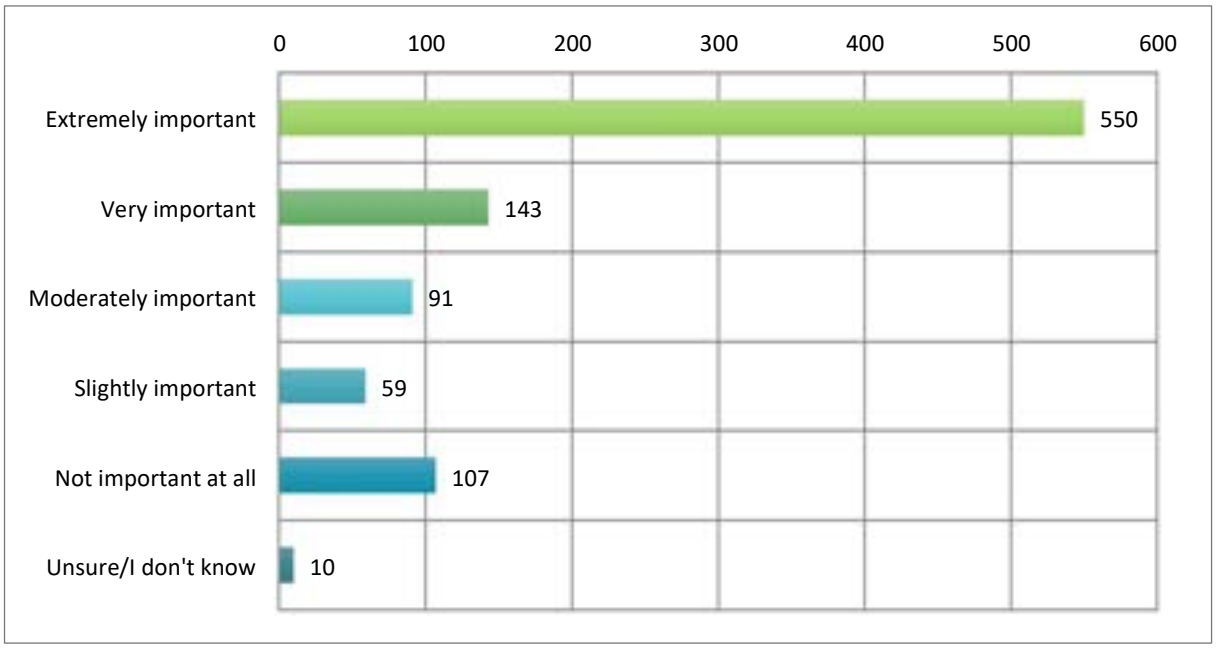


Figure 24: How important is public access for dogs to parks/ public spaces to you?

The graph below illustrates the variance in access to parks and public spaces between people and dogs.

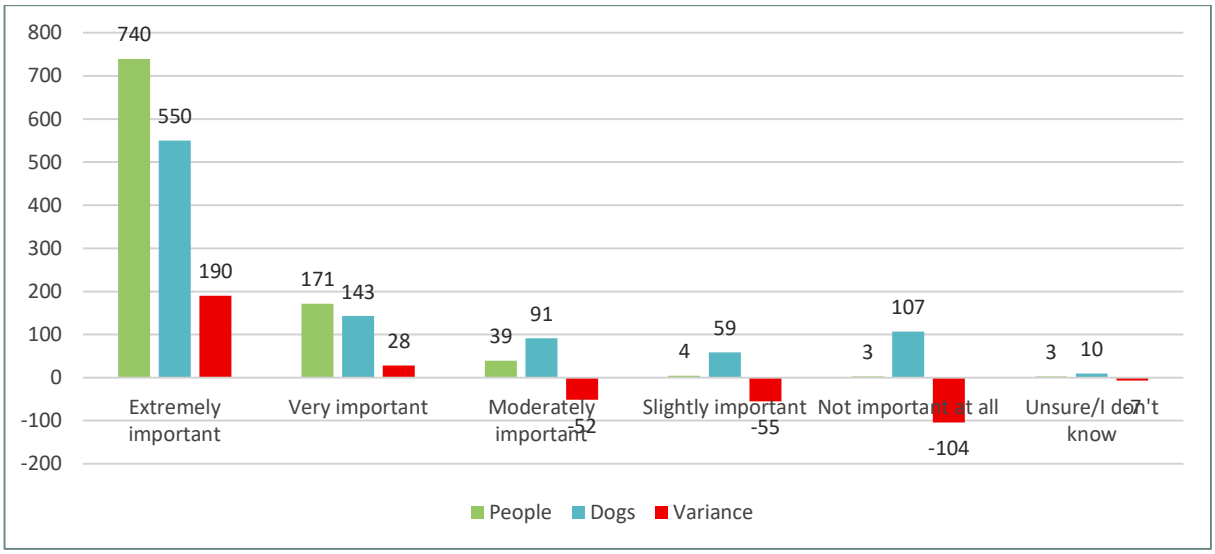


Figure 25: How important is public access to parks and public spaces to you for people vs dogs?

2.6.2 Environmental and Wildlife Protection Areas

Similarly, respondents were asked about the importance of environmental and wildlife protection in parks, reserves and public spaces.

The results indicate a high level of importance, with only 21 thinking it is not important at all.

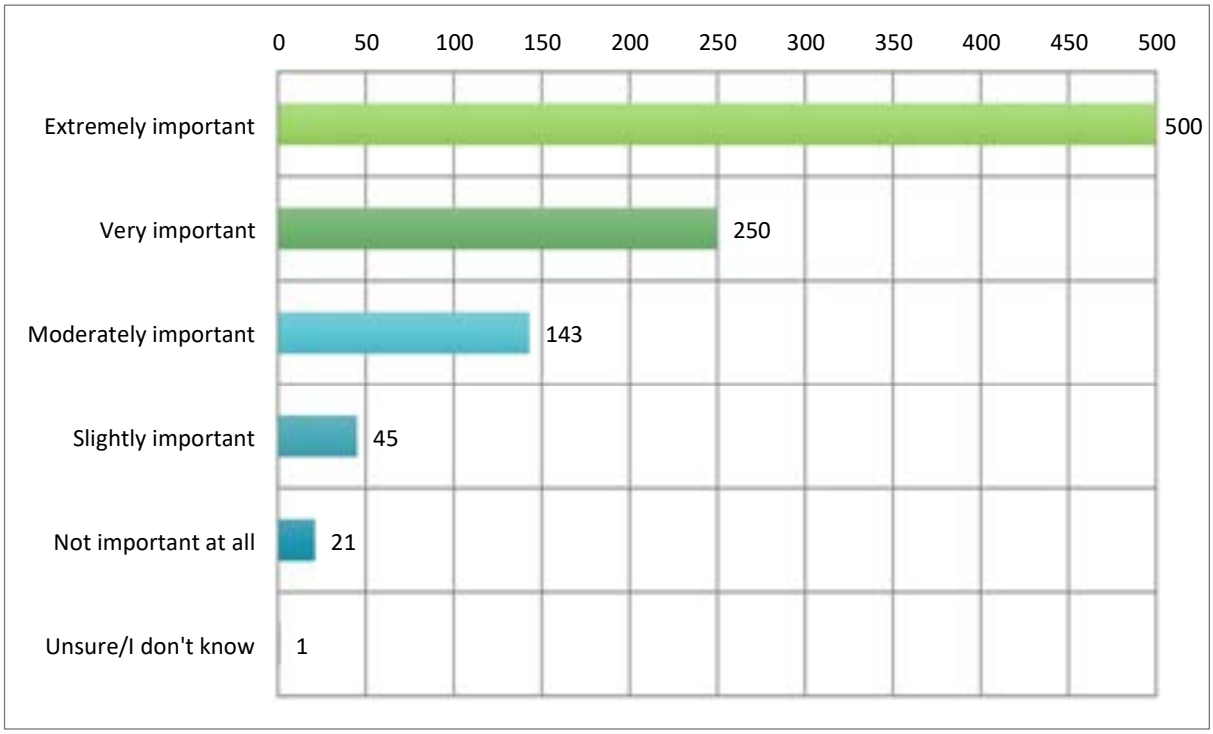


Figure 26: How important is environmental and wildlife protection in parks, reserves and public spaces to you?

2.6.3 Overall Park Experience

The overall experience of respondents while dogs are recreating in public spaces was measured. As per the graphic below, the most common response was extremely positive (47%), followed by slightly positive (20%). Dogs do not affect the experience of 6% of respondents, while 15% reported slightly negative and 12% extremely negative experiences when dogs recreate in public spaces.

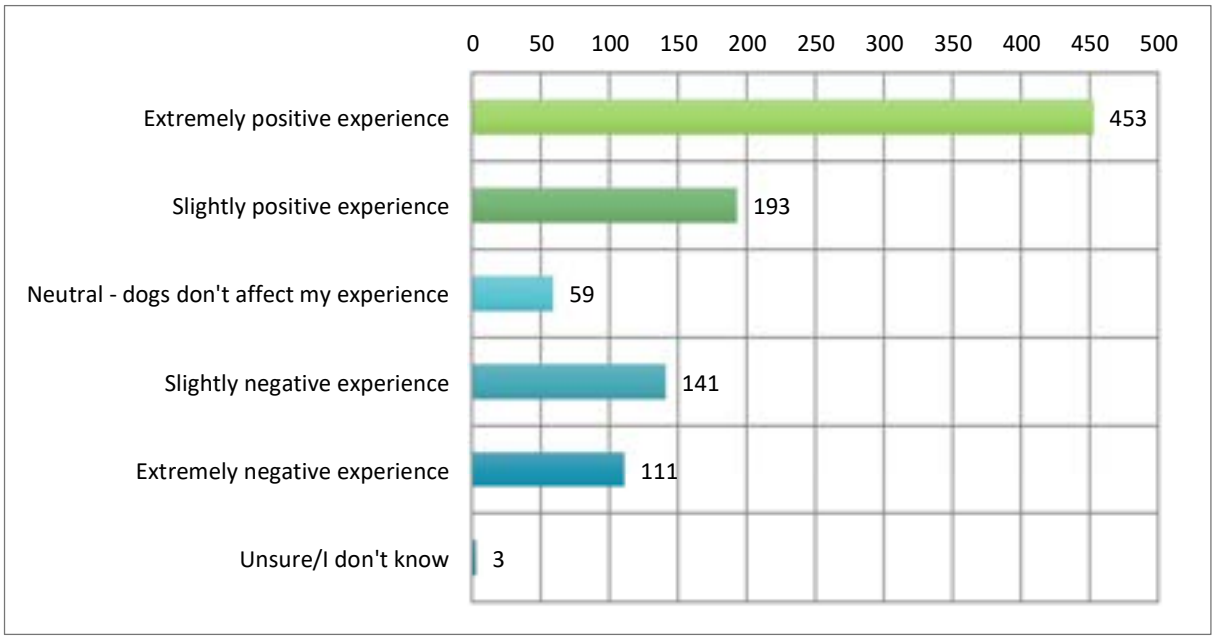


Figure 27: Rate your overall user experience while dogs are recreating in parks/ public spaces

Respondents were asked to explain their overall experience associated with the question above. There were many suggestions and explanations offered to address their level of satisfaction. This feedback has been analysed and will present the key themes and rationale behind them, in order of most to least referenced:

- **Dog Owner Responsibility and Enforcement –** There are high levels of dissatisfaction with irresponsible dog owners, which impacts the experiences of others using the same public spaces. Recommendations include increased ranger presence and enforcement, improved education, and clearer signage of responsibilities.
- **Dog Waste Management –** the high dog presence in the LGA's parks and public spaces results in an increase in dog waste left in public spaces. The provision of dog waste bags and bins in high-traffic dog areas helps; however, it requires additional maintenance from Council to clean and refill.
- **Fencing and Safety –** many commented on the need for more fenced off-leash areas for the safety of dogs and the community. There are also requests for fenced areas within parks to separate small and large dogs for safer play amongst dogs.
- **Conflicts in Shared Spaces –** Dogs recreating in shared public spaces, such as near playgrounds and on sporting fields, result in conflicts between these users. Despite not being permitted in playgrounds, there have been requests for dogs to be kept out of these areas through fencing and better signage, to reduce the frequency of children being scared, hurt, or injured. Additional health and safety concerns of dogs on sports fields, such as hygiene issues, were also raised.
- **Signage and Communication** – There are high levels of confusion regarding rules for on- and off-leash areas, time restrictions and shared use priorities. There is a need for clear and visible signage to be displayed to improve compliance with these rules.

Regarding the balance of shared use being provided in the LGA, there were split opinions.

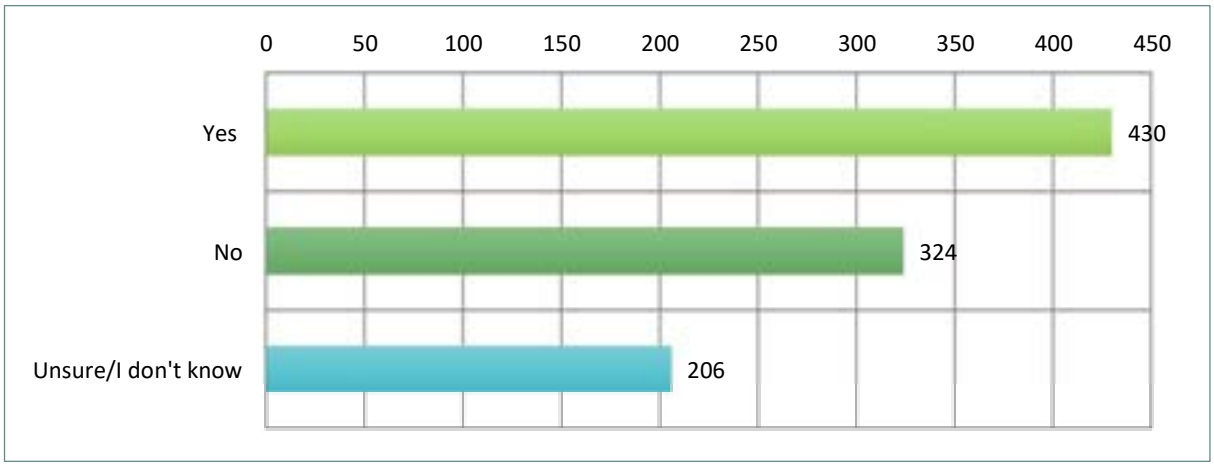


Figure 28: Is the right balance for shared use of parks/ public spaces being provided in the Willoughby Council area?

Respondents commonly suggested more or better-fenced dog off-leash areas to separate dogs from other park users, aiming to reduce conflicts. Frequent problems include dogs leaving off-leash zones and approaching people or nearby sports groups.

In addition to fencing these areas, enforcing dog owners to use them correctly was recommended, which would require greater Council ranger presence at popular parks and public spaces.

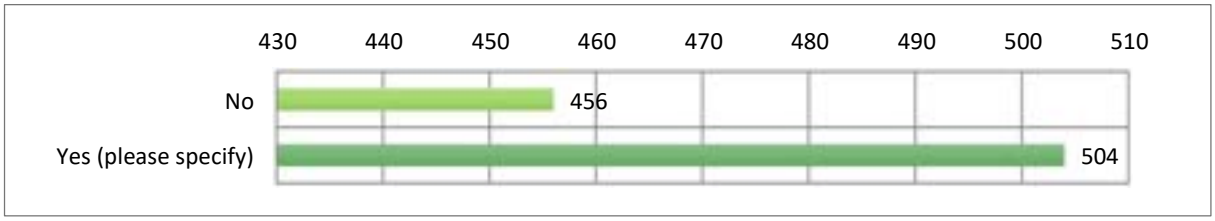


Figure 29: Are there specific areas or facilities where dog recreation should not be permitted?

52.5% of respondents believe there are specific areas or facilities where dog recreation should not be permitted.

These have been listed in order of most to least frequently mentioned:

- Children's playgrounds or play areas (36%)
- Sportsgrounds, oval or synthetic fields (27%)
- Bushland, nature reserves, or wildlife areas (21%)
- Picnic, BBQ or other food areas (7%)
- School grounds or childcare centres (3%)
- Bike tracks or shared paths (2%)
- Community gardens or allotments (1%)
- Swimming pools or beaches (1%)
- Other (1%)

Outside of the synthetic sport field, the other top recurring comments include places that are currently prohibited for dogs under the Companion Animals Act. Other, lesser-occurring places mentioned include shared pathways, community gardens, and pools or beaches.

2.6.4 Ideas and Suggestions

The community was prompted to provide ideas and suggestions to improve the dog recreation facilities, Councils management of dog recreation facilities, and the responsibility of dog owners.

Do you have any ideas or suggestions to improve *dog recreation facilities*?

Regarding dog recreation facilities and infrastructure, the key response themes include:

- Greater provision of dog off-leash areas, with more space dedicated for dogs to exercise freely and safely (574 mentions).
- Requests for more bags, bins, and maintenance at parks and public spaces to manage the dog waste issue (161 mentions).
- Separation in parks and public spaces to reduce conflicts between shared users (111 mentions).
- Provision of more lighting, shade, and water facilities for dogs and their owners (109 mentions).
- Increased provision of fully fenced parks for safety and control (94 mentions).
- Improved signage which clearly states rules, responsibilities, and shared use times if applicable (39 mentions).

Analysis of these responses reveals that the key reasons for these recommendations are safety, enforcement, and compliance with rules, as well as improving dog owner responsibility.

Do you have any ideas or suggestions to improve *Council's management practices* for dog recreation in parks, reserves and public spaces?

The ideas and suggestions from the community towards improving Council's management practices for dog recreation include:

- Increasing the provision of dog bags and bins will provide dog owners with the means to pick up after their dogs. Despite these being present at many dog parks, the issue of irresponsible dog owners not picking up after their dogs remains prevalent.
- Stricter enforcement of park rules through greater ranger presence and increasing the penalties for non-compliance will result in consequences for offenders. This visible enforcement will change attitudes and help improve the responsibility of dog owners, the cleanliness of dog recreation areas, and reduce conflicts between user groups.
- Signage and communication can be improved upon to clearly state the rules and regulations of dog recreation in parks and public spaces. The lack of clear communication currently leads to confusion and non-compliance.
- More education and training for dog owners, such as obedience training, can be key to raising awareness among dog owners and improving compliance.
- Increased maintenance of and around dog recreation areas will keep them clean, attractive, and usable.

Do you have any ideas or suggestions to improve *dog owner responsibility* in parks, reserves and public spaces?

Dog owner responsibility has been highlighted as a key contributor to many of the poor attitudes, conflicts and experiences in parks, reserves and public spaces. The community's ideas as to how to improve dog owner responsibility are:

- Harsher enforcement on irresponsible dog owners to ensure there is a greater ranger presence and punishments for those who break the rules and ruin the experience for everybody using the spaces.
- Clearer and more visible signage that identifies rules, areas and responsible behaviours.
- Suggestions for Council to provide and prepare education programs for responsible dog ownership that include training and obedience, to reduce any barriers to accessing such resources.
- Infrastructure improvements that can shape behaviours and provide the necessary components for responsible dog ownership, such as dog waste bins and bags, secure fencing around park perimeters, and lighting for evening use.

2.6.5 Other Comments

The final open-ended questions provided an opportunity to make any final comments. This was used to reinforce the key topics previously brought up, highlighting the possible solutions for improvements to parks and public spaces in the LGA:

- Actively manage shared spaces: Many comments highlight issues around shared use of parks, particularly conflicts between dog owners and sports participants or families with children. There are calls for better separation, time-sharing, or clearer rules.
- Upgrade waste management: There are concerns about dog waste, with requests for more bins and bag dispensers, and frustration with owners who do not clean up after their dogs.
- Increase and improve fencing: This can improve the safety of all park users and ensure dogs have suitable spaces for recreation without disrupting other park users.
- Boost enforcement: More ranger patrols, visible fines, and education.
- Improve signage and communication: Clear, visible, and multilingual signage about rules and etiquette.
- Address maintenance, education, lighting, and water: To improve safety and usability.

Key Findings of the Community's Ideas and Suggestions

Analysis of all the questions and answers in this section identifies the presence of several key themes that can be integral in improving dog recreation areas. **Dog waste management, enforcement, signage, fencing, and shared use conflicts** are the most urgent and frequently mentioned issues. **Education and practical amenities** are also valued.

The community seeks **improvements to dog recreation infrastructure, clearer rules, and more responsible behaviour** from all park users.

3. Written Submissions

A total of 23 written submissions were received. A summary of responses and overall key themes is provided in the following table.

Table 1: Summary of Written Submissions

Submission No.	Category	Summary of Submission
1	Sport Association	Supports the development of designated dog spaces for responsible dog owners and social inclusion; however, strongly objects to dogs on sports fields. Reasons include hygiene, unpredictability and increased maintenance costs associated with dogs on synthetic turf fields (referenced Gore Hill Oval).
2	Community Member	Expressed concern over the lack of attention to the safety of both dogs and owners. They advocate for the implementation of stronger safety measures.
3	Resident	Believes people of Willoughby have 'an abysmal dog owner culture' in reference to ignorance of the rules and appropriate off-leash areas. Correcting these behaviours and encouraging safe behaviours should be a priority.
4	Resident	In support of two to three designated off-leash areas in the LGA. Observed several times where dog owners have disregarded rules and had their dogs off leash where not appropriate, at Willoughby Park and O.H. Reid Reserve. Enforcing leash laws for these owners is necessary to protect the LGA's wildlife areas.
5	Local Business Owner	Request to trial a new business, which involves 240L modified wheelie bins to collect dog waste, to be collected and relocated for recycling into compost. Recommends trial at Willoughby Park, with weekly retrievals and emptying of the bins.
6	Resident	Observed the increasing number of dogs off-leash in and around the LGA. Incident of abuse from a dog owner for being told to have their dog on a leash. Warning that incidents and serious injuries, or worse, are likely to occur soon if owner behaviour does not improve or is not punished.
7	Resident	Objects to any suggestions to restrict dog off-leash exercise and limit access at certain times. Designated and suitable off-leash areas must be provided. Any time restrictions (e.g. 9am -5pm) will disrupt many existing park users.
8	Resident	Would like to see a fenced off-leash area for their dog (and others). Also recommends a dedicated fenced and meshed area for nervous or anxious dogs, to separate dogs by socialisation. This would help the increasing owners of rescue dogs in the area with protecting and socialising their anxious dogs.
9	Resident	Would like to see spaces in the harbour for dogs off-leash. Further suggests netted swim areas for dogs, recommended in quieter areas of the beach.
10	Sport/ Scout Group	Users of Naremburn Oval for 40+ years. Reported incidents include dog waste left on the oval, owners letting dogs off-leash without supervision that run towards the kids and scare them, and owners insisting they can break the rules because 'their dogs are friendly'. Recommends more signs with strict rules regarding collecting dog waste and keeping dogs on leash.
11	Resident	Regarding Willoughby Park top and bottom ovals, requests for improved signage for permissible activities and exclusions. Query about non-organised sports field users, e.g. casual play, and who has more right to use the park.
12	Resident	Request for any designated off-leash areas to be separate from any fenced ovals or playing fields. Mention of Beauchamp Oval being incompatible for dog owners and sports users due to damage to the pitch and the frequency of dog waste on the field.
13	Resident	Reports of several incidents of dogs being off-leash at non-off-leash areas (e.g. Northbridge Oval) and leaving waste, urinating on school bags, eating food, etc. Dog owner behaviour is poor and more observation and punishment for incorrect behaviour is needed. Synthetic turf is not appropriate for dogs off leash due to the above reasons and its impact on the surface type.

Submission No.	Category	Summary of Submission
14	Sporting Club	Expressed the safety risks of dogs off-leash in parks with organised sport, including players falling on dog waste, an incorrectly off-leash dog entering the field of play, and members of the club being scared of dogs. They are happy to co-exist with dogs; however, they require dogs to be on leash. The provision of a written guideline or expectation to be referred to during disputes would greatly support the club.
15	Vet Hospital	Entrance to the hospital is near busy streets where heavy pedestrian traffic occurs. Vet asks for a mirror to be placed to improve visibility, as warning signs to slow down are not always followed, and the risks of incidents are high.
16	Resident	A senior citizen who regularly walks their dog on Beauchamp Oval highlights the benefits in health and socialisation for dogs off-leash. Access to these parks for dog recreation should be protected. Socialisation with other dog owners and establishing communities is important in the LGA. States appreciation of local dog walkers and trainers in their roles supporting training and exercising dogs for people who can't.
17	Resident	Raised concerns over restricted access for dogs in the LGA. Suggests: 1. Increasing the number of off-leash areas. 2. Communicating to all users that shared use includes dogs. 3. Allocating resources to enforcement and education, rather than restricting access. Off-leash spaces are important community assets and should continue to be welcoming and equitable for all residents.
18	Resident	Suggestion for an area for dogs to run free at the marketplace gardens.
19	Resident	Appreciation for the off-leash area and recommendation to improve these areas through quantity or access time of existing ones will provide mental and physical health benefits to dogs and their owners.
20	Parks and Wildlife	Request for consultation when considering off-leash areas due to fox baiting in parks and reserves in the LGA.
21	Sport and Scout Club	Users of Naremburn Oval for 40+ years, reporting consistent misuse of the park and walking tracks. Recommendation for clear signage on the walking track and park that clearly states where the off-leash area is and advises that dog droppings must be picked up. Advised Council that the most common hand injuries at RNSH recently are from dog bites.
22	Resident	Objection towards the suggestion that off-leash areas will be abolished from 9am-5pm across many dog recreation areas, citing the unfair nature of this change for residents and the convenience of using these venues at this time, due to it being quieter than in the mornings and evenings. Reiterates the importance of leash-free exercise areas for the socialisation and health of dogs and their owners in the LGA.

3.1 Key Themes

Analysis of these submissions has presented the following key themes from the written submissions for the Willoughby Dog Recreation Strategy:

- General appreciation for the quality of parks and public spaces in the LGA and the strong, active culture of sport and recreation.
- The behaviour of some dog owners is poor and leads to frequent incidents, with safety concerns common across other residents and users of popular recreation areas.
- Dogs should not be allowed to use synthetic turf fields due to hygiene and maintenance.
- Signage with clear permissions and restrictions should be placed at high-traffic areas.
- Requests for the current provision of dog recreation areas to increase or remain, but not decrease.

- Clear objection towards a blanket ban at select dog recreation areas from 9am to 5pm, due to the absence of organised sport and opportunity to socialise and recreate their dogs.
- Requests for more Council ranger presence to enforce positive owner behaviours.
- Calls for education to be provided to dog owners to improve their behaviours and highlight responsible ownership.

4. Drop-in Sessions and Intercept Surveys

Willoughby Council and Otium staff hosted four drop-in sessions to raise awareness and receive feedback from dog recreation users and other park users. Dates, locations, and attendees are provided below.

Table 2: Willoughby Dog Recreation Strategy Drop-In Sessions Summary

Date	Location	Ward	Attendance (approximately)
Thurs 23 Oct 2025	O.H. Reid Reserve	West	28 attendees
Sat 25 Oct 2025	Artarmon Reserve	Naremburn	25 attendees (+ one councillor)
Sat 25 Oct 2025	Willoughby Park	Middle Harbour	21 attendees
Thurs 30 Oct 2025	Northbridge Park	Sailors Bay	18 attendees (+ one councillor)

The following image displays a promotional flyer developed and distributed during site visits and drop-in sessions to raise awareness of the Strategy, invite survey submissions, and inform the community about future drop-in sessions.



Figure 30: Dog Recreation Stage 1 Engagement Flyer

4.1 Drop-in Session 1

Thursday 23 October, 4:30-6:30pm at O.H. Reid Reserve.



Figure 31: Council and Otium staff with community members at O.H. Reid Reserve

Comments About O.H. Reid Reserve as an Off-Leash Area

- Generally high levels of satisfaction amongst regular users and dog owners.
- O.H. Reid Reserve is a well-utilised and appreciated community park due to its enclosed nature and accessibility, including connections to walking trails.
- Many dog owners meet and socialise here, a trend that increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a mix of large and small dogs that reportedly get along well.
- The Volunteer Rescue Association uses the O.H. Reid Reserve for training due to its open space and availability. The VRA would like to work with Council to obtain permission for off-leash access to wildlife areas for specific training purposes. This opportunity is not limited specifically to the LGA.
- There are occasional conflicts or issues with other groups and dog owners. Mainly where non-organised sports groups are restricting space for dogs.
- Like all areas, there are problems with some owners not picking up after their dogs.

Recommendations to Improve O.H. Reid Reserve

- Improved signage with clear rules and responsibilities, including education as to why dogs should be on-leash through wildlife areas.
- Safety rails for step entry points.
- Field drainage issues.
- Water station for dogs and humans. Provide a dog bowl that can be emptied and easily cleaned.
- Potential for a fenced area dedicated to dogs. Consider separating small and large dog areas.

- Preference for the nearby playground and BBQ areas to be fenced to keep dogs out.
    - Or consider a fenced car park area instead.

Challenges that Exist with O.H. Reid Reserve

- Maintenance and ability to contact Council – issue with broken bin.
- Council website and visualisation of dog off-leash areas can be improved upon as they, and the associated maps brought to the session, are not the clearest to read.
- Playground and eating areas are not fenced, and many dogs enter these areas.
- The water refill station and dog bowl can be improved.
- Some conflicts between sports and dog owners, typically non-organised use and different opinions over who has priority.

Other Comments

- Lowanna Park, as a fenced venue, attracts many dog walkers and people who treat it as an area to un-leash their dogs and not have to supervise them anymore.
- Consider examples such as Five Dock Park and Blackman Park for off-leash areas.
- Council could be providing education and training to encourage responsible dog ownership.
- Recommendation for Ferndale Park to have a double-fenced entry.

4.2 Drop-in Session 2

Saturday 25 October, 10:00am-12:30pm at Artarmon Reserve.



Figure 32: Drop-in Session at Artarmon Reserve

Comments about Artarmon Reserve as an Off-Leash Area

- The reserve is very busy, but there is room for everyone. There are typically lots of different activities taking place at once.
- Concerns raised about dog ownership behaviour with dogs being off-leash in on-leash areas, causing conflict and safety concerns.
- Commercial dog walkers or trainers are growing in presence and 'taking over' the site.
- Concerns about the increasing density and development and its impact on open space.

- The dedicated off-leash area needs to be better signed or fenced and enclosed.

Recommendations to Improve Artarmon Reserve

- Recommendation to provide clearer signage that signals the boundary of the off-leash area, e.g. stencil prints.
- Recommendation of enforcement and education, a targeted and intense blitz-style campaign to shift behaviour, including through the wildlife areas.
- Recommendation of using cameras in wildlife and other areas to capture repeat offenders (time and place) that rangers can use to assist with targeted enforcement
- Recommendation to move the water point, as there is a significant conflict with shared path users.
- Recommendation to have an online platform showing when dog off-leash times are in place.
- Recommendation to fence the outskirt/ embankment for exclusive dog recreation.
- Need gates to protect dogs from wandering into the car park.
- Provision of a notice board with schedules for events.
- Enforcement signage should be made larger and clearer to improve visibility and compliance.

Challenges that Exist with Artarmon Reserve

- Dogs on shared paths and in wildlife areas off-leash are causing conflicts. Owners are aware of the rules but ignore them due to a lack of enforcement.
    - Safety challenges with electric bikes on shared paths and dogs attacking vegetation in wildlife areas.
- Multiple reports from attendees about conflicts with other dog owners, including incidents and attacks, as well as owners commonly not picking up after their dogs.
- No boundary fence to prevent unsupervised or unleashed dogs from running onto the roads.

Other Comments

- Recommendation to utilise hilly areas and unused areas of parks and reserves for fenced off-leash dog areas.
- Request for Council to run quarterly workshops on dog behaviour management or basic training for puppies. In partnership with local pet businesses, provide resources/packages for new dog owners and establish training facilities to help them understand their responsibilities.
- Suggestion to formalise the baseball facility at Bicentennial Oval as an off-leash dog area, as it is highly used.
- Registration system for residents and their dogs is a good idea.
- The lower section of Willoughby Park is rarely used for sporting activities and would be an ideal site for a fenced dog park.

4.3 Drop-in Session 3

Saturday 25 October, 1:30-3:30pm at Willoughby Park.

Comments About Willoughby Park as an Off-Leash Area

- Dog supervision is passive.

- It is regularly used by a variety of users.
- The top oval is mainly used for cricket, with the lower oval occasionally used for training or warming up.

Recommendations to Improve Willoughby Park

- Need for more education about dogs in parks via signage and park visits from Council staff to enforce rules and punish offenders.
- Some requests to fence the lower area, with other attendees suggesting that the lower oval should be exclusive for dogs, but not fenced.
- Request for more signage and enforcement. Feedback included people not cleaning up. Providing more bins and bag disposal options may help with this.
- Community reinforcement and education about dogs needing to be on leash is needed.
- More signs are required to explain when and where dogs can be off-leash.

Challenges that Exist with Willoughby Park

- Supervision of dogs is poor, with many frequently running away from owners and towards other people with or without dogs.
- Serious injury has been caused at this site by dogs running onto the shared pathway.
- A widespread issue of people not cleaning up after their dogs.
- Playgrounds are not fenced, and dogs occasionally walk to where children are playing.

Other Comments

- Concern about the growth in Chatswood CBD. We need more parks for human recreation and dog recreation.
- Concern about the intensity of use and growth. We need to have appropriate infrastructure in place to accommodate this growth and change.

4.4 Drop-in Session 4

Thursday 30 October, 4:30-6:30pm at Northbridge Park.



Figure 33: Drop-In Session at Northbridge Park

Comments about Northbridge Park as an Off-Leash Area

- Local schools and sporting groups highly utilise the synthetic turf field, and many believe dogs should not be allowed on the surface entirely.
    - Incidents have occurred of dogs running up to kids, urinating on school bags, and eating food out of bags.
    - Regularly need to clean the field prior to sports in order to pick up dog waste in the mornings, where people have not cleaned up after their dogs.
- During the drop-in session, it was observed that many owners were walking their dogs off-leash, with community feedback confirming this occurs regularly.

Recommendations to Improve Northbridge Park

- Improve signage to ensure all users are aware of the rules.
- Consider a dog off-leash area on the other side of the car park; keep dogs off the synthetic turf.

Challenges That Exist With Northbridge Park

- No enforcement of rules, allowing people to ignore them.
- Frequent occurrence of dogs impacting users of the site.

Other Comments

- Appreciate the range of options in the LGA and keen to see innovation across all open space.
- Dog attacks from commercial dog walkers and not taking accountability for any incidents.
    - Highlights the need for dangerous or restricted breeds that require muzzling to be enforced.
- St Ives Showground was identified as an example to consider. Bookable spaces and anxious dog spaces to allow people with different degrees of socialised dogs to use the spaces.
- Other options to be considered as a dedicated off-leash area:
    - Bonds Corner Park
    - Behind Northbridge Public School
    - Warners Park.

4.5 Intercept Surveys

While most feedback obtained during drop-in sessions was unstructured, five attendees wished to complete a shortened version of the community survey. All five respondents own dogs and were actively recreating with their dogs at the time of the survey. The findings of this intercept survey are below:

- The demographic section of this survey was optional and not completed by all respondents. Three respondents were male (60%), and two were female (40%). There was a broad representation of ages, ranging from 25 to 84. The respondents all live within the LGA. Of those who shared, two resided in Chatswood and one in Chatswood West.
- There was agreement that access to public spaces for people is extremely important (80%) or very important (20%). The same question, but for dogs, received one less vote for 'extremely important' (60%). Regarding wildlife and environmental protection in public spaces, the respondents did not believe these were as important.
- The overall experiences while dogs are recreating in parks and public spaces are mostly extremely positive (60%) or slightly positive (40%). Eighty per cent of respondents also felt that the right balance for the shared use of public spaces or parks in Willoughby is currently being met. The explanations for the balance of parks and public spaces include the happiness of sharing the

spaces, observations of many users effectively utilising the space, and seeing people take care of the parks while using them.

- Three respondents (60%) believe that there are specific areas in which dog recreation should not be permitted. The identified areas are playgrounds and food areas.
- Suggestions for improvement to dog recreation areas include clear signage and knowledge of where dog recreation areas are located, the fencing of current offerings to keep dogs out of prohibited areas such as car parks and playgrounds and raising public awareness about responsible dog ownership.

5. Key Findings

The key themes of the Stage 1 Engagement Activities and key findings that support them include:

- Community use of Parks, Reserves and Public Spaces:
  - The parks, reserves and public spaces in the LGA are highly appreciated and well utilised for a range of activities by the community, commercial operators, and local sporting groups.
  - 88% of respondents use the parks, reserves and public spaces at least once a week, and 40% use them daily.
  - Dogs overall contribute to positive experiences at parks, reserves and public Spaces. Dogs do not affect the experience of 6% of respondents, while 15% reported slightly negative and 12% extremely negative experiences when dogs recreate in public spaces.
  - Consideration should be given for prohibiting dogs on synthetic fields and eating areas and reinforcing existing prohibited areas of playgrounds, schools, and wildlife areas to give priority to the people present at these sites.
- Dog ownership in Willoughby:
  - 72% of survey respondents own a dog. 85% of dog owners have one dog,
    - 28% own one small-sized dog, 38% own one medium-sized dog, and 19% own one large-sized dog.
  - Regarding future ownership, 24% of non-dog owners wish to own a dog in future, and 47% do not.
- Dog Recreation Infrastructure Priorities:
  - The top six most important infrastructure items for dog recreation areas are dog waste bags and bins (15%), drinking water (10%), general maintenance (10%), fully enclosed fencing (5%), shade (8%) and lighting (6%).
  - The provision of multiple fenced designated dog off-leash areas is highly recommended to add to the current dog recreation offerings.
- Common Issues:
  - Dog waste management, enforcement, signage, fencing, and shared use conflicts are the most urgent and frequently mentioned issues. These contribute to hygiene and safety concerns.
  - Poor dog ownership is a common issue for dog owners and non-dog-owners, requiring better signage and ranger presence to enforce. Negative behaviours associated with poor dog owners include leaving dog waste, ignoring signage, frequent dog attacks and use of restricted wildlife areas.
  - Some respondents believe incidents are becoming more common. Rules such as the leashing and muzzling of dogs in public areas are regularly being ignored by dog owners.
- Identified Opportunities:
  - Council could consider preparing mandatory education and training courses for new dog owners, to enforce socialising of dogs and etiquette when using public spaces with their dogs.
  - Communication of dog recreation areas and their access requirements, including the website, maps, and signage indicating times and boundaries, can be improved upon.
  - Increased ranger presence and fining dog owners who ignore the rules will contribute towards more positive owner behaviours.

6. Warranties and Disclaimers

The information contained in this report is provided in good faith. While the Otium Planning Group (Otium) has applied its experience to the task, it has relied on information supplied to it by other persons and organisations.

We have not conducted an audit of the information provided by others but have accepted it in good faith. Some of the information may have been provided 'commercial in confidence', and these venues or sources of information are not specifically identified. Readers should be aware that the preparation of this report may have necessitated projections of the future that are inherently uncertain and that our opinion is based on the underlying representations, assumptions and projections detailed in this report.

Otium's advice does not extend to, or imply professional expertise in the disciplines of economics, quantity surveying, engineering or architecture. External advice in one or more of these disciplines may have been sought, as necessary, to address the project's objectives. There will be differences between projected and actual results because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected, and those differences may be material. We do not express an opinion as to whether actual results will approximate projected results, nor can we confirm, underwrite, or guarantee the projections' achievability, as it is impossible to substantiate assumptions based on future events.

This report does not constitute advice, investment advice, or opinion and must not be relied on for funding or investment decisions. Independent advice should be obtained in relation to investment decisions.

Accordingly, neither Otium nor any member or employee of Otium undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any persons other than the client in respect to this report for any errors or omissions herein arising through negligence or otherwise caused.

Appendix 1: Engagement Material

Prints and Media

Flyers



Figure 34: Flyers Developed

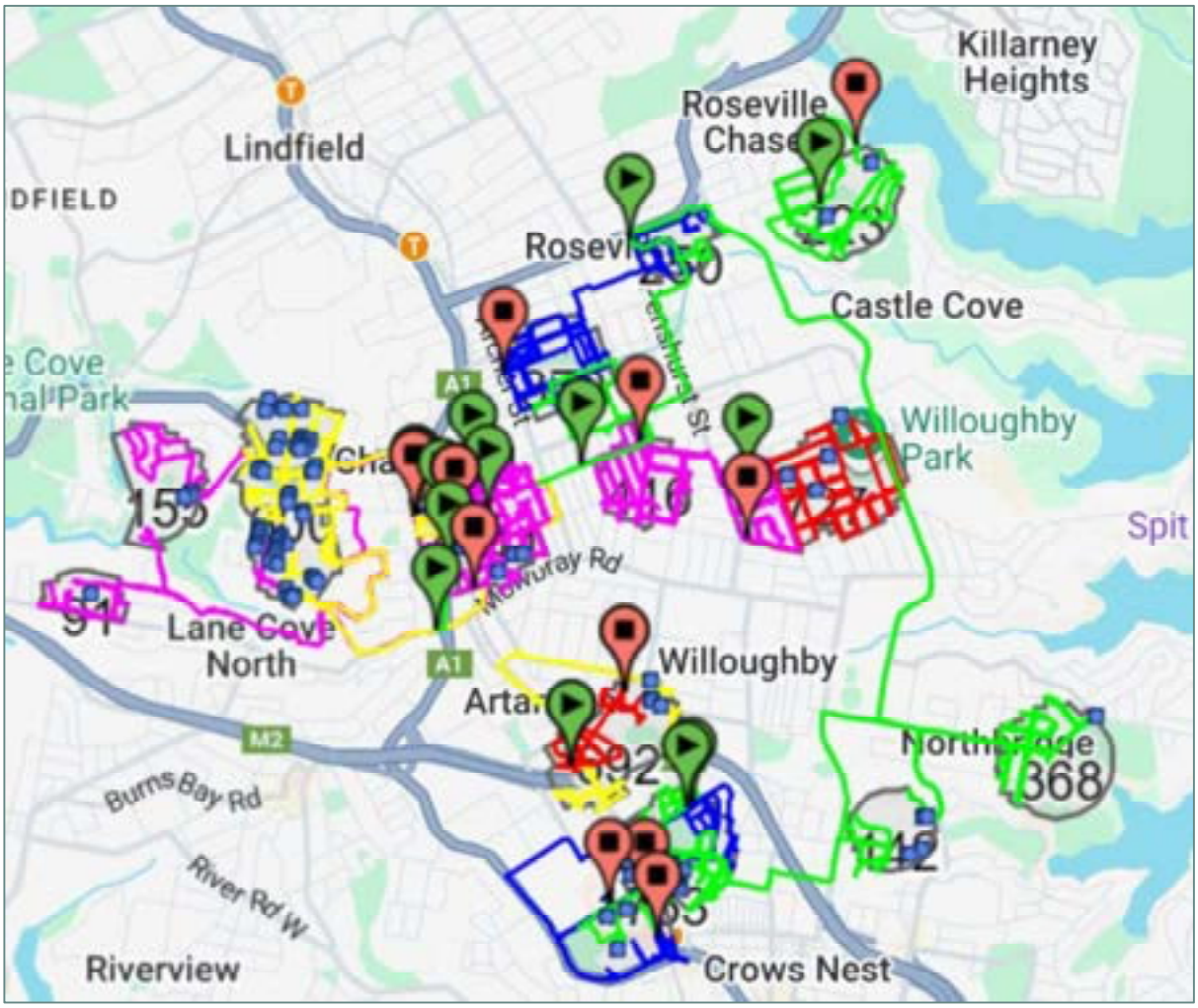


Figure 35: Locations of the 250m Radius Around Each Existing Dog Recreation Area and Other Major Parks and Reserves for Letterbox Drop of Flyers.

Corflute Signs Installed at Key Locations



Figure 36: Signage at Willoughby Park (left) and Ferndale Park (right)



Figure 37: Signage at Gore Hill Oval



Figure 38: Signage at Chatswood Park

Table 3: Advertisements and Displays

Diverse City Spring	North Shore Living (Willoughby Living Local Ad)	TV/ Display Screen
		
Distribution: 35,000 (33,000 mailed with 30% digitally emailed and 2,000 for library/ DCC/ CS Counter) **QR Code Scans:** 61.	**Distribution:** 40,000 **QR Code Scans:** 21	The following was made for display on TV screens and JCD screens in Chatswood Mall.

Social Media Content and Impressions

The 'Have Your Say' social media campaign – from October 15 to November 5, 2025 - collectively:

- Reached **2,782** social media account holders.
- Was seen **5,032** times.
- Resulted in **51** engagement activities, including reactions, comments, shares, views, and clicks.
- Led to **23** link clicks.

The following outlines each posts reach, impressions, and engagements.

Table 4: Social Media Content and Engagement

Title and Platform	Date	Reach	Impressions	Engagement	Link Clicks
Facebook Post 1	15/10/2025	518	953	14	10
Instagram Post 1	15/10/2025	377	880	11	2
Facebook Post 2	21/10/2025	543	888	13	6
Instagram Post 2	21/10/2025	200	654	3	0
Instagram + Facebook Story 1	24/10/2025	160+231	194+245	1+3	1+0
Instagram + Facebook Story 2	30/10/2025	135+176	152+189	1+0	1+0
Facebook Post 3	5/11/2025	267	393	2	2
Instagram Post 3	5/11/2025	175	484	3	1

The posts content can also be seen below.



Figure 39: Instagram / Facebook Post 1



Figure 40: Instagram / Facebook Post 2

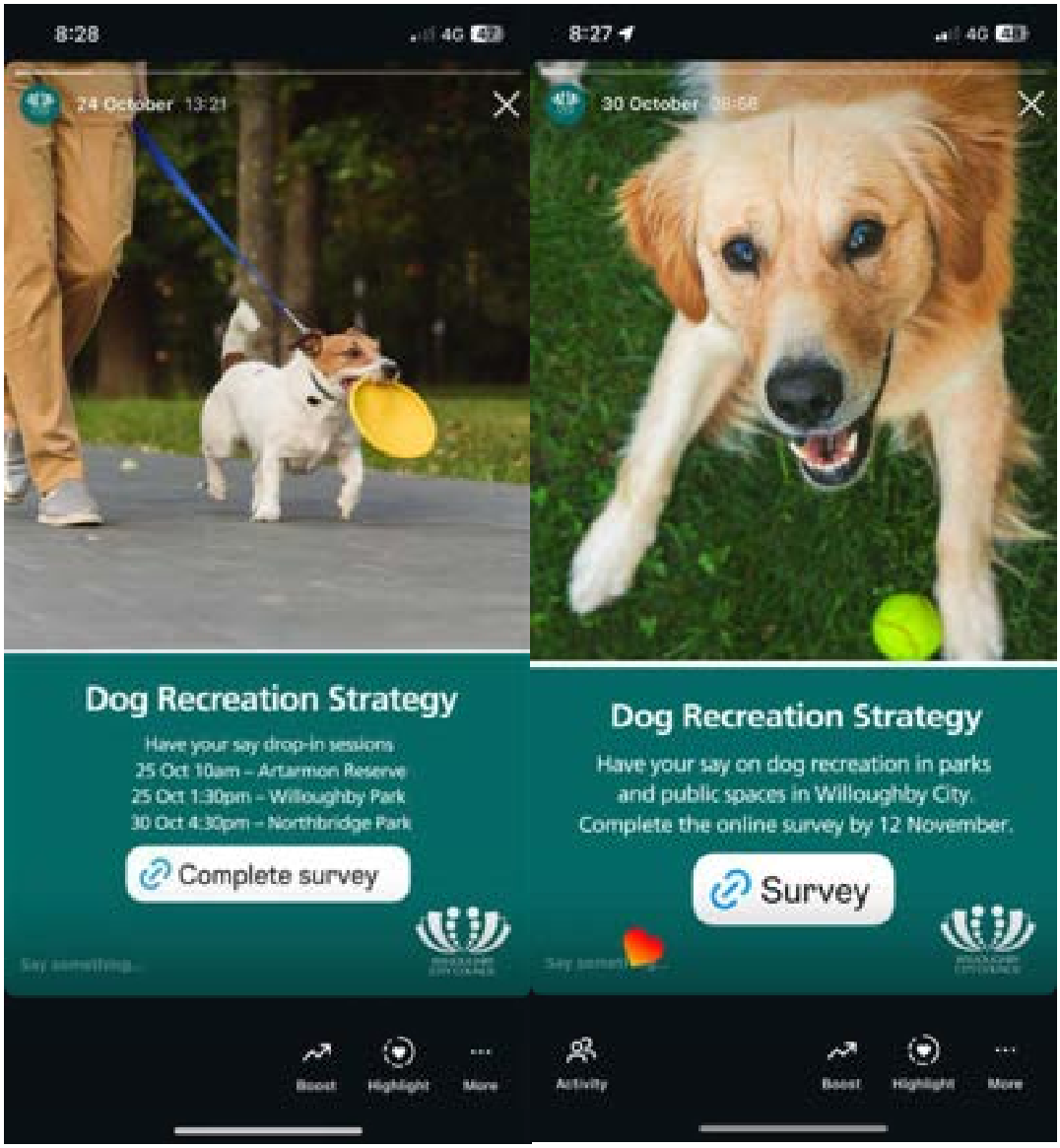


Figure 41: Instagram/ Facebook Stories 1 and 2



Figure 42: Facebook / Instagram Post 3

Email to Stakeholders

Sent: Monday, 20 October 2025 12:58 PM
Subject: Have Your Say – Dog Recreation Strategy



Have Your Say on dog recreation in parks and public spaces

Willoughby City Council has many parks and public spaces providing important recreation and social opportunities for the community, including residents with dogs. Council is seeking whole-of-community input to inform the development of a Dog Recreation Strategy. The Strategy will seek to encourage dog recreation while balancing the needs of other park users and the environment. Council would like to hear from dog owners and non-dog owners about how you currently use our parks and public spaces, as well as any ideas or suggestions how dog recreation in these areas could be improved or better managed into the future.

How to Get Involved

Have your say and provide your ideas and suggestions via:

- **Online survey:** Click here to complete the online survey.
- **Email:** email@willoughby.nsw.gov.au
- **Post:** Willoughby City Council, PO Box 57, Chatswood 2057

Survey and submissions closes midnight **Wednesday 12 November 2025.**

Community Drop In Sessions

Speak with a member of the project team, ask any questions and provide feedback.

- **Thursday 23 October 2025, 4.30pm - 6.30pm**
  O.H. Reid Reserve, Reid Dr, Chatswood West
- **Saturday 25 October 2025, 10.00am – 12noon**
  Artarmon Reserve, Burra Rd, Artarmon (near sports field)
- **Saturday 25 October 2025, 1.30pm - 3.30pm**
  Willoughby Park, McClelland St, Willoughby
- **Thursday 30 October 2025, 4.30pm - 6.30pm**
  Northbridge Park, Sailors Bay Rd, Northbridge (Northbridge Oval)

For more information visit Have Your Say



Figure 43: Have Your Say Stakeholder Email

Radio

Radio Interviews Summary

Northside Radio: Breakfast with Harry 28 October, 2025
Interview with Mayor Tanya Taylor

Talking Points:
Dog Recreation Strategy

- We're currently developing a Dog Recreation Strategy, which seeks to encourage dog recreation while balancing the needs of other park users and the environment.
- The Strategy aims to improve how we manage parks for everyone's benefit and enjoyment.
- We'd like to hear from the whole community. Public spaces belong to everyone, and we are seeking input from not only dog owners but also non-dog owners.
- Thanks to all the dog owners who have provided their input. At the moment, their feedback outnumbers the responses from non-dog owners, and we would really like to hear from everyone.
- Last drop-in sessions this Thursday, 30 October, 4:30pm to 6:30pm at Northbridge Park.
- Head to haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au for more information

Northside Radio: In the Spotlight (with Merran) 12 November
Interview with Mayor Tanya Taylor

Talking Points:

- There are always chances to get involved and shape what happens in your city.
- Most of it only takes a couple of minutes online.
- Right now, we're especially keen to hear from folks who use our public spaces as we are developing a Dog Recreation Strategy.
- The Strategy aims to improve how we manage parks for everyone's benefit and enjoyment.
- We'd like to hear from the whole community. Public spaces belong to everyone, and we are seeking input from not only dog owners but also non-dog owners.
- Thanks to all the dog owners who have provided their input. At the moment, their feedback outnumbers the responses from non-dog owners, and we would really like to hear from everyone.
- Just head to haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au to share your thoughts.
- It really does make a difference.

Appendix 2: Respondent Profile

6.1 Respondent Profile

6.1.1 User Profile

The profile of the respondents demonstrates:

- 819 live in the LGA
- 687 use the parks and public spaces in the LGA
- 537 live near a park or public space in the LGA.

Please note that total scores will exceed the number of respondents due to multiple answer options for this question.

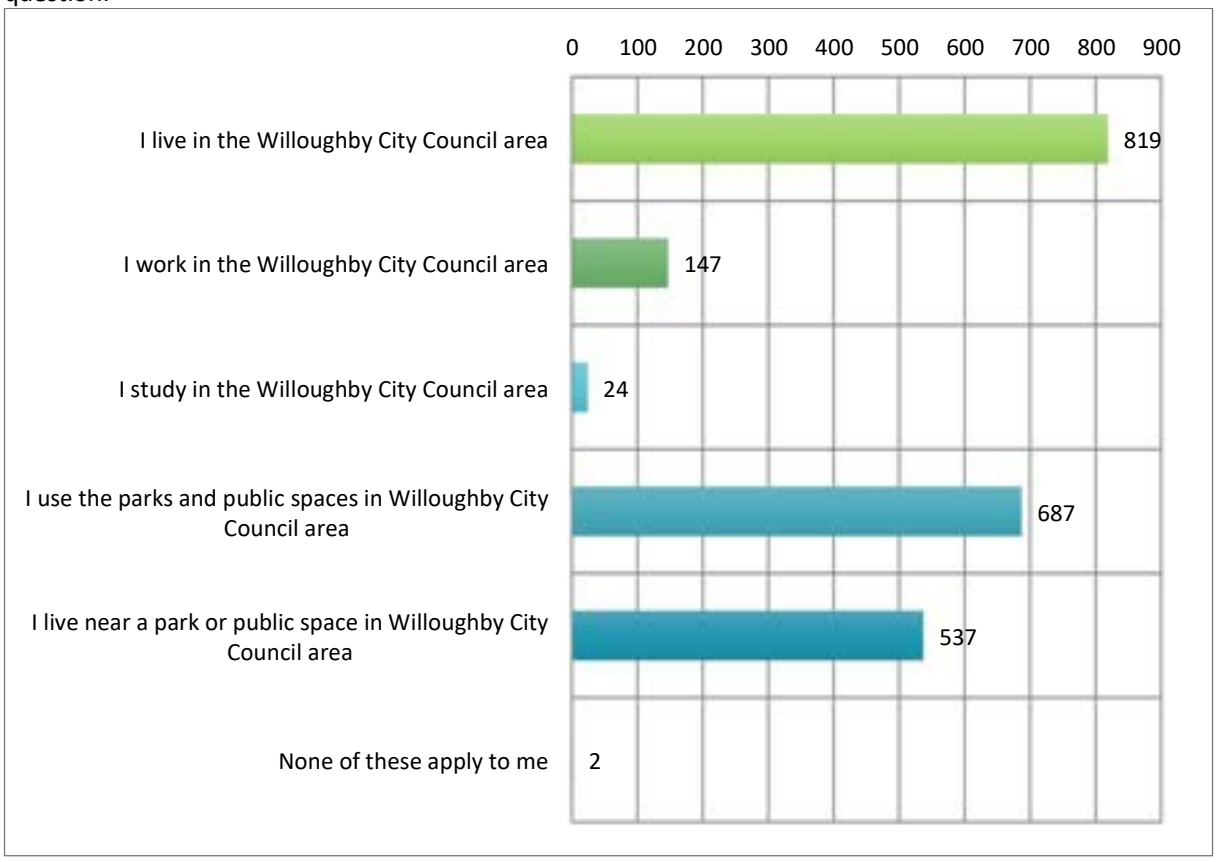


Figure 44: Which best describes you?

6.1.2 Gender and Age:

The respondents were mostly female (58%) or male (36%). The full breakdown is provided below:

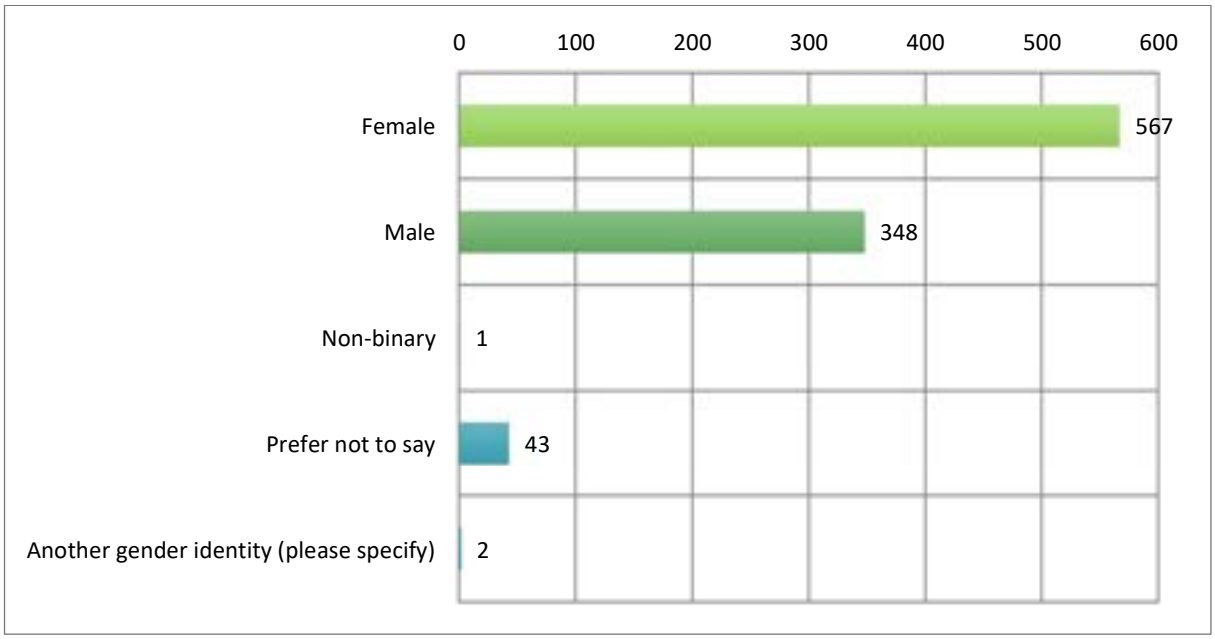


Figure 45: What is your gender?

The breakdown of age shows that most survey representation was formed from those 35 to 64:

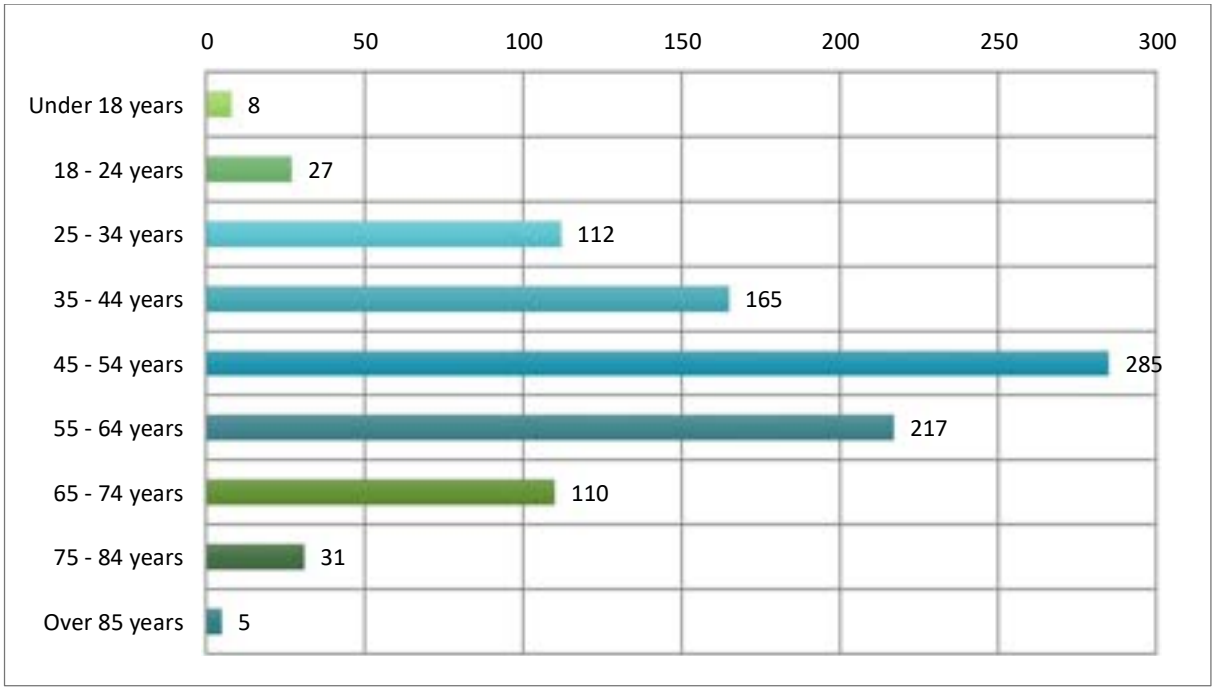


Figure 46: What is your age?

6.1.3 Area of Residence:

The graph below demonstrates the respondents' suburbs of residence. Approximately 89% of respondents reside within the LGA.

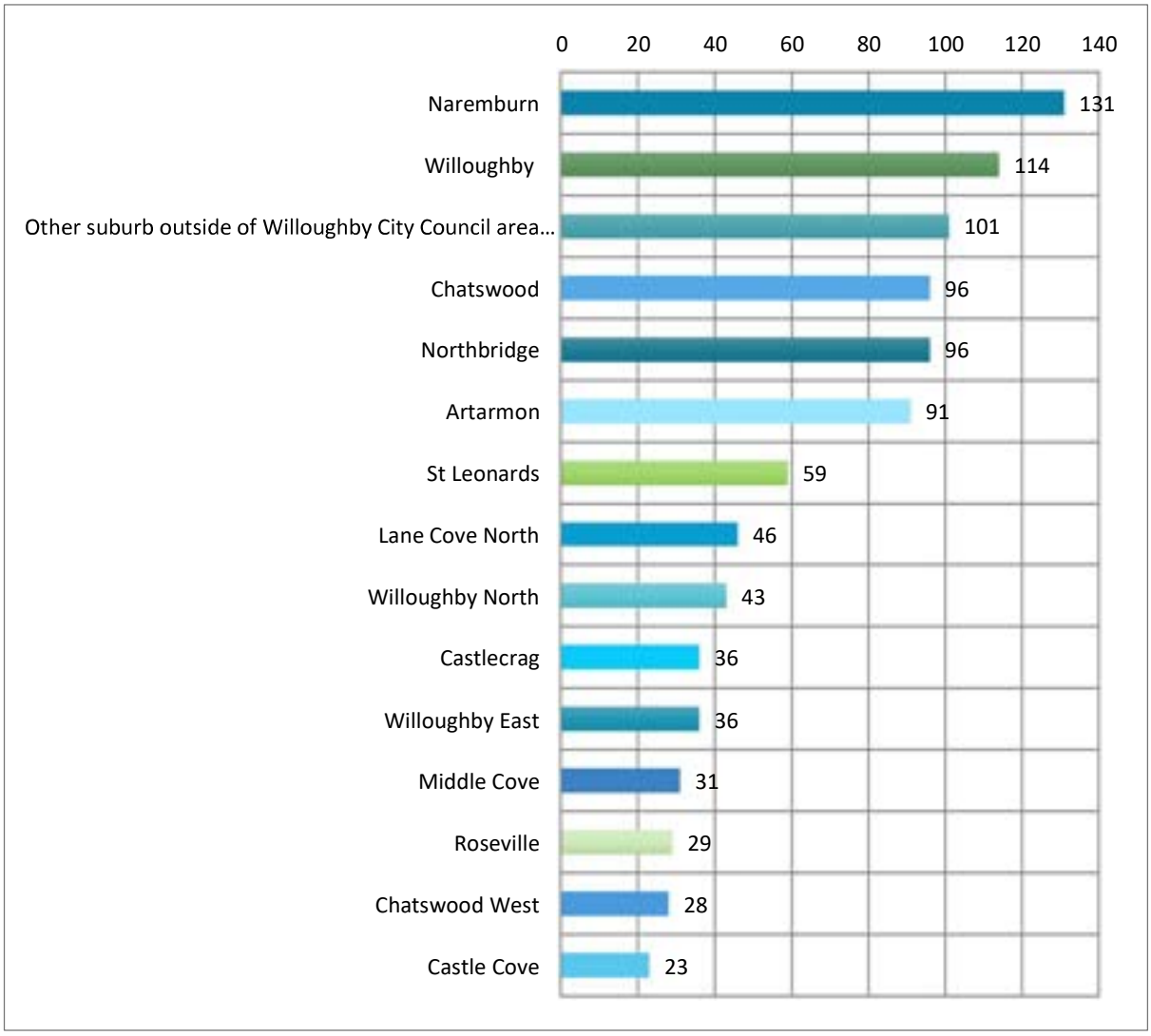


Figure 47: What suburb do you live in?

The top suburbs of respondents who reside outside of the LGA are below:

Table 5: Other Suburb

List of Suburb(s)	Number of Respondents
Greenwich	10
Lane Cove, Wollstonecraft	7
Crows Nest, Manly, North Sydney, Turramurra, Wahroonga	4
Cammeray, Killara, Neutral Bay	3
Alexandria, Balmain, Frenchs Forest, McMahons Point, Mosman, Roseville Chase, St Ives	2
Berowra, Blacktown, Collaroy, Cremorne, Elizabeth Bay, Epping, Erskineville, Forestville, Gladesville, Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Kensington, Kirribilli, Ku-ring-gai, Narrabeen, Newport, North Ryde, Parramatta, Petersham, Putney, Pymble, Riverview, Rose Bay, Rosebery, Rouse Hill, Ryde, Sydney, Warrawee, Warringah, Waverton	1

The respondents' residence type can provide insights into the available private space for exercising their dogs. Most respondents live in a freestanding house (64%), and the remaining live in a townhouse, semi or terrace house (11%), or apartment/ units (24%). The most common apartment/ unit type is midrise (three to six) (11%).

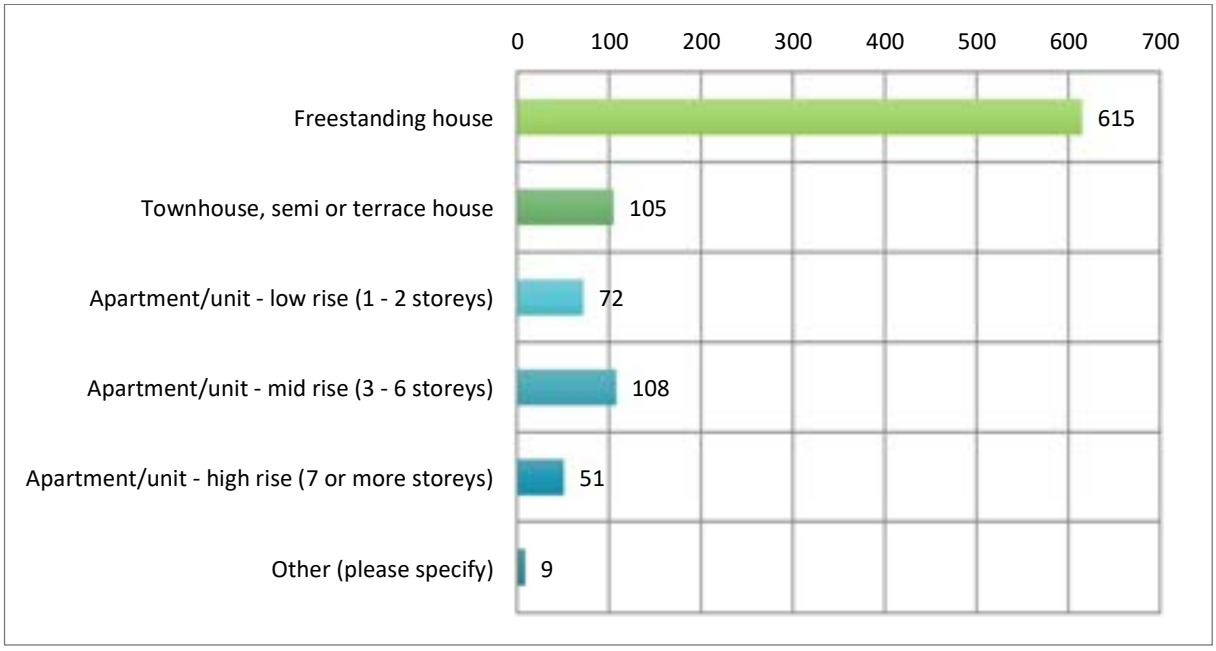


Figure 48: What type of home do you live in?

144 respondents indicated they are a member of a relevant community group or organisation.

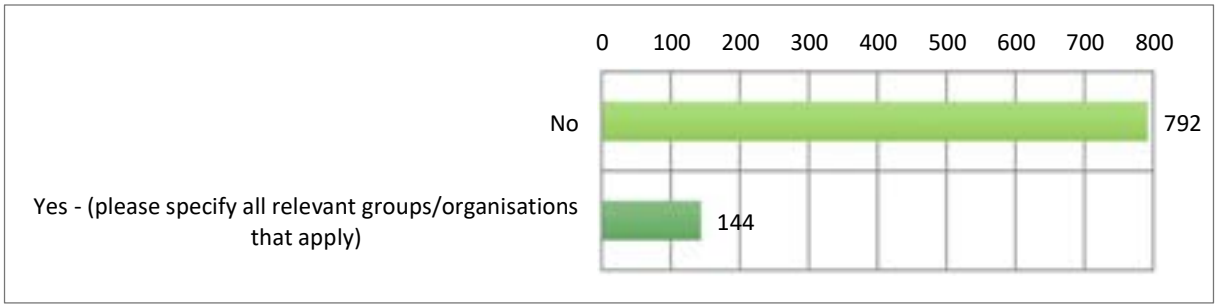


Figure 49: Are you a member of a relevant community group or organisation?

These include:

- Progress associations (18)
- Local sporting groups (75)
- Bushcare (10)
- Community gardens or community groups (8)
- Dog training clubs (3)
- Running groups (7)
- Other, including school, playgroups, RSL clubs, scouts, senior care, unions, and music groups (20)

Seventeen respondents (12%) were in fact members of multiple groups.