

Puka Tāpae o te Kaupapa Here Kuri ki Whakaoriori me te Whakahaere Ture Ā-rohe mō ngā Kuri

Dog Policy and Control of Dogs Bylaw Review Submission Form

This submission form allows you to give feedback on the proposed Dog Policy and Control of Dogs Bylaw in the Masterton District. The estimated time to complete this is between 5-10 minutes. You can make a submission in a number of ways:



Complete our online submission form at: mstn.govt.nz



Download a fillable pdf submission form from our website, and email to: submissions@mstn.govt.nz



Phone the Policy Team on 06 370 6300 between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) and tell us what you think.



Pick up a submission form from the Masterton District Library or Customer Service Centre at 161 Queen Street. You can also print out our printer-friendly form from the website. Post it to Masterton District Council, PO Box 444, Masterton 5840, or drop it off to our Customer Service Centre.

Please provide your feedback by 4pm Friday 21 March 2025. For more information please refer to the Statement of Proposal, draft policy and supporting information available on our website: www.mstn.govt.nz

Submissions close 4pm Friday 21 March

06 370 6300

161 Queen Street

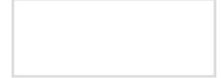
PO Box 444, Masterton 5840

submissions@mstn.govt.nz



**MASTERTON
WHAKAORIORI**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Dog Policy and Control of Dogs Bylaw Review Submission Form



For admin use only

Privacy Statement

All submissions will be made available to the public via the Masterton District Council website. Your name, organisation (if applicable) and feedback will be included in public documents. All other personal details will remain private. If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact us prior to the submission closure date to request that your name be withheld.

The Privacy Act 2020 applies when we collect personal details. Further information is available by searching “privacy policy” on our website: www.mstn.govt.nz

Submission Policy

Information on our submissions process and minimum requirements for submissions content can be found by searching “policies” on our website: www.mstn.govt.nz

Your details

First name (required)

Surname (required)

Postal address

Phone

Email

Are you giving feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No

Organisation name

Hearings

A hearing will be held on Wednesday 9 April 2025 for those wanting to present their views. You will have 5-10 minutes to present your feedback to elected members.

Would you like to present your views at the hearing?

Yes (in person)

Yes (via Microsoft Teams)

No

If yes, please make sure your contact details in the previous section are correct so we can get in touch.

About you (optional)

These questions help us understand which sectors of the community are providing feedback so we can improve our engagement approach. Your responses will not be made public with your submission. Only collated data will be reported to the Council.

What is your age range?

Under 20

20-29

30-39

40-49

50-59

60-69

70+

Which ethnic group do you belong to? Select all that apply to you.

NZ European

Māori

Pacific Peoples

Asian

Other: please state:

What is your gender?

Male

Female

Another gender: please state:

Do you live with impairments/long-term health conditions or do you identify as tāngata whaikaha/disabled?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Do you currently own a dog?

Yes

No

Your thoughts

Which is your preferred option for the Dog Policy and Control of Dogs Bylaw?

Option 1: Make proposed changes to the Policy and Bylaw – updates the Policy and Bylaw to respond to current needs, protect wildlife, reduce roaming, provide flexibility, and improve clarity. This includes our proposed changes outlined on page 6-10. **This is the Council's preferred option.**

Option 2: Make other changes to the Policy and Bylaw – suggest changes that are not included in our proposal outlined on pages 6-10. Please describe your desired changes below.

Option 3: Leave the Policy and Bylaw as is – this does not address dog exercise needs, wildlife protection, or persistent roaming. It also misses opportunities for improvement.

Is there anything else you would like to note as part of your feedback on the policy and bylaw?

Key proposed changes

This next section asks you about the eight key proposed changes to the Dog Policy and Bylaw outlined in the Statement of Proposal. Please tick your preferred option for each proposed change.

Proposed change 1: Taranaki Street Park off-leash

We are proposing to designate Taranaki Street Park as off-leash. This is due to feedback we have received that this area is already informally used off-leash without issues, an increased demand for more off-leash areas spread out in urban Masterton, and the park's suitability for off-leash (no playgrounds, sports, etc.)

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 2: Castlepoint beach reef area prohibited

We are proposing to designate the reef area of Castlepoint beach as prohibited as it has been identified in the Greater Wellington Regional Council's Natural Resource Plan as a significant habitat for indigenous birds.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 3: Motuwaireka Stream mouth at Riversdale Beach on-leash

We are proposing to designate the northern end and Motuwaireka Stream mouth at Riversdale Beach as on-leash as it has also been identified as a significant habitat for indigenous birds in Greater Wellington Regional Council's Natural Resource Plan.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 4: Requirement to neuter an uncontrolled dog

Masterton's most common dog incident is roaming, and unneutered dogs are more likely to roam.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 5: Exercising dogs alongside moving vehicles clarification

We are proposing to add a section clarifying that exercising dogs alongside a moving motor vehicle means the owner is not in control of their dog. This would not apply to working dogs.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 6: Process for removing menacing dog classification

We are proposing to implement a process for removing a menacing dog classification. If a menacing dog owner has taken sufficient steps to demonstrate responsible dog ownership, they may apply to have the classification removed. This will incentivise positive behavioural change. Proposed requirements can be found on page 9 of the Statement of Proposal.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 7: Discretion for the Council to waive surrendering fees

We are proposing to provide discretion for the Council to waive surrendering fees in exceptional circumstances. This covers exceptionally rare cases, where a person may choose to abandon or dispose of a dog inappropriately rather than surrender it to the Council.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Proposed change 8: Responsible Dog Owner status clarity and exemptions for neutering

We are proposing to improve clarity around Responsible Dog Owner status for multiple dog ownership and moving house, and provide exemptions from the neutering requirement for dog owners who are responsible but have a dog that is not fit for neutering due to potential health risks.

I support this proposed change

I oppose this proposed change

I do not have a view on this or am unsure about this proposal

Is there anything else you would like to note on the proposed changes?

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