Randwick City Council
a sense of community

Consultation outcomes summary

Dog off-leash park signage

Background:

Council conducted a 4-week consultation to gather ideas from the community on the types of messages Council should include on new signs at our dog off-leash parks.

www.yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/dogoffleashsignage

The exhibition was promoted via posters at Council's off-leash dog parks, Randwick News, social media, listing on Council's website and email to all Precincts and Your Say Randwick subscribers.

Outcomes:

- Consultation open 19 September to 21 October 224
- 1207 visits to the Your Say website
- 71 ideas/suggestions shared on Your Say Randwick
- 12 submissions via email to Council

Ideas for dog off-leash park signage:

Summary of ideas, most to least common:

1. **Supervise your dog at all times** – Emphasise dog owners' responsibility to watch their dogs and ensure control, especially around children and other park users.
2. **Be respectful of other people and dogs** – Encourage respect and consideration for all park visitors, including children, the elderly, and other dogs.
3. **Pick up your dog's poo and bin it** – Stress the importance of cleaning up after dogs, including the proper disposal of waste.
4. **Keep dogs on-leash outside off-leash areas** – Clearly mark and enforce leash rules, specifying boundaries and applying fines for violations.
5. **Mind your phone; watch your dog** – Remind dog owners to avoid distractions like mobile phones and focus on their dogs' behaviour.
6. **Prevent dogs from digging and damaging parks** – Discourage allowing dogs to dig, as it can ruin the grass and create safety hazards.
7. **Provide education on dog behaviour** – Use signage to teach dog owners about body language, responsible interactions, and the importance of proper socialization.
8. **Humorous and engaging signs** – Suggest using humour or inspiring quotes to capture attention and encourage compliance.
9. **Report non-compliance** – Offer a way to report issues like uncollected dog waste or unsafe behaviour to reward responsible owners.
10. **Fines for non-compliance** – Highlight fines for not picking up dog waste or allowing dogs to misbehave, stressing legal responsibilities.
11. **Ensure puppies are kept on long leads** – Advise keeping puppies on a leash until they are properly trained to interact with others.
12. **Signage for specific safety concerns** – For example, warn about the dangers of dogs chasing wildlife or running off cliffs.

Table of all ideas:

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
1	Humour to convey a message the Sutherland Shire has a series of funny pet messages in parklands that captivates and grabs your attention.	12	
2	Watch your dog not your phone Dogs poo or chase other dogs while their owner is absorbed with their phone	10	
3	Only off leash IN park Please remember your dog is only allowed to be off leash IN the park. There are constantly dogs off leash on all approach streets, creating hazards and a lack of safety.	7	
4	Dog friendly zone. A dogs playground. Beware Dogs exploring zone. A sign to alert people entering parks that are off lead for dogs that they may come across dogs running and playing and to be mindful of that open space. Dogs are curious and will run up to people and might smell them, may bark at people entering their play area, can get protective of their area.	7	Really like this one
			There should be no excuse for a dog being 'protective' in a public park. Parks first and foremost should be safe for humans, including children. Dogs should be well trained and should not harass or chase a person under the Animal Companions Act 98
			What does "exploring zone" even mean? This already sounds like a huge legal liability for a the council. Let alone the fact that it sounds like humans should keep out.

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
5	Please supervise your dog at all times. Be respectful of other people and dogs using the space	6	
6	Making it clear that owners are still personally and legally liable for their dogs' actions and that certain dogs may need to be Muzzled or be retained on a leash at all times. Also making it clear that dog owners need to be respectful of other persons in the park - such as toddlers or the elderly. And that they need to pick up after their dog or fines will apply.	6	as well as making it clear to anyone entering a dog free zone that there will be dogs running off lead and that they need to be mindful in their space too.
7	Include contact information to report rule breakers Often any rules in place are not adhered to, even the basic 'pick up your dogs poo'. If there was a way to report these issues, it would help reward the majority who do follow the rules and make everyone using he park feel safer	6	
8	Dogs Must Be Kept On-Leash At All Times Outside Park Grounds. Fines Apply. We need a clear distinction of start and end of off-leash areas for safety of animals and park users.	6	
9	Off-lead dogs allowed. (Must be under effective control) Dogs should be allowed off-lead as long as they are under effective control. This means that the dog consistently follows commands, stays within a safe distance, and interacts calmly with others, without causing disruption. Well-behaved off-lead dogs have a positive impact on the community by fostering social interactions among dog owners and non-dog owners alike, improving mental health, and creating a more active, social atmosphere. Rangers should only intervene with dogs displaying antisocial behaviour,	6	And would you also put up a similar sign for kids playing on a playground? Kids under effective control? Dogs in unleashed areas should be monitored by their owners. you are excluding a lot of dogs that love to run and play including puppies.

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
	allowing responsible owners and well-behaved dogs to enjoy the park freely. With the extensive amount of rangers patrols occurring, this is very achievable.		
			"extensive amount (sic) of ranger patrols occuring" - Really???!!! Where do you live? I've hardly ever seen a ranger around. Effective control? I've had owners of agressive dogs claim they have control of their dog, that is until their dog attacks another dog or child. Then who pays for the vet or hospital bills?
			What you are both describing is not effective control. I'm all for rangers approaching and fining dogs that are not under effective control. What I'm against is rangers harassing the owners of well behaving dogs on a daily basis. We are sick of feeling anxious and scared to play with our well behaved dogs at the park.
10	Please consider going the long way around this park if you; *have a phobia of dogs or don't like dogs *would be frightened to find a dog running up to you *are unsteady on your feet (as a dog may run behind, or close to you) as dogs are off leash in this area, and (just like humans) don't always behave perfectly. Thank you	6	
11	Toddlers and Small Children Please be particularly mindful of your dog approaching toddlers and young children. Even if your dog is friendly or gentle, dogs cannot understand that they should avoid harming children, and there’s no	5	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
	guarantee that they won't act impulsively. Their size and unpredictable behaviour can be overwhelming or frightening for small children, and accidents can happen. It is your responsibility as a dog owner to supervise your dog and ensure they maintain a safe distance, respecting the needs and safety of all park visitors.		
12	Please pay attention when your dog is off lead. Using your mobile phone and not watching your dog is not paying attention!	5	Agreed, as there is a small change the dog might go to the toilet and you may miss it. If you miss picking up the dog waste then there will be people on this forum who will complain because they think it is intentional. Also, some people may not like dogs so paying attention to your dog at all times is important.
13	A $1,000 fine apply for not picking up your dog's poo. Heavy fines should be imposed on not picking up dog poo. It has become a pandemic in the area. There is so much dog poo at Pioneers Park. You have to continue to look at the ground to ensure to don't step in it. Even footpaths have a lot as well.	5	$880 maximum
			I would like to see numbers for how often Randwick Council has ACUTALLY fined people for failing to remove dog faeces (https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/services/animals-and-pets/animal-fines-and-penalties)
14	Carers with children please be aware this is an off lead dog park. Always supervise children closely when playing around dogs. If you prefer to visit a dog free park the closest is	4	
15	If your dog does not listen, keep it on the leash! All too often dogs off-leash dogs do not listen when called back. They chase after cyclists, run up to little children and lick them in the face etc.	4	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
	If you can not control your dog at all times, it has to remain on the leash. That is common sense, and it is also the law.		
16	If your dog is off leash, you can't see it do this. (Insert picture of dog poop). Leash your dog at all times. This for Maroubra Beach pavilion, boardwalk, etc. Most, if not all, owners using leashes clean up their dogs poops, but as my proposed sign suggests, owners who allow their dogs to scramble around unleashed whilst they're on their phones reading texts/emails etc. can't/don't/won't see their dog poop.	4	
17	'There's more to being a good dog owner than picking up poop. To be off leash, your puppa should be trained to - come back when you call - not jump up on people - meet and greet other dogs - be child safe	4	
18	Pick up your Dog Poo---Dont us my Shoe	3	
19	Please keep your dog leashed when not in the park. People seem to believe the off leash area extends indefinitely	3	
20	Strict rules with consequences for people who are not in control of their dogs. Elderly people and those with health conditions are at risk	3	
21	Off-leash dogs must be kept under control at all times. I've see dogs chasing bikes and even aggressively bailing up kids at Paine Reserve. Both times the owner justified their dogs behaviour by saying it was a dog park. Some owners might not know that they have a responsibility to keep their dog under control at all times, even in off leash areas.	3	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
22	Don’t read this sign! Read the Companion Animal Act 1998 section 13 & 14 ! Go educate yourself Add QR code for the act	3	The Companion Act is outdated. We are not living in the past. A lot has changed since Windows 98.
			Dogs_create_community that makes as much sense as saying that ALL laws passed prior to Windows 98 are outdated since we're "not living in the past" and "a lot has changed" Why stop at the Companion Animal Act ???!!!!
23	Stay and Play but Scoop your Poop When you get a dog you also get the responsibility of picking up after it.	3	
24	Friendly Doggos Make sure your dog is fine with other dogs running up to them and playing. In some cases this wouldn’t apply but if your dog is unsociable and will snap at dogs if they try to be friendly, keep them close to you or on a leash.	3	
25	Put your litter in the bin - food wrapping, dog poo & other junk ruins our beautiful parks	2	Please stress that its not just important to bag the poo but also to BIN it. To often poo in bags is just left or worse thrown into the bushes.
26	Learn to speak 'dog'. Anxiety can look like yawning, pinned back ears, tucked tail, tense body.	2	
27	"If your dog does a poo put it in the bin." I mean really this cannot be improved upon. 😂 In all seriousness; > draw ppls attention to respect the biodiversity/habitat adjacent including bird life > to know their dog (dog in their care) and carefully supervise them if they are big/heavy and boisterous or agressive (of any size!)	2	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
	> to respect all users of the dog park > dogs on leash on the cliff (I've heard of a dog die by chasing a bird off the edge)		
28	Dog off leash area	2	
29	Sharing the Space - Pets in the Park Designated areas for Pets - Dogs off Leash Dogs off Leash permitted at the following times Weekdays 24 hrs Weekends 4pm to 9am EST 5pm to 9am Daylight ST Share the Space Respect Each Other and Pets	2	As a dog owner I support this. It facilitates better sharing of spaces and reduces conflict between users.
30	Don’t Want to Be the Outcast? Play Nice and Respect Boundaries! Or Have Fun, Stay Safe: Respect Others’ Space! People often rally around dogs being the issue, but if we are treated respectfully then respect is returned. Rain or sunshine, the dogs and their owners actually use the park the most. At my local, we know all the dogs and their owners. Respect needs to be shown both ways. I don’t think the dogs are the enemy here and I’d hate to see the meanness be present in the signage. Let’s all share parks respectfully. Dogs are important in our lives and only have the park to really enjoy themselves in this world.	1	
31	To earn the right to be off-leash your dog needs social skills. Watch your dog. Don't let your dog bully. Remove stressed dogs.	1	
32	Make it eye catching and humorous	1	
33	Please leave the park as clean as when you arrived and be aware of your dog at all times	1	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
34	Please don’t allow your dog to spoil our parks by digging. If your dog likes to dig please keep it on a lead. Our parks are ruined by owners who let their dogs dig, the grass never has a chance to recover so the parks are very dusty, can’t be used for footy and are quite dangerous.	1	Please introduce fines for owners that allow their dogs to dig - and sign post this clearly!! Holes not only destroy the grass but are very dangerous to both people (especially kids running through the park who can easily not see a hole and hurt themselves) and dogs. Large holes also turn the park into a filthy giant sandpit! Also won’t council save money if they are not having to repeatedly come and fill in holes and relay grass?
			I agree with stopping dogs from digging, but I don't know why the answer is always to put dogs on a lead. Plenty of dogs dig while the owner is standing there with their dog on a lead. Plenty of dogs are off lead and have no interest in digging holes.
35	Owners Stay Aware + Stay Alert on the Dog Park. Small dogs can get freaked by large dogs' wild play.... also small rubber balls can lead to asphyxiation in a large dog.	1	
36	Warning: Off leash dogs - children must be supervised at all times in this area There are lots of parks for kids, it's a safety concern when I see parents of young toddlers let the kids wander around on their own when there are off leash dogs. It isn't safe: even when the dogs are well trained their behaviour cannot be predicted 100% of the time. It's also not fair to the dogs and dog owners who need to have a safe space for their play and exercise. Kids playgrounds don't allow dogs, off leash dog areas need to have kids being carefully supervised or kept out of their parents or guardians can't commit to supervising them.	1	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
37	“Dogs are our link to paradise. They don’t know evil or jealousy or discontent. To sit with a dog on a hillside... is peace" Milan Kundera I love it when a quote can spark a more positive way of thinking or a new way of looking at the world. Rather than beating people over the head with threatening signs, what about inspiring us to think differently. You can put the 'pick up the poo' bit along the bottom of the sign. We get it.	1	This is so great. Unfortunately we live in a world where people love complaining more than they love joy, as can be seen by most of the posts on here. I appreciate your sentiment, but I think it's a losing battle. My strategy is to ignore the signs and rangers and enjoy life while happily playing with my well behaved dog illegally.
38	Please have new puppies on a long leash until they learn to not rush up to other dogs	1	
39	Pick up your dogs poop,no glass(bottles,etc) We see dog poop and glass all over the park and it’s dangerous for us but also for the dogs	1	
40	No dogs off leash who aren’t trained with recall It’s dangerous and ruins the training of responsible owners	0	
41	Use signage as an opportunity to educate on dog behaviour not just “pick up dog poo” which should go without saying. Perhaps start with the behaviour you want to exhibit and then use fact/behaviour evidence below to educate others. Consult expert dog trainers on these signs, 100% E.g.: Puppies are often in training - don’t assume they want to be patted or play with your dog without asking! Even though they are super cute! Pets can be possessive of balls - don’t let your dog steal others toys! Proper introductions - don’t let your dog rush other dogs without asking	0	

	Ideas	Upvotes	Comments on ideas
	owners first. (Then follow this up with a fact about dangers of assuming all dogs are friendly or dog behaviour). Watch for signs of “poor play” - sometimes what looks playful is actually not the case and can be one sided with another dog wanting to get out of the situation. Also a final comment/suggestion on poor behaviour because your dog is small, doesn’t excuse poor dog behaviour like barking or rushing other dogs. This would be covered off in some above suggestions. Final comment is ensure it’s educational not just compliance !		
42	Please be mindful of your dog approaching toddlers and young children. Even if your dog is friendly or gentle, dogs cannot understand that they should avoid harming children, and there’s no guarantee that they won’t act impulsively. Their size and unpredictable behaviour can be overwhelming or frightening for small children, and accidents can happen. It is your responsibility as a dog owner to supervise your dog and ensure they maintain a safe distance, respecting the needs and safety of all park visitors.	0	
43	I've seen a sign in a park in Budrim, Qld which had some great information showing infographics of what uncomfortable body language looks like in dogs to help owners understand when they need to step in to prevent issues before they happen	0	

Submissions:

12 submissions were received via Your Say Randwick.

Key suggestions from the submissions include:

1. **Aggressive Dogs**: Signs should state that aggressive dogs are not allowed in off-leash parks unless they have completed training and are no longer a threat.
2. **No Digging**: Prohibit dogs from digging, as it damages the park and creates hazards.
3. **Pick up After Dogs**: Reminders for dog owners to pick up their dog's waste.
4. **Clear Boundaries and Fines**: Signs should clearly mark park boundaries and warn of fines for rule violations, to improve compliance and safety.
5. **Dog Control**: Signs should advise owners to ensure their dogs are under control, meaning they should respond to commands and not harass others.

Table of submissions received:

	Submission
1	As I've said in the past, it is hopeless having a say because you have already decided! So no I won't write a comment! People don't follow rules and they are not enforced!
2	Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on the off leash parks. Does Randwick Council make available the number of aggressive dog instances per year? I have been surprised at the number of instances I have heard about aggressive dogs and their owners. Anyone with a known aggressive dog should NOT be allowed in off leash parks until they demonstrate they have undertaken training of their dog and have successfully completed the training ...which includes written confirmation the dog is no longer a threat or in that fact the owner. When will dogs be allowed on beaches between 6am - 8am/4-5pm daily or 6-8am/6-8pm in summer daylight savings? This is common practice in other beach councils. This would be with the same provision that NO aggressive dogs allowed. Thankyou for considering my ideas.
3	How about more off leash dog parks???

	Submission
4	"No digging" Parks are being ruined by dogs digging holes everywhere. It's just vandalism. Kids and adults used to be able to run and play games in these parks but now they can't as they fall in holes , twist ankles and have ceased using / sharing these parks. The dogs are making the parks dust bowls and unusable by others. Dog parks yes , digging no.
5	I love dogs but unleashed they can be a menace to Babies and toddlers as well as disabled Senior citizens (like me). Also birds! left maimed to die. Love your dog but keep it on a leash or in a back yard and regular walks are Important.
6	Pick up Poo. Don’t dig holes
7	Please keep dogs at lower part of the park. Please keep higher part of the park for recreational & ball games.
8	We need more signs warning of hefty fines and we need more rangers actually policing it. We also need more fences that clearly show the start and end point of these parks. Dog owners regularly disregard the rules and put young children at risk letting their dogs off-leash all over our council area. It starts when there isn’t a clear boundary around these parks. Particularly south Coogee!!
9	Thank you for asking our point of view via the survey about the dogs in the park. As residents of Little Bay over a decade, the number of dogs has drastically increased since COVID (lockdown, isolation, work from home etc). Posts about lost unleashed dogs in social medias, unpicked poops in the park, at the beach, dogs eating kids snacks, chasing and damaging the kids ball, making toddler fall on the ground, has increased to the point it sadly began to divide our community. Whether you put council signs or not , most likely it will not make any difference. Communities in North Sydney, Chatswood, Macquarie seem to have managed this issue in a better way. Can they share their tips please ?
10	The following dog park rules in a USA park covers everything. Though I would highlight the Aggressive Dogs Rule to really stand out.

DOG PARK RULES
• Use park at your own risk
• Owners are legally responsible for the behavior of their dog(s) at all times
• Dogs must be leashed while entering and exiting the park
• Dog waste must be cleaned up by their owners IMMEDIATELY
• Owners must be within the dog park and supervising their dog with leash readily available
• Dog handlers must be at least 16 years of age
• Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all times
Aggressive dogs must be removed immediately
• Dogs should be under voice control
PROHIBITED:
• Human & dog food/treats
• Glass Containers
• Dogs in heat
• Sick Dogs
• Aggressive Dogs
• Puppies (under 4 months)
3M Authorized
SmartSign.com • Part # 1V4U

	Submission
11	I am a qualified force-free dog trainer in Randwick. I've been studying and running my own business…for the last 10 years. I'm an expert in training, behaviour and dog body language and a member of Association of Pet Dog Trainers, Pet Professional Guild Australia, Delta Institute and Association of Canine Scent Work. I also own a dog and frequent Clovelly dog park most days. I'd be happy to provide my insights on this topic. Having just googled 'dog park signage', I believe many signs are overly wordy with too many strict rules that people simply won't read. It's more important to be succinct and friendly (pick up poo, have your dog under effective control - which means they should come when called, don't allow your dog to bully others) and ensure there is a link on where to report incidents should they happen. An aside to that would be to educate the public on dog body language, how to recognise good versus bad play, how to know whether their dog should be in the park and also where to find a qualified dog trainer - but that would be a separate sign or educational piece. I'd also be happy to reach out to my global network to get their views on what makes a great, impactful sign. Many of my puppy students are surprised to learn that a) a dog park is not somewhere to 'socialise' their pups, rather it is for already highly sociable dogs and b) only 10% of dogs are actually suitable for dog parks and enjoy their time there. Many dogs prefer other types of enrichment such as hiking or street walks or playing in a backyard with toys or known doggy friends. Similarly, some of my private clients are actually relieved to learn that they shouldn't be taking their dogs to a dog park since the experience is stressful for both dog and human. I'm attaching some signs I like and also some resources but as you can imagine, I have a lot more that I'd be happy to share. https://www.pawsnplaydogtraining.com/blog/dog-play-whats-appropriate-amp-whats-not https://www.whole-dog-journal.com/behavior/avoiding-fights-at-the-dog-park/

	Submission
12	I wish to feedback on what I want dog park signs to say. If another person's dog comes any where near me and I request the owner calls their dog away from me, I wish for the signs to make it clear that all dog owners must call their dog away from people who want to be left alone. I have checked the following: Legal responsibilities for dog owners | Office of Local Government As a dog owner, you are liable if your dog attacks a person or another animal. www.petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.ault says clearly that, Offence under Companion Animals Act 1998 Section Imprisonment provision Maximum penalty amount Encouraging dog to attack, bite, harass or chase any person or animal (other than vermin), whether or not actual injury is caused s17(1) No 200 penalty units/$22,000 Hence, this does make provision for my wishes by saying that dog owners are liable for not allowing their dogs to cause "harassment" even when there is no injury. I just wish to clarify, I otherwise fully support off-leash dog parks. I am Not requesting the owners put their dog back on the leash. I'm only requesting they leave me alone on demand. I am only asking the owners are made aware they have a legal obligation to train their dogs to leave other people alone and not cause harassment. Many dogs are friendly and I understand that. But it is not guaranteed and every so often there are stories of trusted dogs who suddenly attack and cause serious harm if their victims survive. When a large sized dog approaches me & I feel uncomfortable, I reserve the right to be afraid without being dismissed as a person who has a "phobia". Hence, when you put up dog signs, I request you kindly make those signs state clearly that if another person asks a dog owner to call their dog away from them, they kindly do so and make sure they realise that all off-leash dog parks are for humans also with or without dogs. The only park I have easy access to is an off-leash park and I want to get my exercise just like the dogs and dog owners and be free from harassment by both other humans and animals alike. Thank you for respecting, understanding and not patronizing me.

Ideas not specifically related to dog off-leash park signage:

1. **More signage/enforcement in playgrounds and parks** – Multiple people agreed on the need for better signage around playgrounds (to mark them as dog-free zones) and parks. There were also calls for clearer, more visible signs in dog areas, and stricter enforcement of rules (including penalties for non-compliance).
2. **Off-leash parks and designated hours** – Many suggested that dogs should be allowed off-leash during specific hours, particularly in less busy times (e.g., before 9 am or after 6 pm), and on sports fields when not in use. The idea was to balance the needs of dog owners and other park users.
3. **Dog waste management** – Suggestions to improve the handling of dog waste were common, including better patrolling, penalties for not picking up after dogs, and alternative waste solutions like worm farms in parks.
4. **Balanced approach to dog ownership** – Several contributors argued that most dog owners are responsible and that blanket rules or punishments for the actions of a few should be avoided. A more nuanced approach focusing on antisocial behaviour and rewarding responsible ownership was preferred.
5. **Call for more rangers and enforcement** – Participants expressed the need for more rangers to monitor on-leash and off-leash areas and to enforce rules. The lack of enforcement in certain areas, like Coogee, was noted.
6. **Support for dog-friendly beach access** – There were suggestions to allow dogs on beaches during off-peak hours, similar to policies in other councils. Dog-friendly times before 9 am or after 6 pm were mentioned.
7. **Fencing of dog parks** – Some contributors recommended fencing dog parks to create clear boundaries between areas for dogs and people, helping ensure safety for everyone.
8. **Dog training and responsible ownership** – Suggestions were made for more focus on encouraging responsible dog ownership, including training for both dogs and owners, rather than relying solely on signage or enforcement.
9. **Negative behaviour and complaints** – There were complaints about barking dogs, dogs not being controlled in shared spaces (like paths with cyclists), and frustrations with people not adhering to rules despite signage.
10. **Community unity and positive messaging** – Some participants called for more positive messaging to foster a better understanding between dog owners and non-dog owners, promoting respectful coexistence rather than focusing only on restrictions.

Table of all suggestions not specifically related to dog off-leash signage:

SuggesIdeation	Upvotes	Comments
Update surrounding playground signs Playgrounds next to dog parks are often used as shortcuts by dog owners and their dogs. There should be signs making it clear that playgrounds are dog free zones, for the safety and hygiene of the children who use them	8	Agreed. I often find dog poo and urine in the playgrounds and non-dog parks. Unhygienic for young children who spend a lot of time on the ground.
		This is a very important point. Too many people also just ignore the fact that playgrounds are dog-free.
		but for families that allow their children to play in the playground and their dog to run, it gets a bit difficult to separate. yes they should pick up after their dog.
Name & shame people you don't pick up their dogs droppings!!	5	
Too Many Dogs Please stop increasing the number of dogs in this city. Centennial Park, Coogee Beach, Bondi, Clovelly Beaches and more are full of dogs' faeces and unwanted toys. It's not good for the area. Dogs attacking and barking at bypassers especially children😡	6	To restrict dogs in the city would be hugely unfair to many people whose dog is a lifeline and their only companion. It should never happen. I am not a dog owner but I have never seen a dog attack anyone and I never see unwanted dog toys lying around like they are a hazard. Occasionally and rarely there might be dog waste left but I truly believe it is not intentional by the dog owner. Dog owners are considerate because they understand the feeling of the public but they also use the parks and walk ways themselves.
		Plenty Thant need adopting, stop breeding dogs.

SuggesIdeation	Upvotes	Comments
		Agree with comment above - dogs are essential companions for many people who are alone and/or suffering from illness. Walking dogs provides much needed exercise for many people. Yes it's a problem that green areas are disappearing as more and more apartment blocks and hard surfaces take over natural spaces. We need more parks and greening not only for dogs but also to cool the city
		you could say the same think about people over crowding the area.
		This person is clearly a deeply unhappy person who wants to bring others down to their level. I would suggest that this person gets a dog so they could experience some joy in their life, but that would be very unfair on the dog. So please never get a dog and leave the rest of us happy people alone.
Look out for cyclists on this shared path. Too many dog walkers don't understand the need to manage their dogs around the Heffron Park Criterium Cycle Track and other shared paths.	2	hmmmmm, could say similar about cyclist that almost knock down pedestrians
Cyclists, ring your bell when approaching pedestrians from behind.	1	
Off Leash Parks not only in need of signage Off leash is not as big a problem as on leash. Maroubra to Coogee walk is littered with dog poo and dogs coming out of nowhere, tripping you up or hassling your dog which is tethered. It's absolutely out of control and nothing has been done to manage it. Hardly any signage and the odd sign that's there is barely visible. I had a friend who was bowled over by two dogs. He ended up in hospital with two broken ribs and a punctured lung.	3	Personally, I have no issues with dogs or dogs being off the leads. As with all aspects of life, there might be on or two individuals that create a problem that affect the mass of good people (and dogs). I am not a dog owner. Most dog owners are considerate and dogs do bring joy to the community. I strongly agree that not picking up dog waste is

SuggesIdeation	Upvotes	Comments
That dog owner learned their lesson as they had to cover all his medical costs and pay a fine. Council needs to patrol more at peak periods.		unacceptable but I don't believe it is intentional. I think dogs off the leads after dark should be allowed or after a 7pm or before 6am. We should not be punishing the masses for the sake of a few negative incidents. Have controls in place for those rare situations but don't blanket punish everyone.
		Totally agree with glpduct! Blanket punishment doesn't work. It just angers those who are not causing any issues. I know plenty of people who have been fined or constantly harassed by rangers for having their well trained dogs off lead. They continue, and will always continue to have their dogs off lead, no matter how many fines. We want to give our dogs a good life and not be tethered to a rope their whole life. Good behaviour getting punished just ignites anger in the community. It's nonsensical and lazy.
Not every dog is suited to a dog park. Please don't force your dog to interact if they don't enjoy it,	2	
Adopt Don't Shop And Pick up your Shit:) These are the 2 most important reminders when it comes to fur friends. Puppy farms are still legal in NSW, backyard breeders are rarely prosecuted, greyhound racing is still legal in NSW! All of these 'industries" are cruel to dogs. They are kept in cages and filthy conditions for someones profit. If you love dogs, you would also consider the mother and father that 'bred' these dogs for human enjoyment and then stolen for someone's profit.	6	

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Furthermore, dogs are surrendered by the 30's every day in NSW alone! Dog feces, is problematic in that it contains a host of bacteria and toxins (and also nasty when stepped in!). The amount of waste that is piling up since people started (over) breeding dogs since COVID is also problematic, as is feeding this many animals (ie farming more animals) also leading to climate destruction.		
This beach is Dog Friendly before 8am FACT: It's not the dogs that leave non-compostable rubbish on our beaches. Randwick Council is so far behind in looking after its residents pets. How is it that in NSW we're one of the last councils that have beaches to give some dog-friendly times to them. The fishing lures/rubbish left behind on our coastal land has a much larger ecological issue to the environment that our furry companions. We don't need the beach to be available 24/7, let the dogs run around when it's not busy (or in not busy areas).	9	At least one area, even if only in off peak hours, where dogs can walk/swim at the beach would be great. We allow fish guts and sewage overflow, so limited dog hours seem reasonable.
		Agree - we need off-peak hours for dogs and their owners to swim in designated areas. Eg between 6pm and 8am. The majority of dog owners do the right thing. We should not be penalised by the errant few. I always ask other dog owners to pick up after their dog if they don't see it defecate and I pick up extra poos when I see them. If we all work together it can be better for everyone
		Not at all. It is bad enough to step into dog poo, it would even worse to lay in it on the beach. Randwick

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		beaches must remain off-limits for dogs. Non-compostable rubbish does not stink and stick to your shoe sole when you step in it!
		Agreed! We are so behind in the east. The argument about poo being left on the beach is so irrational. Obviously we should be picking up the poo, but people lay down on the grass as well. You just simply check before you lay down. What's the difference on the sand? I'll tell you one difference. The ocean will clean any poo left on the sand twice a day at high tide and it will biodegrade into the ocean and feed microorganisms.
		I think it should be 7:30am in the summers because at that time on the northern side of the beach there's nippers going on and we wouldn't want our dogs the interrupt anything that's going on over there. Also if we do this fines should apply to anybody who doesn't pick up their dogs poo, especially large dogs poo because that can get massive!
Most dog owners don't follow signage. So do what you like!	5	Not sure it's fair to say 'most' but some certainly don't follow rules. Perhaps if there was like a 'snap and send' type thing where you can send a photo of the offending dog &/or owner direct to council then Rangers could look out for repeat offenders. Might also make people think 'twice' if they know there might be evidence which might lead to a consequence such as a fine.
		Most dog owners don't follow signage because most dogs don't cause any issues. We need to stop with

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		blankets rules when it's a small minority that cause actual issues.
People first.	2	Firstly you make it very hard to contribute with this website. Re unleashed dogs: as someone who lives near a park I love seeing dogs enjoy being off leash BUT could owners please try to keep their dogs from constantly barking AND YAPPING NON-STOP!
The adjoining wetland and boardwalk is a sensitive ecosystem. You must leash your dog in that area. All signage related to dogs along the coastal path needs to be updated to be explicit, visible and include penalty details. But it's all a waste of time and money without enforcement. The warm and fluffy approach is completely ignored.	3	
We have a rich variety of birdlife across Randwick. Respect fenced-off wildlife habitat areas. No dogs and no people.	2	
How about rather than wasting time consulting about signage you focus on policies that encourage responsible owners and more off leash areas	3	I thought they were consulting about dog parks; there was no signage. You are right that responsible ownership should be encouraged, but until people are required to do obedience training, irresponsible owners will exist at dog parks. The consequence will be paid in bites and vet bills.
		Agreed! We don't need more signs. People know the rules. We need rangers to only approach dogs that are displaying antisocial behaviour, and leave the rest of the well behaved dogs alone. How about some training for the rangers? Thy clearly haven't been taught the

SuggesIdeation	Upvotes	Comments
		difference between social behaviour and antisocial behaviour.
Rangers Must Be Kept On Leash At All Times	3	Not sure about what is implied by this post, but I want to write in support of the rangers. Please don't give them a hard time. I know a ranger who has been physically attacked by someone he wasn't even talking to. You may not like what they do, but they are serving the community by enforcing rules.
		I would go one step further and say "rangers prohibited from all public spaces, unless under effective control". I also don't share any compassion with them being physically attacked. They are harassing dog owners with well behaved dogs on a daily basis. They instill fear, anxiety, financial hardship, and anger into our community. They are the single biggest negative influence on our community. I'm not surprised when I hear that they get attacked. Imagine being harassed on a daily basis for playing with your dog at the park. Eventually people are going to snap.
Dogs are friends, not food. Try the chicken, it's purrrfect.	1	
I’m sure most people who have a dog of their own want to do the right things for their dog not to annoy others or leave a mess.	2	
"Dogs come into our lives to teach us about love. They depart to teach us about loss. They expand our hearts." Erica Jong What about positive ideas to inspire dog owners to be thoughtful and	2	Totally agree. You sound like an intelligent, innovative, and thoughtful person. Unfortunately councils are full

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responsible dog people and to help community members who are less happy about dogs to see things in a different way?		of people who are far too lazy to think outside the box. Blanket prohibition is much easier.
I have had dogs for the last 30 years. My experience of dog parks aligns with the view of vets. They arer places for accidents and fights. I have done obedience training with all my dogs and always walk them on a leash. Yet, most people do not do that. Thus, dog parks are full of good intentions and bad results, for dogs and owners. Please talk to the vets before going ahead with a bad idea, however well-intended that may be.	3	Dogs can be taught to behave in socially acceptable ways. The issue is not dogs being off leash. The issue is lack of training from most dogs owners. I've taught my dog to approach in a socially acceptable way for dogs. She has never come close to being in a fight. She has even learnt to keep her distance from untrained dogs that are pulling on their lead as they often lunge at her.
Untrained un-desexed male dogs on leash for their own safety	2	
Are you so special that the rules don't apply to you? Let's say 99% of dog owners are doing the right thing. It's the 1% that is ruining things for everyone else. What is the goal of this project? To put up more signs? People don't obey the signs NOT BECAUSE THEY DON'T SEE THEM. They just don't think the sign applies to THEM. The goal of this project should be to change the behaviour of that 1%. To put up more signs is to assume the solution to the problem. I believe the solution must incorporate much stronger enforcement of existing rules. Rangers are already stretched to the limit, both in their numbers and the vast area they have to patrol. I would rather the budget for these signs be spent on more rangers and stricter enforcement of existing rules.	4	You realise that stricter enforcement negatively effects the dogs that aren't causing an issue. The good dog owners who have trained their dogs get penalised for having well behaved dogs off lead. Well behaved off lead dogs often bring joy and human socialisation into the community, having a positive effect and building connection. Rangers need to use common sense and only penalised antisocial behaviour rather than targeting all dogs. It's pretty simple as we do this for every other law. We don't penalise people when there is no negative behaviour being displayed.

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		@Dogs_create_community, you realise that enforcement occurs for dog *owners* that *ARE* are causing an issue. That's what enforcement is - duh...
Off leash dog areas at sport fields should allow dogs when sport fields are not in use like Queens park in Waverley. Why are so many of Randwick's off leash parks at sports fields, but the signage says dogs prohibited on sport fields, fines apply? Why can't we have similar rules to Queens Park in Waverley? Ie. dogs not allowed on sport fields when they are in use. Dogs can't tell the difference between on field and off field and in places like Paine reserve for example, the small area off field is mostly a swamp.	2	
Consultation for a dog sign ? The feedback so far is about complaints, so here's mine , $ waste on signs to promote signs . Dog owner !	1	
Fencing in dog parks, the way other councils do, would benefit everyone - it would be clear for boths sides where the boundaries are, people with young children going to the playground (such as in Blenheim Park) would be safe from over-inquisitive dogs, people just out walking or running would have pathways where they can be sure not to encounter free-ranging dogs, and dog owners could be confident their dog won't run into the road etc. At the same time, more rangers enforcing on-leash areas are definitely needed in Coogee in particular - often more than 50% of dogs in on-leash areas are off their leash and frequently bothering people, with no ranger in sight.	4	
Every dog big or small can enjoy the freedom to run. An area where dogs can play without any limits. No Karens or Kens allowed.	0	
Walking dogs after 5pm in winter after work would be wonderful. Turn the lights on @ Bardon Park.	1	

SuggesIdeation	Upvotes	Comments
Allow dogs into beaches on non peak times, say before 9 and after 6 during summer. Nearly every other council allows dogs in certain areas Randwick and Waverley are some of the only councils that don't allow dogs on any beaches. Southern and northern beaches have dedicated times and/or areas for owners to swim and enjoy the beach with their dog. Just like you sign safe surfing or swimming rules do the same for dogs. Backpackers go down and drink, play loud music at the beach, leave their rubbish yet rate paying long term residents can't enjoy the weather on the beach too with an animal. It doesn't make sense. There should be a way for early morning or late afternoon or winter time off peak use.	0	
If your dog loves to dig in the park, think about who gets to fill in the holes. It could be you!	1	
I would love it if you design a sign for a regular park which people seem to use as off-leash dog parks anyway.	0	
Will it be possible to have worm farms that eat doggy poop and compostable bags placed at some doggy parks around maroubra, it has been very successful at doggy parks in Botany Council areas, and its helping everyone including the environment.	0	