11.4 Kandos and Rylstone Off-Leash Dog Park

REPORT BY THE MANAGER - RECREATION SERVICES

TO 16 FEBRUARY 2022 ORDINARY MEETING GOV400098, F0650139, F0650146

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. receive the report by the Manager Recreation Services on the Kandos and Rylstone Off-Leash Dog Park;
- 2. endorse the Kandos Off-Leash Dog Park to be constructed at Darton Park, Kandos appended as Attachment 1 to this Report; and
- 3. endorse the Rylstone Off-Leash Dog park to be constructed at the Rylstone Showground appended as Attachment 2 to this report.

Executive summary

The purpose of this Report is to seek Council endorsement on the location of an Off-Leash Dog Park for the Kandos and Rylstone area. The preferred sites being Darton Park, Kandos and the Rylstone Showground, Rylstone.

Maps detailing the exact locations are appended as Attachments 1 and 2 to this Report.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

In 2021/22 financial year Council committed funding to undertake the development of an Off-Leash Dog Park in Kandos and Rylstone. Currently Off-Leash Dog Park facilities in the region only extended to an informal arrangement along the Cudgegong River within the Rylstone Showground. At this site no enclosed fence or water facilities are available.

Community consultation on the provisions of an Off-Leash Dog Park in Kandos and Rylstone were undertaken in September 2021. Residents were invited to complete a survey on the matter and offer further information if desired.

Summary of common responses are outlined below:

- 94% of respondents supported the notion of formal designated off-leash areas
- high priority facilities identified included perimeter fencing, seating, shade, drinking stations for dogs and bins available on-site
- the highest response rate on location in Kandos was Darton Park followed by Simpkins/Waratah Park
- the highest response rate on location in Rylstone remained at the Rylstone showground however for a fenced section between the playground/skate park and Sammys Flat oval

It is important to note that there was some support for the existing informal Rylstone area to be further developed. The challenge with this location is that is often subject to flooding being located close to the river and therefore potentially cause damage to any infrastructure installed. This could lead to further delays with re-opening facilities following a flood event.

It is recommended that Council endorse the proposed locations on the development of Off-Leash Dog Parks in Kandos and Rylstone.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Looking After Our Community
Goal	Effective and efficient delivery of infrastructure
Strategy	Provide infrastructure and services to cater for the current and future needs of our community

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Community Strategic Plan Recreation Strategy

Council Policies

Not applicable

Legislation

Not applicable

Financial implications

Budget has been allocated in the 2021/22 Operational Plan for construction of formal off-leash dog park facilities in Kandos and Rylstone.

Associated Risks

In the event that the recommended location is not support, an alternative location will need to be decided upon hastily to ensure that the project can be delivered within the prescribed timeframe. This may include the need for further consultation to occur.

PETER RAINES SIMON JONES

MANAGER - RECREATION SERVICES DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

3 February 2022

Attachments: 1. Proposed Kandos Off-Leash Dog Park Location.

Proposed Rylstone Off-Leash Dog Park Location.

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER





Important Notice

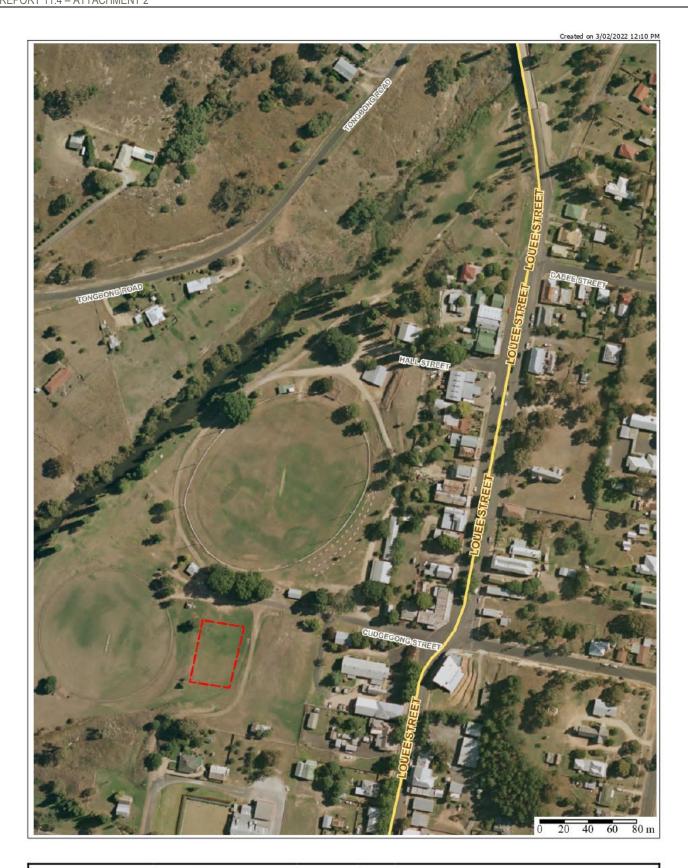
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Proposed Kandos Dog Off Leash Area

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Important Notice

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Proposed Rylstone Dog Off Leash Area

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