

## Summary of Statement of Proposal

The Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) is reviewing its Dog Control Policy 2020 ([link](#)) and Dog Control Bylaw 2020 ([link](#)) to ensure they continue to support public safety, responsible dog ownership, and the needs of the district. The current bylaw came into force in June 2020 and is due for review. Before making any final decisions, Council is seeking community feedback on the proposed changes.

The full Statement of Proposal has been prepared under the Local Government Act 2002 and includes:

- the draft Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw;
- an overview of the proposed changes and reasons for them;
- information on how to make a submission;
- the consultation timetable; and,
- Council's statutory determinations relating to the proposal.

An online dog control map can be accessed via [link](#) to support the understanding of the rules and proposed changes.

### What do the QLDC's current policy and bylaw do?

QLDC's current Dog Control Policy and Bylaw:

- Identify public places where dogs are prohibited, including all school grounds, Queenstown Hill, and the Queenstown Hill walkway.
- Allow dogs to be off leash in most public parks and reserves.
- Require dogs to be on a leash in other public places, including cemeteries, playgrounds, roads, and public footpaths.
- Limit people from keeping more than two dogs, unless they have a multiple dog licence.
- Require dog owners to immediately pick up and dispose of dog waste in public places.

## Council's proposal

The draft Bylaw and Policy largely include provisions that are proposed to be carried forward without any amendment. A summary of key proposed changes to the current Bylaw and Policy is set out in the following table:

| Proposed change                                       | Why is this change proposed?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| New on-leash requirements on busy recreational tracks | The proposal introduces new leash requirements for dogs on busy tracks, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frankton Track (between Frankton Marina and Park Street);</li><li>• Arthurs Point Trail; and</li><li>• Shotover Gorge Trail.</li></ul> |
| Clarifying the requirements of                        | The proposal includes clarified expectations for dogs off leash.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## Summary of Statement of Proposal

### Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2027

|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 'effective control'                                     | <p>Owners would need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep their dog under control and pay attention to it;</li> <li>• Ensure it responds to commands;</li> <li>• Stay close enough to prevent problems; and,</li> <li>• Prevent nuisance or risks to people, animals or wildlife.</li> </ul> <p>If these requirements cannot be met, the dog must be put on a leash.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| New dog control rules for areas with protected wildlife | <p>Additional dog controls are proposed in areas with protected wildlife and nesting birds.</p> <p>Dogs would be prohibited from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mātau (Pig Island);</li> <li>• Wāwāhi Waka (Pigeon Island); and,</li> <li>• Lake Hayes Northern Wetland.</li> </ul> <p>Dogs would be required to be on a leash at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake Hayes Walkway;</li> <li>• Shotover Wetlands; and</li> <li>• Wānaka Lakefront Boardwalk.</li> </ul> <p>A seasonal on-leash rule is proposed for Tucker Beach from 1 August to 31 January.</p>                        |
| New on leash requirements in busy urban reserves        | <p>The proposal includes new on leash requirements for parks and reserves. These changes aim to improve public safety in and around growing town centres. Dogs would need to be controlled on a leash in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Omer Park;</li> <li>• O'Regan's Park;</li> <li>• Village Green;</li> <li>• Buckingham Green;</li> <li>• Part of Roy's Bay Recreation Reserve; and,</li> <li>• Part of Bullock Creek Bridgeman Green.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                           |
| New on leash rules for sports and play areas            | <p>Dogs would need to be controlled on a leash:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on sports grounds during organised games and practice</li> <li>• at pump tracks; and</li> <li>• at Council-managed tennis courts.</li> </ul> <p>These changes aim to make recreational and sporting spaces safer for everyone.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Allowing temporary changes to dog control restrictions  | <p>This proposal would allow Council to temporarily change dog control rules in response to specific situations, such as community events, dog training events, and protect wildlife or pest control activities.</p> <p>This would allow Council to respond when temporary changes are needed to ensure the safety of people, dogs and protected wildlife.</p> <p>Any temporary change must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be consistent with the objectives of the Dog Control Policy;</li> <li>• be clearly communicated to the public; and</li> <li>• be supported by appropriate signage.</li> </ul> |

## Summary of Statement of Proposal

### Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2027

The Bylaw and Policy development process has also included in proposed changes that make these documents more straightforward to understand and align with best practice, outlined in the full Statement of Proposal.

## How you can have your say

Anyone can make a submission on the proposal. Submissions open at 9.00am on 12 October 2026 and close at 5.00pm on 9 November 2026. You can:

- Complete the online survey on the QLDC consultation website.
- Send a written submission by email to [letstalk@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:letstalk@qldc.govt.nz), post, or hand delivery.

You can get free copies of this Statement of Proposal, the draft Policy and the draft Bylaw and related Council reports from QLDC offices.

Submissions are public information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. After the consultation period ends, submissions will be made publicly available, no personal contact details will be published.

People who make a submission can also choose to speak at a public hearing before a panel of elected members. Hearings are planned for week of 7 December 2026.

Council will consider all feedback before making final decisions on the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw in 2027.

## Timetable for consultation

The dates below show the consultation timetable. If any of these dates change, Council will let the public know via its website.

| Date                               | Activity                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8 October 2026                     | Council adopted the Statement of Proposal, draft Policy and draft Bylaw for consultation. |
| 12 October 2026                    | Consultation period begins (9.00am)                                                       |
| 9 November 2026                    | Consultation period ends (5.00pm)                                                         |
| During the week of 7 December 2026 | Oral submissions heard by Council hearing panel                                           |
| TBD                                | Deliberations and adoption by Council                                                     |