

Attachment 1

Summary of Public Submissions received 23 November 2019 to 20 December 2019 Animal Management (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No.1) 2019

SUBMISSION 1 – PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL

I believe it should remain as public auction as there is too much risk of stock which is not currently impounded suddenly becoming of interest to Council and Council having mates' freezers filled with stock via private sale. Open accountability must remain. Given the very low rates of current impoundment and Councils lack of interest or action in wandering stock and the cost to the community of such I feel any loss incurred by ratepayers of auctioning such stock is of little concern and is warranted in the benefit of accountability.

SUBMISSION 2 – PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL

I am writing to you regarding the by-laws involving the walking of dogs on Agnes Water Beach and the restriction effecting the many dog walkers along the beach.

We have been ratepayers since 1998 when our property at (address deleted for privacy reasons) was under Miriam Vale Shire. For the last 20 years we have walked our dogs on the beach at Agnes Water along with many others. We accessed the beach via Ocean Beach Drive. For most of the time the beach was an off lead area to the north. In recent years, the by-laws have been changed to restrict the off lead area. The nearest off lead area being north of the new Lifesaving Club, some 2 kilometres from our residence. Access requires the use of a vehicle. From talking with locals, there appears to be a resident with a vendetta against dogs. This person takes photos of dogs off lead and forwards them to the Shire complaining. The Shire is obligated to act. Our sympathy lies with the Ranger charged with the difficult task of managing an inappropriate and highly unpopular by-law.

With the change in demographics over the years, you will know that there are a lot more people using the beach to walk their dogs. Many being residents of Agnes Water Caravan Park for the winter months. From observations most walk their dogs early morning and are fastidious in removing dog droppings, utilising facilities provided by the Shire. If there is a complaint regarding dogs it is about people that let their dogs off lead south of the Ocean Beach Drive during the busy swimming hours of the day. I would suggest that the Shire canvas the multiple dog beach walkers to make dog regulations more flexible. In other Shires in Queensland and interstate there are regulations that appease most, give or take the fanatic odd ball. One beach we stayed at recently was Coolum Beach, a very busy tourist area and higher population than Agnes Water. That beach is a very good example of a beach managed to accommodate both holiday makers' and locals' requirements in regard to dog walking rules. It did not need a car drive to access the off lead area.

Should you require further input and coordination it is suggested that you arrange a meeting of all parties, including the irate resident, dog owners and Shire Officers.

SUBMISSION 3 – DISCOVERY COAST ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

Please find the following suggestions for the Animal Management (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No.1) 2019. Item 'e' Identify dog off leash areas for Agnes Water beaches. The Discovery Coast Environmental Group suggests the following amendments to the current local law to include the following:

Springs Beach: *be classed as a NO DOG beach, due to the number of Marine Turtles that nest along this beach and can be and are, disturbed in their nesting by dogs being present on this*

beach. It is recommended that a sign stating such be placed on the road entrance at this point for people to observe before entering the carpark.

Chinamens Beach: (also known as Desal Beach) be classed as a designated Dog OFF LEASH beach, due to the number of Marine Turtles unsuccessfully laying along this beach due to the terrain and condition of this beach.

Agnes Water Main Beach: Dogs be allowed on the beach ON LEASH ONLY as this beach has a significant number of Marine Turtle nests but acknowledging that it is the most frequented beach by humans and pets alike, therefore correctly restraining dogs needs to be maintained. We acknowledge that the Local Law needs to be inclusive for all members of the public and feel the abovementioned recommendations accommodates the needs of all the community fairly.

SUBMISSION 4 – INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Current proposed changes:

Proposed change	Comment
Lilley's Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support changes to designate as dog off-leash outside of turtle nesting season. Ensure that timeframes align with that of Chinamen's Beach. • The inlet is known as South Trees Inlet, not Lilleys Inlet. • Be aware that parts of Lilleys Beach is owned by Boyne Smelter – the supporting map should only indicate areas of Council-managed land. • Lilley's Beach is also trafficked by 4WDs – has consideration been given to potential conflict between vehicles and off-leash dogs on the beach? Increased risk of a dog being hit?

Suggested additional changes:

Section	Comment
Schedule 1 - Bees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Apiaries Act 1982</i> has been repealed and bees are now regulated under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i>. • Perhaps there should be a Council application process for people to keep bees?

Section	Comment
Schedule 6 – Prohibition of animals in public places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map of Agnes Water dog prohibited area includes an area of private property (owned by Agnes Water Caravan Park) – does Council have authority to do this? • Why have two separate maps for Tannum Sands dog prohibited area and Millennium Park dog prohibited areas – can they be combined to a single area?

Section	Comment
Schedule 6 – Prohibition of animals in public places – Addition of Springs Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current on-site signage at Springs Beach indicates that dogs are prohibited and references an old local law that is no longer current. • Springs Beach is a known turtle nesting beach. Suggest including it as a dog prohibited area either year-round or within turtle breeding season (consistent with Chinamen's Beach).

Section	Comment
Schedule 7 – Dog off-leash areas – Agnes Water Beach dog off-leash area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is feedback about the current off-leash area at Agnes Water Beach, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Discovery Coast Environment Group (DCEG) coordinate a turtle monitoring program and have indicated that the beaches north of the Surf Club are the most remote and support the highest value turtle nesting habitat, as well as other environmental values like migratory shorebirds. ○ Feedback from residents indicates that the Surf Club beach access as not being an all-abilities access. The steepness and dynamic nature of the dunes in that area makes it not feasible to instate a flatter or surfaced access (as at Sandcastles access). ○ The Surf Club is now being leased by the Steiner School and that carparking at the access may now be limited. Students from the Steiner School also regularly access the beach as part of their activities, resulting in increased interaction between children and off-leash dogs. ○ There is no water available at the Surf Club beach for dog owners. • Have these factors been considered as part of the review?

Section	Comment
Schedule 13 - Dictionary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that the references to documents and legislation are still current. eg. Planning schemes has been updated, <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i> replaced by <i>Planning Act 2016</i>.