

CITY OF CLARENCE

South Street Reserve Declared Area Changes

Greyhound and
Vulnerable Dog Areas

Consultation Report

October 2025





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Background

City of Clarence conducted a 12-month trial of new dog exercise areas at South Street Reserve, Bellerive, including a dedicated off-lead area for greyhounds and a separate area for vulnerable dogs.

The trial commenced in early 2024 following detailed planning and community engagement. Its purpose was to provide a safe, enclosed space for greyhounds to exercise freely and socialise, while also gathering data to inform future dog-exercise planning across the city.

The initiative responded to requests from the greyhound community for a dedicated fenced area, consistent with our Dog Management Policy 2021, which identified the need for a future greyhound-specific facility, originally planned for a site at Clarendon Vale.

Due to funding constraints, South Street Reserve was selected as a short-term pilot location to test the concept.

As part of the trial, a smaller ‘vulnerable dog’ area was established for dogs that were older, smaller, or recovering from injury, ensuring safe use for all.

The site configuration required formal changes to the declared dog-exercise areas under the Dog Control Act 2000, which was approved in December 2023. The image on the right shows the declared areas that were in place for the duration of the trial (and which currently remain active)

Community feedback was gathered throughout the trial period to evaluate how well the new areas functioned and to guide decisions on whether the arrangement should be made permanent or expanded to other reserves.



Survey design

Purpose of the survey

The survey was designed to gather community feedback on the 12-month trial of the greyhound off-lead exercise area and associated changes to declared areas at South Street Reserve, Bellerive. Its purpose was to understand how well the new areas functioned for all users (including greyhound owners, vulnerable dog owners, and all other users) and identify opportunities for improvement before determining whether the trial should continue or be expanded to other sites.

Feedback sought

Consultation was open from 6 March 2024 to 5 March 2025.

The survey asked participants to share their views on what was working well, what was not working, and any other feedback about the trial.

Additional demographic questions were included to help distinguish responses from greyhound owners, other dog owners, and general users. These covered age, suburb of residence, dog ownership, and greyhound ownership, allowing us to assess whether views reflected regular reserve users or those with a specific interest in the new areas.

Rationale for the design of the questions

The questions were intentionally brief and open-ended to encourage genuine and reflective feedback.

This structure enabled both dog owners and general users to describe their experiences in their own words and provide qualitative insights into how the new greyhound and vulnerable-dog areas functioned and integrated with the existing off-lead zones.

The demographic questions ensured that analysis could distinguish between perspectives of trial participants and broader community users.

Structure of the survey

The online survey contained three open-ended questions supported by simple demographic fields.

It was hosted on the Your Say Clarence platform and open for the full 12-month duration of the trial (March 2024 – March 2025).

Respondents could provide comments at any time during the trial, ensuring feedback captured both early impressions and experiences after regular use.

What we did

How the community engagement was promoted



214 unique visitors to the trial's **Your Say webpage** and 314 page views



Social media posts with a total reach of 3,201 people



Articles in the Eastern Shore Sun and Clarence News



Signage at all entrances to South Street Reserve dog exercise areas (image on right)



How people engaged with us and gave feedback



135

Online survey responses

29

suburbs from Greater Hobart with survey respondents



1 Year

Survey open and feedback sought

> 100

Estimated users of greyhound area on average per week.



Consultation period

12 months (6 March 2024 – 5 March 2025)

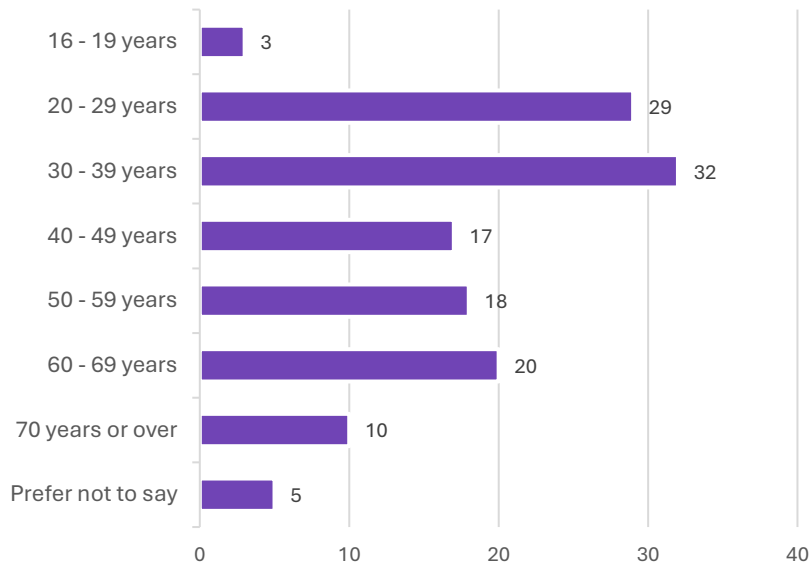
Data Summary



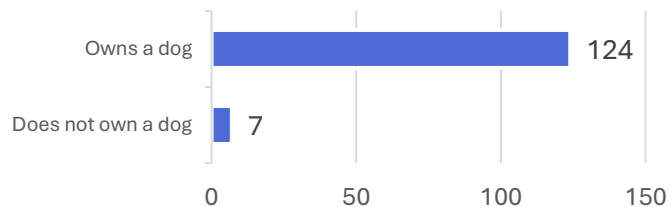
Demographics

Survey Respondents

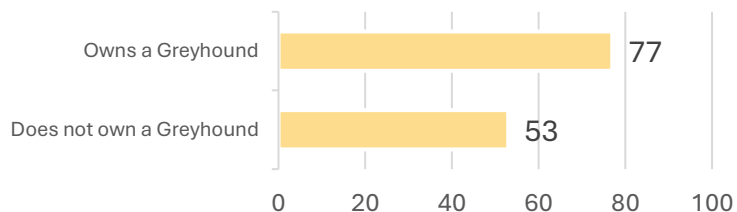
Age (133 responses)



Dog Owners (131 responses)



Greyhound Owners (129 responses)



Demographics



102 survey respondents provided their suburb.

Responses were received from across Greater Hobart, with **Howrah** and **Lindisfarne** having the highest number at 19 responses each.

Survey responses by suburb

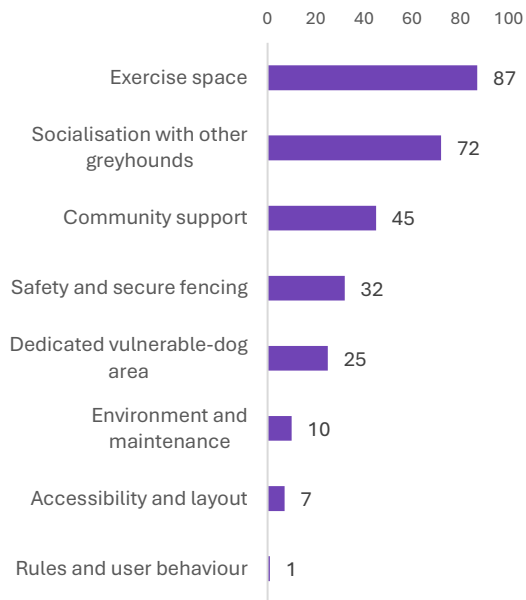
Austins Ferry	3	Moonah	1	Sandy Bay	1
Bellerive	19	Mornington	4	Seven Mile Beach	2
Claremont	1	Mount Stuart	2	Sorell	1
Geilston Bay	6	New Town	1	South Hobart	2
Glenorchy	5	Oakdowns	4	Tranmere	2
Hobart	1	Old Beach	3	Warrane	2
Howrah	19	Penna	1	Sandford	1
Kingston	1	Rokeby	7	West Hobart	1
Lauderdale	5	Rosetta	1	Tranmere	2
Midway Point	2	Rosny	2		

3

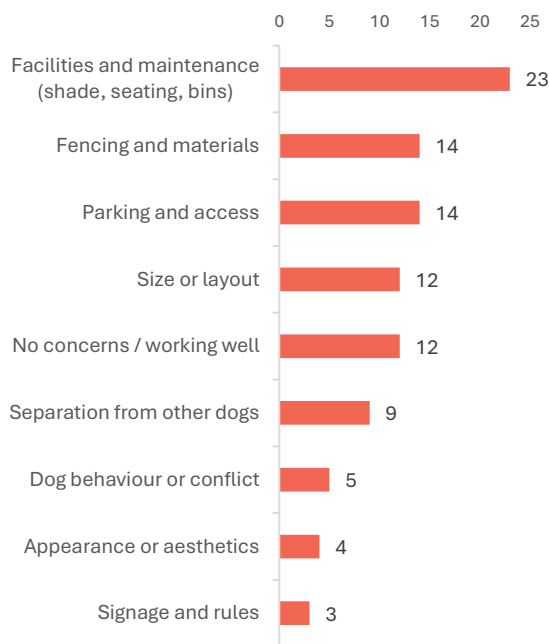
Feedback provided

Primary Questions – Open ended responses

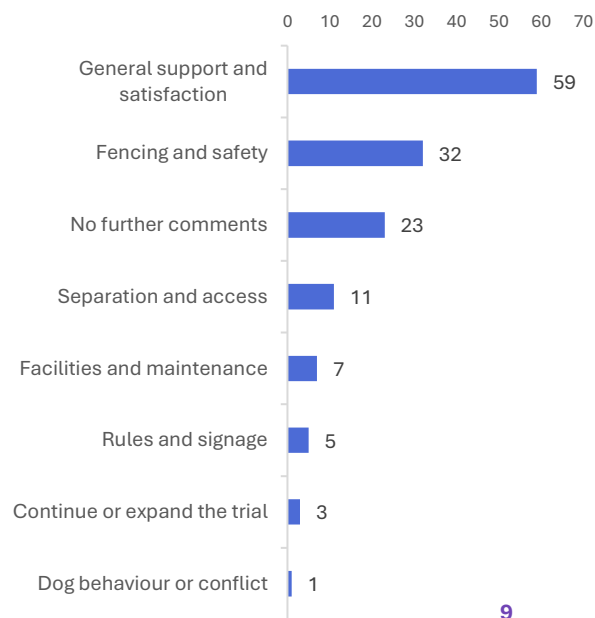
What is working well? what do you like about the new areas?



What is not working well? What didn't you like?



Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the trial?



Note: Charts show the most common points of feedback for each question and the number of times mentioned.

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Key findings

Positive experiences and community support

Overall, community feedback showed strong overall support for the designated greyhound off-lead and vulnerable dog areas and general changes to the arrangements within South Street Reserve.

Respondents noted that the spaces provide safe, secure environments where greyhounds can run freely and socialise with other gentle dogs.

Many appreciated our willingness to trial a space specifically for greyhounds and described the initiative as a great idea that promotes inclusion and responsible dog ownership.

Safety, fencing and layout

The fencing and separation from other dogs were frequently highlighted as key benefits. Owners felt their pets were less anxious and able to exercise confidently.

A smaller number of respondents raised concerns about the temporary fencing materials and privacy wrap, which some found unattractive or visually intrusive. A few also noted that parking and access could be improved at busy times.

Facilities and comfort

Respondents often mentioned the need for additional shade, seating and bins to make all areas of South Street Reserve areas comfortable for both people and dogs.

Some requested more trees or simple landscaping improvements to enhance amenity and appearance. Others expressed satisfaction with the cleanliness and maintenance of the existing areas.

Future direction

Many participants encouraged us to retain the greyhound-only areas beyond the trial period, and a few suggested expanding the concept to other parks.

Only a small number of respondents reported behavioural issues or conflicts between dogs, while roughly one in five offered no further comments, indicating general satisfaction with how the trial operated.



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Summary

Community feedback demonstrates strong overall support for the greyhound off-lead area trial and confidence in how it has been managed.

The areas are valued for providing safe, secure and social spaces tailored to the needs of greyhounds and other gentle dogs.

Respondents offered constructive, practical suggestions for minor improvements mainly around comfort, shade, seating, and safety (including replacing the temporary mesh screening for improved safety).

Most participants viewed these as refinements rather than major issues, and many expressed a wish for the trial to continue or become permanent.

The consultation indicates that the trial has met its intended outcomes of providing a safe and inclusive option for greyhounds while maintaining positive relationships among all users of South Street Reserve

Feedback gathered through this process will help guide any future design considerations or policy adjustments before the next steps for the program are determined.

