

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	26 July 2025, 11:18AM
Receipt number	927
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Pam
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Last name	Gatchell
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

Left of the flying fox is an area of natural scrub that dogs love. Natural scrub has been removed from the back area proposed for dogs off lead. We visit the park often during school hours. There is no need to have dogs on lead during these hours.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

could the plane be shifted to within the front area and a fence be put alongside the flying fox and across the back of the tractor. there already a partial fence there.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

What is proposed is what a minority of people want. That is not democratic. There are many lovely playgrounds within the city to visit with children where dogs are not allowed.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Council website

Newspaper

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	26 July 2025, 12:48PM
Receipt number	928
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Ailysha
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Last name	Osborne
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	No
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Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	I think that what you have proposed is too much area for dogs to be on leash. The line of trees up next to the bmx track would be better. For off leash as well.
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	Maybe a large fenced area for dogs on the front grass. (Mc Cleavey Drive side) before the playground.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	Because I think you have the boundaries wrong. Not enough off leash area for dogs
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Booklet in my mailbox

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	26 July 2025, 3:10PM
Receipt number	929
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Arran
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Last name	Jameson
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	The off leash area should include the the section that has the agility course - the natural demarcation line would be the fence and tree line between the agility course and the bike track/flying fox area.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 8:35AM
Receipt number	930
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Jeanette
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Last name	Mourie
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	Every time I have gone to walk my dog off leash there , there are never any children playing in the play areas.Why not just fence off the play areas and leave the rest off the park for the dogs.It is the only safe off lead fully enclosed for dogs in Palmerston North.It is unique to here.Or make certain times owners of dogs can let their dogs off leash say 7-10 am,5 - close
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	I am a responsible dog owner and it is one of the few things I regularly use in PN
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 10:51AM
Receipt number	931
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Anne
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Last name	West
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	<p>I would prefer that this reserve remain dog off-leash. I am not a dog owner but I have found dogs to be well controlled there. I know how much dog walkers appreciate this space, it is a wonderful asset for our community.</p> <p>If there must be a change to on-leash for a portion of the reserve, please PLEASE draw the line across between the dog agility course and the bike track. There is already a fence along most of this line, it would be easier to build onto this and install gates. Such a change would leave the dog agility course available to off leash dogs, and the Picnic area, toilets, log scramble, BBQ area, flying fox, etc. would all be in the on-leash portion.</p>
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 12:51PM
Receipt number	932
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Leeann
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Last name	Stallard
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

Yes, I support this change

Please tell us why.

I always walk my dog on lead, however other owners who have very little control of their dog(s) let them rush at me and my dog, which can be very scary. I have had a situation (at the other dog park down by the river) where the owner knew their dog was a risk to other dogs so they muzzled it, but let it off lead and it tackled my dog to the ground and then I also landed on the ground. The owners just stood there smiling and saying don't worry, he's got his muzzle on, while their dog was trying to maul my dog through it's muzzle. The owners didn't call it off and thought it was amusing. I have also witnessed another small dog attack other larger dogs as it passes and the owner just keep walking in the opposite direction, and not even attempt to stop it or even correct it. In general I have found many people just do not have sufficient control of their dogs, which ruins it for others. I don't even feel safe walking my dog in the parks now.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Dogs that require muzzles due to their aggression towards other dogs should never be allowed off lead in any public space, given they can still be a danger to other dogs and people.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

People have insufficient control of their dogs and refuse to take responsibility when their dog behaves in an aggressive manner. Plus aggressive dogs that require muzzles should never be allowed off lead in any public space.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 1:51PM
Receipt number	933
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Olivia
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Last name	Bradley
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	I like to travel in to Palmy to use the Reserve
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The proposed change

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area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	It's a dog park... dogs should be able to use the dog park and run around
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	I think the small area - bbq etc can be on lead but everything past the swing bridge should be off lead
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 4:00PM
Receipt number	934
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Damien
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Last name	O'Hara
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Organisation you represent	Sime Darby Transport Group - Transpecs
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If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.

Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I walk this park 2 times most days. 70-80 percent of all users are dog users and the majority of them are off-leash. You have a minority attempting to change this park due to a very small amount of issues with off-leash dog users. You are proposing to separate the park for off-leash dog users when there isn't a significant issue. This is Featherston Street re-development all over again. In your first request for submissions the majority of over 60 percent have spoken not to change Linklater Reserve. Yet you now request additional submissions. This proposal will come at a cost for the ratepayers with new pathways and fences around the Plane in addition to the moving cost of the dog agility course. Why should off-leash dog users have to have their use of Linklater cut in half? This is not a fair compromise and we are paying for the inadequate planning of the PNCC putting Planes in one section of the park, The agility course in another and so on with the playgrounds. You stuffed this up, we as ratepayers will then have to pay to fix it.. just as with Featherston Street. I mentioned in my first submission that if Linklater was such a 'terrible environment' for off-leash dog users dogs running out of control, why have I never seen a PNCC Dog Control Officer there in my 11 years of walking the park, twice a day? Has PNCC been acting in an unsafe manner not actioning this? No, I haven't seen a dog control officer because there is no great concern to the safety of dogs or people and this is a request to the council by an association (Kelvin Grove Community Association) who are out of touch with their community and who are quite honestly a joke. By separating the park you are eliminating the dogs to utilise the extremely popular creek to swim in .. not just summer months when it's incredibly important for the dogs to hydrate but all year round. This is not about being fair by splitting the park in half so all can enjoy. This is a direct movement against off-leash dogs and dogs and their users as a whole. There are many parks within walking distance for playgrounds etc for those who want to enjoy them without having interaction with dogs. There is only one off-leash reserve in Kelvin Grove and you are going to rip the heart out of it. What a disappointment our current PNCC Mayor and councillors are. You are so focussed on things that are not broken rather than focussing on your core role. Shame on you.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

The Kelvin Grove Community Association is out of touch and their comments on their Facebook post regarding this proposal for Linklater Reserve are quite concerning. Some comments made by the KGCA (hiding behind the KGCA) are disappointing and for me questions their state of mind. Yet, they are integral in this proposal apparently acting on behalf of concerned residents. I ask you to go onto their Facebook post on May 10th and review the comments made by the KGCA and Val Burr and John Charlton. If you would prefer for me to send a snippet of these comments made to me then please advise where I send this to. What I am saying is that The KGCA is out of touch. Val talks about how she used to ride her horse back there in the 1990's and that the KGCA donated \$12,500 toward the flying fox, in addition to the \$15,000 toward the swing bridge. Does this give them leverage for this proposal? I asked John, Val and the KGCA how many of their members supported this proposal to Lorna Johnson and secondly, how often they John and Val use Linklater. I have never got a reply and I am asking the question why that is? Why would they not answer? Because they have the support of a very select few and they don't frequent Linklater Reserve much and probably not at all. Yet they are a big voice in making this change. How disappointing that they apparently speak for all of Kelvin Grove.. I know so many Kelvin Grove Residents who regard the KGCA as just a joke.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Because I am passionate about Linklater Reserve, I want to join the Linklater Reserve working bee's for the development of the reserve but this will no longer be the case if these dramatic changes are made. I walked my dog (now deceased) around Linklater twice a day every day (at least 6 days a week) for over ten years and can count the issues with off-leash dogs on one hand. Yet we want to rip the park apart, conduct work which will be paid for by us ratepayers all for something that isn't an issue. The KGCA are acting on a very small minority and this needs to be stopped and the PNCC need to do the right thing. Listen to your ratepayers and don't repeat the same ignorant views that was displayed with the Featherston Street re-development. If you do, I guess it is election year and the majority have the opportunity to vote.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?

(select as many as apply)

Social media

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 4:40PM
Receipt number	935
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Mark
Last name	JAMES
Postal address	
Email	
Phone	

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	Yes
Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes

The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

The area suggested is 2/3 of park. If you did a survey of who actually uses the park and how many dogs are off leash you will realise what a stupid decision this is. I dont what metrics or information you are using but it will affect the majority of people who use the park.

At a guess Id say a small majority of park users have made complaints and some councillor/staff member has decided to change.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Move the aeroplane over and separate childrens play areas from dogs then you wont have any complaints with crossover between dogs and non dog users.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Your change doesnt take into account who uses the park and that there are very few places in the city where you can comfortably walk a dog off leash. Dogs who are on leads tend to more aggressive than those that are not.

If you make the change the carpark up Roberts Line will become extremely congested and pulling out onto Roberts line is also dangerous as people tend to speed on that stretch of road.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 6:40PM
Receipt number	936
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Kim
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Last name	Sargent
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

Linklater is unique in being the only fully fenced Off-leash area in Palmerston North to walk your dog. Being a regular user of Linklater, the logical division is along the tree line, where there is already a fence, in-between the flying fox area and the dog agility area.

This allows for use of the dog agility area without the dogs being on a lead, you can't logically use the agility equipment with a dog on a lead. The agility area is also a space that has a large grass area, I frequently see dogs enjoying this space by stretching their legs and playing across the grass area. I do see families walking along the top path to the plane, but I never see kids just running across the grass area. I think this area is best used as an off leash area, I feel it would be a huge waste of this space to make it on-leash and fully maximising the use of it to be off-leash.

I have also noticed the increased use of Linklater over the period of time since awareness has been made from this proposal and I think that the responsible decision would be to make sure there is enough space for future use. A high number of dogs, of all ages, sizes and abilities in a small area is not a proactive way to move forward.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

I think a good solution would be to move the plane into the flying fox area, have two designated areas for families and kids. The front playground area, the wetlands and the flying fox playground space. Then the open space with the agility area and past this for off leash dogs.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I am keen to continue to use this space as it was originally intended and to enjoy walking with my dog off leash.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Letter or email

Social media

Radio

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:00PM
Receipt number	937
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Jenny
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Last name	Fugle
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	Unsure why the dog agility is leash on. I would support a larger area for leash off as this is one of the main benefits of this reserve. Would be better for leash on between the flying fox and dog agility.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:16PM
Receipt number	938
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Margaret
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Last name	Sargent
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	No
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	I think the division should be between the dog agility and flying fox.
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	My daughter and her family love walking their dog at linklater. There are many people parks in Palmerston North and linklater is the only one designed for dogs off lead. It was its intended purpose after all.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	After discussing this proposal with my daughter and family I felt I needed to support them and their dogs preferred walking area.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:17PM
Receipt number	939
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Sian
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Last name	Emms
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes to Linklater Reserve, which would see the off-lead area halved and converted to on-lead use. As a Palmerston North resident, ratepayer and regular user of this reserve, I believe this proposal would negatively impact the wellbeing of both dogs and their owners, create unnecessary expense, and would heavily diminish the reserve's value to the community.

Off-lead Areas Promote Dog and Community Wellbeing:

Responsible dog owners rely on off-lead dog areas because they are essential for dogs to engage in natural behaviours that keep dogs physically healthy and mentally stimulated such as running, playing, and socialising – activities which are not possible when restricted by a lead. Regular off-lead exercise supports physical health, reduces behavioural issues and decreases anxiety and reactivity in dogs, which restricting movement on a lead does and not allowing natural dog behaviours results in increased anxiety and reactivity. Given the huge popularity of the park (due in very large part to dog owners), halving the space allocated to off-lead will lead to congestion and potentially create more issues than less.

Training and Socialisation for Young Dogs:

Linklater reserve being a large off-lead area also offers those training and socialising young dogs a safe space and a controlled environment to do so, which is critical. Early exposure to other dogs, adults, children, and distraction is essential for developing calm, well-adjusting behaviour. Practising recall, obedience, and on/off-lead manners in a real-world setting helps owners to raise dogs that are safer and more responsible in public. With reduced access to an off-lead and uncongested area, many owners will be left without a suitable location to reinforce these life skills for their dog, potentially leading to more behavioural issues in the community and other areas.

Community Demand and Use of Linklater:

Linklater reserve is already well-used and appreciated as a safe and open space for dogs to run freely due to the large area and the fact that it is fully-fenced. At peak times, the current area is comfortably busy, suggesting high demand for the off-lead access, while not too congested to cause issues. Reducing the space would concentrate users into a smaller zone, increasing the risk of overcrowding and in turn increasing the risk of incidents and creating a less enjoyable experience for users of the area. If the motivation behind this change is to address isolated concerns, it's important to understand that it may in fact have the opposite result. A more targeted approach such as clear signage, waste bin improvements, or education campaigns may be more effective and equitable.

Personal Experience and Responsible Use:

As a responsible dog owner, I visit Linklater reserve multiple times a week with my two well-trained and well-behaved dogs, rain or shine. I've seen firsthand the positive impact of the current off-lead setup. The off-lead space has been essential for my dogs' health, confidence, training and socialisation, and it has been a place where I've met other locals and built lasting friendships and received support and advice. I've always found the environment welcoming, respectful and safe, often taking the kids for our walks and to use the play equipment with no issue, as many other families do. I often see other families, with or without dogs, enjoying the area too. Although I do see non-dog owners regularly using the park beyond the two children's play areas, the popularity and continued use and support of this park is due to dogs and their owners. Unlike other parks and spaces within Palmerston North, not once have I witnessed any attacks or dangerous behaviour from dogs at Linklater reserve. In being a regular user of this park, I have found only positive engagement with dogs, their owners and non-dog owners using the area and have felt a sense of strong and connected community.

Summary:

In summary, I am strongly opposed to the change proposal and believe

this change will have a negative impact on the many Manawatu locals, dog owners and ratepayers using this park. This change proposal is at the request of a small minority and is likely to largely decrease the use of the park, reduce dog socialisation and training opportunities, cause congestion, and increase the likelihood of the very situations the Kelvin Grove Association have raised, which are clearly not a common occurrence, having never witnessed any issues despite using this park multiple times per week over hundreds of visits.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

There is no other comparable alternative for dog owners in the Palmerston North area. There are however a huge number of parks and open areas, both within Kelvin Grove and in the wider Palmerston North area that do not allow dog access or are on-lead only. These many options provide more than adequate alternatives for those who do not want to walk or socialise in an area with dogs around. I do not believe that a very small percentage of the Kelvin Grove area (those within the Kelvin Grove Association) should be able to dictate and make demands about how an area paid for and maintained by the local council is used by the wider Palmerston North locals and ratepayers.

Altering the infrastructure of Linklater by adding an entirely new fence and gates will incur significant costs. In the current economy, the amount proposed to make changes for a very small minority of people who take issue with this space, (when the clear majority of those who have provided feedback in the first survey do not support this change), doesn't seem justifiable. The ongoing costs of monitoring and enforcement of these new restrictions would also likely cause additional costs that would be better focused elsewhere within the electorate.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I feel strongly that the local council should not spend large amounts of money making changes that the majority of residents do not support.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Social media
Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:24PM
Receipt number	940
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Clarke
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Last name	Macmaster
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	No
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	There should be areas where dog owners have the option to not use leads.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	I know people who use the reserve.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:35PM
Receipt number	941
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Kelly
Last name	Shanks
Postal address	
Email	
Phone	

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	No
Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local

The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
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How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends
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Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:36PM
Receipt number	942
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Olwyn
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Last name	Jones
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	No
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	I have family with dogs and they very much enjoy the Reserve and its size because it gives a safe and sociable exercise area for their dogs. Any smaller, they feel, would jeopardize this.
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	It is good that there is a specific and workable area for owners to walk and exercise their unleashed dogs, as having them on leashes would not give them the running exercise and enjoyment they need.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	Kindness to animals; safety for other parts of the city or countryside as some owners might not feel they have sufficient non-leashed space.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:41PM
Receipt number	943
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Caitlin
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Last name	Emms
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

As a local resident, I strongly oppose the proposal to reduce the off-lead dog area. This change would negatively impact dog wellbeing, public safety, and community use, while requiring unnecessary spending.

Off-lead areas are vital for dogs to exercise, socialise, and be trained safely—benefits that on-lead spaces cannot offer. Linklater’s large, fully fenced area supports responsible ownership and is one of the few spaces in Palmerston North where dogs can be properly socialised and trained, especially when young.

The park is already well-used and valued, particularly by dog owners. Reducing the space would cause congestion and increase the likelihood of conflict—potentially creating more issues, not fewer. There are no comparable off-lead alternatives nearby, while many other on-lead or dog-prohibited parks exist for those who prefer to avoid dogs.

The cost of reconfiguring the park, including fencing and gates, is significant and difficult to justify in the current economy, especially when the majority of initial public feedback opposed this change. Ongoing enforcement would also add unnecessary pressure on council resources.

I've only experienced respectful behaviour from others. Linklater is a safe, inclusive space that benefits the wider community.

I urge council to reject this proposal, which favours a small minority over the clear majority who value the park as it is.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 7:59PM
Receipt number	944
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Allen
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Last name	Macmaster
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	There are plenty of other on-leash areas for those who wish to avoid freeranging dogs or aren't confident having their dog off the leash. Linklater seems to work well in its current mode and is used by people from all over town. The proposal looks like an unsatisfactory and unnecessary compromise.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	Dog owners i know feel very stro gly about this and on my visits to the park it seems to work well the way it is.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 8:06PM
Receipt number	945
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name Andrew

Last name Wotton

Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025? No

About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user? Yes

Are you a dog owner? Yes

You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local? Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local

The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	<p>Kia ora,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes to dog access rules at Linklater Reserve.</p> <p>I strongly oppose the proposal to divide the reserve and designate part of it—specifically from Kelvin Grove Road to the aeroplane—as an on-leash area. Linklater Reserve has long been a safe, well-utilized, and dedicated off-leash space that supports responsible dog ownership and community wellbeing. Fragmenting it risks reducing its effectiveness for all users.</p> <p>The current layout already excludes dogs from children's play spaces, which I fully support. This provides a clear balance between family and pet-friendly use. Further division is unnecessary and may create confusion about boundaries, diminish the utility of the park, and limit safe areas for dogs to exercise and socialize freely.</p> <p>The park's agility area and wide open layout are ideal for off-leash activities, and retaining its status ensures that dog owners can continue training, exercising, and building community connections. Many visitors travel across the city to access this uniquely designed space—and the proposed changes could discourage usage and shift pressure onto other less equipped parks.</p> <p>Please consider the broad benefits Linklater Reserve offers in its current form and retain its full off-leash designation, with continued enforcement of dog exclusion around children's play equipment.</p> <p>Thank you for considering this feedback.</p> <p>Ngā mihi,</p>

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email
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Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 8:36PM
Receipt number	946
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Simon
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Last name	Thorpe
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	Yes
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I love the park as it setup currently with the perimeter fences where they are currently located. I know my dogs can be off lead and in a safe enviroment at Linklater reserve, and are able to run free with her ball. I can either run or walk with her nearby with being able to throw her ball. My kids can play on the play equipment, while I throw the ball down the hill. Sometimes when she is exhausted she runs towards the water containment pond to cool off and then will bring her ball back up the hill. She enjoys playing chase her ball with the kids on the flying fox and running after them. She loves running with us when we ride our bikes on the pump track and also loves following on the obstacle course. The park was created for families with Kids and Dogs. The dog agility area we use and we the family and our dogs also play on the aeroplane. The water courses that are scattered around the park are great for the dogs to cool off at their leisure and usually we take a very wet dirty dog home. All this means is its been a great trip to the park and we have burnt all our energy. The area for dogs off lead needs to be large so we both can run and get our exercise. I have not encountered or seen any other dogs that have been off-lead or on-lead that are aggressive or pose a safety risk on any of my visits to Linklater reserve since the Park was first opened. Our dogs love playing with any other dogs and running free playing with their tennis balls. Sometimes other dogs will bring their ball while (off-lead) to us wanting it thrown too. No changes are needed unless the Park is going to be made even larger with even more parking and even more playgrounds and swimming holes for both Dogs and kids.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

People that have dogs that are not well behaved off lead or even aggressive when onlead towards other dogs should not be visiting the park. People that don't like dogs should not be visiting a dog park. There are lots of other Parks within Palmerston North for people and families to visit. Please also provide lots more parking at each parking area as at busy times there are usually no free spots. We would rather go to Linklater reserve instead of the river due to many dogs over the years being sweep down stream and several people drowning due to people trying to rescue their dogs.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I do not want to loose access to a great Park that is catered to family's and Dogs and promotes exercise for you, your kids and the dogs. As far a I know there is no other park like this in New Zealand and I would hope that more parks would be available to dog owners in other places.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Letter or email

Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 8:55PM
Receipt number	947
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Kathryn
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Last name	Dixon
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	Yes
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

1. Based upon my experience as a weekly user of Linklater Reserve for the last 3.5 years, I believe the KGCA is overstating the extent of any problems caused there by uncontrolled dogs; I personally have never witnessed any issues at this Reserve.
2. While there have undoubtedly been some problematic incidents, these can and do occur in all public spaces; my own dog has been attacked and severely injured twice elsewhere in this time (including once by uncontrolled ON-leash dogs).
3. The reduction of the off-leash area by 50% is unwarranted and unnecessary.
4. The existing rule prohibiting dogs within 30 metres of play areas is sufficient.
5. In my experience most dog owners avoid the main play areas anyway; people with dogs that are in those areas are generally there playing with their children and have chosen to bring their dog along.
6. Concerns around issues at access points to the Reserve can be dealt with by having separately designated entrance gates.
7. The Council's "educational" approach to non-conforming owners needs to be reviewed in light of some dog owners continuing to act with impunity. Otherwise responsible dog owners and their dogs will continue to be disadvantaged; this current proposal by the Council being a case in point.
8. Dogs need wide, open spaces to run in. As the population of PN increases, so too will dog ownership; having a sufficiently large off-leash area will become increasingly necessary and important.
9. The land for Linklater Reserve was purchased by the Council with revenue gathered from ALL its residents. It was not gifted by the KGCA (or the Linklater family), and I do not accept their reasoning or rationale for why they should have an undue say over its future use.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Has the Council considered relocating the plane to the main play area?
There is adequate space.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I do not accept the stated rationale for the proposed changes to Linklater Reserve regarding its use by dogs.
I greatly value having a large off-leash area in PN, and consider it necessary for healthy and happy dogs.
The proposed changes will greatly diminish the amenity value of the park in my opinion.
Nationwide over time there has been a trend towards a gradual reduction in public spaces open to dogs; in some areas it is now impossible to own a dog and adequately meet its needs. We need to be mindful of this, and not shortsightedly diminish what we have here, for dubious reasons.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 9:35PM
Receipt number	948
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Andrew
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Last name	Ferguson
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	<p>As a regular user of Linklater Reserve and a local resident, I strongly oppose the proposal to reduce the off-lead dog area. This change would negatively impact dog wellbeing, public safety, and community use, while requiring unnecessary spending.</p> <p>Off-lead areas are vital for dogs to exercise, socialise, and be trained safely—benefits that on-lead spaces cannot offer. Linklater's large, fully fenced area supports responsible ownership and is one of the few spaces in Palmerston North where dogs can be properly socialised and trained, especially when young.</p> <p>The park is already well-used and valued, particularly by dog owners. Reducing the space would cause congestion and increase the likelihood of conflict—potentially creating more issues, not fewer. There are no comparable off-lead alternatives nearby, while many other on-lead or dog-prohibited parks exist for those who prefer to avoid dogs.</p> <p>The cost of reconfiguring the park, including fencing and gates, is significant and difficult to justify, especially when the majority of initial public feedback opposed this change. Ongoing enforcement would also add unnecessary pressure on council resources.</p> <p>As someone who uses the park regularly with my well-trained dogs and children, I've only experienced respectful behaviour from others. Linklater is a safe, inclusive space that benefits the wider community.</p> <p>I urge council to reject this proposal, which favours a small minority over the clear majority who value the park as it is.</p>
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	<p>Social media</p> <p>Poster, sign or billboard</p>

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 9:42PM
Receipt number	949
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Valerie
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Last name	Burr
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	Yes
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Prefer not to say
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Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	No
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Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

Yes, I support this change

Please tell us why.

Because I think the present situation denies many people a safe means to enjoy this park, and that turning such a huge park into a so-called "dog park" was poorly thought through - part was okay, but not the whole thing. I go there occasionally, but sadly there is not much to see there nowadays unfortunately.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

I strongly believe that the general public should have safe access to the lower part of the Linklater Reserve, and that they shouldn't have to avoid the park entirely simply because not all dog-owners who go there have total control over their pets when the pets are off-lead. Pet ownership is a hobby of sorts, and I don't believe that PNCC should be funding a massive c70 acre (c28 hectares) park to the exclusion of the bulk of the city's population, let alone Kelvin Grove's. My reference is to the 'off-lead' dog-ownership population. I'm perfectly comfortable with the on-lead dogs being all over the park.

I am going to start with the letter I wrote that was published in the Manawatu Standard on Friday, 18 July 2025, as that saves double handling information:

.....

"Let Linklater Reserve be safe for people
"In response to various people snarling about dog parks, Kelvin Grove has long struggled alongside council, separated by a territorial boundary, a railway line and nowadays an industrial zone.

"The suburb's first house was built in 1966. Two dairies and a fish and chip shop opened in 1981. The previous year we inherited the former Centennial Pavilion — which received its first car park in 2023.

"In 2012, the supermarket and some adjoining little shops opened. There are two "special-interest" schools, but most kids leave the suburb to be educated. Oh yes, we have a cemetery.

"Circa 1993, Palmerston North City Council began plans to buy the future Linklater Reserve. Theoretically the city's "second Esplanade", finally Kelvin Grove would be noted for something exciting, no longer just "the dead centre of Palmerston North"!

"At an open day in 2001, the council explained their plans. Tree-plantings followed, and all seemed wonderful. Dog parks weren't mentioned.

"Then around 2011 and seemingly without consulting the locals, their interests were superseded to those of roaming dogs. Furthermore, these dogs were (apparently) drawn from well-endowed suburbs all over the city.

"Our under-resourced suburb lost again. Roaming dogs got the swing bridge and flying fox Kelvin Grove Community Association contributed \$27,500 towards, plus the public toilets, barbecue area and unfenced children's play equipment dogs aren't allowed within 30 metres of.

"In reality, I've heard no objections to dogs being at the park. Simply that people should also be able to enjoy part of it without fear of encountering potentially uncontrolled, aggressive dogs.

"Instead people abuse us, saying we should travel to random distant parks — rather than enjoy this interesting historic farm/park right on our doorstep."

.....

As many of you will know, I'm a long-time (almost all my life) Kelvin

Grove resident. Our dairy farm, at its largest in the 1960s to mid-1970s, ran from Napier Road, up through part of Kaimanawa Street, and out to Roberts Line. This is relevant as it bordered the Clyde Crescent State Housing subdivision and we had to endure swarms of roaming kids, including some with dogs.

I've been a member in various capacities of the Kelvin Grove Residents'/Community Assn.'s committee since the mid-1980s. I've also known the Linklater Reserve property since I was a little kid in the latter 1950s, and I'm familiar with its history back to the 1870s. I also grazed one of my horses there around 1990.

I've never owned a dog in my own right, but we had farm dogs until I was in my 20s. They enjoyed running around loose when not working (or secured) – resulting in one pup ('Brownie') getting killed by a HB-bound goods train beside where the Mihaere Drive overbridge now is (a graphic scene I will never forget); and another ('Brownie's' sibling 'Lizzie'), by then a beloved pet and no longer a working cattle dog, getting shot by a neighbour while chasing someone else's straying dog that was chasing sheep (as we were told by our shocked neighbour who recognised her too late – including knowing she was his own dog's daughter [that Mum subsequently accidentally ran over and killed on Roberts Line]).

Another stray we kind of adopted (a town dog we named 'Goldy'), slipped his collar and ended up shot immediately after he chased my pregnant horse ('Dusty') through a gate and left her with two major gashes on her left abdomen and flank, and 18 stitches. I was horrified when I got home from work that day and discovered what had happened to both. A town dog also attacked our pet goat ('Jenny') and we ended up with her blood all over our front porch. That dog got away unfortunately. The goat survived, and so did my horse. My point is that dogs don't always do the right thing by themselves or by other animals, and that extends to how some treat humans.

In addition to this, I'm also one of the two admins of the Kelvin Grove Community Assn. Inc. Facebook page, and that has been my main point of contact in this present matter – or rather it has been a bit of a nightmare. The other admin has been away for several weeks, and so I've had to cope alone with a number of typically 'nasty' comments by 'keyboard warriors' who have no consideration for sharing that huge park with any other people or animals. You are welcome to read through all the many comments left on the Kelvin Grove Community Association Facebook page. I haven't deleted any – but the person I mentioned last time as living in Alaska, deleted hers. The PNCC Facebook page also has many rabid comments beneath its Linklater Reserve posts. In fact I'd recommend that you read them. If these people's dogs are anything like their owners, than probably that's where the clash begins.

Some dog-owning people have very reasoned arguments and a high degree of understanding as to how some dogs that are taken to the park and turned loose, have no means of control. Other posters though rave on as if the park was purchased specifically for dogs to roam about on (which is total rubbish), and how no-one else has any rights to be there. There are complaints that children's play equipment should never have been put in a "dog park" – without the person/people comprehending that it was a park before suddenly someone decided it was 'primarily' for free-range dogs and thus 'who cares about anyone else'. It was an operational farm before that - and it never was merely wasteland! Some demand to know how often each of us personally goes to the park (it's mid-winter!). The answer would usually be "sometimes", but that's because the attractions at that huge park are outweighed by the free-range dogs.

One person has left about 30-40 comments – droning on about the same things. When I finally responded "Yaaaaaawn" and suggested blocking him, he apparently (unsuccessfully) tried to get Facebook to shut down our Facebook page.

Someone raved on about how Ross Linklater (and named him) was paid “millions and millions” of dollars for the farmland that is now the reserve, so he shouldn’t complain about it becoming a “dog park”. I haven’t had the chance to tell Ross this snippet yet, but my first reaction was that if PNCC paid whatever “millions and millions” translates to, then surely the rest of us who don’t have dogs, have the right to expect dog registration fees to be radically increased in the hope of recovering some of that cost to spend on the potholes and so-on.

I deeply resent how people from all over town should demand that local Kelvin Grove people should leave the area to go to other parks, instead of one on their doorstep. There are dog parks all over the city according to the Palmerston North Dog Control Policy 2018 – and the subsequent 2024 one - including three other off-lead reserves in Kelvin Grove. Perhaps PNCC needs to publicise such information somewhat better?

I’ve had people rave online about what they assume to be my attitude to dogs in general, especially after I pointed out that my daughter was attacked by a dog when she was about six (at the dog’s home, when it broke out of a shed it had been placed in theoretically for the duration of our visit). The response was like “Aaah, so that’s why you hate dogs” – which is rubbish. Rather, it means I know what it’s like to have a terrified screaming child desperately clamber up my body trying to get out of the reach of the attacking teeth – before the owners managed to drag it away seconds later before much damage was done.

Similarly, I also know what it’s like to – 15 years later – clean up a metre-wide ‘pool’ of her dried blood from the concrete floor of her flat after she was murdered. The police’s cleaners cleaned the top of the carpet. We removed the carpet. Unfortunately the most vociferous dog-owning ‘keyboard warriors’ seem to have a very one-sided view of the damage that can be caused when someone is attacked – many media reports from various places suggesting that they typically (or seemingly) just cut and run, without leaving contact information or offering to help the victim either financially or at the scene!

The Kelvin Grove Community Association itself has also been routinely insulted by these people. Presumably ‘they’ (the ‘off-lead’ dog park folk) claim to be great contributors to our Kelvin Grove community or the like, but they don’t seem to actually ‘do’ anything. Our group traces with a few twists and turns back to 1901, and has achieved many things over the past 124 years, including community and wartime work – and yet ‘they’ (the off-lead dog faction) claim things like that we consist of only five people who apparently do little beyond annoy the ‘keyboard warriors’. It’s hard to take people seriously when they never seem to visibly do anything for this community. Perhaps fundraising for a new dog-proof fence across the park and/or actually building it would be a good way to prove ‘they’ can do something for this community besides rave on social media. And of course the ones living outside Kelvin Grove probably never contribute anything to the suburb – because ‘they’ already have all the good stuff we don’t have, and basically ‘they’ don’t care about Kelvin Grove beyond turning their dogs loose in it anyway.

I’m extremely conscious of the poll conducted earlier in the year on the PNCC Facebook page – but not for the reasons assumed. Rather, several years ago there was a similar poll on the PNCC Facebook page relating to whether outdoor gym equipment should be in Ashhurst or Kelvin Grove. Ashhurst’s votes were soon massive, while Kelvin Grove’s really dragged. Then I happened to trip over someone’s pro-Ashhurst-siting comment on some Facebook page – explaining how to jack up the votes repeatedly by one person voting over and over again. I was stunned. I tried what they said with a single extra vote (as I’d already voted), and it worked. So personally, as a result, I’d put no faith whatsoever into any polling vote on the PNCC Facebook page.

So, as stated above, perhaps the off-lead dog fan club could crowd-fund the money to build the proposed dividing fence across the Linklater Reserve. I bet they wouldn’t dream of doing that though. They instead

expect the ratepayers of Palmerston North to finance everything – while still only paying their tiny annual dog registration fees to accommodate their dog-ownership hobby.

And now to the personal impact of this latest performance. My neighbour on our shared driveway has had her letterbox kicked over six times (so far) in the last few weeks. It's hard not to wonder why this is happening – and not to other identically set-up letterboxes nearby along the street. One other did get knocked over (twice) two doors down from us at an unoccupied house, but why not the others. I wired it up for her 1½ weeks ago, and about 90 minutes later I heard it kicked three times and rushed out to check it. It had been kicked over to the extent where the wires allowed it – and where it remains. Meanwhile, its pipe stand is on the verge of snapping and the box itself is partly broken off its mount. Perhaps this relates to the “dog park” issue, or perhaps not – but we are very conscious of it and general security at the moment. My letterbox is less accessible to kickers.

Also, in terms of intrusions, several weeks ago, while preparing the latest parole submission relating to my daughter's killer, I had to deal with more pro-“dog park” fans. This parole submission was a particularly hard one to deal with (for a specific reason unrelated to “dog parks”), and so when I checked out one of the commenters and discovered that she worked for the funeral director that buried my daughter, I was rather upset. I forgot to ask her if they'd give a discount on a funeral for any little kid that happened to be killed by one of the roaming dogs that she supported. But then my life experiences are radically different to the average “dog park” fan. By observation and messages through the KGCA Facebook page and its behind-the-scenes message system, usually when people's dogs attack people or other dogs, the owner of the offending dog claims they've never done it before – and bolts without leaving their contact details. Too bad if the damage has resulted in a huge vet bill – like the \$1,000 one from a few weeks ago.

Lastly, KGCA did our submission on this topic some weeks ago and then our chairman John Charlton and fellow committee member, Ross Linklater, and I participated in the subsequent Council ‘event’ relating to the somewhat ‘last minute’ petition we threw together. In John's absence at present (until after the deadline), the rest of us are handling things as best we can. Over the years I've been involved in various things to get information to and from the Kelvin Grove community. The intention was to do the same with this one, but given the way I/we have been treated by the pro-“dog park” people, it's a case of ‘like hell’. I recall how terrifying it was to deliver leaflets (with my name on them) throughout the entire Kelvin Grove community in 2000 offering people the chance to attend a special support meeting a few days after the Lundy murders. Well, that was far less scary (i.e. worrying about attracting the attention of a then-unknown axe murderer) than anticipating a potential face-to-face meeting with a pro-‘dog park’ person (and their dog/s).

I also believe, like I have from the start, that the plane should be transferred to where it's visible from Kelvin Grove Road – because the people frequenting the top of the park have done a horrific job of looking after it, despite the best efforts and hopes of PNCC's staff. I have researched that plane's story including in the US, and the history of that former air ambulance (and its slide) would be more appealing to kids in the lower park than it clearly has been to the people who go up to the top of the park with their off-lead dogs.

In addition, perhaps someone can explain why dogs are proposed to be allowed “within 10 metres of the children's play spaces and play equipment” seemingly at the Linklater Reserve only – instead of 30 metres? Hopefully that really is due to the issues stated in the ‘Statement of Proposal’ document, and not because someone thinks that uncontrolled dogs ripping Kelvin Grove children to bits is socially acceptable?

Postscript: I could have added photos of ‘Brownie’, ‘Lizzie’, ‘Goldy’,

'Jenny', 'Dusty' (high on cocaine apparently and with dried blood left on her coat from her two large newly stitched gashes), my late daughter as a very vulnerable 6-y-o around the time she was attacked, a diesel loco and a Triumph 2000, but figured that I'd been graphic enough. Uncontrolled dogs should not be near vulnerable people or other animals of any species – no matter what the 'off-lead' faction thinks. And PNCC should not be funding such a huge park simply to accommodate some pet-owners' hobbies.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Because the park began as a "second Esplanade" (in 1993) and then some years later it suddenly transformed into something many people are too afraid to go near - based on numerous comments and incidents over the years about negative dog encounters. It was never 'wasteland' - and the off-lead dog fans need to justify why they shouldn't have had their dog registration fees radically increased to pay the park's costs. In most cases dog-ownership is a hobby, and there seems to me to be no reason why PNCC should finance this hobby - including at the expense of many other people.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?

(select as many as apply)

Council website

Letter or email

Social media

Newspaper

City councillor

Family or friends

School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

Booklet in my mailbox

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 10:19PM
Receipt number	950
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Chere
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Last name	Brooking
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	I like to travel in to Palmy to use the Reserve
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

The area you have selected for the off leash is too small. People without dogs have many areas that they can access around Palmerston North compared to the number of areas people can run their dogs safely and off leash. Kelvin Grove residents have had many new footpaths in their area they can use to walk. They don't like it when we walk our dogs around the streets, down by the river, now they want to take the one space where dogs can freely be dogs without people stopping them. I think the on leash area should only be up as far as the bike track & tractor area. Move the plane into the play area rather than it sitting out in the middle of a paddock, giving more children safe access to it. Leave the agility area where it is. I will also draw your attention to the fact that so many dogs love to have a swim in the pond which you are proposing to stop them from doing. It is such great exercise for them and they don't care if it is winter.

This park was set up for dogs, dogs need a good area to run, not be squashed in a small area.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

If you want people to use the park, don't change it. The claim that some people are not controlling their dogs is most likely the dogs are running around having fun and the people making them have different ideas on how the dog should behave. Kelvin Grove has lots of new parks they can walk to.

Could you also consider putting in a mobile grooming station where we can wash our dogs off before putting them in the car. Nothing flash.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I love watching my dog run around, greeting people and other dogs. She has made so many friends because of her nature. Her breed requires big areas to run and to be able to chase and play with other dogs. She loves to smell all the different areas, along the fence lines, throw the bushes, to get muddy. She is not threatening to others and does like to run as far as she can.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Letter or email

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 10:22PM
Receipt number	951
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Liam
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Last name	Mitchell
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	Not sure
Please tell us why.	Dogs look like they have so much fun the moment they are let off leash on entering the park they run off and then run back too owner.
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	Have dogs and dog owners prove they can recall their dog. Get a special collar tag that can identify this at a distance.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	I live in the area
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email Booklet in my mailbox Other: Facebook posts

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 10:27PM
Receipt number	952
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Roberta
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Last name	Ireland
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I have been using this area to walk/exercise our dog since we moved to this area in 2016. I stick to the area now proposed as on-leash area where facilities are available, including the dog agility course. Neither myself nor my dog have witnessed, or been inconvenienced by, concerning behaviour from other dogs or people. On the contrary, our dog (Cavoodle) has over time become more confident around larger dogs and enjoys the people contacts. This speaks well of the behaviour of other dogs that are off-leash, and of the dog owners.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Previous surveys have strongly indicated satisfaction with the off-lead designation, so I do wonder why another survey is required. I am unaware of any serious incidents occurring in the Reserve area. Are there any reports available that would provide insights into this? Any police or ACC/hospital information? Does the council have information that can be shared? There is no specific information in the introduction to this survey.

I would also refer you to the PNCC advertisement, available on YouTube, of Linklater Reserve, which talks about what a great area it is while showing dogs doing some things that they would no longer be able to do e.g. crossing the swing bridge.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

As a dog owner, I am concerned that there are fewer and fewer places where dogs can be exercised off-leash, allowing them a more natural form of exercise.

I am also concerned that restrictions on dog owners and dogs, which are already tight enough, will be increased again until dog ownership becomes a burden.

Surely the Council has sufficient authority to act when dog owners do not behave responsibly, allowing their dog(s) to become a problem to other people.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 11:03PM
Receipt number	953
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Kaleena
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Last name	Wildbore
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	Prefer not to say
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Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	Dogs don't have many places to run free and here is a great spot it not fair on the many good dog owners to suffer for a few dumb owners plz leave it alone <input type="checkbox"/>
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	Leave it alone
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	For the dogs!
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	27 July 2025, 11:46PM
Receipt number	954
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	kathryn
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Last name	knightbridge
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	Yes
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	I think the reserve should be kept all dog off lead. I live by the river but drive to this reserve to meet friends with their dogs. Our kids and dogs enjoy running around. The kids play on the plane and use the agility park . Dogs Need to be off lead in this agility area. If you needed to fence it worst case please then a division should be between the Dog agility and the Flying fox As at the moment council are cutting it off at the plane and have the dog agility area ON lead.
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	Please listen to the community. Plus how are you going to police this?
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	I drive across town to use this dog park. It's my community and I want to future proof it for other dog users.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 9:18AM
Receipt number	956
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Sam
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Last name	Nisbet
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	I am disabled and we regularly walk in this fantastic park and have never experienced problems with dogs off leash in fact I can see more problems with on leash dogs getting tangled in my walker or crutches unruly dogs need trading along with the owners because this is a dog free park.Dogs love the wetlands area.Maybe divide the front area with a fence to include kids play area flying fox etc to be on leash which could give access to the rest of the park to be off leash
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	It was set up as a dog off leash park if you don't like dogs don't go to this park there are lots of parks in the city
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media Booklet in my mailbox

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 9:29AM
Receipt number	957
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Jacob
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Last name	Williams
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I do not support the proposed change to prohibit dogs from a large area of Linklater Reserve. There are already limited areas within the district to take dogs on longer off-leash walks. Dog parks are fine for little/medium sized dogs but they do not provide the stimulation required for larger and more active breeds. I often take my dog to Linklater Reserve and enjoy being able to have my dog off-leash. This proposal is further restricting access for dog owners to be able to exercise their dogs, especially without providing an alternative site. Other public spaces have requirements around dog access (on-leash or total exclusion), Linklater Reserve is one of the few spaces available to dog owners to be able to allowed to have dogs off leash.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Will the results of poor behavior be changed by having these restrictive rules? Do you have any data that suggests this will improve? If not, wouldn't it be better to keep the rules the same at the moment and enforce the existing controls rather than applying a blanket on-lead area.

If you absolutely must have an area of restricted on-lead area I would suggest that you do not extend it all the way to the plane as this is half of the whole reserve. It should be restricted to the very front area only.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I have recently moved to the Manawatu and one of the key reasons was the lack of dog friendly areas in the Waipa District and a council that was actively removing the few sites that remained. It is sad and frustrating to see a similar approach being made here at the cost of responsible dog owners. If you are making restrictions, you should mitigate the effects by providing some alternative sites e.g. there are plenty of paper roads, marginal strips, and council reserves (Recreation Reserve, Bunnythorpe Domain) that could be opened up for dog owners.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 9:38AM
Receipt number	955
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Lisa
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Last name	Wilde
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

My small dog and I walk at Linklater Reserve most days, and have done for years. We both love walking here for the freedom and opportunities to explore it provides. We meet hundreds of people here every week who clearly enjoy the same thing. People of all ages, solos, couples, families with kids and babies, people with dogs and people without dogs. But mainly, yes, people with dogs.

The statement of proposal says: "We know that Linklater Reserve is one of the most popular parks in the city, so we need to make sure that it meets the needs of as many people as possible."

I'd like to offer a different perspective. Clearly, the reason it's one of the most popular parks in the city is because it is exceptional at meeting the needs of a particular group of people: that is, people with dogs. Given there are more than 9,000 dogs registered in Palmerston North, it's hardly surprising the park is so popular.

While Palmy has more than 100 parks, only a small fraction of these have off-leash areas. And none of the other off-leash areas provide the utility that Linklater does. For example, though my dog is well behaved, well controlled and has good recall, I'm never going to walk her off leash on the Railway Land. It is nuts to me that this is a designated dog exercise area, bordered by a state highway and with a skate park at one end.

I love the varied terrain you get by walking the whole park, and being able to sling the leash around my neck and walk with my arms swinging free and my headphones on, listening to books. Winnie is always under my control but can run about and sniff to her heart's content. Her favourite thing to do is paddle in the wetland ponds - something she won't be able to do if this area becomes on-leash. I've never felt threatened by other dogs at the park.

This is in stark contrast to the Manawatū River pathway, which although it's a designated dog exercise area, is somewhere we don't walk because we don't feel safe. Even with Winnie on a lead, I feel threatened by speeding cyclists who treat the area like a race track. Obviously I can't wear my headphones at the river and enjoy a book while I walk, but even so, I am partially deaf so the bikes still take us by surprise. It's simply not a relaxing place to walk in the way that Linklater Reserve is.

There are other parks in the city I can't take Winnie at all, such as Memorial Park. This is a beautiful shady place to be in summer. It's the closest park to my house. But we don't ever go here, and can't, because dogs are prohibited. So we go to Linklater instead.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

It seems like overkill. Where is the data to support such a drastic change?

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I feel a deep connection to Linklater Reserve. I've planted 100s of plants here over the years and contributed to the development of the park. Since I've had a dog, I've become even more connected to it through our walks. Finally, because Winnie loves it here as much as I do and I want to speak up on her behalf.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Council website

Letter or email

Social media

Family or friends

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 9:39AM
Receipt number	959
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Heather
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Last name	Lochhead
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Prefer not to say
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Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	Prefer not to say
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Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	This is the only park in Palmy where dog owners can walk their dogs off the leash. There are plenty of other parks and walkways people can walk where dogs have to be on a leash.
Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.	If there has to be a division it should be between the Dog agility and the Flying fox
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 9:39AM
Receipt number	958
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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First name	Patricia
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Last name	Nisbet
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	<p>As a long time user of Linklater Reserve as a walking area I have taken delight in the freedom provided for dogs and their owners. I have never experienced or observed difficulty with dog behaviour.</p> <p>If this is a perceived problem it seems ashame to penalise many. Could some measures be put in place to ensure education or reporting of problems.</p> <p>Signage in regard to required behaviour could be made visible.</p> <p>This is a fabulous area for dogs and their owners and a great asset for our lovely city. Restrictions on freedom will be difficult to implement and manage - is it realistic?</p> <p>Please -Think carefully before putting restrictions on any areas of Linklater Reserve.</p>
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	<p>Other cities have superb dog parks and it behoves us to also provide this facility.</p> <p>I am really concerned about the proposed restrictions. Linklater Reserve needs to be maintained as it is.</p>
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Booklet in my mailbox

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 10:30AM
Receipt number	960
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Jeremy
Last name	Wilson
Postal address	
Email	
Phone	

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	Yes
Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local

The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

Please, please, please, please leave the Linklater Reserve as it is, with dogs off leash in all areas. We have been so lucky to have this amazing area, shared by all to enjoy without encumbrance - until the few amongst the many start to feel aggrieved.

We have been walking our dog at the Linklater Reserve since she was a puppy (approx 5 years), and it's been an amazing time for the whole family to walk, the kids to play and our dog to be able to run around off leash with us, socialising with her doggy pals and other kids/adults. The area that is proposed as being on leash has all the amenities and kids play areas and is the area that we currently walk round. If we have to move to the other area for our dog to run off leash, will the kids still want to join us, probably not so much. I have MS and have difficulty walking any major distance and the fact that our dog can get more exercise playing with her friends around the reserve, obviously under our watchful eye, especially the parts which are currently proposed for on leash, is amazing.

The reserve is a great place where all parties, as far as we have experienced, exist happily together. It promotes dogs' interaction with other dogs, humans, especially those noisy, crazy kids. And of course, the kids learn about dogs and their behaviors' too. Which ones they can approach and more importantly, not approach. Currently, should a couple of dogs not get on, there is so much space for them to be able to go off in different directions. With the proposed off leash area being a lot smaller, the area would be much more crowded and therefore gives more chance of dogs getting in each other's way.

Of course, there will be dogs that don't behave quite as they should, and yes, the owners are usually to blame but do you think that a fence and the dogs being on leash signs will make any difference to these?

One other very important point - who gets to fund the fence/gates etc - are those who are demanding the changes going to foot the bill? Funnily enough, I don't think so. Our rates bills are already going through the roof and I for one would be dismayed at paying for something that is totally unnecessary. And how and who would actually police the area, would that be more cost for the ratepayers?

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Being totally fed up at a few spoiling something for the many.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Council website

Family or friends

Merle Lavin

From: Submission
Subject: FW: Let us know your thoughts on our proposed dogs on-leash area at Linklater Reserve

From: Angela Povey
Sent: Monday, 28 July 2025 9:03 am
To: Submission <submission@pncc.govt.nz>
Subject: Fw: Let us know your thoughts on our proposed dogs on-leash area at Linklater Reserve

Hi Stacey,
I use Linklater quite a lot. We observe that many dog owners (like us) use the park very early 7am (earlier in the summer we get there at 6am). At this time there is only dog walkers, no kids, no BBQ people only dog people.

Can't the council consider putting time restrictions on the on-leash area. Possibly on-leash weekdays from 8:30am to 7:00pm and outside those times we can let our dogs run free?

I can see a situation whereby dogs will be let off leash by owners who go super early as there's no one there only dog people. So why not make it time based for week days so these owners are not breaking rules. Weekends are different as people do stuff early as there's no school/work etc.

Hope this makes sense?

On another note: a couple of times a year the local school does their fun run around the whole perimeter of Linklater, that means a whole swag of kids will be running round the off-leash area. Dogs and kids get along fine during this fun run.

In light of the Kelvin Grove Community (a minority group I may add), citing dog attacks, will the school still be able to do this or will they be confined in the on-leash area only. If they can still run a bunch of kids around the off-leash while all the dogs are running free this defies the logic of dogs being on-leash for the lower part of Linklater.

thanks,
Ange Povey

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 11:41AM
Receipt number	961
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Thomas
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Last name	Singleton
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

The new off leash area pushes out over existing trails and require moving of the static aircraft and the dog agility area. I would position the off leash area to be north of the bike track. a Fence already exists there which can be updated. This would provide the lowest cost option for amending any existing facilities. The spaces created would provide a safe on leash area for children using flying fox and for individuals to enjoy the BBQ area. Will also hopefully encourage dogs on leash the picking up of Dog waste. The back area would then include a 2 Km outer loop track which in my opinion is more than enough for exercising dogs in off leash facility. The original proposal provided by Aaron Phillips did have it this way

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Want to ensure that my voice is heard, The council don't waste money needlessly on any redesign and I have a keen interest in the space as originally part of the consultation group for the park when Chair or Kelvin Grove Community Association am a local resident and have both children and a dog who use the park. If I am available I am happy to support my view as I feel that it provides the best compromise for the park.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?

(select as many as apply)

Social media

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 12:09PM
Receipt number	962
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Chris
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Last name	Anderson
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I support the principle of creating a space that works for multiple users, however the division of the reserve into on-lead and off-lead is, in my opinion, wrong. Linklater Reserve is a unique asset to Palmerston North. It has wide open areas that are perfect for dogs. Having space for dogs to exercise is critical to the social development of these companion animals. I am sure that the reserve contributes to positive dog behaviour in our city.

This proposal cuts out a large area of the reserve that is perfectly suited for off-leash. This proposal places the dog agility area within the on-lead part of the reserve - this makes no sense. Dog agility by its definition is about animals off lead. The proposal as presented will marginalise the use of the agility area - this is not an area that has any other use.

I completely agree that the southern area of the park, with the bike track, flying fox, log scramble etc being on lead. This area is for families, and people who are not confident around dogs needs to feel safe. But the proposal as presented cuts out a large area across the middle of the reserve that is perfectly suited to dogs off lead.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

The plane is in the wrong part of the reserve. This should be moved into the on-lead area, perhaps near the bike track.

There is a logical fence line already in place that could divide between a reduced on-lead area and expanded off-leash area.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Palmerston North has abundant parks and reserves that people can access where there are no/few dogs. Linklater is a unique dog area. In my experience it has become increasingly popular - suitable space is needed to meet the needs of the dog community in PN. I am keen to see everyone from PN having a chance to use the reserve, however the unique 'dog' part of the reserve needs to be recognised in any change.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Booklet in my mailbox

Poster, sign or billboard

Digital advertising, eg an advert on TVNZ+, Stuff, MetService etc

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 12:23PM
Receipt number	963
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Kylie
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Last name	Dewar
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Prefer not to say
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Are you a dog owner? <i>You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.</i>	Prefer not to say
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Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	Yes, I support this change
Please tell us why.	I support this as unfortunately not all dog owners are not good owners, I mean some dogs could be aggressive or do not have good recall and we need to keep people and other dogs safe as much as possible.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	I have been a dog owner in the past and I have been in situations where my dogs (who were on leads have been approached by other dogs and have been intimidating to my dogs.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 12:33PM
Receipt number	964
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Sophie
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Last name	Tobin
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	Linklater is the only full park that I know off that is completely off leash. There are many other parks for people to enjoy that are either no dogs or on leash only. I also find it weird how the dog agility course will be in the on leash area, that was specifically made for dogs and dogs only to please make that make sense
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 1:28PM
Receipt number	965
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Lynette
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Last name	Trewavas
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
-------------------------------	-----

The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I appreciate that some people and dogs prefer on-leash areas however, the majority of users at this location do not. There are multiple other parks for these users which are not accessible to dogs. I do not agree with the location of the proposed boundary as it does not make sense. The vast majority of the non-dog amenities are in the front third of the reserve, with only a few disc golf locations and the plane further back. Please amend the off leash area to the current fence-line 1/3 of the way back. People not comfortable with off-leash dogs can still enjoy the facilities -and there is a larger area for off-leash dogs to have a proper exercise area. This is an existing fence-line and will only need minimal changes to implement, saving Council money. With this fence-line, the dog play equipment will also not need to be moved (or removed). Over 90% of people in this park are there to exercise and socialise their dogs and the current proposal is excessive to cater for the other 10%.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Smaller off-leash areas are fine for small dogs but do not cater for larger/more active dogs to run and have adequate stimulation. Elderly/less agile dogs and owners might not be able to walk to the proposed off-leash area. While there is a small carpark at the back, it will not be big enough to cater for all dog users.

This will likely push more dog owners to the river walkway which is used by a bigger cross-section of the public. Will this then also be taken away or restricted to on-leash as more dogs use this area off leash? Will there be eventually nowhere to adequately exercise dogs responsibly? Will this increase aggressive behaviour and barking complaints? Is the problem bad behaviour by a few? Is there even evidence of any bad behaviour or complaints? Why punish everyone else for allegedly a few people/dogs? Dogs need adequate stimulation and exercise which cannot be achieved on-leash.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

One of the key factors to our recent move to Palmerston North is that it appeared to be dog friendly and have reserves such as Linklater where it is filled with happy dogs and responsible dog owners. The reserve is a massive asset for dog owners in Palmerston North and is heavily used by them. To add restrictions for no apparent reason is very disappointing.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Social media

Poster, sign or billboard

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 2:06PM
Receipt number	966
Related form version	5

Your contact details

Privacy

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Hannah
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Last name	Pratt
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	Yes
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I believe this reserve should formally become a Dog Park by identity and there should be in infrastructural changes. There are endless schools and playgrounds and high value children's play areas that are far more accessible for young and old people, with many more amenities already available.

What makes Linklater reserve so unique is the fact that its a dog park. People come from all over to go there. It will never have the natural features of the Esplanade or the special amazing equipment of Memorial Park. Dogs are very limited as to where they can be off lead. Any issues that occur at this reserve - aside from being nowhere near the levels of constant terror or daily frequency espoused by the Kelvin Grove Community Association on facebook - are Dog owner issues and those same issues occur everywhere a dog is. I have a menacing dog but I cant take him for walks on the footpath because despite the bylaws stating the footpath is 100% on lead, other dog owners figure seeing as their dog is NOT menacing, they should have unlimited freedoms above the law and the community. The problem is people. There are no 100% safe dogs or dog places but if we assign Linklater an identity as a dog park we can start to work towards a set of shared rules that make the reserve more manageable by its community. If Dogs are a priority in this one area, than families can make choices about where to take their little ones - considering they can go to far many more places than dogs can. How many people actually get attacked by dogs? How many dog attacks happen each year? How many people use this park in a week? Why are the children and old people feeling so excluded from this ONE SPACE in the township when everything they could possibly ever want is already in place all around the city. Leave Linklater the way that it is. Let dogs and dog owners have something nice too - include us in the whole of the Palmerston north community. Just because I don't have kids, doesn't mean I shouldn't be able to find a space for me and my dogs - but if families with children are more important than I am can I get a "you're not as important but we still want you to pay" discount on my rates? Being childless does not make me a second class citizen. Sometimes, the kids and families don't have to be the most important thing in a space. Its OK to celebrate different types of families. There are more kinds of families than ones with elderly and children. Last note, after you have spent a tonne of money shifting things and moving equipment and writing rules and putting up fences and advertising the new rules and making billboards etc - how are you going to enforce it? By perhaps spending even more money hovering over dog owners from Dawn till Dusk 7 days a week? As a person who regularly walks there I can tell you anecdotally we just wont do what you say. But as rate payers, we will be paying for expensive pointless and misguided ventures on behalf of a small community association (and possibly the councillor who has this as their own personal project) who get their information off facebook. And you are going to do it with money that could be much better spent on making an actual difference in peoples lives.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

Your proposal suggests we invest a tremendous amount of money solving a non- problem. The Kelvin grove community association is NOT a democratic or even open society and they should not have this much sway over council. Where are the minutes from their meetings? When are the meetings? I am very suspicious that someone in council is biased toward subservience to this small group of people and therefore are not truly representative of public interests - they are just people in power with pet personal projects they're hoping to accomplish for personal aims. How disgusting - those councillors shouldn't be on council if they refuse work with or listen to communities who see things differently to themselves. Those kinds of councillors do not serve our community. They serve themselves. In truth the Kelvin grove community association do their business on the curated, algorithmic and targeted

audience space of Facebook - and is that a good enough threshold to spend rate payer money on? Facebook is a vacuum of self referential ideas and one sided targeted information and audiences. So we are wasting council money because people got excited on facebook? The Kelvin Grove Community Association should not be able to have this title as it implies that they have and execute much more influence in Kelvin Grove then is true. Does Val use the park to walk her dog? And what is stopping me from simply calling myself the all dogs society so I can claim to represent all of the dogs everywhere and get council to take me seriously just because I said so? This massive waste of time and money makes it seems that council are committed to taking direction from small inaccurately titled groups of naysayers with personal agendas and not actual communities and actual problems.

On that note I see that the survey sent out by council showed most people do not want change, but that a facebook poll showed the opposite. Did you know that Facebook will only show you things that you are interested in therefore making it a drastically inaccurate way to capture any kind of data. That facebook poll was probably run by the people who want to change the park and therefore it was more likely to be targeted at and received by audiences of people who want to change the park. I really wish council didn't make decisions based on facebook polls. Facebook isnt real life. This is appalling.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I have walked my dogs at this park since I purchased a house across the road in 2013. What you are proposing is detrimental to my little household, its pointless and expensive and its not enforceable. I have yet to meet ONE SINGLE person who agrees with the council - I mean the Kelvin Grove Community Association backed by PNCC proposal.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?

(select as many as apply)

Council website

Social media

City councillor

Family or friends

Other: I walk at the reserve nearly daily

28 July 2025

Dear PNCC,

I am submitting this feedback to make an appeal to PNCC to please keep Linklater Reserve a fully off-leash dog park. This is one of the best & only park that I know of in Palmy that allows dogs to run freely, exercise and explore which no doubt is beneficial to their mental stimulation, socialisation skills, recall training and health benefits like heart health, joint mobility and muscles development.

Simultaneously, this also allows dog owners the opportunity to enjoy a super long walk and make the most of nature and the greeneries that the reserve has to offer. I am a local and have been visiting the reserve for many years and the one thing I've noticed is that Linklater Reserve creates a sense of belonging for the habitual park users, a place to meet other dog owners, socialise or simply have a nice conversation.

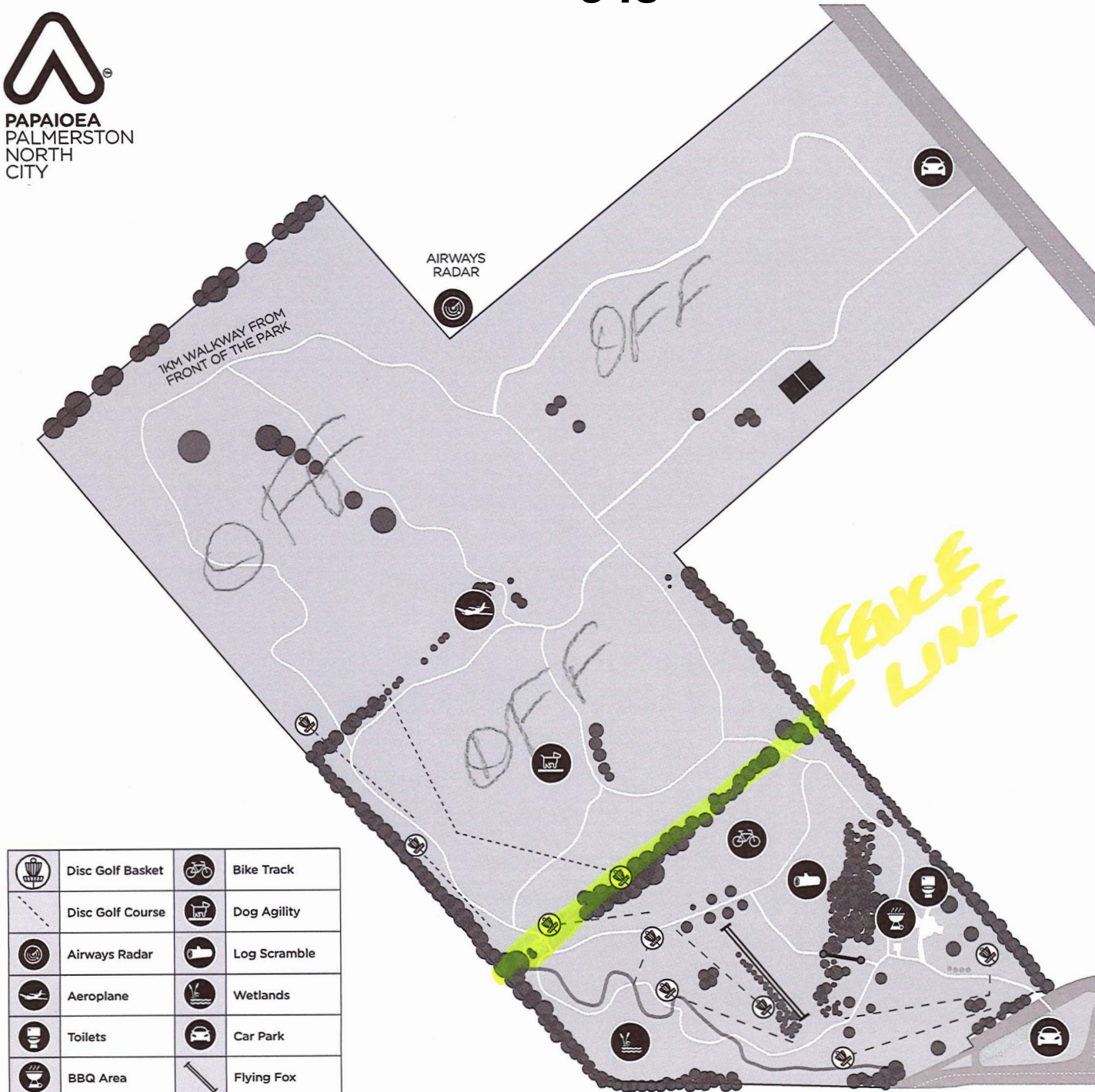
Linklater Reserve has attracted dogs' owners and visitation from outside Palmy due to the size of the Reserve and most importantly being an off-leash park. I see no reasoning of why PNCC would want to make this an on-leash park.

Looking at all the benefits that Linklater Reserve has to offer I therefore fully support the off-leash option and most of all our furry friends have the right to enjoy the freedom of running freely. Please don't take that away from them.

Many thanks

Regards

Ratepayer from Kelvin Grove



Tell us what
you think

Peter Derray L.

Peter Dornayk.

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 2:29PM
Receipt number	968
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Annette
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Last name	Brown
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	No
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Are you a dog owner?	No
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Yes
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

Yes, I support this change

Please tell us why.

I do not feel safe using the walking tracks in Linklater reserve when there are dogs running around off leash. As an active semi retired person who enjoys walking, I would like to use the walking tracks in Linklater reserve as part of my daily walk. I feel that that dogs are prioritised over people in Linklater reserve.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

As a Kelvin Grove resident who doesn't own a dog, I would like there to be at least one walkway in Kelvin Grove that goes through bush and wetland that is NOT designated as a "dog exercise area" so that I do not have to constantly drive at least 20 minutes to access "a dog on leash" bush walk. The over emphasis on the council website that Linklater reserve is a "dog exercise area" where "Fido can burn off some energy" prioritises the needs of registered dog owners (approximately 10% of the population of Palmerston North) over non dog owners who may want to walk in a bush/wetland reserve and not have to deal with dogs running around off leash. The nearest bush reserve with good walking tracks in Palmerston North city where dogs must be on a leash is Victoria Esplanade (a 20 minute drive away). Dog owners who wish to have their dogs off leash have access to the shared river walkway adjacent to the Victoria Esplanade (<https://www.pncc.govt.nz/Parks-recreation/Walks-and-walkways/Manawatu-River-Shared-Pathway>); this combination of part on leash/off leash rules provides a more equitable recreation and exercise experience for all residents (ratepayers) in Palmerston North. Designating the whole of Linklater reserve as a "dog exercise area" discriminates against the majority of the population (especially those living in Kelvin Grove) who are forced to use alternatives to Linklater reserve (if they have the time and money available) like "dog on leash" bush walks such as the Victoria Esplanade or the DoC walking tracks (e.g., Bledisloe park, parts of Te Araroa walkway, and the Manawatu Gorge walks) to avoid a "dog exercise area".

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

I walk past Linklater reserve regularly and feel too intimidated by the number of dogs running around off leash in the lower part of the reserve to make use of the walking tracks in the reserve as part of my walk. I would like this to change by having dogs on leash in the lower part of Linklater reserve in a similar way to Victoria Esplanade (a dog on leash area in bush and wetland half of the reserve and a dog exercise area adjacent to this in the upper half of the reserve). This would provide a more equitable recreational and exercise experience for all the residents in Palmerston North to enjoy - not just dog owners!

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Letter or email

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 3:00PM
Receipt number	969
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name Heather

Last name Meikle

Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025? No

About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user? Yes

Are you a dog owner? Yes

You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local? Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local

The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

With this change, you are removing too much of Linklater Reserve for free walking of dogs. This is a safe place to walk dogs, not just for the dogs but also for their owners. For women walking alone with their dog(s), Linklater is ideal. It is fully fenced so it is secure for the dogs and for the owners. Due to the nature of the dog walkers who use Linklater, it is a community that supports one another and each other's dogs. The other off lead space Ahimate is not safe for people or dogs. There are numerous other areas in the city for children and families. This is really the only one for people and their dogs. It was designed as a dog park that gradually has been encroached upon. Leave it alone. Even with your new change to the 10 m from certain areas, will dog walkers be able to use the loos?

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

If you need to keep the plane in this reserve then move it forward to near the flying fox. Leave the park as it is, let the dogs and their owners enjoy the space. The dogs currently love to swim in the stream, down in the wetland area, with your new proposed changes, this will only be possible if they stay on leash. With your new proposal there will be no off leash walking loop of the park. My dog has been attacked while walking on leash on the river walkway and in the streets. Linklater is our safe space.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

This is my third submission on this reserve proposal and it feels that a decision has been made - a fait accompli. The carpark at the top has already been expanded, which struck me as odd unless that was where you wanted the dog owners to park. Is the goal to just keep asking for submissions until you get the result that you want by herding people into an opinion? I am very concerned that this safe, well fenced area for dog walking will disappear or be changed so much that there will be no where to walk my dog easily off leash. On leash, the current regulations are impossible to adhere to. How do you walk around the play area at Milverton park on the footpath on Victoria Ave and Ferguson Street and be 30 m away from the play area? Even if you cross the road, you are not 30 m away from it.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Council website

Letter or email

Social media

City councillor

Family or friends

School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 3:38PM
Receipt number	971
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Emma
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Last name	Childs
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Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	I like to travel in to Palmy to use the Reserve
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	I love the fact that as a family we can come and give our dog a good run whilst we wonder through, and the kids play on the activities you have at the park
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	I love the park as it is. Dog owners need to take responsibility for their dogs and if they can't control them, keep them on a leash.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 3:44PM
Receipt number	972
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Colleen
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Last name	Stanaway
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Postal address	
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Email	
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Phone	
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Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash

area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?	No, I don't support this change
Please tell us why.	The plane/slide is currently located too far away from the children's playground and because it is out of sight it has been subjected to vandalism. If it was moved to the right of the bike track the playground equipment would all be in one area. The dog agility area would not need to be relocated and the existing fence and gates would separate the two areas. This seems a more logical and potentially more cost effective solution to me.
What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?	If there has to be change then I thought that there must be a better way than the current proposal
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Linklater Reserve on-leash area consultation



Submitted on	28 July 2025, 3:57PM
Receipt number	973
Related form version	5

Your contact details

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First name	Gail
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Last name	Munro
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Organisation you represent	NA
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If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.

Postal address

Email

Phone

Please provide a daytime contact number

Hearing

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at the hearing on 20 August 2025?	No
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About yourself

Are you a Linklater Reserve user?	Yes
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Are you a dog owner?	Yes
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You do not need to be a dog owner to give feedback.

Are you a Kelvin Grove local?	Not Kelvin Grove, but I am Palmy local
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The proposed change

The Council is proposing to make the area of Linklater Reserve, from the carpark on Kelvin Grove Road up to the aeroplane, a dogs-on-leash area. The rest of the reserve will remain an off-leash exercise area for dogs.

Do you support this change?

No, I don't support this change

Please tell us why.

I support making changes to the layout of the reserve but not as proposed in the map shown.
The proposed area is too small and would force more dogs into proximity. Some dog walkers are irregular walkers at the park and some have poor control over their dogs. I think there could be unintended consequences such as dog fights.

Please write down any other feedback you would like to share with us about our proposal.

I think the lower area of the park becomes too congested with dogs off lead. All dogs should be on leads when they go through the children's play area however I think there should be a separate entrance into the area leading to the bridges, with that area fenced off so it remains exclusive to dog walkers and dogs. In the last two years I have been going to the park I don't see children and adults using this space. It is very popular with dogs and the water provides a cooling off location for them.

The aeroplane needs to be shifted closer to below or near to the dog agility course so it remains available for children and adults to climb on and over. A new fence needs to be built sectioning off the plane from the dog agility course and I envisage it would run across the width of the park and join the new fence with the enclosing the bridges and leading to a new entrance at the bottom for dog walkers.

What made you want to give feedback on this consultation?

Concern about the proposed boundaries.

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?
(select as many as apply)

Other: Notice at dog park