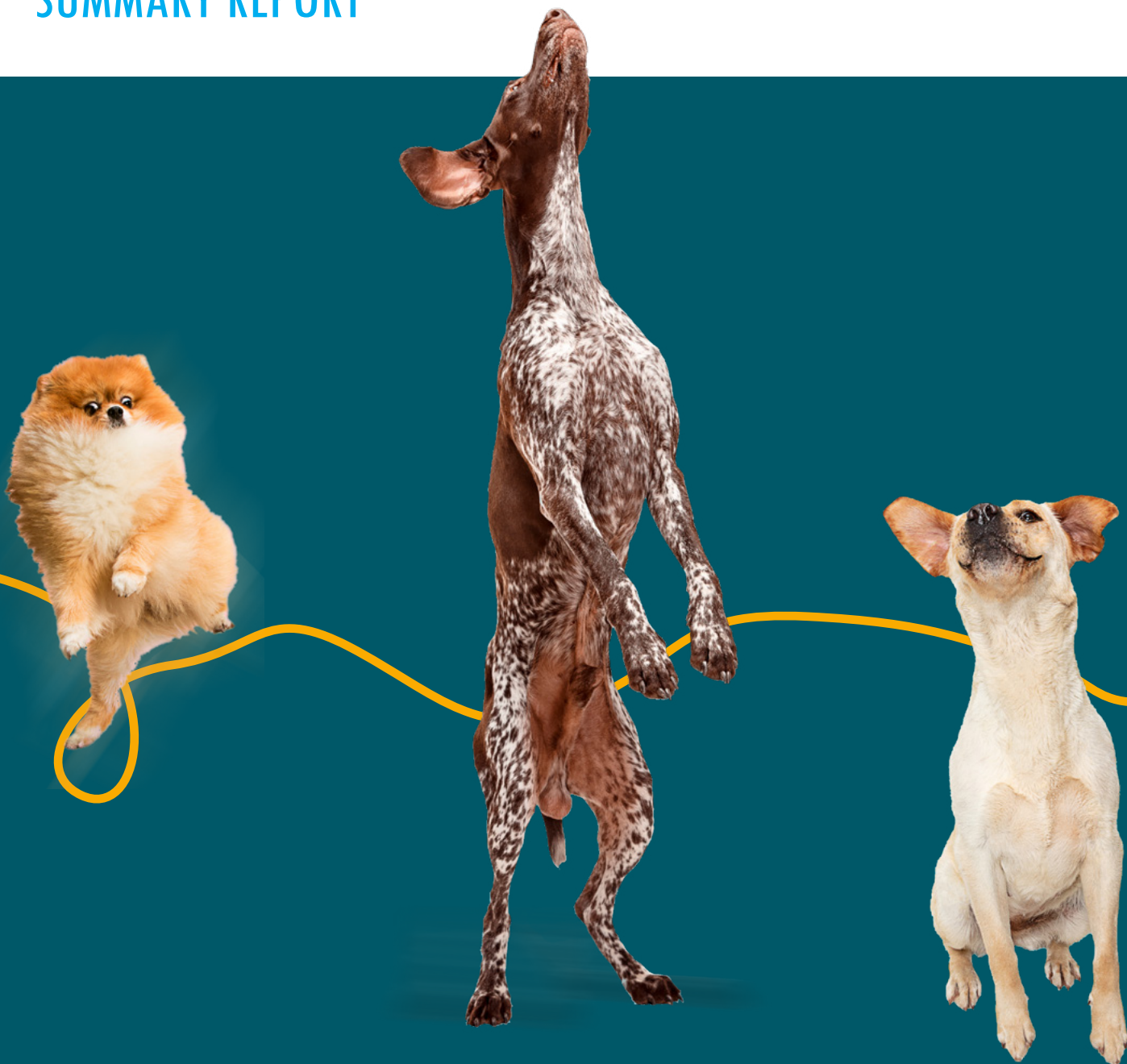

WYNDHAM DOG OFF-LEASH APPROACH

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
SUMMARY REPORT





PROJECT BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Dog Friendly Wyndham Plan is to provide direction on the provision, development and management of dog friendly spaces across Wyndham.









To ensure future provision and planning of dog friendly spaces across Wyndham is representative of our community a four week community engagement process was undertaken to further understand

the way in which existing dog friendly spaces are utilised and the important elements to be considered in future provision.

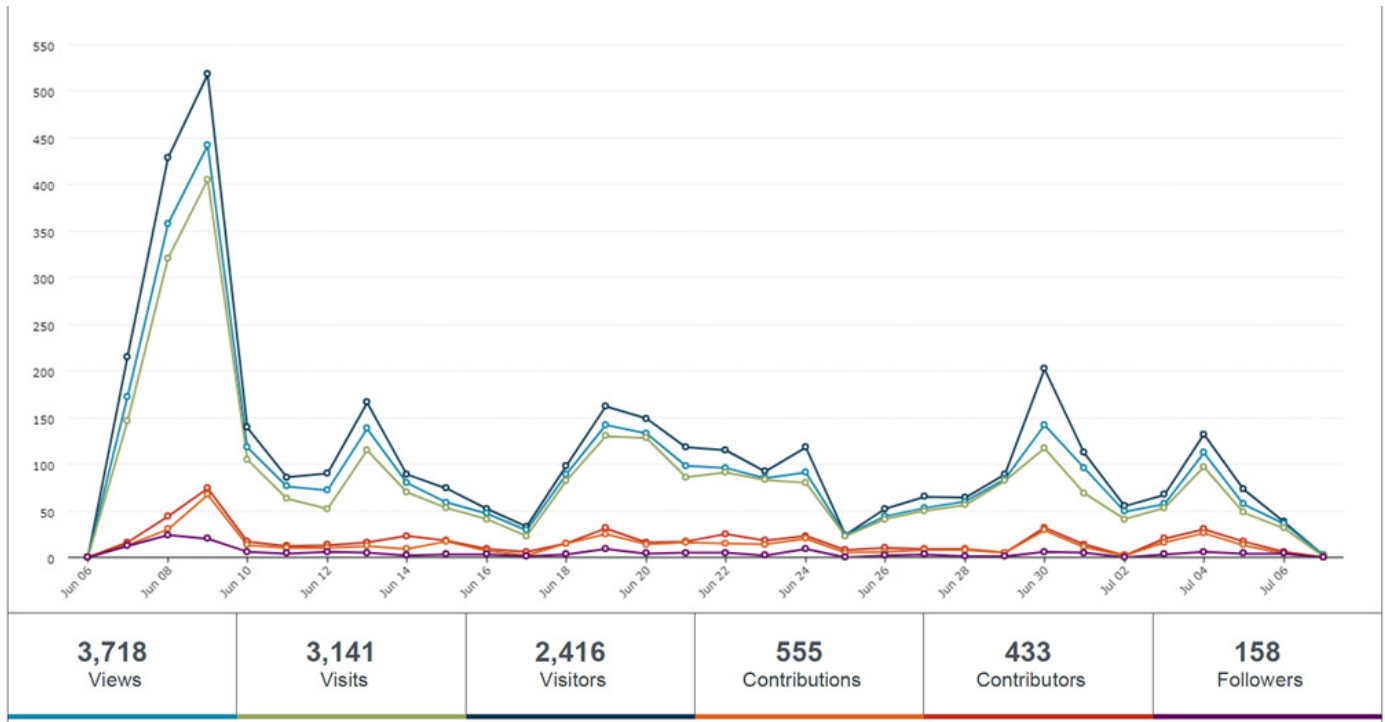
This community engagement was held between 7 June – 5 July 2021 and various methods of engagement were utilised to ensure our community had the opportunity to participate.

METHODOLOGY

The table below outlines the various methods and techniques used to engage with and promote the engagement to the community.

Community engagement activities / tools			
	Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged	Dates
	Project page on The Loop	2,479	7 June-5 July 2021
	Online survey	555 contributions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 304 surveys 251 comments via mapping tool 	7 June-5 July 2021
	Pop-up	Total – 83 participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidents Park Dog Park, Wyndham Vale - 53 people attended Tarneit Community Learning Centre – 10 people attended Saltwater Reserve Dog Park, Pt Cook – 20 people attended 	Presidents Park – 30 June 2021 Tarneit Community Learning Centre – 1 July 2021 Saltwater Reserve – 4 July 2021
	Direct Emails/ Phone conversations	23 direct phones/emails	
	Petition submission	1 petition with 350 signatures from Williams Landing	
Communications / marketing activities			
	Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged	Dates
	Facebook	Total Engagement: 1,908 Total No. Posts: 8 Total Reach: 62,985 Total Clicks to Website: 419	7 June – 5 July 2021
	Instagram	Total Engagement: 23 Total No. Posts: 1 Total Impressions: 924	7 June – 5 July 2021
	Twitter	Total Engagement: 16 Total No. Posts: 1 Total Impressions: 62 Total Clicks to Website: 9	7 June – 5 July 2021

PROJECT PAGE PERFORMANCE SUMMARY



Views	The total number of times a user views any page. Page views are recorded each time a page is visited, regardless if the user has previously visited that page.
Visits	Visits refers to the number of individual 'browsing sessions' a user, or visitor has.
Visitors	Visitors are defined as the number of unique users. A single visitor may make more than one visit over the course of the same day or several days, but are only counted once.
Contributions	The total number of responses collected through participation activities. Multiple contributions may be made by a single contributor.
Contributors	The unique number of visitors who have left feedback or contributions.
Followers	The number of visitors who have 'subscribed' to a project by selecting the 'Follow' button on the project website.

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

WE ASKED

DOG OWNERSHIPS AND USAGE OF EXISTING FACILITIES

YOU SAID

Majority of people own 1 dog

Majority of people own medium (11-25kg) to large dogs (26-45kgs)

Majority of people use dog friendly spaces 1-2 times per week for up to an hour

Majority of people drive to off-leash spaces. however, would be willingly to walk 10-20mins if available

Majority of people chose to utilise a fenced dog off-lead park, with Presidents Park the most popular

WE DID

This data has help shaped the level of provision and location of dog off lead spaces.

WE ASKED

SOCIAL MAPPING TOOL — COMMUNITY DEMAND AND GAPS IN PROVISION OF DOG FRIENDLY SPACES IN WYNDHAM

YOU SAID

Through the consultation we received 251 comments relating to community need and lack of dog friendly spaces across Wyndham.

We also received a petition of 350 signatures from the Williams Landing community requesting a dog off-leash park within their community.

Communities in our growth areas have highlighted there is currently no dog friendly spaces within their community, particularly within Tarneit and Manor Lakes.

Communities in our established areas have highlighted the need for additional facilities due to the increasing number of dogs within their community placing increased pressure and demand on existing spaces. This is particularly evident in Pt Cook, Werribee and Williams Landing.

WE DID

This information will inform the location of future dog friendly spaces and aid in the development of a prioritised implementation plan.

WE ASKED

IMPORTANT DESIGN ELEMENTS OF DOG FRIENDLY SPACES

YOU SAID

Majority of owners prefer to utilise fenced off-leash spaces because:

- *Safety* – dogs not running out onto main roads or other open space areas such as playgrounds
- *Socialisation* – better experience for dogs and owners
- *Piece of mind* – comfort of other users of the open space that do not like, or are afraid of dogs

The top 5 most important elements of dog friendly spaces are:

- Fencing, including double gates
- Bins and litter bags
- Drink fountains
- Grass
- Designated areas for smaller dogs/quiet areas

WE DID

This information will be used to develop Dog Friendly Design Guidelines for future upgrade or new facilities.

WE ASKED

SIGNAGE AND EDUCATION

YOU SAID

Although not directly asked about signage and education these two themes were strongly represented in commentary made throughout the consultation process.

Signage – additional signage is required in all dog friendly spaces, specifically rules of use for fenced dog parks and areas where users cross over from designated dog off-leash areas to area in which a leash is required.

Education – additional education is needed on responsible dog ownership and other requirements within Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan. Suggestions of educational signage located at fenced dog off-lead parks with pictures demonstrating happy, scared, warning and aggressive behaviour of dogs to reduce conflicts.

WE DID

This information will be utilised to develop a signage refresh for dog friendly spaces and additional signage will be included in the implementation plan.

Further education campaigns will be planned in partnership with the implementation of the new Domestic Animal Management Plan.



NEXT STEPS

- Development of Draft Dog Friendly Wyndham Plan with associated implementation plan.
- The draft plan will be available for Public Exhibition and feedback in October 2021
- The draft plan will be sent direct to those “following” via The Loop project page and to those who have directly emailed/called the project lead.
- Further information – Jessica Bennett, Senior Advisor – Resilient Open Spaces, Jessica.bennett@wyndham.vic.gov.au

