

Changes to dog regulations

Hervey Bay beaches and foreshores

Have **your say** on the proposed amendments – February 2025



Background

Hervey Bay's stunning beaches are a favourite spot for locals and visitors to swim, relax, and spend time with their dogs. Some areas are shared, and others are reserved for people only.

The rules about where dogs can be off-leash, on-leash, or not allowed on Hervey Bay beaches haven't been reviewed since 2015. Recently, there's been growing community interest, with Facebook comments and a petition calling for changes to these regulations.

Council has asked the Regulatory Services team to engage with the community to see how people feel about:

1. Expanding off-leash beach areas and times.
2. Adding more on-leash beach areas.
3. Extending a small area where dogs are not allowed.

This engagement aims to ensure the reasons behind the current dogs-on-beaches regulations are clearly explained and that any future changes are made transparently and inclusively.

There's also a proposal to clarify whether dogs are allowed on or around piers and jetties, which may require a minor adjustment to the local laws.

Current Dog Regulations



Proposed Dog Regulation Amendments



Breakdown of the three proposed amendments:

Proposed amendment Part 1: Abolish restricted timing for off-leash beach areas at Pialba and Urangan, and make them 24-hour dog off-leash areas.

Currently dogs are allowed in these areas 8am to 3pm on-leash, and 3pm to 8am off-leash.

- On the foreshore from Taylor St to Zephyr St
- On the foreshore from Urangan Pier to Dayman Park
- On the foreshore from Boat Harbour Drive to Pulgul Creek

The proposed change is to make these areas all 24-hour off-leash.

This will provide more options for dog owners and ease crowding at Shelly Beach.

The proposal also seeks to extend the 24-hour off-leash area to include Zephyr St to the Scarness Jetty, and Dayman Park foreshore area from the Aquarium to the rock wall.

Taylor St, Pialba to Scarness Jetty

Proposed Amendment: 24 hour off-leash



Urangan Pier to Dayman Park

Proposed Amendment: 24 hour off-leash





Proposed Amendment Part 2 Amend the foreshore area from Scarness Jetty to the Hervey Bay Sailing Club boat ramp to allow on-leash access.

Currently, dogs are prohibited on the foreshore from Scarness Jetty to the Hervey Bay Surf Life Saving Club in Torquay.

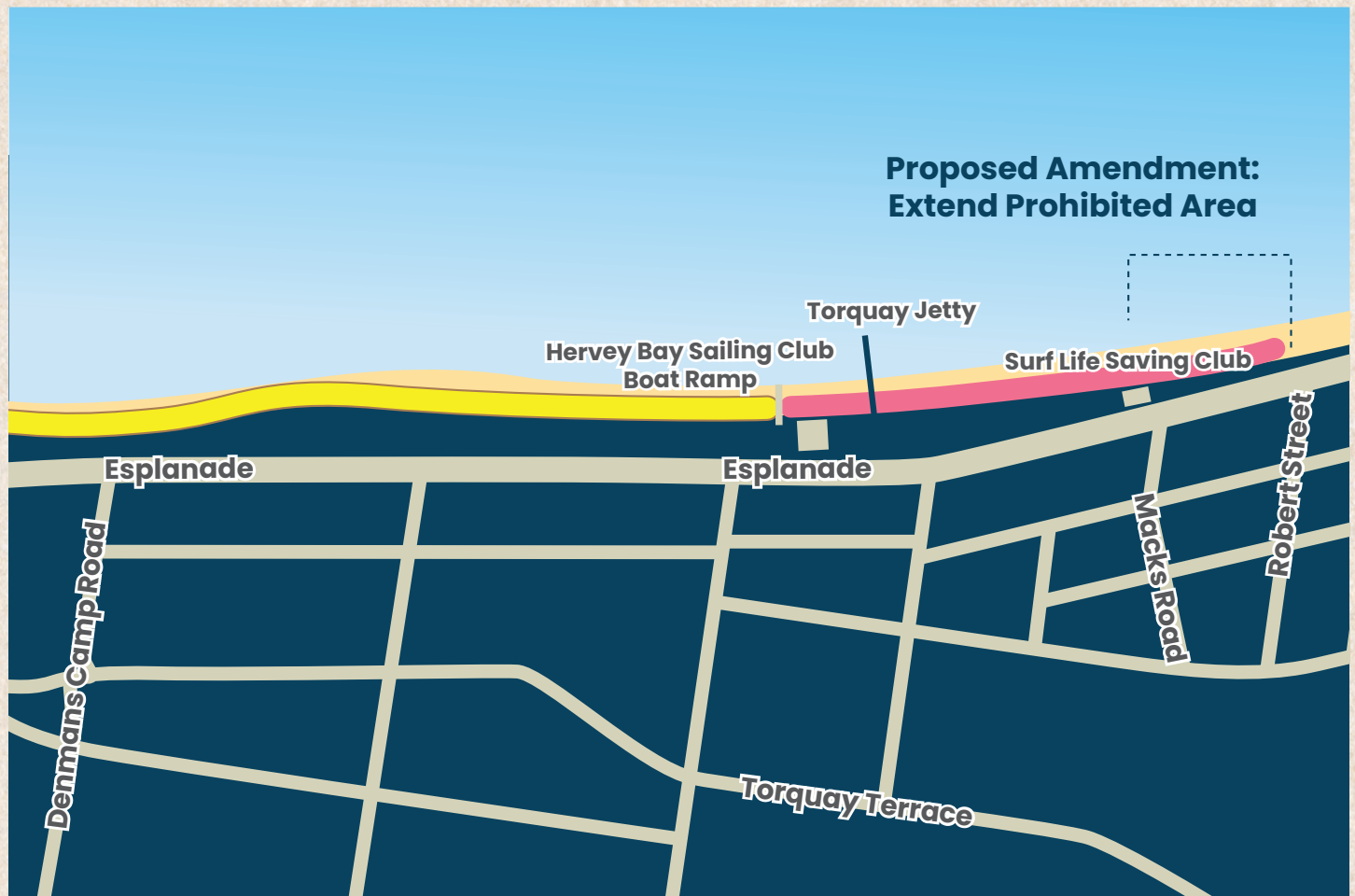
The proposed change will provide an option for dog owners at Scarness Beach, while still ensuring a dog-free zone in the popular swimming areas at Torquay.



Proposed Amendment Part 3 Amend the area where dogs are prohibited, to be from the Hervey Bay Sailing Club to Robert Street beach access.

Currently, the dog-free zone ends at Macks Rd (near the Surf Life Saving Club).

This extension will include the popular swimming area to the east of the Hervey Bay Surf Life Saving Club.



Signage: These proposed changes will make it easier for Council to place signage on the beach where the zones start and stop: on the Scarness Jetty, on the boat ramp at Hervey Bay Sailing Club, and on the stormwater drain at Robert Street beach access – making the rules clearer for dog owners.

To have your say on these proposed changes, please fill out the survey on the Fraser Coast Engagement Hub:

frasercoast.engagementhub.com.au/hervey-bay-beaches-dog-regulations



This engagement runs from **28 January to 24 February 2025**.