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To: SOCM - Admin <admin@cunderdin.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Dog off lead areas

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Hi there

I was hoping to raise my concern around the lack of off lead areas for dogs in Cunderdin.

It's disappointing to hear that some dog owners are not picking up after their dogs down at the oval. We have been exercising our dogs at the oval for almost the last 2 years. We always take our own dog poo bags and pick up after our dogs. The oval is a wonderful grassed area which is perfect for our dogs to run and play.

The dog poo bags are not in an obvious area which may lead to some owners not realizing they are available. I'd suggest these could be placed in a location closer to the change rooms or club rooms.

We are hoping to understand from the Shire if there are any plans to cater for a dedicated off lead area for dogs. An off lead area allows dogs to socialize with each other freely, chase balls freely and allowing for them to become better dogs. Better socialized dogs is beneficial for the Shire as there is likely to be less noise complaints about barking dogs, or instances of aggressive dog behaviour if there are more opportunities for dogs to have positive interactions with each other. It also encourages community members to meet and socialize with each other.

There is an array of dedicated locations for sports and other community facilities. A dedicated area for dogs would further enhance the facilities on offer in Cunderdin. It would be beneficial to the local community but also those visiting or traveling through who may also have dogs.

The large area next to the oval, which I believe was once a secondary oval or hockey field, could this be repurposed as a dedicated off lead area for dogs? It's currently not in use from what I understand.

I look forward to hearing the Shire's perspective on this and what could be considered to accommodate better facilities for our dogs.

Thank you
Dee

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