Dog policy, bylaw and regional park access rules 2025

Q1 Walking multiple dogs

Comments sorted by submitter's local board

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Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
ALBERT-EDEN LOCAL BOARD			
2	Support		I support this limit in principle. However I think six is FAR too many dogs. I believe the limits should be 3 on-leash and 1 off-leash.
5	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have been rushed by dogs in public places which makes me feel unsafe when they are off leash. If you are dog walking multiple dogs I would prefer only ONE off leash at a time.
33	Support		Too many uncontrollable dogs are around Auckland with "walkers" better legislation os needed to protect wildlife and other users
64	Support		Difficulties with handling. All it needs is one or 2 dogs to misbehave. Better dog handling training for dog walkers.
116	Support		This is better than existing rules, but I firmly believe that six dogs on-leash is still too many and three dogs off leash for one person is far too many. A person cannot look in three directions at once, two would be bad enough but would be a reasonable compromise. Over Christmas for three weeks I walked solo with three well trained dogs (an ex-guide dog pup, 9yo, a guide dog in training, 2yo, and guide dog pup, 10 months old) and it was very difficult. When one poops, it's very difficult to control the dogs while you pick it up. I know someone who walks three dogs at once, and when one poops she just lets go of all three leads while she picks it up, that's less than ideal in many situations. I think three on leash at once would be the absolute limit.
155	Support		It should be 3 for both on and off leash, no person, no matter how well trained, can keep so many dogs under control at once.
171	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A maximum of 4 or 8 dogs is unreasonable. My dog currently goes on pack walks, where the walker takes 10 plus dogs at one time and has never had a single incident, he has been going for 2 years. It depends on the experience of the walker not the amount of dogs being walked. Someone with 4 dogs can still experience incidents if they are inexperienced.
176	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional Dog Walkers provide a vital service to owners and dogs. Dogs need supervised off lead and social time for their physical and mental health. Sadly, not all owners are able to spare the time every day so hire someone else to provide this vital enrichment.
194	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the skill of the walker is the answer here - some people can not handle one. A dog walker licence needs to be created.
210	Support		Six is the most that can reasonably be controlled. There is always a risk of one dog misbehaving and increasing work load for the walker.

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240	Support		Off leash dogs can be dangerous and six dogs is still too many for one person to be able to control.
316	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The number of dogs being walked by professional dog walkers won't impact problematic dogs. Regulation for the people who operate dog walking businesses is a good idea, but this proposal won't have any impact on the people who should be targeted.
321	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Some experienced pack walkers or dog trainers can have 20 dogs perfectly behaved and calm, while others can't keep 2 dogs under control and still call themselves professional dog walkers - the latter are the real issue. I think professional dog walkers should need to be licensed. There need to be industry standards, education and accreditation for professional dog walkers, so the public know who we can trust our dogs with and it's safer for everyone. Otherwise this bylaw will unfairly destroy some responsibly-run small businesses without fixing the problems. But I'm just someone who loves her dogs and their amazing dog walkers; you should ask the professionals how they think their industry should be regulated. You should consult with the Professional Dog Walkers Association.
336	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not about the number of dogs, but how well managed they are by their humans/walkers . I think dog walking businesses should have to apply for a licence to be a registered dog walking business and as such be subject to rules, regulations and certification in the same way food business registration is managed eg a their dog management methods are observed and proven in order to be certified. There are too many rookie operators out there ruining the reputation of all the well managed dog walking operations.
362	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Seems an unnecessary blanket rule. I'm unsure what problem this is solving. If it's dogs leaving droppings, make a rule against that. If it's threats to wildlife, make a rule that they are leashed.
375	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because a limit will place a burden on responsible dog walkers and their businesses leading to less dogs being walked by professional and will result in unintended consequences of less dogs being socialised due to rising costs. It will become unaffordable for the most venerable families that own dogs.

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416	Support		People walking three dogs or more dogs at once seem to mostly be running "pack walking" businesses. I'm concerned that these businesspeople are financially incentivised to walk as many dogs as possible at once, and that if they walk more dogs than they can reasonably control, the impact of any out-of-control dogs will fall upon the general public when we or our dogs are attacked.
452	Support		Seems reasonable as people maybe can't control more. However I think designated dog parks should not have these rules. I assume meola is a designated dog park I'm not sure.
491	Support		public safety
500	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I'm writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed by-law changes that would limit the number of dogs that can be walked at one time. These restrictions would significantly impact local businesses, in particular qualified dog walkers, and would make their operations unfeasible. As a dog owner pack walking is an essential service. It helps dogs stay calm, social, and well-trained. This service provides vital mental, physical, and social stimulation, and prevents behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. I believe that instead of imposing limits on the number of dogs that can be walked at one time, licensing and regulating who is able to operate pack-walking services sould be the focus. Qualified professionals, i.e. those with formal training, certifications, and experience, should be allowed to walk larger packs, ensuring high industry standards. This approach would address concerns about unqualified operators who do not adhere to best practices, unlike dedicated professionals who prioritize safety and public courtesy. Reducing pack sizes may also increase costs, making these services unaffordable for many dog owners and potentially forcing reputable operators out of business. This could lead to more dogs being left home alone, which would negatively impact their well-being and contribute to nuisance behaviors in our community.
507	Support		Safer to manage big groups of dogs if there is a limit
525	Support		There are people that have poor control over the dogs. Dog parks ok but not in public spaces.
593	Support		More than 6 is too many. I'd also support 6 off leash, for official walkers

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636	Support		I am not a pet owner but I am happy for people to have dogs. However, my experience as a walker is that people with dogs do not share space on footpaths. I regularly have to move on the berm to make way for a dog. I also feel there are too many dogs now. I would like to see a limit to the number of dogs a household can have.
641	Support		maximum number of dogs 6 but also allow 6 off leash at one time in off leash areas.
647	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog pack walkers are not the problem. They have their packs under control and train their packs accordingly. Dog walkers offer a valuable service to dog owners, and this new regulation would simply put many people out of business and increase poor behaviour in dogs. I would like to see an industry standard for dog walkers though, in the form of licenses and examination, and I believe the profession would welcome that.
648	I don't know		This may have an impact on professional dog walkers & service providers. Could this be managed instead using licensing or a similar mechanism to support this industry?
708	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers should be licensed and checked for their ability to manage dogs
721	Support		Dogs are more dangerous in large packs
722	Support		I have encountered dog day care walkers in designated public dog walking areas in central suburbs with up to 14 dogs. This is intimidating. My own dog has been compromised with little regard from the youngsters that generally walk these dogs in large groups.
747	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional companies should be able to pass a licensing test to continue pack walks as they are currently run. I agree when the companies are not in control this is an issue but many pack walk companies provide essential services to the families and dogs they service

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
748	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I am benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company: - we are very responsible dog owners who walk our dog every morning and every night at least 30-45mins. We also have the services of the dog walking company 4 days per week when we are not at home during the day. He is taken for a long walk between approx. 11am - 2pm which means his needs are well catered for and he is not bored at home, and does not cause any disturbance. - the company follow high standards and he is well looked after, under control and socialised with other dogs which is important. If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would affect me: - may not have access to the dog walking company (may go out of business) which would mean my dog would be left at home longer and may then cause a nuisance by barking etc - may charge more for fewer dogs at a time (they currently have a max of 8) which would financially impact us. We currently pay $188/week for 4 walks per week which is about the limit of
756	Support		No way one person can safely manage more than 6 dogs while still taking others into consideration (e.g. children, those who aren't comfortable around dogs)
770	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	6 is too many dogs to control
778	Support		Unlikely to genuinely have more than that number under the control of one person. Large group of dogs approaching can be intimidating. It can be difficult to pass on narrow paths where offlead dogs often pass on both sides of you so you are 'surrounded'.

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796	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My 2 dogs are currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. I have been using pack walking companies for over 10 years, without incident, and from my perspective the changes seek to apply a solution to a problem that doesn't exist to an extent requiring this heavy-handedness. The company that I use, and the previous 3 that I've used, have all ensured that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I'm sure that there might be rogue organisations that are not as diligent as the 4 companies I have used, but regulating against law abiding, professional companies to manage a few ratbags is surely not the solution? If an organisation doesn't care about the current laws, why are they all of a sudden going to care about a set of new laws?? If there is indeed a problem that is big enough to warrant punishing the many companies that are law abiding and professional, then I certainly haven't seen it in the media....so I ask myself how it is that something that is certainly not being reported as an issue all of a sudden becomes a problem that requires everyone (law abiding, professional AND ratbags) needing to be managed with the same heavy hand??
863	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Individuals need to be able to control a dog or react if something goes awry. The less number of dogs in their possession, the better they can react to potentially dangerous situations with the dogs under their responsibility. The public should not be out at increased risk as a result of individuals taking out too many dogs at a time.
870	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will limit the number of places that dogs will be able to exercise with a dog walker. I have not experienced any problems with dogs when under the control of a dog walker. Dogs are pack animals and enjoy the company of others.
901	Support		6 is already too many. Mass dog walkers never pick up their poo. It's awful trying to pass someone walking that many dogs on a path. If you can't walk your own dog, you shouldn't have one.

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951	Support		Most professional Dog walkers are just that, professional. It is the few random companies that let the party down, for example 'out and about' who frequent my local park. They are so disorganised most of the time they don't even know how many dogs I have, and they usually lose one or two at a time. I've seen many people bringing dogs back to their group. But saying that, my Dog goes out with a group every Thursday and has an amazing time. I know he is in safe hands and always comes back happy, he loves playing and running around with other dogs, which they can't do if they have to be on a lead all the time. So long as the company has control of the animals I don't feel that six off lead is too many but should be the max. It is not necessary to have three dogs on a lead at all times.
960	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 4 dogs with only 1 off lead, no allowance for license to have more than 1 dog off lead in public spaces, except allocated off lead areas
978	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walking doesn't have any dogs on leash unless there are issues with the dogs. I think there just need to be parks where different rules are in place and it's clearly marked
982	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our current dog walker is amazing and walks a large number of dogs, under control and off leash when in off leash areas. If you are to change this rule that means her business will suffer and more than likely our price will go up. During this cost of living crisis I do I would not be able to afford an increase and there for putting my strange on our family.
986	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think out in big regional parks there is room for everyone and multiple group dogs on and off leash. Im reality people out walking in our big regional parks don't bump into dog walking packs often enough for this to be really a problem. Think it is a minute few complaining.
1039	Support		This is a very reasonable restriction limit (generous!) As an owner of 2'dogs and using multiple off and on leash Dog exercise areas - for the safety of all dogs this is appropriate. If a dog walking business, then they should be considering a more appropriate (ie: lower) person to dog ratio in public places
1105	Support		Some dog walkers have too many dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1164	Support		Dogs can be unpredictable and it is very difficult to focus on a large number of dogs.
1190	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A person should not be responsible for more than two dogs at any time. How can one person (with two hands)possibly control any more than that? 6 is ridiculous - if a dog is attacking a child, what do they do with the other 5 while they try to save the child?
1197	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think regulations of properly trained dog walkers could manage the risk. Parking the number of dogs at an arbitrary number actually does nothing to reduce the risk, if the walker themself is still not properly trained or regulated.
1200	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This change will negatively affect professional dog walkers. These are small businesses employing teenagers and young people at a time when youth unemployment is rising. I propose a special permit be available at no cost to professional dog walkers so as not to impinge upon their business.
1202	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have never encountered problems with dog walkers and feel they largely stick to the rules in parks. Those that break rules and do not have under control should be punished without impeding those who are operating appropriately and following bylaws already. Do not disadvantage the large numbers who are operating appropriately for a few that do not keep dogs under control.
1297	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We have had extraordinarily positive and helpful interactions with professional dog walking groups and trainers and the large group size has helped socialisation and positive behaviour. I suggest putting a limit on dog numbers doesn’t solve the problem you are thinking!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1316	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Option I would consider: - consulting with the Professional Dog Walkers Association to develop a more practical, data driven solution. - work with PDWA to create a licensing agreement for professionals or some sort of certificate to set standards and enforce best practices. - Maximum of 8-10 off leash My pug is at home during work hours and benefits from her pack walks which are usually between 6-8 dogs. They go to secluded areas where other dogs are typically not around, they practice recall, sit stays, and manners for when other people/animals may walk pass. Her confidence is up and I trust that our pack walker is responsible and safe. If any changes were to be made, I would be keen on seeing certification from all dog walkers/pack walkers as there can be a few adhoc/cowboys around who run rogue routines, who have also ultimately given the pack walk industry a bad name.
1408	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed blanket restrictions will unfairly target professional dog walkers, who in my experience are highly skilled in dog training techniques, without addressing the root issues or oversight of potential legislation. My personal experience over the last 12 years life changing having used professional dog walkers. My dogs walker has become a huge part of my dog's regular routine and ongoing training, providing an incredible, professional, highly specialised service. Unfortunately, this proposal would be life changing for my dog, for me, and for my dog walker for all the wrong reasons, and unfairly target my dog walker's business and livelihood. This approach overlooks viable and important alternatives, such as introducing licensing for professional dog walkers to ensure regulation and high standards within the industry, and focusing enforcement on solutions to fix the issues that the original Auckland Council survey identified, such as roaming dogs, out of control dogs, providing more education and support to pet owners, and enforcing the rule that dogs must be under control. These changes would address public concerns without, undoubtably, irrevocably destroying an industry that provides a vital and professional service to dog owners in Auckland. Dogs are like children to some people and it having dog walkers to walk the dogs during the day while we are at work is of huge comfort to us.

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1444	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog is a family member, and I trust our dog walker implicitly with him. She is more than a dog walker; she knows how to control, discipline and respect the animals in her care. This should be looked at in person rather than as a blanket rule. I know that the dogs respect her, so listen and act accordingly. The control she has is far beyond anything a layperson could achieve. The change in the law would be detrimental not only to her livelihood but also to countless others who rely on services like this for their family members. Please don't change the law.
1457	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking services are important to dog owners and it is important that they remain cost-effective as to not eliminate or exclude people with less money from being able to access these services. I think that instead of limiting the number of dogs one person can walk at any time Council should instead delineate the parks in which dog walking services with more than six dogs can access for use. For example Meola Reef dog park can be used for more than 6 dogs at once, but Moa Reserve has a maximum of 6 dogs per person. If the 6 dog per person limit is a blanket policy, dog walking services will become inaccessible to many dog owners due the businesses having to significantly increase the cost per walk for a dog owners. AVG market rate now is $50 per walk which is already quite expensive for most people.
1472	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because dog walkers are an extremely important part of society in a city. The more socialising a dog has, the better prepared they are for being in social situations. This proposal will mean more dogs are ill prepared and under exercised, which I'm sure is counterproductive.
1477	Support		It is not safe to have more dogs off leash. Dog walkers do not have a close bond with the animals and so can't control them well if something goes wrong.
1484	Support		It can be very difficult to manage a large number of dogs, even well behaved dogs, in a situation where something happens external to the dogs and their walkers. This would make it safer for all
1554	Support		I think any more than 6 dogs on leash and 3 off-leash becomes unmanageable if there is a problem that occurs.
1571	Support		Overdue - ridiculous to have that many dogs in public land. Private land is people's own business.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1595	Support		I think larger groups are unmanageable for dog walkers. On Owairaka / Mt Albert I have been surrounded by dogs that were loose and in the care of dog walkers, and they struggled to regain control. I would not be in favour of having any dogs off leash if the person in control has more than 2 dogs.
1603	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose the proposed changes to limit the number of dogs walked at one time to six (with a maximum of three off-lead) and do not support the alternative options presented. While I understand the concerns driving these proposals, such as the tragic death of a dog in the Whitford/Maraetai area in 2024, these changes fail to address two critical issues effectively. 1. Lack of Focus on Licensing and Regulation for Professional Dog Walkers The proposed blanket restrictions disregard the need for proper regulation of professional dog walkers, who provide essential services to dog owners. For businesses offering pack walking services, limiting groups to fewer than 10-12 dogs is simply not viable. Such restrictions would force companies to raise prices significantly, making their services unaffordable for many dog owners. This would disproportionately affect those who rely on these services to ensure their dogs get adequate exercise, stimulation, and training. It goes without saying that a dog lacking exercise, mental stimulation, and proper training can pose potential safety risks. Our own dog is regularly walked by an East Auckland pack walking company that operates with high standards of care. Prior to any dog joining their pack, they conduct thorough compatibility and safety assessments to ensure the safety of both the pack and the public, They always employ at least two walkers and ensure all dogs are responsibly managed. These services have significantly improved our dog's behavior, reducing reactivity and enhancing training outcomes. They also help prevent boredom
1622	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The lack of facilities and areas that are available to take dogs to, makes it very hard for dog owners. Many work places are intolerant, most shops, cafes and restaurants are also intolerant. Many parks and beaches have major restrictions, most regional parks are prohibited. There are so few places to take dogs, so a lot of people have to find sitters, dog walkers, or leave their dogs at home, unsocialised. Without even getting started on the fact that there are so FEW places to have dogs offlead as well. It is disappointing that Council cannot see why dog walkers are needed, and only make life harder for all owners.

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1645	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If dogs are under control then there is no problem. An owner could have 5 small dogs maintain good control, I don't see a need to limit it
1712	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support limiting the number of dogs on a walk, with that limit being 12 and all dogs under control.
1773	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly believe that professional dog handlers with a licence should be able to take on what they are currently taking on and/or have off leash. Especially when they have been doing this for years and are experts. But when it comes to people of public that don't have experience with dogs or have a licence (especially young people who take on dog walking as a first job) they should definitely have restrictions on how many dogs they walk/let off leash. Professional dog walkers who have a licence and do this a a full time job, know what to do and how to handle situations they may come across. I don't agree that they should be affected by the new council rules that have been proposed.
1859	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are many dog walkers that currently walk large packs of dogs with no issues Pack walks are a very good social experience for the dogs Our walker goes to a remote beach & tries to keep her group away from other groups to be sure they do not have any issues. Maybe there should be a rule to keep large groups separate but most dog owners use their initiative for the best outcome
1939	Support		For a private person I think that is more than enough for them to control. However if it is a registered business with good dog behaviour record I thinks it could increase to 10 dogs in total
1941	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I do not believe this is a material issue and will significantly impact on the options available to responsible dog owners who want to have their dogs exercised during the day (limiting options and increasing cost). Focus should be on irresponsible dog owners who do not de-sex their dogs and allow them to roam freely.
1966	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Give dog walkers permits so they take responsibility for keeping the dogs in their care under control. Big difference between big dogs and small dogs. Unfair to group together. Also what are we paying dog rego for if we can't walk our dogs off leash (Monte Cecilia).
1980	Support		Walkers must control dogs correctly. This is not happening. As an owner of a dog - It is concerning to see people walking large numbers of dogs without complete control.

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2053	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I walk our families dogs together which is five dogs. We go to an off leash walk and never have any issues. There are very few place this is permitted as it is. People who feel this is a problem can easily choose to walk elsewhere
2060	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	dogs cannot be properly walked on leash. there is no variation for size. walking 4 dogs all off leash they are better under control than managing some on and some off leash.
2141	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	People should not walk more than two dogs to ensure they can be kept under control.
2146	Support		There should be a maximum. Some people are not used to (or are afraid of) dogs, regardless of breed or temperament. But unless this can be (and will be) policed, the change is pointless.
2163	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree with the dog walkers only having 6 dogs at one time in and around central Auckland but NOT applying this to responsible trained walkers who take dogs through the forest or beaches You would be better to require dog walkers to sit and pay for a license, enabling them to learn the rules and responsibilities presently anyone can be a dog walker! My 2 large dogs go out to a doggy daycare in west Auckland they are taken by trained responsible walkers some off lead some on long leads there is generally 2-3 walkers and sometimes 10-15 dogs this stupid blanket approach would make it expensive for the facility which gets passed onto the owners. Big dogs need to get out and run! my dogs are well managed and have plenty of videos to prove they are always under control. Dogs enjoy being in packs and socializing it also makes them relaxed as they burn off energy! this blanket approach is punishing responsible dog owners and daycare faculties it has not been well thought out as a blanket approach to anything never works! We urge the council to dig deeper have a well thought out plan that caters to ALL dog owners/daycares NOT a one size fits it!
2164	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For dogs to have the opportunity to run and be free with our dogs is incredibly important for their mental and physical wellbeing. I think the limit is reasonable for every day owners but I think there should be an exception for professional dog walking businesses who provide this service and are specifically qualified to manage multiple dogs as they have vetted the dogs too. Otherwise this will drastically increase the costs for pack walks making it inaccessible for many and result in more pent up energy dogs who will become more triggered when they do get freedom. Professionals have the ability to judge where is safe to let dogs off leash too so again I don't believe this limit should apply here either.

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2169	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum two on-leash and one off-leash. As a pedestrian who is not a dog owner I often feel that some dog walkers are not fully in control of their pets.
2196	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Trained dog walkers should be exempt from this. People with the skills to train and look after packs of dogs should be exempt from this.
2251	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs need their companions and social Interaction with other dogs as well.
2257	Support		The walker needs to be able to control the dogs at all times in public spaces. The less dogs off leash the better.
2297	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is unfair to professional dog walkers - who are mainly the only people who would ever have more than six dogs out for a walk. Dog walking is a crucial service for the care of urban pets to not keep them crulely locked in the house all day.
2310	Support		People are taking the Mickey if they have more than six dogs on a walk... Dog walkers are getting greedy
2336	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Many people work full time and have small sections - dogs are better community members when they are exercised and socialised. Using "pack walk" professionals can be the only option for some people.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2350	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Firstly, dogs are always more behaved off leash when part of a larger pack. The issues that arise from off leash dogs are almost always from individual dogs on their own. If any “pack mentality” was to occur in a dangerous way it’s from roaming dogs with no owner and that won’t change with this new law because it’s a result of people who aren’t following the rules anyway. Secondly, there are so many INCREDIBLE small businesses who dedicate their time to taking owned dogs out on pack walks while their owners are at work. Not only does this IMPROVE socialisation and training of urban dogs which would reduce potential issues, but it appropriately exercises them when they have owners who are too busy to do so, and also enables individuals to start their own businesses. These people are extremely savvy and in tune with the behaviour of dogs, backed with research and knowledge that proves the benefits of large pack walks and the either zero or very few issues that occur when out with the pack. This law will not only destroy the livelihoods of these business owners and dog walkers but negatively impact the lives of dogs living in a domestic environment and cause more stress and unhappiness in the owners of said dogs. If you want to solve the issue at hand, looser restrictions will actually have a long term beneficial impact because the ability of owners being able to socialise their dogs from the formative period in any and every situation of daily life. Additionally, more education, resources and support to those responsible to roaming dogs will be helpful instead of laying down more fines and rules and restrictions they won’t listen to anyway. There are already too many dogs in society who don’t have homes, are you really going to try make that worse by making it harder to give a dog a good life or be a dog owner?
2352	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This appears to only affect professional dog walkers. This is often their main business, and a dog would not be included if they didn't obey pack rules. Personally I have never experienced an issue when encountering multiple off-leash dogs with their dog walker (not saying this doesn't happen though). Problems usually occur with 1-2 improperly trained dogs with their uneducated owner. This proposed change would only negatively affect the livlihood of the professional dog walkers, who's reputation relies on their well behaved pack. Instead, focus would be better used on ensuring professional dog walkers are registered to walk multiple dogs and more time and money spent on educating private owners on how to correctly train and look after their dogs.
2362	Support		Often dogs are not treated humanely when walked in large packs (every dog pulling in another direction).

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2374	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The responsive dog walking companies like the one we use will be penalised. They are trained professionals, walking a pack of dogs & those dogs are under control.. but those walking too many dogs out of their control will simply continue to ignore the laws. They already don't follow the law, why would a change in restrictions make them follow the new law? I could see an argument for maximum 8 dogs but anyone with any dog handling expierence knows that mixing off lead and on lead dogs leads to aggressive behaviour.. Then the dogs are no longer under control at all times.
2378	Support		I'm a keen dog owner. But I don't want to meet someone trying to control more than 6 dogs. Actually I think 6 is quite generous.
2404	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't believe putting a number cap alone is going to get the outcome you want here. I believe that there should be better regulation around the people who undertake these larger pack walks. I have two dogs who attend a forest adventure pack style walk twice a week (Fur and Forest). Hazel and Nat (the two who facilitate the walks) have extensive dog behavioural training and undertake additional up skilling etc. These are the standards I would expect people who should be allowed to continue to walk larger packs with more off lead should meet. So I believe, that with better governance over dog walking as an industry we should enable exemptions to any limits that are imposed for those who are true professionals. I (and my two dogs) would be heart broken if an outfit like Fur and Forest was unable to continue their walks due to the limits imposed. I believe not enabling industry certified pack walks to continue will be a detriment to dogs behavioural make up - which is so critical for Auckland to have safe dogs in all areas.
2405	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use 3 different dog walkers each week to give our dog some variety. We choose our dog walkers very carefully and research their qualifications and expertise. We feel that by decreasing the number of dogs they can walk restricts their ability to keep their costs down, socialise our dog and exercise the dogs in a safe healthy way.
2446	Support		I would like to see maximum number of off-leash dogs reduced to two dogs. No-one can keep an eye on more than 2 dogs - where they're poo'ing and how they're behaving. Maximum number of dogs should be reduced to four dogs. More than this is simply not manageable while keeping the area nice for others.
2462	Support		Some dog walkers are good - some aren't! I don't enjoy walking my dog around a number of uncontrolled off leash dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2476	Support		I often walk my two small well trained dogs in Auckland Council owned parks and reserves and I sometimes encounter professional dog walkers with multiple dogs - often 6-8 off-leash. I do not always feel secure at such times and minor incidents have occurred and words have been exchanged. It annoys me that these walkers are unregistered and can use our public parks for free, to make a personal profit.
2497	Support		Ensures dogs are under control when under the care of pack walkers.
2504	I don't know		Would support, with varying provisions for qualified dog handlers, and/or types of dogs. ie 6 small dogs vs 6 large dogs.
2524	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This would be detrimental to the NZ dog community which generates income in many different ways and supports many households.
2553	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I'm writing to express my concerns about the new rules for dog walking in Auckland City. As a dog owner (I have one dog) and a dog walker who employs a dog walker three times a week to walk my dog while I'm away from home, I'm worried about these proposed changes. My dog came from the Henderson Auckland City Council shelter. From reading the information on the website, it seems like the reasons for these proposed changes are threefold: 1. Dog owners not picking up after their dogs. 2. Dogs being off-leash in on-leash areas. 3. Dogs taking up space on pathways. I'm struggling to see how these three problems are related to the number of dogs that dog owners and walkers can walk off-leash at any given time. Dog owners who don't clean up after their dogs won't start doing so under these new rules, just like people who don't wash their plastic containers before putting them in the bins don't change their habits because they're told to check the recycling numbers on plastic containers. I've never seen anyone in Auckland walking a large group of dogs on footpaths around the city. I do see dog walkers at dog parks with groups or packs of dogs. Where are these people who have complained in the data seeing dogs walking on pathways in Auckland? If dog walkers and owners now need to keep dogs on leads in dog parks, they'll be much more likely to walk on pathways with their dogs, which will make this potential problem

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2555	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have never had a problem with more than 10 dogs off leash at once. Dog owners are usually very responsible with their dogs and this rule is not necessary.
2620	Support		Lessens the chance of a pack mentality. My dog was attacked by one of 12 dogs that were being walked as a business.
2647	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Hi AC, While I think a group size of 6-8 is ok, I think limiting to three off leash is unreasonable. My dog is dependent on his pack walks while I'm at work, and I can't imagine that having half the pack on and half off would be easy to handle for our walkers, or would create a safe environment for the dogs. A small group walk where half are kept back and wanting to join in while managing the ones off leash is unreasonable. It would require two people to manage it correctly and double the cost for us and reduce the benefits for our pups. Pack walks are great for their health (mental and physical) and socialisation is so important for a happy, safe dog. I would ask you to reject this.
2781	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Reducing the number will impact the viability of dog walking service providers. I object to this for several reason: 1. This will either cause them to close, or put up their prices. These services are critical for people who can't be home all day every day, so this will result in more dogs being left at home, thus more barking, under exercised dogs etc, all of which are negative effects to the community. 2. Evidence does not support group dog walking to be a significant risk 3. The rules already require dogs to be "under control". Spend the energy to identify and report and educate the occasional pack walk that is not under control rather than a blanket rule. If a limit is imposed, please enable an exemption for legitimate dog walking businesses, through some form of test/training.
2784	I don't know		This is a case by case basis. Don't punish the responsible for the actions of the irresponsible
2807	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is about the walker not the dogs. People qualified and safe should maintain their ability to pack walk as an outlet for the dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2808	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Happy with maximum of 6 dogs on a leash Therefore, also support 6 dogs off leash at a time as that is consistent
2822	Support		Safer for the public. Easier for the dog walker to control that number.
2840	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Happy with the current (7?) even reducing to 6. We use a pack walking business and have seen amazing results with both our dogs who show anxiety around other dogs. Having 3 dogs on leash and 3 off leash would not give them the pack effect. Would also be much more difficult for the walker
2871	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because I have never encumbered, nor my dogs, any problems with dog walkers with multiple off and on Lead dogs. I have been fortunate to own two dogs (collies) and have walked many local and Regional Parks in Auckland and nationwide over the last 14 years.
2908	Support		Dogs need constant monitoring when out
2915	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The problem here is not the amount of dogs it is are they well managed. It would be better to regulate dog walkers and ensure they are able to manage the number of dogs rather than make a blanket rule. Our dogs love going for walks with their dog walkers who are professionla and always have the dogs under control. I have seen plenty of examples of dog owners who only have one dog but they are unable to manage that dog and cause way more issues than professionla dog walkers who know what they are doing. Blanket rules on how many dogs people can take is not the answer.
2942	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We rely immensely on our fantastic dog walkers to work full time and ensure our dog is walked during the day. This law would impact on our lives significantly- two doctors who are able to do their jobs because dog walkers can walk enough dogs. With the cost of living as it is, you would be causing this to go up even more. Honestly it is mind blowing you are even considering this- please do not do it.
2953	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have approved dog parks and areas throughout the city. Dont change these. Also dog walking encourages socialisation of dogs, meaning they are better for our community than dogs which are not looked after properly.
2960	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree with max 6 dogs to a walker but they should all be allowed off leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2965	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog gets collected and taken for group managed walks twice a week. I think they have <10 dogs in each group who are individually approved by the dog walkers to participate. These activities are very important for our dog and others for energetic exercise, socialising, a change of environment ... etc. If the council brought in a low maximum number that could participate it would significantly increase our cost and more likely kill the business and others like it. If there are individual issues from less-well supervised groups then they should be able to be dealt with, not by bringing in a blanket rule. The world does not need yet more rules.
2966	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Seems you are proposing to punish responsible dog owners and dog walkers because of a few people who cannot control their animals. Off leash pack walks are very important for dogs, dog owners and the businesses that run them.
2978	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs are social animals and they should have the freedom as a group to be off leash
2980	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have a dog that goes on pack walks with a professional dog walker. The dog walker goes to areas specially designated for dogs to be off lead. I don't think it makes sense to split the number of dogs that can be off lead with a number that should be on lead. In my experience dogs behave better when they are all off lead, and if some have to be on lead that could cause issues, and could even lead to increased stress/frustration for the dogs, which could be unsafe for dogs and dog walkers. The Council has other ways of dealing with dogs that are not controlled properly, and I don't think this change to the rules is a good idea. If this change does go through, I suspect that many dog walking companies will have to dramatically increase their prices, or may even go out of business. Pack walks are good for the socialisation of dogs, ensuring that they learn to be better behaved with other dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2985	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	By limiting dogs to mostly on-lead pack walks, it severely limits their social interaction and exercise. Especially with so many Aucklanders working full time jobs and requiring dog walkers to exercise their dog while they are at work. This will cause heaps more frustrated dogs with pent up energy and lack of socialization skills. This can lead to increased frustration/poor behavior when finally allowed to be off leash around other dogs at dog parks on weekends if they're getting mostly only leash walks during the day.
2988	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dogs love going on their pack walks with other dogs and being off leash. We believe this is important for their socialisation, training and recall
2990	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	10 dogs off leash with license, Benefits for Dogs: Increased Exercise and Mental Stimulation: Off-leash areas provide dogs with the freedom to run, play, and explore, which is essential for their physical health and mental well-being. Improved Socialization: These spaces allow dogs to interact with other dogs and people, enhancing their social skills and reducing behavioral issues. Natural Behaviors: Dogs can engage in natural behaviors such as sniffing and exploring, which are often restricted when they are on a leash
2992	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This is the amount our dog walkers take and we have had nothing but positive experiences
3002	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Reduced exercise and socialisation: Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Increased stress and frustration: Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. Difficulty managing multiple dogs on lead: Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe. INCREASED COST: Auckland's Dog Owners will have to pay more to have their dog walked by a Professional Dog Walker.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3003	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Currently dogs (including mine) are well controlled in the walking groups that they attend, this is a managed way for people who work to get their dogs some extra walking in, in a safe and controlled way. Why don't you clamp down on dog owners who don't register their dogs or vaccinate their dogs...rather than the ones that try to give them a better day!
3004	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Simply because there is no need for this global change. If you have issues with individuals and their dog walking practices the take that up with them. Don't punish everyone for the sake of a few instances probably by the same few people. That is using the tyranny of the minority to the detriment of the majority.
3015	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog pack walks are an essential part of the socialisation and exercise of well rounded and well behaved dogs. These changes would have a significantly negative effect on the affordability of such services. We (and many) would likely not be able to afford this service and this will ultimately lead to less exercised, less social and safe dogs around our community. Which is counter intuitive to the goal. We are at work all day / out of the house and pack walking services are so valued to responsible dog owners like us . We would likely to support and protect the viability of their business/es.
3017	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Being off leash and in a pack is crucial for a dogs wellbeing and happiness. changing this rule punishes good dog owners who understand this and pay good money to have their dog walked in this environment - motivated by concern for the dogs health and wellbeing. In addition a change like this would likely destroy many dog walking businesses which is absolutely unnecessary and unfair.
3019	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most dog owners and dog walkers are responsible owners/walkers. It is only a few dogs that are uncontrolled by their owners that give all dogs a bad name. Part of being a good dog owner is that the dogs should be properly exercised every day.
3023	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Responsible owners and walkers who have dogs under control should not be penalized by those who do not. The proposed limits on numbers is arbitrary, and not based on whether dogs are controlled or not. It is important that dogs be given the opportunity to exercise off leash and socialize, the proposed changes would limit this opportunity, particularly for those who are responsible and who utilize services of reputable dog walking services.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3036	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog's daily walks with a dog walking company is the highlight of his day. Being given the freedom to roam and socialise with other dogs is what well-trained dogs should be able to do. These dog walking companies screen dogs and provide a safe environment for dogs to roam together. For some dogs to be on-lead whilst others are off I feel will seriously affect their socialisation. So I do not support this proposed change at all.
3038	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a ridiculous proposal. Dog walking groups exercise dogs while people go to work - if they can't do this as they do now, it will mean more costs to owners, less dogs being adopted as it will become cost prohibitive to people wanting to adopt dogs, if they work full time. With the greyhound racing being phased out that's not good either so all round bad news for dogs and their owners. My dog's walking group fully trains its staff and costs me $60 a day. Stop creating stupid rules that make no sense.
3039	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional group dog walking services provide an invaluable service to working dog owners. Any restrictions placed on the number of dogs walked off leads will have a negative impact on the dog's health and will add cost to rate payers. Dogs will be left at home causing socialization and anxiety issues that will lead to increased abandonment of animals requiring re homing. There is no benefit here only negative consequences.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3042	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own a dog. It is now seven years old and goes to a dog walker two days a week. This enables our dog to be looked after when we either my partner or I are not working from home. But there are also other benefits such as our dog getting some exercise and mixing with other dogs. The alternative would be that our dog has to remain at home by himself all day. The cost is currently $65 a day. If you restrict the number of dogs a dog walker can have, it will push up the cost. This will mean many responsible dog owners can no longer afford the service. This is not good for either owners or the dogs. I would suggest a regime where dog walkers must be licensed by the Council. If there are multiple complaints, then their license could be removed or have restrictions placed on this. There are far bigger issues with dogs than changing the current model for dog walkers. For example, clamp down on the 21,000 unregistered dogs in Auckland. Also if any dog owner (including dog walkers) breaks existing laws, then prosecute them. They should be responsible for any injuries or damage that they cause. I am really surprised that the Council is wasting time on this when there are far more important issues in the City to focus on.
3050	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not believe that responsible dog owners and responsible professional dog walkers should be impacted by these rule changes as a result of the irresponsible few. Our family uses a dog walking company 1x week to help manage our busy schedules but also to give our dog a socialization opportunity. Restricting the professional dog walkers to on lead and/or limited numbers, therefore reduces the value these services provide. How about the focus turn to irresponsible owners/walkers with harsher punishments and leave the good dog owners alone.
3062	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	the main point is the dogs are under control not, smaller number doesnt mean the dogs are under control or easier to control (6 German shepards doesnt equal to 20 Chihuahuas)

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3063	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change represents a significant infringement on individual and organisational freedom to walk multiple dogs. This change does not appear to be backed up by data or a proportionate response.
3076	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I'm not against regulation—I support it! I believe in uplifting the industry through education to raise standards, licensing for accountability, and solutions that genuinely address the issues. Regulation by numbers alone won't solve the problem. Please work with real life dog walkers and trainers to come up with better solutions, rather than having a very small portion ruin it for a lot of people and dogs.
3085	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I understand and support the need to keep dogs a positive part of society. I also appreciate there has been a boom in 'dog walking services' in the past few years and like all businesses, these have a broad range of expertise. As full time contractors working 50+ hours a week each - we were thrilled to find a dog trainer /walking service solo operator, Anita, for our dog. She has studied dog behaviour and handling and continues to do so, enrolling in seminars and training sessions, covering all types of dog behavioural needs to continue to upskill and advance her (already) wealth of knowledge. She is also committed to training in dog scentwork and agility. She has been a wealth of knowledge and support for us with our dog (a rescue from the SPCA) - and has helped us create a loving a very happy home for our pet. Roxy (our dog) enjoys one or two pack walks a week with Anita and her pack ranges from 3 - to 6 or 7 depending on the day. The dogs are able to adventure off leash - under Anitas absolute control - and experience all that this activity is able to bring. I imagine it would render who dog walking (and training at the same time) business completely unviable to only be able to have three off lead dogs at one time. It seems a real shame for not only us but other dog owners and the dogs themselves to lose this kind of benefit - from people who are dedicated, trained and skilled specifically in this area, because of unskilled, untrained opportunists who jump on a business opportunity without the appropriate skills. (Again - as occurs in a lot of industries)

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3120	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will massively impact pack walks which provide a really important service to the community
3145	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Cause council is creating new laws for the lowest common denominator. Thanks
3160	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The key thing is that dogs must be under control. The number of dogs should not be in question. There are other ways to ensure dog control that do not limit off leash time and time socialising with other dogs which is vital for ensuring good behaviour.
3214	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We believe that dogs are at their best when they are allowed to run together is a safe environment. They become more stressed when they are together and restrained. My husband sustained a traumatic brain injury 12 years ago while walking a dog on a leash when it should have been running freely in a park with other dogs. Our puppy has been pack running with a reputable company for 2 and a half years and is well balanced, well socialized and safe to be around other dogs and humans, who visit our home. This is an important matter, and the dog rules should remain as they are. Please listen to dog lovers and owners, we know what is best for our dogs. More attention should be paid to those dog owners who should not own dogs or are unable to manage their dogs. Thank you for listening to our point of view.
3223	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Massive overreach.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3246	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs are social animals and Free Time off lead is a massive part of this. Also it is not good for there health to run at a constant speed for long periods. They are a short burst and rest animal which being off lead enables. I think these changes would negatively impact the well-being and limit the effectiveness of all pack walking services. As a responsible dog walker i believe dogs pack walked off lead helps immensely to there socialization and improves there integration with other animals and people.
3247	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is little evidence of a need for change and the very few incidents that have been reported are well covered by the need to control dogs regardless. We see a lot of dog walk services while walking our dogs at dog reserves and I'm hugely impressed by their safety, control and care of dogs and the public. We do use a service for our younger dog and have been utterly impressed by their professionalism. Put simply there is no demand that I can see for limits and no sense of this being a problem area. It seems like rules for the sake of it....or rules driven by largely one off isolated incidents. Not good rule making to do that.
3249	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Impossible for dog walking services to survive and manage this limit. Dog walking services are essential for people who are working and contribute positively to the wellbeing and general sociability of dogs in general which benefits the public. If dog walking services are unable to survive then anticipate an increase in antisocial boredom behaviours of dogs at home alone. Better to focus on having the correct mix of dogs for off leash play and provide appropriate areas for off leash play where there would be no risk of public nuisance.
3259	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If dogs are in farm area, no limit on offleash area.
3272	Support		Professional dog walkers are an important part of our community and I love seeing them out and about, but I am very concerned when I see more than 4 dogs with any one person, leashed or off-leash, because control in those situations is obviously questionable. I have 2 dogs and regularly receive compliments about their obedience and behavior, but like all creatures they get excited and act impulsively. Too many dogs to watch at one time is not safe there are too many opportunities for accidents to occur. I support a limit of 5 dogs per person at any time and think that is a healthy and appropriate balance of social interests.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3307	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In a city like Auckland it is inevitable that working people use the services of dog walkers. That necessitates the ability to walk with numbers greater than 6 in order to be financially practicable. Auckland Council should be encouraging dog walking businesses. I imagine that most of those sorts of businesses are responsible business owners as well as being highly conscious of controlling the dogs they are in charge of.
3348	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No change to the current rules. There is no impact with responsible dog walkers (and dog walking business) with dogs under control. There should be no change to the current rules.
3399	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Dog walkers provide Aucklands pooches with much needed exercise and companionship and mental stimulation.
3404	Support		Dogs are dangerous and a lot of people are scared of them.
3448	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No limit on off leash dog numbers walked by accredited or licensed Dog walkers under a system set up by Auckland Council. Most issues arise out of inexperienced dog walkers who set up business with no skills to handle dogs off leash. There are professional dog walkers who are responsible, careful about where they walk dogs and have amazing control of all the dogs. They also have established Health and Safety protocols for dogs and humans
3523	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers are not the problem. Irresponsible dog owners are.
3574	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will impact professional dog walking services, who provide us to help keep our dogs happy and healthy. I have witnessed the control and management of these people, and believe they are not the cause of the issue. Unfortunately the proposed change will impact them and cause higher costs to dog owners who use these services.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3598	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think the number of dogs being walked or number off leash is the problem but rather the strictness of laws around dog walking companies and the rules they must meet in order to have dogs controlled safely both on leash in a group and off leash. Stricter rules on companies who trade as dog walkers and how they qualify should be enforced instead of restricting how many they may walk and how many are off leash as this takes away from responsible dog walking businesses who currently do things safely
3603	Do not support		Dog walking and socialising off lead is an imprtant part of a dogs social development behavior and growth. I support the number of off leash dogs when being walked by a proffesional dog walking team remaining as it is currently.
3679	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I strongly oppose the proposed limit, as only 0.7% of dog-related complaints to the Council involve multiple dogs, and this figure includes everyday pet owners. The majority of complaints stem from issues such as untrained pets, roaming dogs, and underfunded animal control services. This proposal does not address these core concerns and instead penalises responsible professionals who contribute to safer and more controlled dog management in the community. As the owner of a 3 -year-old staffy cross, I consider professional dog walking an essential service that keeps my dog calm, social, and well-trained. These services provide crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. If these restrictions are implemented, many experienced, qualified dog walkers who have dedicated their careers to providing safe and professional services will be forced to leave the industry, relocate, or significantly increase their fees—making professional services accessible only to wealthy owners. This could create a gap in the market, allowing inexperienced individuals to enter the industry without proper training, ultimately worsening the very issues the proposal aims to address. Without access to the support of professional walkers and trainers there will be a greater strain on busy families and their dogs. Walkers provide biological fulfilment and training to help dogs be well-behaved members of the community. Without this support there will be a rise in misbehaved dogs and issues such as roaming, barking and worse

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3740	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I object to reducing the number of dogs on lead to 6 (3 on leash, 3 off leash) primarily because I believe you need to differentiate between skilled commercial dog walkers and others. I explain my reasons why in detail below, but in a nutshell it's because I don't believe it fixes any of your main issues with dogs - specifically biting and roaming - both of which appear to be on the rise across the city. At a minimum it might fix some quite 'minor issues' - this is acknowledged in the summary of your pack survey "the impacts are low frequency and low impact". By restricting all pack sizes and therefore likely reducing commercial dog pack numbers I believe you will strip away key fundamental preventative measures which are proven to reduce the likelihood of aggressive dogs. Namely, socialising, training and exercising dogs. My starting hypothesis is that if you did a survey on dogs who are involved in commercial pack walks they would be, on average 'better behaved' dogs and therefore less likely to get in trouble, than the average dog. I don't believe you have the data / survey to disprove this hypothesis. I do, however, believe better controls for commercial walkers should be implemented - some ideas below. What problem is the council trying to address? Firstly, I think it's important to outline what main issues the council is faced with so we can consider if the proposed rules helps overcome the key issues. Reading your reports (12,737 complaints in 2022/23) you can pretty quickly see the big issues are dog bites (on the rise - at

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3818	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. I am a dog walker who services Auckland dogs in Mt Albert, Pt Chevalier, Westmere, Grey Lynn, Ponsonby and Herne Bay. I have been operating since 2021 and currently walk 15 dogs every week. I do not the proposed limit because: 1. The data does not support that people walking more than three dogs off lead are creating a problem. Incident data presented by Auckland Council showed only 0.7% of complaints related to people walking more than two dogs, meaning those walking more than three must be even less. In addition the data used to support that there is a problem and presented to council in July 2024 was based on a survey of 2,000 civically minded people and its interpretation by Council is seriously flawed and fails to show that over half of respondents had never had an issue with people walking more than two dogs. The survey also doesn't ask how many people had seen more than three dogs being walked at once. There have been more than 2,750 signatures on the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition opposing this proposed limit so more than 2,750 people don't think there is an issue when less than 1,000 respondents to the peoples panel think they saw more than two dogs being walked causing a problem. 2. The change unfairly targets professional dog walkers only. Auckland Council staff have said that they are not targeting professional dog walkers, but this bylaw change will only impact professional dog walkers. Professional dog walkers have not been
3938	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You either have all dogs off leash or all dogs on leash. The dogs on leash feel very vulnerable and will get nervous and anxious which could cause defensive behaviour from the on-leash dogs. On dog training will tell you the same. A ludicrous idea!
3996	Support		Having a large number of dogs at one time can cause intimidation to other people out and about so I definitely support having a restriction.
4058	Support		Sensible. Multiple dogs with one person unable to be controlled can be intimidating to poeole and other dogs
4096	Support		One dog walker can't adequately and safely control more than 6 dogs on or off leash at once.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4141	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's not about numbers! Dogs with my pack dog walker must be the luckiest and best behaved dogs in Auckland. I've walked with her and seen it for myself. She's highly capable and has more control over several dogs than the average dog owner with one dog. Dogs in packs rely on their leader and IF the leader is strong but fair, the dogs will be well behaved and happy .It depends on the dog walker and the industry should be licensed with the Professional Dog Walkers Association. That would get rid of those few dog walkers who are dragging the industry down. Don't take the easy way out of deciding on numbers.
4144	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A more effective solution would be to implement a licensing system for professional dog walkers, ensuring accountability and high industry standards. A licensing framework could include: - Registration and a Council-administered fee to offset costs associated with compliance and complaint handling. - A set of professional standards that walkers must agree to uphold. - Certification or assessment from recognised industry bodies (e.g., the Professional Dog Walkers Association) to ensure competency without overburdening Council resources. Licensing would provide many benefits over restrictive limits such as: - Council can track and regulate professional walkers more effectively. - Enforcement powers would allow Council to revoke licences for non-compliance without requiring court action. - Ensure high industry standards while reducing administrative burdens on Council. - Skilled walkers can continue operating, maintaining high-quality services. - Dog owners retain access to trusted, qualified professionals.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4148	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose the proposed limit, as only 0.7% of dog-related complaints to the Council involve multiple dogs, and this figure includes everyday pet owners. The majority of complaints relate to untrained pets and roaming dogs, and this proposal does not address these core issues at all. As the owner of a six year old German Shepherd, I consider professional dog walking an essential service that keeps my dog calm, social, and well-trained. These services provide crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. Without this support there will be a rise in misbehaved dogs and issues such as roaming, barking and worse. I believe it would be a much more effective solution to implement a licensing system for professional dog walkers, which would allow only highly trained and qualified individuals to walk larger numbers of dogs. This could involve a certification or assessment from the likes of the Professional Dog Walkers Association.
4154	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No one will remember the silly rules and no. of dogs for each rule. The current rules support professional dog walkers (who are generally very responsible) and help their businesses survive in an over regulated Auckland Council rule type environment
4176	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 4 dogs all on leash Dogs in a pack think differently
4182	Support		Because I've seen groups of dogs being walked get out of control - that was numbers many more than 6
4203	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I dont have a problem with people dog walking other peoples dogs and have never had a problem with this at any parks. it is unfairly targetting people doing some good work
4247	Support		My local park at Monte Cecilia is a hotspot for professional dog walkers, where several will meet at once meaning there can be 30+ dogs at one time, most of them off leash. This dominates the space for other users, especially with children. Without fencing, the dog walkers rarely have control of their dogs and it is intimidating being around that many dogs. I want my peaceful park back for all of us to enjoy!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4258	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Auckland has a range of parks and reserves and spaces which are almost empty during the day - professional dog walking is an important way for dogs to get exercise, and it makes use of these spaces when there are no others there. I would like to see professional dog walkers being registered and therefore exempt from the above. If you are just a regular person, then yes four dogs maximum.
4299	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog currently walks with Fetch and they rely on being able to walk a number of dogs off lead usually approximately 6 dogs. They enjoy walking in dog parks and beaches around the isthmus. Such a change would significantly increase the cost to working families for their dogs to go out dog walking during the day. My dog loves Fetch and both she and I would be very sad if she was not able to attend twice a week. Currently I can afford 2 days if you limit the number of dogs as suggested the cost to my family would significantly increase and I may not be able to afford this and my darling dog would have to stay home all day. The reason I use Fetch is that she is in a safe environment. She was bitten at doggy daycare and ended up with an absese costing terrible pain a long recovery and great cost. Fetch is an alternative where she happily gets to socialise with other dogs in a safe environment. Responsible dog walking services ensure that all dogs are safe and they also encourage good behaviour and dog training so that all their dogs are well managed and do not cause any conflict with other walkers or dog walkers. They provide an affordable service to ensure that dogs get plenty of socialisation and exercise which is very important to their health and well-being. An alternative may be too require a Council dog walking licence to the professional dog walking companies similar to the dog registration to ensure good practice across all services.
4368	I don’t know		It would depend heavily on cointext. The nature of the dogs, the experience and control of the dog walker, the area where they are being walked (i.e. the level of risk if control of the dogs cannot be maintained by their handler).

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4393	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support limiting the number of dogs that a person may walk at one time to 6. This is a safe and manageable pack size for one person to look after, without causing disruption to members of the public using Auckland's parks and reserves. I oppose mandating that only 3 dogs can be off leash at a time. Where a dog walker is walking 6 dogs, it will be more disruptive and more difficult to manage any potential incidents if 3 of those dogs need to stay on-leash. This proposal does not take dog psychology into account and doesn't consider the pack environment and moving together as a unit. While our instincts might say that "fewer dogs off-leash" means less risk, this is not the case. Group walking is about working with dogs natural instincts to move as a pack, if the dog handler is less mobile they are also less able to respond to any interactions or possible incidents, and will have to manage two groups of dogs in two different ways. We expect this change to be difficult to comply with and reduce the experience of other park users as the ability to have control of dogs off-leash is reduced if you are also managing dogs on-leash. Dogs will not respect the difference between these two states. If needed, I agree with obtaining a licence to support the maximum of six off-leash dogs at anyone time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4412	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not think a cap on number of dogs is an evidence-based policy decision. I think the main thing is that there needs to be appropriate education and licensing. If you have well-trained dogs under the control of a dog trainer (on or off-leash) there should not be an issue and we should not be restricting these types of dog walkers/owners. The issue with dog fights/violence is where you have untrained/uneducated dog walkers - and then problems occur irrespective of the number of dogs under their control. Why should we restrict well-educated dog walkers from making a living, when there is no evidence of harm being caused by them? These types of regulations will increase the cost of dog-walking services, and could potentially lead to an increase in badly-educated/untrained dog walkers, due to the increase in demand. For the record, I am a dog owner but not a dog walker. I use the services of a dog walker, and have no concerns about the safety of our dogs (or other people/dogs who come into contact with them), as I know our dog walker has all dogs under her supervision well-trained, and calm and happy. It doesn't seem fair to restrict her abilitiy to provide this service, when there is no evidence of regulation being necessary here.
4439	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It’s more about the people or person in control of the dogs. Ensure they are appropriately certified and able to control and manage a pack. They’d need to show how they initiate new dogs into their pack and all protocols to keep the dogs and the public safe
4442	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Rather give professional dog walkers a license to operate. That way it can be monitored accurately
4474	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Please do not make any changes that impact on professional and experiencedog walkers taking dogs on adventures. Our dog has been going out on adventures with Follow the Leda and Free Range Dogs for two years. It has been amazing for his socialisation and he is far better behaved at home. The off leash time is so good for Ziggy’s wellbeing. Leda and Camille are so experienced and responsible and always have perfect control of the dogs they are walking. You can watch years’ worth of evidence on their Instagram of how they work and the benefits for the dogs through exercise, socialisation and training. The reduced availability of this type of service would be terrible e.g dogs left home alone while people are at work, increased barking etc

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4538	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The people who walk multiple dogs are trained professional dog walkers and trainers. They tend to walk multiple dogs off lead in secluded areas away from large numbers of the general public. This rule affects dog walkers, pack walkers and multiple people who make a living walking dogs. This law will DESTROY the businesses of many self-employed people in our current STRUGGLING economy. These people will have to seek employment elsewhere which means there will be less available training available for people who have difficult dogs. I am the owner of a dog who has had behavioural issues in the past. The work my dog has done with her pack walker and the weekly pack walks she goes on has been CRITICAL in helping her with her socialisation and training. As a DIRECT RESULT of these pack walks and sessions she is a much more well rounded dog and I am able to CONFIDENTLY walk her in public places because of the help and support of the pack walkers and trainers who have worked with us,. Pack walkers are trained professionals and they need to be able to operate their businesses, without them the instances of dog aggression is going to increase substantially. This is a short sighted proposition and it shows a lack of understanding of dog ownership. If Auckland Council wants to regulate this then a system of licences for professional pack walkers is a much more forward thinking approach.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4593	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dear Auckland Council Members, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the Policy and Bylaw on Dogs, particularly the restriction on the number of dogs a person may walk in council-controlled public spaces. I understand the importance of regulating dog presence in public areas to ensure the safety and well-being of both animals and people. However, I believe this proposal fails to consider professional dog walkers, who have the necessary experience and skills to handle multiple dogs safely and responsibly. Instead of a blanket restriction, I propose implementing a licensing system for professional dog walkers. This would allow them to demonstrate their ability and commitment to responsible dog handling, ensuring that only qualified individuals are permitted to walk multiple dogs. Furthermore, limiting the number of dogs per walker could lead to unintended consequences, such as an increase in unsupervised dogs at home due to reduced access to professional walking services. Many dog owners rely on these services to ensure their pets receive adequate exercise and socialization, which are essential for their well-being. I urge the council to reconsider this restriction and explore alternative solutions that recognize the role of professional dog
4600	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For professional trainers that take dogs on walks in areas where dogs can exercise off leash while being under control of the trainer the number of dogs should be more than 8, possibly 10.
4633	Support		Dog walkers with a large number of dogs and off leash is one reason we don't take our over excitable dog to off lead parks. We have had experience with dog walkers with poor or no control over said dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4670	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This proposal is a blanket by-law with harsh consequences for the large number of dog walking businesses in Auckland. These are trained professionals who walk multiple dogs off-lead under strict control in secluded areas away from large numbers of the general public. They provide working people who own dogs with an invaluable service: providing dogs with high levels of exercise, socialisation and behavioural training. All of these things are vital in preventing dog aggression and behavioural issues. I support the idea of regulating pack walking, but with licensing or a permit based system to ensure this work is only done by professionals. The proposed law would negatively impact the economy, pets and pet owners. Let's work together for a more positive and beneficial outcome for all.
4833	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The fact is it is dog owners that the majority of complaints about out of control dogs are made about to Auckland Council. These numbers don't seem evidence based. I would support a limit that has been researched from dog walkers to be safe. Noting that aren't the people creating unsafe environments with dogs most of the time according to Auckland Council complaints. I don't think there should be a necessity for some dogs to be leashed. I find my dog and have spoken to dog walkers who agree, when my dog is leashed and is around unleashed dogs he becomes more aggressive., he wants to protect his restrained self. So insisting on some dogs being leashed seems counterintuitive.. the consequence of imposing this arbitrary limit on dog walkers, will certainly impact our community who rely on dog walkers to help exercise their dogs (which is being a responsible dog owner) by increasing the costs to this. It has the potential to make it cost prohibitive. So these dog owners might become less able to ensure their dog is exercised effectively every day. The flow on effect of this would be dogs who have pent up energy, bark more and are not as well behaved. Adding more financial burdens to families at this time with increased price of living is a mistake in my opinion and would be detrimental to an industry which doesn't get the most complaints about bad dog behaviour. I personally don't use dog walkers for the record but know busy families that do.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4970	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The livelihood of dog walkers will be negatively impacted as a result of this policy change. The focus should be shifted away from being purely about number of dogs and more towards being able to walk larger numbers with proper certification. This will allow professional dog walkers to continue to earn a living while creating safeguards for the public around those that are not qualified to walk larger packs of dogs at once (in public spaces)
4996	Support		thats a lot of dogs
5006	Support		As a dog owner, I've always struggled with dog walkers having multiple dogs, sometimes up to 20 running around off leash and running up to my leashed dogs at times. The only times we've encountered issues at dog parks is when a dog walker has too many dogs and not enough control over them. We feel this impacts on general public who are just trying to walk their dogs and don't want to have multiple dogs running up to them. Like most businesses we feel some regulations around the industry and also training programs before people can walk multiple dogs would be a good in between.
5033	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support a maximum of 6 dogs. I don't support some on leash and some off leash as with dog walkers, and dogs pack mentality having some off leash and some on is more disruptive to the pack. I think 6 off leash works well for the dog walking service we use.
5128	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think dog walkers are best placed to advise on this safe number of dogs as this is their business and income.
5130	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional walkers who build a team of dedicated dogs and care for them. It is their job
5166	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	•Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules •Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service •It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers •It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners (like yourself) who care about their dogs wellbeing. •It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5181	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I cant see that there is a justifiable need for a limit on number of dogs walked. There is already a requirement that they are under control and that the walker picks up after the dog that can be used by animal management in the event that either of these criteria are not being met. Finally I dont feel this will do anything to address the main issue with dogs in Auckland, which is attacks by aggressive, uncontorlled dogs. I am concerned that it will make it incredibly difficult for any one who already owns more than 3 dogs, by making them walk them at separate time's, which if someone is working is not feasible and will ultimately result in the dogs getting less exercise. I am also concerned that it will restrict small business that offer dog walking services. With an increase in the canine population in Auckland, this is a vital service for many people, especially with a push back to onsite working. These groups are often walkign dogs while people are at work and are therefore using footpath's (or other spaces) at times with minimal foot traffic and as your own research states, while the numbner if complaints may be high, the impact on society is low, and I would argue that the impact of not having these services is higher. (dogs being left alone for longer, leading to increased barking complaints, being harder to control as they dont have an outlet for energy and potentially escaping a property.) [illegible]
5245	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog attends a pack walk once a week and the pack leaders are well trained & have the dogs under their control at all times. I wouldn't want the changes to impact their lively hood
5251	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 2 dogs per person as they cannot successfully control more than that whether on or off the leash
5299	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum six dogs, all can be off leash if under control. NZ has lots of leash aggressive dogs. Multiple dogs on leash can cause more issues
5320	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I believe if someone is licenced and has done the necessary training , then they should be qualified to handle in excess of 8 dogs at a time

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5381	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Responsible professional dog walkers are hugely beneficial to the training and well-being of the dogs. Responsible walkers already consider their impact on other people and pets, and the environment. Their livelihood depends on this. My daughter and her partner, for example, have complete control of dogs under their care because they are selective about which dogs they accept. They have walked the same dogs for years and know their individual behaviours. They always move their dogs off pathways and get them to lie down whenever they see others on tracks. They know when and how many of their dogs need to be on leads. If there were a licensing option they would be able to carry on their excellent work, which also involves educating other dog walkers, and voluntary dog walks with intellectually impaired people. Their finances would be harshly impacted under the proposed rule. They recently bought a house and would not be able to pay their mortgage. Having a licensing option to allow responsible dog walkers to continue to work is the fairest option. The professional dog walkers association could play a role with this.
5493	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The current proposal for the limit of dogs a person may walk is ludicrous. Auckland is already an incredibly dog unfriendly city compared to other major cities around the world. The reduction of the number of dogs that people can walk is going to create problems not just for dog owners but also for the council and the general public. There will be no change in dog numbers in Auckland, therefore these measures will mean that the current amount of dogs will need to be walked by much more people who will not be as qualified as the current dog walkers who can and do manage a much larger amount of dogs. This will create much more cowboy operators meaning harm to the dogs, general public and will be much more difficult for the council to police A much better solution would be to put in place dog licencing for dog walkers. Our current dog walkers are highly trained and regularly top up their training at conferences in Australia and USA. They have very strict requirements on the level of training for new dogs to join the pack (if they don't meet this level, they will not be taken). This is the type of positive dog walkers that should be encouraged and licensed.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5497	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners (like yourself) who care about their dogs wellbeing. It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further An alternative solution, for example, a less restrictive limit, a registration requirement, or licencing professionals to walk large groups or effectively enforcing existing bylaws

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5502	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Introduce a license for Dog Walkers that has different levels based on qualifications and experience, previous history etc. NZ has a extremely high population of Dog as pet ownership (per capita) behind to the USA, with Auckland having the resulting biggest population. Restricting the number of dogs on walks, including the number off lead is only going to have a negative impact on dog welfare overall. It will reduce the number of options for Dog Walkers, who won't be able to earn an adequate living - OR/AND - increase the costs to owners significantly. which many will not be able to afford (especially in the current economic climate). This will only result in more dogs being left in homes for extended periods of time, without suitable exercise or stimulation. Plus a shortage of dog walkers will result in more people chancing the role, which leads to cowboy operations and more issues. Our dog walkers are highly experienced, and often travel internationally to top up their training at conferences. They have strict standards for Dogs coming into their packs (pre-training requirements to join), continually train dogs within their packs, plus has exceptional abilities to control the whole pack in any situation. This is the standard I would expect for any licensed professional. I don't believe the actions of a small minority should result in the penalty being imposed on everyone, especially the dogs. Auckland (and NZ) is already extremely backward in terms of
5507	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't support this kind of changes as i feel that dog are being nuisance. Paying my taxes and i deserved to enjoy the places where there are many options for me to go out.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5627	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I personally own two dogs and utilize a dog walking service twice a week. Placing a limit on how many dogs one person can walk is not addressing any of the actual issues. The issues that stem from dogs in my experience are 1. Uncontrolled stray/feral dogs in certain areas of the city. 2. Irresponsible owners with untrained dogs who aren't respectful of other members of the public (how many dogs they own is irrellevant). And 3. An unregulated dog walking industry that requires no qualifications or accreditation to function. This bylaw does not address any of the above issues. In my experience with most pack walkers, who will be greatly affected by this bylaw. They have more control over their pack than the avg. Person has over their own dog at the local park. Also, many, including myself will no longer be able to afford their services once this bylaw comes in. Kind regards, Phil Aldwinckle
5632	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Should be lower limit - maximum 3 dogs with no more than 1 off leash
5654	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 2 dogs for both on and off leash. People shouldn't own more than 2 dogs and if they choose to use a dog walker and they are fit to walk dogs then they are just lazy!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5681	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I personally own two dogs and utilize a dog walking service twice a week. Placing a limit on how many dogs one person can walk is not addressing any of the actual issues with dog walkers in Auckland. The issues that stem from dogs in my experience are 1. Uncontrolled stray/feral/roaming dogs in certain areas of the city. 2. Irresponsible owners with untrained dogs who aren't respectful of other members of the public (how many dogs they own is irrellevant). And 3. An unregulated dog walking industry that requires no qualifications or accreditation to function - this is where I would make a change to the by law). This bylaw does not address any of the above issues. Thia by law will predominantly affect pack walkers, and their clients who use their services. In my experience these pack walkers have more control over their pack than the average person has over their own single dog at the local park. I have had more issues with single dogs, approaching off lead with absent owners or unaware owners and NEVER with pack walkers. My feeling is this bylaw is in response to some negative recent press and not actually addressing the issues. In addition, many, including myself will no longer be able to afford their services once this bylaw comes in, as inevitably prices will go up to make their businesses viable. I believe this will only make existing problems worse as there will be more dogs not having their needs met with good walks and proper socialisation
5705	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum two dogs with maximum one off-leash because this is the maximum number that one person can reasonably control at any one time.
5804	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For businesses this will cause a lot of challenges and for people who are barely able to afford this service will no longer be able to because the prices will sky rocket. If you have a business then I feel this should not apply to you (with proof of coerience and training). People who do not, should have more rules as the issue is more with handlers who can’t handle the dogs, not professionals
5808	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because, it a huge restriction to the professional dog adventure walkers. They loose their livelihood and more dogs will suffer from this change

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5905	Support		Too many large groups with dog walkers ruining it for those of us with one or two dogs. They can form a pack mentality, aggressive, and not easy to get under control.
5919	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be license for dog walkers to ensure they are professional. This will separate insviudals from business who know what they do.
6017	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Think alternative could be to register, certify dog walking businesses.
6025	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support these changes and the impact this could have on dog walking services. Dog walking services provide much-needed exercise for our dog as we are a family of busy, hardworking professionals. A blanket rule like this will mean dog walking services will become too expensive and out of reach for average families and end up causing anxiety and distress to dogs and citizens, and subsequently more disturbances to neighbourhoods, for example unhappy dogs barking during the day. This could be managed through professional licensing rather than sweeping changes, however I feel that this issue is being well managed by the industry that it affects.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6118	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am writing to submit feedback on the proposed changes to Auckland Council's dog control regulations, specifically concerning the restriction on the number of dogs a person may walk. I am a dog owner who uses the services of a professional dog walkers service and advocate for responsible pet ownership. I believe that the introduction of a licensing system for professional dog walkers would be a more effective approach than the proposed maximum multiple dog limit of six dogs per person, with only three allowed off-leash. ### Proposal for Professional Dog Walker Licensing I propose the introduction of a licensing system for professional dog walkers, allowing them to walk more than the proposed maximum of six dogs, with more than three allowed off-leash, under certain conditions. A registered dog walker would be able to handle a higher number of dogs as long as they have met specific requirements such as: - Comprehensive training on dog behavior, management, and handling. - Demonstrated experience and competence in managing multiple dogs, including off-leash control. - Regular assessments and compliance with safety regulations. - Insurance and bonding to cover potential incidents or damages. - Ongoing professional development to ensure knowledge of the latest dog behavior management strategies. This system would not only allow professional dog walkers to
6120	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposed limits on numbers of dogs would have serious adverse affect on pack and dog walkers in Auckland. These services are vital for the fulfillment of dogs whose owners are unable to provide them with such walks while working. Changes to these rules would affect income for these professionals, and in turn the health and wellbeing of the dogs who attend the pack walks. There is lack of evidence to show that pack walkers are the problem, when in reality the issue is with individual dog owners who do not have reliable recall and who breach the rules around having their dogs under control at all times. Please work with the newly established PWDA to create some kind of licencing system for pack walkers and please do not reduce the number of dogs allowed to be walked in a pack to such low numbers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6125	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The actual rate of incidents where dogs are off leash in a group and one or more is not under control is very rare. The benefit to the welfare of dogs who can go commercial dog walks while owners are at work or incapacitated is huge, and greatly outweighs harm caused by rare occasions of off leash dogs not under control. I know this as a dog owner who walks my dog, observes commercial dog walks and also sends my dog on commercial dog walks. On the rare occasions where there has been trouble, the aggression is actually mostly from humans. Limiting commercial dog walks to a certain number of dogs will drive up costs, making them unaffordable.
6156	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The new proposed rule targets professional dog walkers who perform a necessary service for their clients, as well as training dogs and giving controlled social experiences for dogs. The proposed rule is an abomination that will overnight ruin businesses as well as see an increase in poorly behaved dogs. I would like to see some regulation and standards within the dog walking industry, but NOT restricting the numbers they have. The professional dog walkers perform an invaluable service to their clients, and overall decrease anxiety and poor behaviour amongst the dogs they handle. There must be some acknowledgement of the skill of these people, as opposed to the gross blanket regulations proposed!!!
6175	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	People who do not have dogs find multiple dogs frightening and if someone has multiple dogs on and off leash this will threaten the use of public spaces by non-dog owners. I think that limiting the number of dogs being controlled by one person to four is a fair middle ground.
6194	I don't know		Why is licencing not being considered - to regulate this industry, licencing could incorporate how many dogs depending on experience, compliance and history. This way AC can also recoup money from this industry which is making commercial gain from public spaces. This industrial is mostikley only going to grow.
6236	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Having dogs on and dogs off leash will be so much more difficult to control as the dog walker will be encumbered if needing to intervene with a dog off leash. Dog walkers provide vital support for office workers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6240	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have two points to make: 1) I can understand the need to control the number of dogs that a private owner may be walking at one time in council-controlled spaces. As a former dog owner, I was content with one dog to manage and most people will be in that category. BUT there are people who can successfully manage a larger number of personal dogs when out walking, for example experienced dog owners/professional dog walkers who may have several personal dogs. 2) Very importantly, omitted from the options here is Option 2D in the proposal that suggests a variation on Option 2A (Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash)regarding obtaining a license to walk more dogs. . I support the concept of a license for professional dog walkers that enables them to walk a larger pack. This is because I have: (a) had a bad encounter with a unskillled "dog walker" mishandling my dog. A licensing program may reduce that likelihood. (b) had exceptional care of my dog from trusted, careful and caring professional walkers, experienced and skilled at walking dog packs of 10-12 dogs at a time. For my dog, weekly 'school' with a dog pack provided valuable socialisation, exercise and home-care for my dog in places well away from busy public
6244	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are experienced and professional dog walkers and trainers who have well managed packs exercising in appropriate areas who should. It be restricted

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6318	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support more effective regulation—such as the licensing system proposed by the Professional Dog Walkers Association. The proposed limit is unreasonable (when applying “the reasonable person test” in law) and detrimental to the livelihoods of professional dog walkers, dog owners in the community who use dog walkers and to their dogs alike. •Dog walkers who have made a career out of being responsible dog walkers and who have invested in expensive vans, buying new homes with land to accommodate their businesses and who have mortgages as a result, will lose their career or have their income halved resulting in hardship. •People could lose their dog walker if numbers of dogs are reduced. Dog walking prices will likely increase making it unaffordable for many. •Dogs will suffer, missing out on the freedom, stimulation, and socialization they are accustomed to. They will miss their existing pack and human pack leader. This represents a significant problem mentally, physically and socially for dogs and humans alike. This will lead to many negative issues such as loneliness, stress, barking, etc. I understand that despite the impact on their industry, professional dog walkers were not consulted in this decision-making process, resulting in regulations that lack understanding of effective solutions. Problems
6401	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Usually those walking more than 6 dogs at once are professional dog walkers who know how to manage and care for their dogs. They are aware of the responsibilities of multiple dogs, and take extra care when working. By introducing this all you do is reduce dog walker’s efficiency to complete their jobs. This means a greater cost to businesses and customers as pack walks that could be one then become two, require more staffing, time and resources. It is an economical burden. It also must be considered that most 6+ dog walkers are not going to general public dense areas. They have their usual walking tracks where, more often than not, other walkers (like myself) are quite happy to see them.
6505	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be a restriction on how many dogs can be seen at off lead at one time but this should be determined by the size and breed of the dogs. For example 8 smaller dogs (under 10kg each) and being off lead would not concern me but if they were larger dogs it would.
6592	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	6 off leash at a time. Not good to have some on/ some off.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6613	Support		Many of the doggy daycares that do these walks are unregulated and have young people walking dogs who do not know how to look after them. It would make sense that dog walking/day care companies have to be regulated and registered then they can walk more dogs.
6623	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No change to current rules, but with the proviso the dog walkers are licensed. There are some great dog walkers out there; let's keep them.
6629	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This proposal just seems like cutting off your nose to spite your face. There has been no consultation with the dog walking industry and just throwing a random number at a dart board. While there are some 'cowboys' in the industry, the majority of dog walkers keep their packs under control and this proposal is letting one bad egg ruin it for the entire industry.
6636	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose the proposed limitations on the number of dogs a dog walker can manage, especially regarding off-leash activity. For years, I have relied on a responsible and experienced dog walker to care for my very high-energy Labrador, who requires ample exercise. This arrangement has been invaluable in keeping my dog happy, healthy, and well-exercised. If the council enacts these restrictions, I, like many others, will no longer be able to afford professional dog-walking services. This could result in many dogs, including my own, not receiving the necessary physical activity and care they require, which could negatively impact their well-being. While I do support the idea of a registration system for dog walkers to ensure professionalism and accountability, I urge the council to reconsider limiting the number of dogs they can walk. Such restrictions would have a detrimental effect on both dog owners and their pets throughout the city.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6666	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support the overall limit of 6 dogs. However, I do not support the proposal to mandate that a maximum of 3 dogs can be off-leash at a time. Imposing an overall limit of 6 dogs would increase safety for dog walkers and the public. I send my dog on pack walks with Pooped, a professional and responsible company which already limits their pack sizes. We want them to continue to operate safely, without being adversely affected by the irresponsible practices of some competitors. However, the proposal to mandate that only 3 dogs can be off-leash at a time is counterproductive and will create greater safety risks. This is because this proposal is not consistent with the 'pack psychology' of dogs. If a dog walker has 6 dogs and 3 of them must stay on-leash, the off-leash dogs will behave like a separate pack to the on-leash dogs. This means the dog walker effectively has two packs to control. This makes it more difficult for the dog walker to manage any incidents which may arise.
6680	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A maximum of 6 per dog walker is fair and manageable, now its unfair for the animals to have three at a time of the leash. If a dog walker is able to handle 6 in a controlled space then it should be ok they are all off the leash. Walkers/dog minders should definitely be licensed, this shouldn't be expensive but it should definitely check on capacity for handling animals. There should be as well more fenced/controlled spaces for dogs this would help to keep people safe and would allow animals to get the space they need to interact and burn energy. There are not enough fenced/dog inly spaces in the city parks.
6721	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers to be licensed and have to prove they are able to keep dogs in their care under control
6730	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	License for pack walking businesses and dog owners who benefit from pack walks.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6743	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The rules are too restrictive. My dog goes with a professional dog trainer once a week why I am at work. This lady uses vibrate collars to compliment her experience and training to keep the dog under control at all times. The dogs are under control at all times despite not being on leash. A suggestion would be a dog trainer/professional registration so that licenced dog walkers who are qualified and can have more dog off leash. I think maximum 10 dogs is more reasonable with all being allowed off leash in appropriate areas.
6749	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think what needs a review is the actual dog walkers. This needs to be a growing industry that is professionalised this means accredited education, registration and a formal association. Those who are charged with walking dogs need to be accountable for their practice to the public, the dog and the human owners. The real issue is that people see dog walking as a quick easy stream of revenue- anyone can do it. This needs regulation. Experienced and educated dog walkers have chosen this as a career they do a good job they should not be the ones penalised. Please regulate this industry. Please also look at educating dog owners how they interact with their dogs in public spaces. Again not all dog owners are alike. There needs to be clear behaviour rules for the humans and dogs
6764	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Licensed dog walkers will be trained to deal with a greater number of dogs which will be positive for people who need their dogs walked for various reasons.
6822	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think a blanket rule should come with exceptions to allow for professional dog walkers who are registered to walk multiple dogs. Professional dog walking is becoming more and more popular and needs to be accounted for. Blanket restrictions such as these unfairly hurt these businesses and those who benefit from them when the individuals who manage these are often exceptional at managing big groups of dogs and have strong controls in place.
AOTEA/GREAT BARRIER LOCAL BOARD			
1748	Support		When people have multiple off leash dogs at once it becomes harder for them to control them, also if you are walking one single dog it puts your single dog in a vulnerable position
2952	Support		Human enjoyment of public spaces should take priority over animals. There are lots of places I will not visit now due to the amount of out of control dogs around
3075	Support		Given the variation in competency of managing multiple dogs the changes will be good for dogs and the public

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4982	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Hi there,, as a registered breeder of pure bred Tibetan Terriers I believe not all dogs have a drive to hunt or be aggressive and as a responsible dog owner if any dog shows that behaviour yes it should be kept on a lead and in some cases muzzled, Auckland has a lot of irresponsible owners and maybe we should have to get an annual licence that we should have to pass and produce if any incidents arise, I have 5 tibetans that have been brought up with love and attention in the right environment I am very happy to let my dogs off lead and also am aware when to put them on lead Thank you
DEVONPORT-TAKAPUNA LOCAL BOARD			
36	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Very few people can control 3 dogs off leash ensuring they see and pick up their poos and ensure they are under control. 3 dogs off leash should NOT be allowed.
130	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's not the number of dogs that is the issue - it's that a lot of dog walkers are untrained, they just 'like' dogs
141	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Don't think professional dog walkers should be penalised just because minority can't behave. Dog walks will become unaffordable at a time when they are needed more than ever by dual working families. This is not a black and white matter. Those that don't behave now will unlikely behave with new laws. Will just penalise professionals.
146	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers perform a valuable service for working dog parents. If this change comes into effect this will force many responsible dog walkers (pack walkers) out of business. In turn, this will impact our economy.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
154	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It would adversely effect the ability of professional dog walkers to do their job in a cost effective manner. The dog problem is not the dogs under the control of the dog walkers it is the roaming dogs that are not under any control or supervision and the dog often pays the price for the irresponsible dog owner who allows their often untrained and unsocialized dog to wander. I think that is where the problem lies and that is where the effort should go. My suggestion would be initially a written warning and subsequently a fine to encourage the owner to be responsible. Its surprising how quickly a monetary infringement can modify behavior to compliance. The suggestion put forward is a bit of a cop out and it shows that you are doing something but it is not the answer. All it will do is cause many dog walking businesses to close down and then all those owners of dogs that have done nothing wrong will have a problem.
181	Support		Support 6 dog limit, but believe off-leash should be limited 2 dogs. When off-leash dogs engage with other off-leash dogs it can be difficult for the person in charge to maintain control.
189	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Currently this is not a pressing issue - it's not broken so why change it. Dog walkers offer an incredible service and this will reprise many small reputable businesses.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
201	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Limiting the number of dogs that can be walked at one time severely impacts a large number of local businesses (in particular qualified dog walkers) who would not find their businesses feasible under these rules. I am a dog-parent of a 7yr old German Shepherd who has been walking with her pack for 4 years. This is an ESSENTIAL service for allowing my dog to remain calm, social and 'under-control' (trained). I selected 'Other' as I feel that no limits should be placed on the number of dogs HOWEVER I do believe there should be limitations on WHO is allowed to operate pack-walks. My pack walkers are QUALIFIED through uni/tech with dog behavioural diplomas, alongside years of experience, they are who should be allowed to/be licensed/regulated to walk dogs in larger packs. Licensing and regulation would ensure industry standards can be maintained (i.e., great example, my pack walkers ALWAYS move the pack to the side for walkers/cyclists etc.), which we know to date are not being followed by a number of 'cowboy' type businesses who do this as an easy income rather than with a true passion for dogs. These are the people causing a 'nuisance' and an issue. Another point, reducing the pack numbers may not make legal/safe business' feasible/more expensive, this will either reduce the number of good operators OR reduce customers abilities to pay for this service. What you may not understand is, these pack-walking businesses are keeping our dogs exercised (mental, physical and social stimulation) rather than being inside causing 'nuisance' type issues such as excessive barking etc. They also teach the dogs social skills and provide effective training so that are not reactive to the public/other dogs when outdoors, they create well
221	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog currently goes on an adventure walk twice a week with an experienced dog walker. She has those that are under control off lead and those that are learning how to behave in the pack on lead. Not all dog walkers are created equal and Perhaps licensing the business and the walkers is a better use of your time. Ensure they have relevant credentials, experience and knowhow. There are cowboy outfits that shouldn't be allowed out at all - don't make it too hard for legitimate businesses to operate. We need to keep people in work!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
237	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Subject: Submission on Proposed Dog Walking By-law Changes I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed by-law changes that would limit the number of dogs that can be walked at one time. These restrictions would severely impact local businesses, particularly qualified dog walkers, making their operations unfeasible. As a dog parent to a 7 year-old German Shepherd, I consider pack walking an essential service that helps my dog stay calm, social, and well-trained. This service provides crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioral issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. Rather than imposing limits on the number of dogs, I believe the focus should be on licensing and regulating who can operate pack-walking services. Qualified professionals—those with formal training, certifications, and experience—should be permitted to walk larger packs, ensuring high industry standards. This approach would address concerns about unqualified operators who do not adhere to best practices, unlike dedicated professionals who prioritize safety and public courtesy. Reducing pack sizes may also increase costs, making these services unaffordable for many dog owners and potentially forcing reputable operators out of business. This could lead to more dogs being left home alone, which would negatively impact their well-being and contribute to nuisance behaviors in our
263	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because the dog owners whom are the ones causing the issues are not going to be affected by this. Cowboy dog walkers won't be either - they'll simply find ways to dodge the rules. By making the proposed change in limiting numbers, you will only be harming the legitimate dog walkers who provide such a much needed service
296	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If dogs are under control there should not need to be a limit on dogs walking

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
331	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A limit on the number of dogs that a person may walk in a council-controlled public place at one time will not solve the problem. In relation to professional dog walkers, licensing would be the way forward to prove competency
338	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own a single dog who I walk both on and off leash depending on the area rules, he also goes on a pack walk every week with a very experienced pack walker, never has this caused any trouble. Myself and the pack walker have spent countless hours training my dog before he can go off leash. She has complete control of my dog and the entire pack. In my personal experience when walking my dog, the trouble cones from people with one over two dogs, letting them off leash or on retractable leashes and then not monitoring the dog at all. Dogs off leash where they shouldn't be, dogs rushing at others on retractable leashes, dogs crossing the road to approach my dog while the owner is oblivious and on their phone. There are countless irresponsible dog owners and it makes walking a reactive or sensitive dog a nightmare but never ever have these experiences been with pack walkers or people with large numbers of dogs, it is always a single or two dogs being walked by owners who have no skills or knowledge in dog handling or behavior. Restricting professional pack walkers is ludicrous, these people are trained and can handle their dogs. Regulations are needed but not blanket rules that will impact the people who are not causing the problems, Auckland is already one of the most dog unfriendly cities in the world, let's not make it worse.
374	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Any number of dogs could be dangerous in unqualified hands. A professional dog walker will complete due diligence of all dogs in their pack to ensure obedience and control.
384	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers have the ability to manage multiple dogs off-leash. Restricting this number undermines their professional approach to dog/pack management.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
394	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't believe that limiting numbers will fix the problems. It will create more as there will be a higher need for walkers so more uneducated people will appear. However I think there needs to be regulations but more around education and experience not limiting numbers.
432	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not the limit on dogs that needs to change. There are many reputable and competent dog walkers who provide excellent services. What needs to change / be implemented is rules around who can walk multiple dogs at once. A dog professional dog walker register / a licence permitting approved walkers to walk multiple dogs.
453	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not the limit on dogs that needs to change. There are many reputable and competent dog walkers who provide excellent services. What needs to change / be implemented is rules around who can walk multiple dogs at once. A dog professional dog walker register / a licence permitting approved walkers to walk multiple dogs
472	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog walker is responsible and you're penalising her. She may not be able to run her business due to changes. This means more dog will miss out on exercise. This will have significant impact on small local businesses and dogs well being
492	Do not support	No change to	I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed by-
517	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers are trained to walk packs of dogs and have established businesses around current rules. There are more problems with individual bad owners and dogs than pack walks.
578	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think if you would like to walk more than 6 dogs then you should have to be certified. Alot of people work as pack walkers, and many dog parents rely on those people to get their dog out and about while they are at work. Their business wouldn't be viable if they could only walk a small number of dogs. They would have to charge too much and wouldn't get the business. If this limit was introduced, you'd be taking jobs away from people and taking convenience away from pet owners. I do however agree with getting people to get certified or registered as a pack dog walker. Proving they have the training to handle that many dogs and also proving they have a vetting process in place to ensure the dogs they will be taking on walks wont cause trouble.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
589	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You should consider allowing trained dog walkers to continue walking as many dogs as they can manage. Perhaps implement a registration program for certified dog walkers. Many families in our community rely on dog walkers to care for their pets during the day, especially as more adults are required to return to offices as work from home options are becoming more limited
598	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For nearly 5 years our dogs have been extremely well looked after by our professional dog walkers. Their rigour regarding training and acceptance into their pack is outstanding with no issues whatsoever. It would seem that there has been an incident that has driven this policy initiative which is way out of kilter with the walkers who do an incredible job in a well-managed way
663	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In my experience as a dog owner using dog walkers and encountering dog walkers in public places the companies that walk dogs are careful and responsible with the dogs. I have never had any problem experiences with dog walkers in my 30 years of dog ownership - but have had plenty with individual dog owners and their dogs. Our dog walkers have been knowledgeable and helped us immensely with our dogs training and happiness. Limiting dog numbers will put these services about of the financial reach if most dog owners.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
665	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed by-law changes that would limit the number of dogs that can be walked at one time. These restrictions would severely impact local businesses, particularly qualified dog walkers, making their operations unfeasible. As a dog owner, I consider pack walking an essential service that supports dog owners to provide their dogs with the regular ongoing care they need to stay healthy and calm. This service provides crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. Rather than imposing limits on the number of dogs, I believe the focus should be on licensing and regulating who can operate pack-walking services. Qualified professionals such as those with formal training, certifications, and experience, should be permitted to walk larger packs, ensuring high industry standards. This approach would address concerns about unqualified operators who do not adhere to best practices, unlike dedicated professionals who prioritise safety and public courtesy. Reducing pack sizes may also increase costs, making these services unaffordable for many dog owners and potentially forcing reputable operators out of business. This could lead to more dogs being left home alone, which would negatively impact their well-being and contribute to nuisance behaviours in our community.
693	Support		Dog walkers can't realistically control or pick up after mote dogs than that at a time. This is safer for dogs and the public.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
743	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum eight dogs all off lead. My dog currently goes to a professional dog walker who takes the dogs in groups of 8. It is professional organisation that provides enrichment in a sensible and controlled manner. Pack dog walking is usually for those who have full time jobs and therefore occurs in the middle of a work and school day and often the beach/parks they go to aren't being used by anyone else (other than other dog walkers). My experience as a dog owner is that the problem dogs and owners are the ones who don't follow the current rules and just don't care, I've never had an issue with a professional dog walker but have had issues with single off lead dogs who are aggressive - this won't stop bad owners and won't prevent dog attacks, it will just be a sad outcome for all the well behaved puppers who are enjoying their days. A better solution would be a certificate or registration for dog walking companies to better regulate who can pack walk - so maybe Jo Blogs who has no experience can't walk a big group of dogs but someone it's years of experience can.
777	Support		Usually the open spaces dog walkers use are busy and managing 3 dogs off leash and 3 on leash is quite a lot, even with very well behaved dogs. There are so many distractions and things of interest for the dogs it is often hard for them to focus on instructions. The relationship between a dog walker and dog and owner and dog is also different.
820	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The whole reason I as a active dog responsible owner use a reputable dog walking service is so my active dog can run and play OFF lease. My pack walker goes to large areas (not public parks) ie forest areas or parks well out of the way of public. She is trained in dog handling and Behaviour management. How many actual accounts have been documented of attacks by dogs properly managed in a dog walking scenario? They should not be penalised and seriously affect their ability to make a living. I support the idea totally that they are properly trained and vetted and made accountable but be given the right to walk dogs off lease. They shouldn't have to suffer for the ignorance of a few bad owners.
831	Support		I believe 6 is actually too many as it should be 3 maximum

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
922			I disagree with the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. This change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and the services provided by them. Our dog walker is able to safely control more than 6 dogs and never had problems. Our dog has massively improved her behaviour since joining the walk. If the number of dogs will be reduced to a maximum of 6 the price will become prohibited and we will have to stop sending our dog for walks. Many other dog owners will do the same and this will impact the community and industry. Alternative solutions: *Licensing professionals to walk larger groups *Enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control' which is already in place *Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them.
936	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog walker Kimmy has all dogs under control when she walks and we want to support her being able to keep her business open. We really value her and the care she takes for all the dogs. All of them are on leash and in control at all times so by limiting the dogs to 6 it will only impact her income. I support all dogs being under control but maybe you could seperate the rule for registered dog walkers so they have an exception. Thank you
985	Support		I agree that it would be too difficult to manage more than 6 dogs at any time.
1121	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe the dog handler can justify and decide what they are capable to do. Doesn't need the law to restrict it.
1232	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the number of dogs limits operators who do multiple dog pack dates - on farms and reserves. Dogs benefit from pack adventures, and this would end those adventures simply by limiting the number of dogs who can participate.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1268	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Registered dog walker businesses would need more dogs to walk to make their business viable - more regulation and control of who can have a dog walk business proof of business who employs people who have completed animal management courses - think the issue is not numbers but control and 'cowboys' operating these businesses- regulate and register so there is accountability ~ socialisation is important for dogs , pack walks help enormously in ensuring this happens with a trusted and experienced dog handler. Personally I have a large dog, with him mixing, exercising, socialising off and on lead with a pack of about 12 -15 (two dog handlers) has helped him with walks in my neighbourhood- he is well socialised as he has encountered all types of dogs on his adventures - if he didn't have this experiences I feel it would be much harder and less socialised if he just walked on lead on the street where we live. My dogs pack walker has trained him to walk respectively not dragging me down the street he is now a controlled walker and has respect and responds to those walking him. This is because my dogs pack walker walker has trained him and trusts him off lead when she goes on adventures with him. In conclusion I support registered dog walk businesses to have regulations and accreditation but not to limit number of dogs they walk off and on lead.
1306	Support		I support this, mainly due to the recent news about attacks on pedestrians by dogs in the presence of the owners.
1366	Do not support		Dog walking businesses with multiple dogs on or off leash are not the problem Individuals with usually 2 or less dogs are not controlling their dogs on or off leash. No patrolling of Milford Beach is done Public dog owners constantly breach the rules
1384	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs can responsibly be walked as a pack by professional pack walkers as this provides an important service to many Auckland residents who are responsible dog owners. The proposed limits on pack walking will make the service unaffordable and pack walkers will lose their livelihood. I do however think pack walkers should be regulated as a professional service to avoid issues with the general public.
1396	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Not safe to have so many dogs wit one person in public places - they cannot watch them all adequately particularly if some are off lead.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1432	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There is no explanation as to the problem the Council is seeking to fix. I can only presume that the Council is concerned that dog walkers are not in control of multiple dogs. If that assumption is correct, there may be other ways to address this problem e.g. licence dog walkers, require them to demonstrate their abilities, etc. It would be3 helpful to have explained why a change is required.
1452	Support		In my opinion it is possible to control more than 2 dogs both on and off leash. Especially if they are not fully trained to respond to owners commands
1522	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I have learned that 0.7% of dog incidents were incurred by dog walkers. Having your dog rangers monitoring these walkers diverts them from 99.3% of the potential incidents. Best to licence professional dog walkers. Cheaper for the Council and allows the service to continue for people who need the service.
1558	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If the dogs are trained and controlled 6 should be allowed off leash.
1619	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	there should be an allowance for the profession dog walkers to manage their dogs and be able to make a income from this. This people must be a registered company paying Income Tax and registered with the council, proof of invoicing clients . (they can be removed from the council register if found not to be in control of their dogs)
1620	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	we do not need more rules or bylaws that are enforceable, you simply cannot manage local current laws how do you propose to manage more, put our rates and taxes up more?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1687	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I frequently use a professional dog walker that will take my dog with a group of other dogs out for walks. Having a large group of dogs and being able to run around off leash (in off leash parks) with these other dogs is incredibly beneficial to his socialisation as a young puppy and is essential for improving his training: Setting a limit to just 3 dogs off leash at a time and 6 dogs on leash means my dog and many others will no longer have these socialisation opportunities and freedom to properly exercise. I believe that if there are significant issues in having too many dogs uncontrolled due to having too many dogs together at one time, that is up to individual walkers responsibility and it can be addressed case by case when issues occur. Setting limits that in turn will limit and disadvantage many that have great control still over large groups of dogs and are responsible in what they are doing is not fair or appropriate in managing the problem, This proposal will create issues in crucial socialisation opportunities and training in dogs and will disadvantage those that do this for a living/could result in lost job opportunities.
1691	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The key to this is the dogs have to be under control. Professional dog trainers/walkers should therefore not have to be constrained like this
1737	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dogs are under control why are they a nuisance. I think the council should focus on important council business such as roading and infrastructure, and not waste its time telling people how to manage their pets. If there is no regulation that outlines that people are responsible for nuisance, damage and injury caused by their pets then put one in place and be done with it.
1758	Support		Dogs for a pack and especially so in large numbers. The person in control would have difficulty keeping multiple dogs under control
1852	Support		Too many dog walkers having large packs of dogs that is not healtht for the dogs
1862	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs being exercised by expert dog trainers, under control and well behaved (Dog Squad and Kim's K9s being two examples) pose no risk to anybody. Try rounding up the unregistered and aggressive dogs that are roaming our streets in South Auckland instead if changing the legislation to undermine the great service to dogs and their responsible owners that these businesses provide.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1885	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The key is the dogs should be under control. Our professional dog walker and her colleagues do this. There will always be irresponsible owners and walkers, penalise them first regardless of the number of dogs.
1931	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Waste of tax payer money to change the rules. The rule-breakers will continue to break the rules, and Council does not have enough people to enforce even the current rules as it is.
1954	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most people walking more than 6 dogs at once are professional dog trainers that know what they are doing and have the dogs under control. Our dogs have so much fun on their pack walks and I think it is unfair to take this away from them.
1985	Support		Any more than this and they're not really under control
1986	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Owners that use dog walkers are the responsible owners who want to make sure their dogs have enough exercise. They check dog walkers and trust them. Walks with multiple dogs is a great way for dogs to socialise. Those dogs are well socialised and come from responsible households, so walks with multiple dogs in NOT an issue. Dogs roaming streets in south and west Auckland are the issue. Please don’t change the rules and give our well behaved dogs being walked with their dog friends while owners are at work.
2010	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This would restrict pack walking which provides significant benefits for dogs. Pack walkers typically avoid busy areas so there is little risk to others if pack walkers continue with a group of dogs including any amount off lead. The restriction is over-zealous and would create additonal costs for dog owners (i.e. costs would increase to dog owners if pack walkers had to reduce the number they could have).

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2027	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Licensed Dog Owners: Owners who demonstrate responsible dog ownership through a licensing system should have the right to walk more dogs simultaneously. Licensing criteria could include: Proof of training in handling multiple dogs. Evidence of well-behaved and socialized dogs. General Public Guidelines: For unlicensed individuals, a maximum of four dogs may be walked at once. No more than two dogs should be off-leash in designated off-leash areas to ensure safety and prevent disturbances.
2046	Support		I do Tai Chi with other older people at Fort Takapuna. Our classes have been interrupted by private and commercial dog walkers letting their dogs run through the class risking a fall for any of us.
2051	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In my experience as a dog owner using dog walkers and encountering dog walkers in public places the companies that walk dogs are careful and responsible with the dogs. I have never had any problem experiences with dog walkers in my 30 years of dog ownership - but have had plenty with individual dog owners and their dogs. Our dog walkers have been knowledgeable and helped us immensely with our dogs training and happiness. Limiting dog numbers will put these services above the financial reach of most dog owners.
2085	Support		Difficult to monitor more than three off leash dogs and know that they are safe and other wildlife is safe and young children are safe especially children who are scared of dogs. Separating dogs when they are agressive can be dangerous - lower numbers are better.
2107	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Pack walking in our public spaces is so good for a dogs wellbeing. The way that dogs naturally walk and run and play is in packs. I find most dogs are actually better behaved on walks when they're in a well run pack, off leash. Pack walks are run my professionals who know how to manage them. The more of this type of walking the better for dogs wellbeing, and when dogs are looked after well they don't cause issues. If they're well walked and socialised they are much less likely to cause issues.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2117	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dogs participate in a pack walk with the number of dogs varying. The dogs are under control and we are not aware of any issues caused by the number of dogs. Mandating the number seems arbitrary and uncertain of what the concerns are to instigate this need for a change.
2121	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This will have a hugely negative impact on the dog walking industry as the actual trained professionals that are providing huge amounts of help and training to dogs, will no longer be able to do there job properly. Whilst the cowboys that can't control there dogs and aren't sufficiently training dogs will still be able to carry on which solves no problem. I think licensing should become a standard and all dog walkers/trainers must have a license to show they are a professional and qualified to walk larger groups. I also think the 'dogs under control' policy that already exists should be enforced more. Provide education and support to go public and how they can access adequate training from professionals.
2173	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This does not specify how big the dogs are allowed to be. There is a big difference between dog sizes and whether or not owners or dog sitters, etc. could control them if they react to other dogs or certain situations. I have trouble hanging onto one large dog on occasion and she has pulled my husband over.
2186	Support		Three dogs off a Leash is heaps.
2322	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A person who's walking more then two dogs must have them on leads and no more then four on lead at a time. This is to ensure they can control them. More then two dogs off lead can not be reliably controlled. Those woalking the maximum amount of dogs should not be able to have dogs known to be aggressive (pitbulls/ Rottweilers, staffies) included as again they can't be reliably controlled when the walker is also responsible for other dogs.
2419	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I walk my dog every day and never have i seen this supposed 'emerging trend' of multiple dogs being walked by a single individual. If this proposed change is in relation to 'dog-walking/sitting/day care' services where there are multiple dogs due to be under the control of a single individual, then the change should be for business situations rather than just being a blanket rule to affect all of the public. i have come instances where families have a large number of dogs and if they were to take all of the dogs to a public space with your proposed change, there would be an inequality of enjoyment between dogs both on and off-leash. this is incorrect.
2461	Support		Better understanding and responsibility for dog walkers and owners

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2536	Support		Often run at by dogs while walking on Takapuna beach, been hit by dogs and often worried when taking grand children for walks there and at playgrounds — mostly off lead dogs but sometimes dogs on leads.
2550	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Maximising the limit of dogs doesn't solve the problem of having dogs under control. I've seen dog walkers with packs of 12 with total full control of all 12 dogs yet seen dog owners with one dog that they can't control at all
2626	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are many professional dog walkers in Auckland who are able to safely manage many more dogs without issue. 12-15 dogs per handler is common. Limiting the number of dogs they can walk will make their service unaffordable for me, meaning my dogs will need to stay at home while I work. This will mean bored, unsocialised dogs which could cause probelms with barking, escaping and anti social behaviour, due to the loss of 'pack walks'
2775	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe the professional dog walking companies are doing a great job. The problems stem from a small number of dog owners who either do not care or are not responsible for their dogs.
2826	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Providing the dogs are under control, I don't believe it matters. I haven't seen any issue with dog walkers personally and then ones I have seen, have their packs under control.
2845	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposals are far too lenient. Dog owners struggle to maintain control of 1-2 dogs.
2911	Support		It boarders on impossible to handle a larger no of dogs especially when a dog reacts to something in their close proximity

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2944	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Putting limits on the amount of dogs one person can walk at any one time hugely limits the dog walking industry. As a customer of that industry and also being disabled; pack walks is a huge help to ensuring my dog is trained and excercised and socialised in a safe and controlled enviroment. Limiting the number of dogs will practically kill this industry as limited spaces will drive pricing up making it unaffordable for most. I think that regulations in this industry is good however it should focus on the handlers potentially being licensed. there are many dog walkers, some have no training/studied in animal behaviour, these are the people that make pack walks etc dangerous as they lack the skills and knowledge to keep control of a pack.
3111	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My dog has been walked with a place called Pet Adventures for most of his 5 years of life. He had to do a weekend induction course to be accepted and find the correct pack to fit with. They are extremely qualified and extremely professional and I do not feel the proposal allows for such people. They should be able to apply to meet some form of certification that allows them to operate. I have seen many dogs on a one to one ratio (one dog one owner) who are far less controlled than the packs that walk with Caleb and Melissa’s team.
3143	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This potential change has several negative implications: Reduced exercise and socialisation: Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Increased stress and frustration: Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. Difficulty managing multiple dogs on lead: Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe. Increased cost: Auckland's Dog Owners will have to pay more to have their dog walked by a Professional Dog Walker.
3149	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum Two dogs only until dog owners begin to follow existing dog rules or more animal management staff are available to monitor owner behavior.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3349	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I cannot support the council's new bylaws limiting the number of dogs that can be walked at once. While I understand the need to ensure safety and harmony in our community, these restrictions miss the mark. They focus too much on the number of dogs and not enough on the true issue: the skills, qualifications, and responsibilities of the owners and handlers who have no control. As our population grows, so does pet ownership. This brings unique challenges, as caring for a dog requires time, effort, and understanding of their needs. Professional dog walkers play a pivotal role in meeting these demands, offering not just convenience but also invaluable expertise. My dog walker, for example, has been instrumental in helping my dog become well-rounded, socialized, and well-behaved. Walking with a pack of more than six dogs has been an essential part of my dog's learning process. It provides her with opportunities to socialize, practice good behaviour, and interact with humans and other dogs under controlled conditions. This, combined with the work I do at home, has fostered a dog who thrives in various situations. Modern behavioural science has taught us a great deal about dogs and their needs. As responsible pet owners, we are learning that it is not just about managing the dog but also about educating ourselves on how to better support them. Limiting the number of dogs in a pack may seem like a simple solution, but it ignores the root cause. We need a practical, evidence-based
3579	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Instead, it penalizes professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3643	Support		All dogs off leash have to be able to be trained to respond to basic commands. One individual have the capacity to only be able to care for only 3 dogs, off leash should be trained to respond to basic commands. Any dog that doesn't respond to basic commands should not be allowed to be able to walk on public grounds without a leash. I don't agree that one individual would be able to care for 6 dogs at the same time off leash. Should be maximum 3 dogs off leash per carer. A dog that it's reactive should not be able to walk on public grounds off leash. As it may attack other dogs that approach to them. As well as children. Should be mandatory to educate dogs owners to have the awareness to ask the owner of the dog before approaching, to make sure the dog it's not reactive or if the dog likes to be approached.
3688	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because you don't have the right to control how many dogs I chose to own
3727	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and this provides services for my dogs.
3762	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Some dogs are small and are easier to handle others are large and well behaved. Hard to put a limit on this. If you reduce dog walking pack size, costs of dog walking will increase too
3846	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers are able to control and manage more dogs than the proposed limit. Each professional dog walking organization should be assessed and provided a license and graded against a different dog limit.
3880	Support		Three dogs is enough for one person to handle off leash. This will provide a safe environment for both the dog owner and other dog owners in controlling dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3912	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have been running a dog walking business for the last two years. On each of my walks, I have my own dog and usually three other dogs (no more than four others, ie: a maximum of five dogs at a time). All dogs are off leash at our walk location, they are under control and have good recall. I have no issue with six dogs being the maximum number to be walked at one time but ask that the proposed changes allow for four dogs to be permitted off lead instead of the currently proposed three dogs. I believe that this would still ensure healthy happy dogs and a safe environment for the public and other dog's and their owners.
3919	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not agree with people having 3 uncontrolled dogs - one is challenging enough
4048	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog currently goes on pack walks with a walker who takes 6-8 dogs per walk. She has qualifications in dog handling and dog training. She knows what she is doing. The dogs are assessed before they join the pack and she has the pack under control at all times. The critical aspect of the current regulation is that 'dogs must be under control'. If dogs are taken out by a competent handler, there should not be a problem. Surely the focus on this regulation should be on the competence of the dog walker and not on pack numbers. Imposing a limit on the numbers of dogs in a walking pack will mean the cost of pack walks will become financially unviable for dog owners. I am currently required to work in the office for 3 days per week. If these proposed changes are introduced, our dog walker's business is likely to go under and/or the cost per walk will become prohibitive for owners. If that happens, our dog will need to be left at home by himself while we are at work. That is not in the dog's best interests, or our neighbours' best interests. There may also be an unintended consequence of owners needing to give their pets away because they are not able to care for them.
4183	Support		Walking multiple dogs is risky, and the limit of 3 is a practical one.
4260	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If you're already suggesting six just have six on/off lead. Most are good dog walkers who have control of all their dogs. Let's not let a couple of bad eggs change the rules for everyone
4319	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 3 dogs all on leash. No person can safely control multiple dogs especially if off leash in the presence of other dogs or animals incl birds or people.
4344	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It's not the dogs it's the owners. Your own data shows that it is individual owners who are creating the vast majority of the issues we have with dogs. Certainly professional dog walkers should be better controlled and policed by introducing licensing but it's the lazy, bad dog owner that needs focusing on.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4375	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I believe ALL dogs should be on leash. Keeping tabs on more than one dog off leash whilst controlling others is not realistic. Not all dogs are well trained and 'professional' dog walkers have no licence or formal training.
4387	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Many dogs and their owners benefit from Having the option of their dogs going on pack walks. By changing the rules it would make it too expensive and that will be detrimental to the number of dogs who enjoy pack walks. These dogs will just be left at home all day, terrible for dogs!!!
4406	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is very important for all dogs to learn to socialize and be calm when out. It's also a great way for dogs to get a great day of exercise. I have an auto-immune disease, I certainly cannot take my dogs out for long walks and I rely on a great pack walk company to do that for my dogs. They come back content, calm and tired.
4463	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Differentiate between private dog owners and pack walkers and introduce licensing for professional dog walking services. This would encourage people to get trained to handle multiple dogs and stop the public from walking a lot of dogs at once, at the very least you need to involve the PDWA in your decision making they are the industry experts.
4473	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be different rules for professional dog walkers versus the public, listen to the PDWA who are suggesting a licensed approach so that professionals can still operate. The limit of 6 for professionals is ridiculous. There are different rules for what qualified trades can do vs a regular DIY home owner, dog walking should be the same, these are trained professional.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4530	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support dog walking businesses who pack walk groups of dogs. Rules as proposed would essentially put these small business out of business overnight. If there is concern about large groups of dogs being walked together I suggest establishing a licensing regime for businesses who are dog walkers, where those businesses could be certified as safe pack walkers. While some pack walkers do not well control their dogs groups, many do, including the one our family uses. Our dog walker is able to recall the entire group in seconds, and they all sit and wait while another group or animal (such as a horse) passes by. I would also be interested in an analysis of complaints about dog behaviour to see how many of these actually arise from large groups of dogs being walked. I suspect we have more problems with roaming dogs, or poorly trained dogs out just alone with owners.
4546	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A professional dog walker such as Nikki of Doggy Bush Break in Omaha can walk a dozen dogs and have them under control either on or off lead. Off leash time is important in a dogs walk. How are dogs going to be able to have a run on the beach (in winter) with such stringent protocols?
4547	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have an amazing dog trainer that picks up my dog and 8-10 other dogs for a pack walk. My dog had benefitted so much from it and loves heading out every week. Reducing the limits will mean our trainer will have to increase her prices to make ends meet, which we won't be able to afford. Why punish people who are doing good things?
4684	Support		Anymore would be very difficult to control if a third party7's dog cam on the scene
4773	Support		It can be difficult to control dogs in settings outside the home that are being walked by someone who is not the owner. Also assumes dogs are trained and have recall. It is better for the safety of the walker and members of public that the amount of dogs walked on leash is lowered. If it's walking them on an adventure in a large farmland area then I would support up to 6 dogs off leash but not in more urban settings.
4790	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Too many dogs, too much poop left behind
4825	Support		It is not easy to control a lot of dogs. and 6 sounds like a good start.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4885	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The idea of limiting the number of dogs an individual can walk, and how many can be off leash fails to strike a fair balance between dog owners and non-dog owners (who have to accept public spaces are shared and they can't ring fence all the best areas to themselves all the time). In the policy information a driver for this change is said to be that more and more Aucklanders have one or more dogs. What your policy doesn't recognise is that many responsible owners employ professional dog walkers to walk their dogs in groups for socialisation and exercise. Arguably this helps reduce other anti-social behaviour like barking and improves many dogs sociability - a positive outcome. This policy is targeting those dog walkers and by extension responsible dog owners. I would like to see professional walkers licensed (so only qualified walkers could hold a licence) and some parks, beaches and regional parks designated as off-leash and dog friendly' between 6am and 12pm every weekday, so professional dog walkers can freely walk their packs. People who don't wish to share these spaces with dogs or dogs off-leash can stay away as they will have access after 12pm and on weekends. That would seem to strike more of a balance between competing interests. Nothing in your proposed change is directed at dogs welfare. Many dogs in Auckland live in apartments or have only small yards. Many dog owners work. Dogs do need to run and let out energy, which is impossible on leash. Dogs also need the company of other dogs and the stimulation of interesting outdoor spaces such as forests, beaches and open spaces. Dog parks seldom provide this type of environment. Requiring dogs in groups to be almost always
4900	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	it works well. If changed the dog walkers businesses will not remain viable
5009	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Rules will put dog walkers out of business, no evidence that the number of dogs directly related to dog attacks/ lost dogs ect. Waste of resources trying to police dog walkers. A licence to walk dogs is ridiculous .

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5124	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There hasn't been a problem, stop creating more rules. Soon there will be a rule where everything will break a rule.
5136	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	There are many reputable dog walking companies that walk many dogs at a time without problems. The dogs are taken for trial walks to ensure that they do not cause a problem in the pack and to make sure that they will not affect other users of public areas. These are professional, competent dog walkers working for reputable companies. Less than 1% of all problems with dogs have arisen from these professional dog walkers. This proposal should be aimed at individuals in crowded areas that do not have their dogs properly trained or under control. A better resolution to whatever the issue is that council is trying to resolve (still not quite clear on what problem is trying to be fixed) could be managed by licensing dog walking companies ensuring that dog walkers have the proper training to manage multiple dogs. It is unusual for a council (or government) to legislate individuals and companies with the same rules and this should not happen in this instance either. I would recommend that before any decision is made, councillors go on a 'pack walk' with a reputable company and observe for themselves how these walks are managed and how the dogs behave. My dog has been going on organised 'pack walks' for about 6 years now and there has never been a problem. I sincerely hope that the council do not punish the many for the lack of control of the few.
5144	Support		If walking 3 or more dogs they should only be on leash as an owner cannot control all 3 dogs at any one time. 2 dogs off leash, under control are acceptable but 3 or more should be on a leash at all times.
5151	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are plenty of responsible dog walkers that will be affected and it's not fair.
5192	Support		some people let their dogs run at beaches and parks and make the place unsafe and unpleasant.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5215	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I've sometimes seen dog-walkers arriving in a van, with multiple dogs, including some larger ones and often wondered if all are under control, especially because the walkers are not owners. Six still seems quite a lot.
5307	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There should be no change to the current rule. However, I would recommend the consideration that persons doing the multiple dog walking should be a current member of the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), much easier for Council to manage
5346	Support		Even 3 dogs off leash is too much for one person to manage. They would have to be incredibly well trained and most are not. On leash the same. Extendable leashes are dangerous as you have to predict where the do will go and if you will trip over someone's leash when they are not paying attention.
5348	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The council have more of an issue with roaming dogs, chained dogs and dogs that are not fixed. I support a licence for dog walkers that are highly trained and who have the skill to handle multiple dogs not a person advertising on facebook to make some money. I have been using a dog walking service called Pet Adventures for 6 years twice a week since adopting my Bull Terrier at aged 18 months who was chained in south auckland. Without the training they have given my dog over the years and the service to walk her with other dogs for the social aspect she would of ended up an aggressive chained dog . She needs this interaction and I can't take her to public places around Auckland and give her the freedom that they provide her. All their staff are trained for months before they walk these dogs on their own and they have good control over them. Their staff do not change and my dog is with the same dogs and handler every week. If they feel she needs to be on a lead some days they do not hesitate to do so. When people work full time this service is important for social skills of the animal and makes them a better dog in the community. There is no. one else i would trust to care for my dog

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5557	I don’t know		Proposal: Keep the 6 dog limit for any high traffic parks/reserves. For any lower traffic areas, make exceptions for professional dog walkers. This can be policed with some kind of licensing and/or course which can hold people accountable for the dogs they walk. Pros: - Keeps high traffic parks/reserves safer by keeping the limit while still allowing dog walkers to stay in business. - Auckland council is able to police dog walkers easier and hold them accountable. - Brings in revenue for auckland council in the form of walkers paying for licensing and fines for any misconduct. - Dog walkers give dogs a chance to the dogs to socialize properly and release energy. If they aren't able to do their job, there will be more under stimulated, aggressive, un-socialized, neglected dogs that will likely be surrendered which will just add to the already massive pressure on any rescue centres. Cons: - There is risk that people will pretend to have a license to get around the rules - there could be confusion as to what would be classed as a high traffic park/reserve - dog walkers that walk in highly populated areas like auckland central may not be able to walk there anymore.
5598	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe that there should only be a maximum of two dogs allowed with non off-leash. The mayhem that I observe every day at both Takapuna and Narrowneck beaches needs to be addressed. Dogs running loose on the beaches outside the dog hours while their owners ignore their dogs behaviour is a health and safety hazard not to mention that some owners do not remove their pets poo.
5599	Support		I think 6 is a reasonable number, and even quality, responsible dog walkers would struggle to control more than 6 dogs per person.
5722	Support		Even the best walkers have to have eyes in the back of their heads

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5943	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The number of dogs they handle is not a problem. as not every dog causes a problem. The dog walkers only take the certain number of dogs that they can handle. Many families rely on dog walking services. Limiting the number of dogs will reduce the chance for the dogs to hangout with friends while the owner is busy with work. Doggies care can be another option but some dogs are not suitable with doggie day care. Some dogs are not good with doggie daycare as there are too many dogs attending and the dogs may need more attention.
6132	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. I am a dog walker who services Auckland dogs in West Auckland & North Shore. I have been operating since 2021 and currently walk 75 dogs every week. I do not the proposed limit because: 1. The data does not support that people walking more than three dogs off lead are creating a problem. Incident data presented by Auckland Council showed only 0.7% of complaints related to people walking more than two dogs, meaning those walking more than three must be even less. In addition the data used to support that there is a problem and presented to council in July 2024 was based on a survey of 2,000 civically minded people and its interpretation by Council is seriously flawed and fails to show that over half of respondents had never had an issue with people walking more than two dogs. The survey also doesn't ask how many people had seen more than three dogs being walked at once. There have been more than 2,750 signatures on the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition opposing this proposed limit so more than 2,750 people don't think there is an issue when less than 1,000 respondents to the peoples panel think they saw more than two dogs being walked causing a problem. 2. The change unfairly targets professional dog walkers only. Auckland Council staff have said that they are not targeting professional dog walkers, but this bylaw change will only impact
6270	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't understand the completely arbitrary number 6? Where has that come from and what research have you done to justify this? My dog very happily walks in a much bigger group with professional dog trainers and they've never had an issue. Fine those who's dogs are not under control but don't restrict those who do it well and ruin their livelihood

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6280	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking is an important service that helps to meet the daily requirements of each dogs. If the dogs don't get adequate exercise and training that the dog walkers provide it can lead to behaviour problems in dogs and therefore making the lives of the dog owners difficult. Limiting the number of dogs that can be walked won't change the current issue but providing training and education to the dog handlers makes a huge difference in long run
6477	Do not support		Professional dog walkers overall manage their dogs well. The issue is irresponsible owners who do not care, train and let overall aggressive dogs roam free. Dog owners (including myself) should have to get a licence to show they can care for their dog before they can purchase a dog. We pay a dog's licence but it's meaningless apart from a tax to own and contribute to emptying bins.
6643	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe a restriction in numbers is needed, but should be set at 8 dogs with ALL dogs able to be off lead. It is in fact harder to control and manage a group of dogs if some of them must be on lead, especially when in an off lead area where other dogs will be off leash and inevitably approach the on lead dogs. It is not fair or reasonable to have a rule that requires some dogs to be on lead in an off lead area just because they are part of a group of more than 3. Allow a reasonable number of dogs (8) to be walked by one handler and for those dogs to be allowed off lead and under control in an off lead area.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6720	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I disagree with the proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) as it fails to address the actual challenges within the dog community. The real issues stem from owners and walkers who lack control over their dogs, as well as roaming, unattended dogs—not from responsible professional dog walkers. This policy unfairly penalizes experienced professionals who have consistently demonstrated their ability to manage multiple dogs safely, reliably, and effectively. As someone with a highly nervous dog, I've seen firsthand the critical role professional dog walkers play in ensuring proper exercise, socialization, and training. For the past four years, my dog has participated in pack walks, significantly reducing her anxiety and behavioural challenges. Exposure to different environments and diverse groups of dogs, under the guidance of skilled professionals, has built both her confidence and mine. Imposing an arbitrary limit overlooks the expertise required to walk multiple dogs safely. Instead, a practical, evidence-based approach—developed in consultation with industry experts like the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA)—would be far more effective in addressing concerns while supporting responsible dog ownership. Alternative Solution: Professional Dog Walker Licensing System Rather than imposing blanket limits, introduce a licensing system for professional dog walkers, allowing them to handle more dogs (e.g., up to 15) based on training, certification, and adherence to a strict code of conduct
6725	Support		In Devonport outside the public library a friend observed a dog on an extendable lead trip up and injure an elderly lady. Please consider making it a requirement that in crowded areas such as Devonport's Victoria Road during shopping hours and early evening dogs being walked should be on a short leash so that the dog walker has better control of the dog. I understand that extendable leads can be locked to temporarily shorten them. This episode happened when ONE dog was being walked. I think that the proposed limit on the number of dogs which can be walked at one time will improve safet'y
FRANKLIN LOCAL BOARD			
48	Support		Because dogs are unpredictable and a singlr person cannot manage that many dogs and not fair to the general public
51	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	As a dog owner I feel walking 2 dogs is a good limit but understand some may have more dogs than this. It worries me the level of control would be compromised walking more than 4 dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
62	Support		Persons walking dogs need to be able to have control of all dogs they are in posession of, if any situation arises they beed to be able to handle all dogs at once.
93	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 12 dogs and no limit to how many are off lead if the responsible, knowledgeable, professional dog walker is walking the dogs. Council needs to consult with PDWA on a licensing program to ensure the right people are walking other people's dogs. They also need to be honest with the public about how many of these complaints are about multi dogs or professional dog walkers before this ruins an entire industry and leads to a bunch more problems with dogs being undertrained, under exposed, under socialised and under exercised.
253	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think this will affect alot of dog walking business owners who in my experience are professionals in what they do, they are expericed dog handlers and you will take their business off them. If this does come into affect you should have an exception for those who apply for a special license which allows dog walkers to be exempt from this rule
318	Support		I cannot see why anyone would need to have more than this - if so, they should have their own property to walk dogs.
350	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because most owners only have 1-2 dogs and yet they are constant issues with roaming, attacking other dogs/people ect. The number of dogs plays no part in change as it does not address these issues. It only affects professional walkers and in that case there needs to be a licencing procedure to varify how competent the walker is.
438	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I work as a dog trainer run Auckland and have done so for the past 20 years. Over this time it has become increasingly unsafe in public parks due to business operating in these public spaces " walking" dogs. These handlers often have way too many dogs and no control over them. This is not only unsafe for the public but out those very dogs at risk as well. I support an amendment to the bylaws allowing only smaller numbers of dogs to be walked by one handler.
509	Support		Even 6 is ridiculous. If you have one lady walking 6 rotfilers how on earth is she going to control them? Even 3 sheep dogs is too many. I've seen this go wrong multiple times. You must mad if you think 6 should be allowed.
608	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	This will reduce the risk of any incidents. If an incident is to occur with Dogs off lead, you only have to focus on getting 2 back on lead and under control this is more achievable and less risky. A single person cannot control more than 4 dogs safely in a public area, for example if a dog was to attack or be attacked, you now have 4 dogs attached to you (potentially 2 off lead) that you have to try get back under control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
679	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No off leash dogs should be allowed. There are dog owners who are unable to control their pets and this can pose a serious danger to the general public
681	Support		Dog walkers are unlicensed , anyone can set themselves to be a dog walker. This may go some way to reducing the threat of multiple dogs charging at vehicles, people and other dogs. I would like to see dog walkers being licensed and having completed appropriate training.
703	Support		I walk two dogs one and off the lead
711	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Those walking multiple dogs would normally be professionals and are probably very capable of handling them, any issue would mean upset owners and reduced income so I think this by unnecessary
837	Support		I support a maximum but believe it should be maximum of four with no more than two off leash
844	Support		There have been several several incidents incidences where dog walkers have been walking ~20 dogs where dogs have been attacked because of lack of control
847	Support		need to avoid dog developing a pack mentality and become out of control
862	Support		There have been some horrific attacks from dog walkers losing control of their dogs. There should be a limit on the number of dogs on a property/ owned by 1 family
866	Support		I support fully that there should be a capped limit of dogs someone can walk. Dogs can be unpredictable especially when walking in a pack. And there has been a number of incidents with this happening. I know resulting in someone's beloved pet dying.
906	Support		I have encountered people walking packs in the past, there were several dogs (10+) and it seems alot for one person to manage, even if they were the best behaved dogs. Limiting the numbers of dogs in a pack walk is a good idea.
958	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 2 Dogs and none off Leash
999	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I was the person whose dog was mauled to death in a Whitford Bridle Track last April. It took just three of the at least 14 off leash dogs to kill Kippa. The dogs also bit me. This new limit will not stop this incident from happening again. It's not a safe place to walk anymore. How sad that residents of Auckland feel unsafe walking in this beautiful area.

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1017	Support		I have seen a dog walker with 6 medium sized dogs ATTACHED TO A BELT AROUND THEIR WAIST.This looked like a potential disaster ie all dogs taking off at the same time...We have also experienced dog walkers tipping a mob of dogs -all off lead-onto one of our beaches where our shorebird monitors have protected zones for nesting.Another incidence of too many dogs free running, out of control, ,chasing cattle through a fence from one of our very few paper road accesses .Managing dogs which are not actually owned is always going to be more of a challenge-the safety aspects need full consideration. ,Even expert dog handlers can get out of their depth. Are dog walkers are getting too greedy ?Can they run a successful business running several smaller groups per day?
1030	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are professional and experienced dog walkers who walk more than 6 dogs at a time. From my experience there is never any trouble with such dog walkers. The issues are usually caused by people with one or two dogs.
1052	Support		one person cannot control too many dogs in public. should be allowed on private land tough.
1065	Support		Agree with this change due to the number of dogs being walked at one time to reduce intimidation
1115	Support		I live at a beach & during summer holidays, people bring dogs & often let them loose.
1123	Support		to many innocent dogs are being attacked by out of control dogs
1163	Support		It seems many pack walkers take more dogs than they can handle and it's unsafe. I understand they need to make money but it shouldn't comprise safety.
1182	Support		The bigger the pack the more unpredictable they may become
1206	Support		I fully support this limit as too many people with no experience call themselves dog walkers. The have no control over multiple dogs and as soon as you have 2 or more dogs together a pack mentality forms and the dogs react as such. Too many individual dogs are being attacked or intimidated by grou walkers.
1288	Support		This prevent pack working with untrained individuals. And hopefully controls largely difficult suituations of multiple dogs in attack
1312	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	3 or more dogs off leash become a pack with more potential for excitable behaviour. It is significantly harder to keep an eye on 3 off leash dogs than 2.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1314	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Because to many pack dog walkers who can't control dogs. No way a young female can hold 6 dogs if they all wanted to go chase something and that's on the leash let alone off the leash!! Plus they aren't the owners of the dogs so chances are even less of the dogs listening to them. As a horse rider who regular rides at council parks it's terrifying to have one dog come at you let alone 6!! It puts my horses life at risk and mine if my horse spooks at the dogs coming at us and I fall off. It's just way too dangerous having all these random young girls out walking 10-15 dogs at one time, and not only that they are charging $55 a dog an hour!! You do the maths
1319	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 7 all on leads in a public place. Off lead only in designated dog areas.
1336	Support		My preference would be to make the limit 2 dogs per person. There is no way owners can control 3 off-leash dogs.
1382	Support		When I walk my dogs I need to have control over them and be able to trust that others do too. Limiting the number of dogs will help create safe spaces for all.
1389	Support		I actually think it should be less than 6 dogs. Dogs are pack animals and follow the "leader" there are too many incidents of multiple dogs causing harm. Not necessarily the dogs fault but still irresponsible owners out there
1392	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dogs are pack animals. The alpha dog is usually the owner of the dog and thus the dog is controlled in this way. Professional dog walkers are not the owners and thus are not seen as the alpha male by the dogs and are therefore not in as much control or in the worst cases I have seen have no control at all. All professional dog walkers should be licensed and have compulsory insurance and only be allowed to have two dogs off leash under circumstances where they have control and dogs will obey command.
1413	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If someone is walking multiple dogs none should be off lead as that is dangerously to other walkers and dogs. Dogs are pack animals and it only takes 1 to run and the others will follow
1422	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	New limit is too low and penalises responsible professional dog trainers who train/ walk multiple dogs and are very safety conscious. The solution needs to be to strongly enforce the "under control" rule and prosecute those that walk dogs irresponsibly.
1475	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Too many dog attacks with people walking other peoples dogs. Also some owners cannot control one dog by themselves so 2 is too much for some owners. Four is plenty and with the correct training, that should be proven and certified, should be manageable.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1481	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	"Dog walkers" who wish to walk multiple dogs (that aren't their own animals) should have to register themselves & their business with their local council. They should have to prove that they can responsibly handle the dogs they are walking. They should have records of whose dogs they are walking each day, along with the council registration number of each dog. No registration, no records, no walk. The daily record should be carried by the walker during the outing. All dogs under the care of the dog walker should remain on-leash. If they can't / won't register their dog walking business, chances are they're operating illegally anyway (not declaring income etc.). The council should be able to issue fines on the spot - e.g. $200 per dog that isn't registered / isn't on record. In saying that, I know multiple people with 4+ dogs - usually agility / obedience dogs - that are definitely, absolutely capable of handling their own animals, both on and off-leash. The current proposed changes would mean that these people, who are responsible dog lovers & owners, cannot bring their pups out for off-leash walks in their local areas (e.g. beaches, forests local to the dog owners) - an important part of the dogs' lives & enrichment. Don't let irresponsible "dog walkers" ruin things for responsible dog owners. We didn't have anywhere near the amount of dog incidents (children bothering groups of dogs & getting hurt, dogs becoming stressed out while walking with other dogs & bothering / hurting people) until everyone needing a bit of extra cash
1485	Support		As long as a handler has control of the dogs I think this a good rule change
1493	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 2 dogs and always leashed nobody knows what a dog will do no matter how loved or trained they are.
1495	Support		Too many dog attacks in Auckland and owners underestimating their ability to control multiple dogs at once.
1499	Support		Though I believe there should be work done around regulation of commercial dog walking businesses, there could be a way they can apply to slightly extend the number of dogs they walk at one time, but would need to be able to prove they've studied animal behavior
1505	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This would not disadvantage legitimate dog walkers who know their dogs and dogs' temperaments. Your rule addresses nothing about the feral owners and their dogs that run loose. How about addressing those real issues.
1531	Support		Dogs act totally differently when in a pack, I have heard of so many attacks on people and other dogs when the pack is involved and do not think one human can control more than six dogs at a time I actually think their should be less than this

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1539	I don't know		I support change, there are laws preventing dogs from being off lead in parks but no one to make sure it happens. I had my dog put to sleep at age two due to being attacked by an off-lead dog in an on-lead park. no dog should be off lead unless in a closed space like a dog park fully fenced
1542	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe that if any of the dogs are off-leash, then the number should be capped as though they all are off-leash. It keeps it simple. I also believe there should be licensing for handling more than a certain number, it would be varied based on the trainers skillset
1565	Support		i have come across pack of dogs 10 + being walked and have felt unsafe for me and my dog.
1569	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I am a dog owner and fully understand the strength of multiple dogs pulling on leads when they decide they wish to go after something 'interesting'. 6 dogs would be fine if they were all small but for instance 6 Labradors, or 6 German Shepherds would pull a person off their feet and drag them along for the ride. I also assume this change is aimed at people who walk dogs for a living so their control of other peoples dogs on or off leash will never be as good as the control a responsible owner has due to familiarity etc.
1610	Support		There are so many dogs at parks roaming free
1611	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This rule is harmful to responsible dog walkers. Those who are causing harm currently are being irresponsible which is breaking the law it would be better to enforce the current rules rather than changing them.
1624	Support		Support but believe this limit should apply to dog walkers any where that they walk dogs. There have been instances of dog attacks by dogs being walked by walkers which have happened not on council land. I think the rule should apply to anywhere in forestry, bike trails, anywhere that dog walking is permitted.
1632	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No more than three as the walkers are not walking small dogs they are medium to large breeds and I have seen to many walkers struggling to control more than 4 on leads, the walkers are often lighter than the combine dog weights!!!
1641	Support		I support the changes but think that pack walking should not be allowed. As I have seen on a number of occasions that pack walkers don't have control of all the dogs they walk. Max of 3 dogs should be walked at a time and really should be kept on a lead this should reduce the number of instance of attacks on other dogs and people. I've seen so many news articles and post on Facebook pages of people's beloved pets being attacked be a group of dogs. Please stop this from happening.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1710	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Three dogs is too much for most people to manage safely. Also the dog walkers are making money - they should be paying an additional fee to walk in any public areas funded by ratepayers - they are making money
1726	Support		I think all dogs should be on a leash not just some. To many problems with people not training and having control of their dogs, specially when off leash.
1731	Support		Safe number of dogs to be able to manage if something does go wrong. 3 off lead is plenty. Walkers can always put one back on and take another off.
1772	Support		One person will struggle to maintain control over the number of dogs proposed but any less will place an impossible restriction on dog walking businesses
1776	Support		Simply put, restrictions are needed to ensure safety both for the dogs being walked in packs as well as other dog owners and their dogs.
1777	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dogs are under control then the number should be determined by the walker. I would rather encounter someone walking 10 dogs under control than 1 dog not controlled. The ability to control the dogs is irrelevant of the number of dogs being 6 maximum. The key is being in control.
1797	Support		It's a great idea. You could have more dogs if they are small but
1808	Support		It makes sense, dogs need to be under control and more than 6 dogs that would be very difficult, I woud even limit it further to 3 per person.
1836	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This is the dog waljkers livelihood and they need to continue to make a viable living.
1850	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Person needs to be in full control of dogs
1919	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Auckland is already a very limiting city towards being dog friendly. Our summers are short and we want to be able to enjoy them with our dogs, rather than leave our dogs at home. Rather use our annual dog registration fees to fine people who let dangerous dogs off leash than punish the rest of us who are responsible dog owners. For most , being able to take our dogs on a walk is a healthy way to manage mental health, Please don't take that away from us.
1922	Support		This is fine if your a qualified trainer or behaviorist but if your someone who woke up 1 morning and wanted to walk dogs then definitely too many. And people don't know to ask for qualifications

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1947	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	3 dogs off leash can still be dangerous, & hard to control especially when the Walker is not the owner. even two off leash can create issues. I would support maximum 6 leashed with 1 unleashed
1956	Support		There have been too many awful incidents with these unregulated pack-walkers - from other people's dogs being attacked as the walker has no way to control so many off-leash dogs, to the dogs involved in the walk going missing or being attacked. I am a huge dog lover, and I do believe that some pack walkers put in a lot of effort to ensure they have as much control as possible (I do not think this is most of them). However! It is just simply dangerous to walk with 20 dogs off-leash, for those dogs, and other people and dogs. I agree with limiting this number, or putting in some other form of regulation around pack walkers.
1968	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have seen dog walkers and they have complete control of the dogs in their care. Maybe if there were more than 10 dogs then maybe another person should be required.
1969	Support		Too many issues I've witnessed with dog walking 'organisations' taking 10 - 20 dogs at a time, most of which not on leads along bridle tracks. They cannot control that many dogs, it's all about the money not the dogs welfare
2134	Do not support	Maximum four	One person can not control more than 1 dog off leash when dogs
2158	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Those walking more than 3 dogs (on or off leash) are "pack dog walkers" so this is mainly going to effect small business owners. These dog walkers are the type that we need in our society as they are best equip to handle multiple dogs at once and they also choose locations that tend to be less populated and at times of the day that people are less affected. Its not viable to walk 3 dogs at once so there will be no pack dog walkers moving forward. Dogs need these types of walks to improve their socialisation. because they are away from their owners which tend to be triggers for them. and they learn to walk and socialise with other dogs in a calm way instead of the direct approach they get on a lead. thanks for listening
2212	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Follow CISA guidelines.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2219	Do not support		Maximum two dogs with no more than two off leash. I can't see how one person can manage two dogs on leash as well as two off leash if things go bad.
2263	Support		I live in Whitford and many people here have had dogs/horses/themselves attacked by Stimulated K9 dog pack. Some pack walkers are fantastic but there are too many bad ones that make it too risky for everyone else. We all have to make sure we walk out beloved pets after 4pm to avoid running into danger. Passing this change through is very important for community safety.
2301	Support		If anything goes wrong there is no way 1 person can handle 6 dogs especially if they are new to the industry, Dog walker should have to be experienced and registered.
2366	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support limiting the number of dogs you can walk at one time to 6. I don't support walking only some of those off-leash, with the rest on-leash, as it is impractical to keep some on-leash while the others are off-leash.
2370	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional dog walkers have been trying to get council to regulate the industry for years, now there's an incident from one idiot and again we legislate for the lowest common denominator. If licensed you should be able to walk as many as you want, perhaps maximum of 4 for an unlicensed person
2386	Support		I feel 6 dogs is a sufficient number for the dog walker to control.
2402	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Yes there need to be change but via licensing for pack walkers so those with experience and knowledge can continue their valuable service.
2475	Support		Dogs are strong and can pull walker off their feet. Recent pack incidents when group of dogs get excited.
2517	Support		Great that there are limits, HOWEVER, I would like the limits to be less. 4, 4, and 2
2526	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support maximum of 4 dogs on leash. I don't support any dogs being off-leash unless it is in an actual fenced dog park.
2532	Support		Dogs are pack animals. When we are out walkingour small dog, it is very daunting if we come across a large pack of dogs in a walking group.
2543	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I think the issue is the dog walkers that have in excess of 10 dogs in public spaces all off-leash removing the freedom of dog owners to enjoy the same area in fear of issues. But we need dog walkers and they need to be affordable. If majority are on leash they can rotate the offleash dogs giving them all a chance to sniff and play. 6 is too few for them to make a good living 8 would allow more income potential but with 4-5 on leash it’s still controlled
2737	Support		Greater confidence that dogs will be under control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2749	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For one person to be walking multiple dogs in an area where other dogs and walkers/runners are also present, I would only support a rule that ALL dogs must be on-leash. I support the 6 dog maximum, but do not support having 3 off-leash at any time. When the handler has 3 dogs on the leash and 3 off-leash, how are they going to control the off-leash dogs? If those three off-leash dogs decide to run away or attack another dog or person the handler will not be able to do anything about it as they will have their hands full with 3 dogs on-leash.
2918	Support		Agree that there needs to be a reduced limit for off-leash, as too difficult for one person to be fully monitoring more than 3 dogs.
2919	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Six dogs is too many for one person to safely control if something goes wrong. E.g. if one of the off-leash dogs runs off and does not respond to recall command. More than two dogs off leash is not safe.
2925	Support		Off leash dogs with so many others sounds dangerous
3086	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I don't believe a person will be able to control 6 dogs - far too many.
3101	Support		Support with amendment that the maximum number of dogs under control by one person should be reduced to one only. In 2021 a large dog that was "under control" of one person entered our property, threatened my family on the lawn and chased our cat across the lawn. The person "in control" of the animal in question said "I don't know what to do, I don't know what to do". We managed to back away safely and the owner got the dog away; however, this could have been very different had a child been in the garden by themselves. If it is not possible for a dog owner to maintain control over a single dog on a walk then it is beyond comprehension they could adequately control six animals. Although there is a balance, allowing a person to walk six dogs is negligent. Also recommend that if more than one dog is allowed (whatever that number may be) ALL dogs must be on a leash - same reasons as above.
3106	Support		A PERSON CANNOT CONTROL MORE DOGS. I DON'T ACTUALLY BELIEVE THEY CAN CONTROL 6 LARGE DOGS, SIZE SHOULD ALSO BE A FACTOR.
3108	Support		I would prefer 2 off leash and 4 on. It's difficult to control more dogs than this.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3151	Support		Because a woman has been walking well over 10 large dogs on the Porterfield bridle trail and they are not under control. She is currently under investigation as her dogs killed a small breed dog last year . They are all large breed dogs approx 40 kgs each , how can she control 400 kg of dogs on a lead ? Crazy And very dangerous for us that want to ride our horses and walk our dogs.
3154	I don't know		There should be no allowance for multiple dogs off leash in a public shared space - ALL dogs should be on leash at all times. As a horse rider having multiple off-leash dogs come at you in a public shared space is very scary and I am on an animal that can cause serious injury to smaller attackers but also the physiological harm done to my horse plus the vet bills can be astronomical in comparison.
3210	Support		All to often we are hearing of untrained individuals walking multiple off lead dogs and having no control, making it unsafe and intimidating for other walkers, and innocent dogs being mauled or lost.
3216	Support		Weight ratio to person walking, any more is too much. Also to control 3 dogs off lead also at is too many. I would even say 2 maximum and no other dogs on leash at the same time as if something goes wrong how do the manage both in and off lead dogs at the same time?
3217	Support		A more reasonable amount of animals to manage when something goes wrong. Large packs can be hard to control and is potentially harmful to those animals, the handler and thr public.
3226	Support		Professional' dog walkers in our area have caused carnage. No control over large packs. All 6 should be leashed also in public space.
3267	Support		How could you control more than 6 dogs safely all together?
3270	Support		Our area has experienced horrific encounters with a pack walker in Whitford. She has 20+ dogs on and off leash. A dog was recently mauled to death as age was unable to control the pack. To have this number of dogs at any one time is dangerous for other dogs and people
3274	Support		Because its more safer walking 6 dogs and they have more control especially if something goes wrong .
3275	Support		What is the actual research say about the number of dogs a person can manage under their control in the event of danger? This is where the number should be set! Not all who walk dogs are experienced or trained! This should also be a factor for business dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3276	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	It is impossible for someone to control any more than this number if any are off leash. I also think that anyone doing dug walking as a business needs to have a licence to do so and adhere to strict rules regarding number allowed to walk and have strict rules about off lead dogs. We had a local dog get mauled by an unlicensed person walking way too many dogs off lead for a living.
3277	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers cannot reasonably control 6 dogs simultaneously either all on leash or with some off leash. Dogs that are not on a leash are not under control. I routinely ride horses on tracks where dogs are present. Dogs off leash are particularly dangerous when they approach horses even when the dogs are friendly - horses easily spook when approached by dogs. I have nearly been dismounted and my horse nearly spooked over a steep trail edge by dogs off leash. I also walk a dog on leash and other dogs off leash are frequently a problem when they approach my dog. All people running dog walking businesses should be licensed and accountable for control of the animals in their possession.
3278	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum two on-leash and one off leash. There is no way a single person can control more than 3 dogs at once in a public place, and definitely no more than one off-leash. A woman from an outfit called SK9 (Stimulated K9) boasts 15-20 off leash "pack" outings. These dogs mauled to death one of our neighbours dogs, and bit the owner also. The offer to assist with related vet bills never eventuated. - no surprise. All commercial dog walkers should be licensed, with a maximum of three on lead - no off lead. They don't know these dogs so would have extremely limited voice command control.
3279	Support		In our area dog walking packs as large as 20 with up to 14 off leash have been occurring. There have been multiple attacks on domestic dogs being walked and horses/horse riders. The dog walking industry is not well regulated. Setting a limit is sensible and prudent. Would also like to see that packs being walked by muliple handlers at once should not walk together as it creates a large group of dogs that can still create fear and be a real hazard to other pets, walkers and horses (on shared trails) There are some areas where pack walking and off leash should not be allowed at all, due to the narrow nature of trails, shared used with horse riders, and/or nesting rare birds etc
3281	Support		Ability to control dogs. Ability to manage dog pack mentality. Safety.
3282	Support		I walk my dog on a leash every day and he is a Jack Russell. Today I walked him at Pines Harbour and the was a dog owner with 2 big dogs of leash. I see this on Maraitai beach .

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3289	Support		Control of dogs is very important and even 6 is high, especially when it's a business owner and dogs and unfamiliar with the environment and person.
3290	Support		Safety concerns
3293	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If a dog is off leash then the walker responsible shouldn't have any other dogs with them at that time. They also shouldn't have any more than four dogs with them on leash and should have to show they are physically able to keep those four dogs away from others before being allowed to walk that number.
3295	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 2 dogs with non off leash where people with kids and animals unless license obtained
3296	Support		Incidents with pack walkers in our area. Also there is no way that a pack walker with 12+ dogs is picking up after them all or can even monitor them all at once. Personally 6 dogs still seems too many I have seen people be dragged by one strong dog on a lead if the dog is determined to get to someone/something.
3299	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	As a dog owner of 6 dogs, having many years of public competitions, and public demos with my dogs, this new rule of limited number of dogs is truly punishing the responsible owners. Why not anyone with more the 3 dogs, (which require a permit in most areas) then have another permit that allows that owner to walk that many dogs in public. Animal Management could assess the dogs and owner. The amount of times I have had single dogs rush into my personal pack of 6 dogs is crazy. It's not the numbers that are the issue, it's the owners that have no control over a dog. Just because the general pet owner can't control a certain number of dogs, doesn't mean that the experienced dog owners/ handlers can't
3304	Support		The walker has more control with a smaller pack of dogs.
3312	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 3 dogs. There have been numerous incidents where there handler of multiple dogs has lost control of them all after one has shown aggression & as per pack mentality that is ingrained into these animals: the rest have become just as aggressive. It's ludicrous to even entertainment more than 3 by one handler
3313	Support		Pack mentality is intimidating for other public users and dangerous for other dog walkers. One person can not control more then 3 dogs regardless of on or off lead.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3314	Support		An incident in our area which resulted in the mauling and subsequent death of a small dog by an uncontrolled pack of dogs being 'walked' by an inexperienced dog walker has highlighted the need for some form of regulation. Note: the proprietor of the dog walking service who is also the employer of the person involved in that incident has returned to our area walking as many as 12 unleashed dogs of various breeds and size while also having a child in a backpack strapped to her back.
3315	I don't know		Depends on breed of dogs
3316	Support		walkers cannot control more than this amount of dogs at a time and so it becomes dangerous for both people and pets
3324	Support		It is dangerous for so many dogs to walk and be off leash as they become a pack. Plus 1 person can't control that many dogs. 4 at a time may even be better.
3326	Support		There is no way one person can control any more than 6 dogs at once, once they get into that pack mentality there's no stopping them. I am a dog owner of a very good dog but I would not even want him with that many dogs. I think 4 dogs is more reasonable but 6 is better than the current rule.
3334	Support		Too many walkers not taking responsibility when walking a large number of dogs - other dogs are being attacked or killed - could also happen to a child
3335	Support		Dangerous and intimidating when walking own dog after hearing about puppy's death due to multiple dogs uncontrolled by person who had them off there leashes. Even on leases when you see 10 plus dogs coming towards you it is worrisome as person does not have complete control of the pack of dogs
3338	Support		Too hard for 1 person to control more than 6 dogs. A danger to other dogwalkers
3340	Support		One should feel safe when walking alone, with a dog, a child without having the risk of pack dogs being around the corner. They should have yo get a license to walk more than 3 dogs to one person at a time. Having had 2 dogs previously, they can be hard to control when other dogs are around and i have experience when walking my 2. Its is a dangerous situation waiting to happen. Will a take a childs death to get these laws changed? Also, it needs wardens to go around checking.
3354	Support		One person cannot control more than a few dogs, there have been too many incidents, with horses, walkers and other dogs. Especially since the death of the dog on the Porterfield track in whitford, local people are too scared to go there now due to the aggression and behaviour from the person responsible who is still walking 20 dogs at a time.
3360	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Less potential for problems

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3372	Support		To make it safer for the community and their pets. One person can't control more than 6 dogs at a time and it could become dangerous.
3375	Support		I think it doesn't go far enough however it is a good start. At present a small number of pack walkers are a danger to the community, and there is little in place to protect others
3376	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	As Auckland grows so does the population and how crowded our parks, beaches and walkways are. It's simply dangerous to have so many dogs being managed by one person. If people can't walk their dog then maybe they shouldn't have a dog or they need to find a dog walker who goes in smaller numbers. This "pack mentality" that we keep running into in south Auckland is SO dangerous. If the pack decides a small child is a problem then the child will certainly die. Even the basic dangers of getting tripped up in all of the leads, the dog poo, and more!! Our kids should be the priority at ALL parks and beaches and having multiple dogs is simply not conducive to a safe environment.
3378	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I don't think any dogs should be off leash. My dog has recently been attacked by two separate dogs recently both off leads walking on normal pavements in Beachlands
3383	Support		I live on the Pohutukawa coast and have experienced several instances where dogs we off leashes and ran up to me giving me extreme anxiety. I have had a dog attack me as a child so it's an horrible experience. These "paid dog walkers cannot control more than a couple of dogs if something goes wrong.
3396	Support		It is very dangerous and impossible to be in control of more than 6 dogs. Digs are unpredictable. Whether it's the dogs s person is walking or the threat of someone else's, people need to be able to defend their dogs and keep them under control. My dog is reactive but I keep him under control on a kead and he is well behaved and enjoys walks out and about . Dogs off lead or not under control threaten the peace of this and this makes it difficult for me to feel confortable walking my dog out in public due to the amount of people who do not have control over their dogs
3397	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	For the safety of the public using these areas 4 would definitely be the limit no more than that
3401	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog numbers is not the problem. It's the lack of training to become a dog walker. Let's get a license that requires people who want to walk more than 2 dogs skilled.
3407	Support		We have had cases in our community where dogs being walked in large packs have attacked other dogs and walkers.
3411	Support		Can be quiet intimidating and dangerous

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3424	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If you were to look at a scenario where a person is walking multiple dogs and even if there is only one dog off-leash, I would expect that the person would be extremely challenged to manage and control a situation where any of the dogs were to become troublesome/aggressive. If this change is meant to mitigate future situations just like the one mentioned above, then limiting to 4 dogs still doesn't go far enough.
3436	Support		We have a dog walker that walks multiple (up to 10 - 15 dogs) at a time, she has very little control over her dogs and last year the pack she was walking killed a small dog that they came across. I am absolutly terrified of this dog walker, I certainly would NEVER walk my dog on this path, which is right beside my house and I am very hesitant to ride my horse on the same path as there has been incidents where the dogs walked by the same dog walker have attacked a horse and rider We are actually living in fear in our own street due to the negligance of this person. Other dog walking companies in the area appear to have around 3 dogs per person and are well controlled. However this one company seems intent on walking as many large dogs as possible, endangering all of us.
3456	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think there should be special licenses for people wanting to walk more than 4-6 dogs at a time. So that not just any random person can start a dog walking business and have like 20 dogs with a mix on and off leash and have no control of the dogs. There needs to be proof that you are capable to walk multiple dogs at a time so that we don’t have incidents where people or peoples 1-2-3 dogs they’re walking don’t get attacked because pack walkers can’t control them all if they’re not professionals
3486	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	6 dogs is way too many! They are pack animals and need to be controlled! Each dog walker should require a licence to walk more than 3 dogs at any one time. N.Z is way to relaxed with it's rules and regulations. Too many incidents occurring where dogs are attacking/mauling other dogs or people. More needs to be done to stop this from happening!
3489	Support		There are dog walkers who walk very big packs of large dogs locally to us and these dogs have killed a smaller dog, attacked horses and people and there seems to be no consequence for the dog walker responsible. At least if numbers were reduced there may be more possibility that dogs could be under control.
3496	Support		How can you have control over any more than 6 dogs in your care. This seams a reasonable limit whilst still allowing people to take pack walks.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3542	Support		Too many careless cowboys out there trying to make a quick buck at so many people, and pets expense! We need a law, professionals need to be licensed!
3553	Support		I think that it is actually the type of dogs (notcthe actual nunber) that is ghe issue. And all dog walkers need to be registered & licenced.
3569	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of four (4) dogs on lead at all times while in public spaces. There should absolutely be a change to the current rules (no limits). Any dog not on a lead is not under control and poses a risk to others on the walkway. With specific reference to the Clifton/Potts/Porterfield Rd shared bridleway in Whitford, We have already had an instance of a dog death by an uncontrolled dog from a 'professional' dog walker. In shared spaces with horse/rider a dog not on a lead poses a real dangerous risk. Horses are by nature a flight animal and have the potential to bolt when approached by a dog off lead. This will have dire consequences when this occurs on the shared bridleway. Please consider adding this bridleway to your list of areas where dogs MUST be controlled.
3697	Support		Too many dogs around unattended
3699	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have been swarmed by a group of dogs whilst walking two smaller dogs and don't believe someone can control 6 dogs (particularly if they are large) with any competency regardless of which ones are on or off leash. If six big dogs were to pull one human, that human is going wherever the dogs want to go. If some are off leash (as was the case in my incident) the Walker with the dogs on leash can't approach as then it will become a 'free for all' dog fight. If I had had one or both of my children with me at the time it would have been extremely traumatic
3709	Support		No matter how well trained a dog/dogs are, there will be a time when something goes wrong and you only have two hands to do anything about it.
3711	Support		I support limiting the numbers but ever six dogs is very hard to control if they are large, I have german shepard and cousl not hold back 3 if they decided to go somewhere
3713	Support		I support this measure as it is an improvement on existing rules. However, if someone is walking six dogs, they really need to be licensed - the severity of risk of irresponsible walkers with multiple dogs is very high. If someone is running a business on this basis, they need to be licensed.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3725	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. This change would have a significant impact on dog owners who adopt from shelters but rely on assistance to care for their pets. It could lead to an increase in abandoned dogs, directly contradicting the council's efforts to promote dog adoptions. The proposed limit will penalize responsible dog owners while doing little to deter irresponsible individuals who already disregard existing laws. How does the council plan to enforce limits in dog parks when dozens of dogs are brought there by individuals with little to no training experience? Wouldn't it be safer to have these dogs grouped with their pack under the supervision of professionals? Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs, and the council should focus on addressing that rather than restricting professional dog walkers, who contribute to only a small percentage of reported incidents. I walk my dogs twice daily in my quiet and peaceful neighbourhood when not with dog walkers, yet my dog was attacked by two off-leash dogs. I had to pick him up and defend him until the other owner finally put his phone down and controlled his dogs. How does the council minimise this situation by introducing these restrictions??? I support the introduction of a licensing system to regulate professional dog walkers, as they have the necessary skills to manage multiple dogs safely and provide a valuable service to both owners and the community. I adopted my second dog from a
3732	Support		Too many dogs off lead are too difficult To control and can lead to attacks
3737	Support		There is a dog walker, known by the authorities, in Beachlands/Maraetai walking 14 dogs at a time off the leach with her baby on her back. A neighbours dog was badly mauled and the owner was very traumatised. . Please make our neighbourhood safe.
3756	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	With the number of dog attacks in recent years I feel that one must be licensed with no more than 4 dogs. Dogs can be unpredictable, not just with other dogs but humans as well. Even good dogs can be unpredictable. I've had four dogs in my life so understand how things can go suddenly wrong.
3768	Support		There are too many rogue dog walkers who monopolise space with out of control dogs. This hinders the rest of the public's ability to use the space. I also think that 6 is a more manageable limit of dogs per person
3778	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	More control with fewer dogs if only 1 person in control

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3782	Support		My dog walker is absolutely amazing..i love her work. There is lady who runs a company called Stimulated K9, she brings a pack to walk from out of area, to the Whitford Bridal path. It's made the locals frightened to walk there. Lots of stories of her pack dogs being out of control and being awful. I walked there last week with my dog, Onlead, my 2 year old and my 6 month old. I spoke to a horse rider while I was there. Turns out the lady was nearby. I couldn't sleep that night, I was worrying about what would have happened if we went past her. I would have to had chosen who I picked up to save. My small dog is nervous and would have been scared. Its awful to know what a local went through last year, with her dog being savaged and killed in front of her. Its not isolated, there have veen other near misses since. We need to know we are safe in our area. Changing the rules for dog walkers who are already responsible isn't enough.. This lady is not welcome in our area, and we should feel safe. She clearly wouldn't be paying any attention to council Bi Laws. I really hope there is a plan to prosecute her. In the meantime, its a shame that everyone else who is responsible and caring have to jump through hoops..
3798	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	There needs to be some sort of regulation but I have seen 'good' dog walkers walking up to 10 dogs with no worries at all.
3831	Support		Two dogs off leash is manageable, at three dogs I think one should be leashed and at four dogs or more they should all be leashed. Only an owner with the highest level of control can manage more than two dogs off leash while managing other animals on leash. Larger numbers of dogs will likely revert to pack mentality.
3849	Support		Too many dog walkers that take large numbers of dogs and don’t
3861	Support		One person cannot control anymore dogs off leash... too many off leash dogs causing problems or injury to other dogs, by running up to them and the person walking having no controll
3866	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum two dogs, either on leash or off lash. With two dogs, either on leash or off leash has a strong chance of retaining control of both dogs if they meet one or more other persons also walking two dogs. For example, a person walking two dogs off leash meets two people walking two dogs each off lash going in the opposite direction and are not know to them. This results in six dogs all off lash and as such creates a "pack"scenario"which may become troublesome or uncntrollable.
3871	Support		Have had instances at a dog park where dogs have not been controlled by their owner or person responsible.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3909	Support		I support a limit on dogs that can be walked however even 6 is a lot of dogs to walk by one person , how can you control 6 dogs at once , some people struggle to control 1 dog at a time , 4 dogs at a time would be better
3923	Support		The dog walking industry is the wild wild west in the pet industry. Dogs are lost frequently. Anyone can proclaim to be a "dog walker" . The industry needs some regulation an intervention.
3942	Support		I think it's dangerous walking large groups of dogs alone. There is a woman that walks large packs of dogs at Porterfield track that have resulted in multiple attacks on other dogs from her uncontrolled ones and even a death.
3944	Support		100% agree that there should be a max number of dogs that one person can walk, 6 is a reasonable amount for a dog walker and to make the public feel safer.
3945	Support		That amount is easier to control.
3949	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I don’t believe that there is proper control of more than 4 g dogs with 2 of leash
3950	Support		Recent problems where i live in Whitford
3951	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The numbers need to be less unless licensed . We have a reckless woman who comes out to Whitford with many dogs off leash and her dogs have killed other dogs. This must not go on and if this is the only way to stop her we must do it. It is a shame for those good and professional dog walkers that one person has spoiled it for the rest
3961	Support		6 dogs is more then enough responsibility to be in control of for 1 person. I agree more then 6 dogs is asking for trouble
3964	Support		A dog walking company that frequently visits walking tracks in my area with at least 20 dogs at a time. The dogs are not all leashed and too many to control in one person's care. At least one mauling incident has occurred with the attacked dog then dying. A nu.ber of people visit the same walking area - so.e on horseback,, others with their own dogs and parents with young children. Locals are posting messages on local Facebook pages warning when the particular company of dog walkers is present, and locals are avoiding that area due to safety concerns.
3970	Support		People need to have control of their dogs at all times especially in public places. The public need to feel safe.
3985	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Multiple dogs, however all must be on leash, from my experience the problems I have witnessed all involved dogs off leash.
4011	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of two dogs per person with one off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4077	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You need to require professional dog walkers to be registered and properly trained
4079	Support		Dogs need to be well controlled
4088	Support		There definitely needs to be some guidelines around the maximum number of dogs that can be exercised at any one time. The word 'pack' when referring to animals has an aggressive tone. We have horses and no longer ride at one particular spot due to the fear of bumping into dog pack walkers and spooky the horses which could result in horse and rider injury. I would also it's the same for anyone who has small children. It's intimidating.
4105	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Having dogs I know that unless they have good recall, it is impossible to control dogs in any circumstances - eg when there are other dogs roaming free. I would like to see the maximum number of dogs being walked 3 dogs together - but they do have to have good recall if not on a lead. There are plenty of courses around eg Canine Good Citizen which can train both dogs and owners how to have good recall.
4125	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Anybody walking more than four dogs needs to have a license and there needs to be a process in place for making sure people are capable as part of this
4191	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because your updates are just being reactionary. The majority of dog owners are responsible and the small minority should not ruin things for the multitude. It is important for dog owners to have their dogs under control in a public space. What should be happening is probably fines for dog incidents.
4209	I don’t know		The problem arises from the lack of regulation in the dog walking industry. Dog walkers should be assessed with the pack they intend to walk before being licensed. It's not just about the number of dogs and method (on / off led) but ensuring the walker can manage them safely and effectively.
4342	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Support dog walkers who are doing a great job
4428	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	6 dogs is too many. If six dogs start pulling at once handler will definitely lose control. Also picking up dog poo after 6 dogs is almost impossible while trying to control the other 5. Max of 4 dogs will give handler reasonable control if all are on lead and to pick up dog poo. No more than 2 dogs off lead will ensure control of all dogs is maintained. However this control would also depend on the dogs’ behaviour.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4437	Support		I support this strongly. But the worry I have is that the rules will be changed and then nothing will be done to enforce them. I live at Clarks Beach, on the beach. There is supposedly a rule that all dogs on the beach must be on leashes 10 am to 5 pm in summer. I would estimate that two days out of every three I see this ignored - including by residents who ought to be aware of the rules, not just visitors to the beach. I have NEVER seen any Council enforcement, and some dog owners become belligerent when the rules are pointed out to them. It should not be the responsibility of citizens to enforce rules the Council makes. Raise the dog registration fee and use it for enforcement.
4443	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because a small number of useless people are ruining for all the responsible ones
4450	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is no issues with dog walkers. They provide a valuable service. I never hear of any issues with dogs that are with a walker. It is the dogs that are not being cared for and have awful owners that are the problem
4493	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Leave responsible dog owners and walkers to utilize parks and open spaces safely.
4521	Support		It is a controlled number of dogs, anymore than that can be too physical for one person and also neglecting the dogs well being

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4557	Support		I think the wider issue is this is most likely a dog walking business to have this many dogs. In this case as a registered business who takes money off people they should be subject to penalties. I.e. if a dog in their care has been proven to be out of control they loose their license to operate said business. The existing laws already say OWNERs need to have their dogs under control off lead then should dog walking businesses do the same? Register with Council, prove in some short way their pack has recall to be licensed, license revoked when complaints are submitted for attacks. Putting this around businesses takes away the hard to enforce thing of being with multiple off leash dogs say in a dog park, how would you know who they belong to?
4560	Support		Too many dogs can get out of control They frighten children I would support further reductions
4561	Support		I believe this is a reasonable number of dogs an experienced dog walker could safely walk without causing problems for other dog walkers or members of the public
4690	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	If the dogs are large or aggressive then 6 dogs on a leash or 3 off a leash would not be able to be managed safely.
4705	Support		You are unable to manage and Co trol that many at once.
4716	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Specially trained people who have a larger number of dogs should not be confined to the limit. Untrained people should have two max. Not sure how you'd place this though.
4726	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Safety
4761	Support		Even this number of dogs is hard to control during time of excitement and anxiety. I want my dog to be safe when we are enjoying our walks
4816	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In general the issue with dogs is generally NOT with dogs being walked in a pack by a professional dog walker. Auckland (South Auckland in particular) has a far greater issue with unsocialised / roaming dogs who DON"T attend any sort of group activity to socialise and exercise them. It is not clear how Auckland Council intends to actually police this change, but their enforcement agencies would be best focussed on actually addressing areas of larger risk - roaming agressive unregistered dogs, rather than penalising responsible dog owners. A certification requirement of dog walkers, with minimum set requirements, would be better considered and welcomed.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4847	Support		Dogs need to be under control in public places, most people have difficulty properly controlling one or two, let alone multiple numbers.
4874	Support		Large packs of dogs can be intimidating and there are a few unprofessional dog walkers who don't have control of their packs
4911	Support		As a dog walker I think one person walking 6 dogs plenty. With 3 off lead if something goes wrong how can they control that situation?
4919	Support		I feel that it would be extremely difficult for one person to control more dogs than this adequately
4951			I have not indicated a number as you request as some excellent "professional" dog handlers can manage more than 6 dogs at once in safety for all. This is a life gift and should be respected. I appreciate it would be hard to regulatory identify such people and hard to specify who is capable or who isn't. Who makes that decision?? etc. I however speak from some personal experience. I have professionally walked up to 8 dogs of all sizes together on leash, but came to realise myself that 7 was "my maximum". As I age I now can only manage up to 3 depending on their strength levels and harmony with others I am likely to come in contact with. I assess each dog before I take them on and decide what is the safest combinations at any time for me to ensure the safety of all. I am driven by welfare of all rather than income. That is probably not the norm. However my point is that a talented dog handler can safely manage larger numbers than the proposed maximum of 6. I therefore submit that I feel if a dog handler can prove their competency to handle more than 6 at a time they should be able to apply for Council Certification to do so, and this should be verified annually at a cost to the applicant. The cost should be able to be claimed for under GST, by their business.
4957	Support		Sensible Change - I don't think anyone can control more than 6 dogs on a lead and for the dog to have an enjoyable time if more than 6 in pack
4963	Support		I believe all dogs should be on a leash when in a controlled public space. There is no way a dog walker can control 3 unleashed dogs at one time should one or more of them go rogue.
4985	Support		I have observed dog walkers who take multiple dogs walking and the person is oblivious to what the dogs are doing. One particular dog walker I see often, has her mind and eyes fully engaged on her cell phone while the dogs do what ever they like.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5001	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	This is a business and while I understand dogs need exercise, they need to utilise our public spaces carefully. I don't really think they should have any off leash dogs. Big dogs can pull anyone over. They say they are trained to do this, but we have seen differently. If they have their own land then sure have as many dogs as you want on and off leash, but on public land they reduce the number of dogs. More dogs on public land may not be economic for them but we need to be safe.
5038	Support		Though if you are looking after 6 dogs ALL should be on a leash so you can identify ALL the dogs' feces and remove them. When you have that many dogs, the walker is definitely not picking up the feces of the off leash ones.
5154	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Even two dogs are hard to control! Sick of going to parks & seeing dogs in packs by walkers & they can't control them
5161	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No dogs off leash at all. Especially when busy.
5206	Support		Dogs very seldom are obedient to the walkers commands and one person can not control multiple dogs either on or off leash. I work close to the Porterfield Bridle and many times have heard dogs fighting completely out of control. |This area is no longer a safe and pleasant area to walk on since dogs have allowed off leash. I would suggest 2 dogs per person and no commercial dog walkers on any public beaches, parks or public walking areas.
5210	Support		Too many dogs are difficult to control, especially off leash
5270	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would propose a Regulation to our industry of Pack Walkers only. We as Pack Walkers only walk away from public as in Waitakere Forest/Riverhead Forest or private land. We have had one particular Pack Walker that has defied all our common sense rules within the Professional Pack Walkers group, where the elders that have been pack walking for over 10-15 years make their ways of Safely doing Pack walks for all that wishes to become a Pack walk. We need this to me regulated by council. I do not want to see a person with 6 dogs & 3 off lead (under control) at my local park. That is not a safe environment for any of us.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5377	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I feel like these sweeping laws are being made that will penalise all dog walkers, instead of the ones who are reckless and irresponsible. In light of recent attacks etc in the Whitford Area, one particular walker whose dogs are causing issues is already breaking rules by not having her dogs under control. There has been no penalty for this but we will make changes to the whole policy to punish all dog walkers instead.
5574	Support		We have at least 3 commercial dog walking people taking lpaks of up to 20 dogs off leash by and near our house. One innocent dog was killed by a pack (with the dog walker being rude and callous), and a second dog mauled (and that person took full responsibility). The effect is to scare us away from using the public domain. It is only a matter of time before one of these mobs of dogs attacks a child. How can a lady with 20 dogs off leash and carrying a baby a baby on her back possibly be able to control 20 dogs?
5592	Support		A higher number would result in dog faeces left behind. 6 is already generous. Most are commercial dog walkers.
5603	Support		max number of dogs all on leash - otherwise accidents happen and dogs die - or even worse humans as has happened in other countries
5615	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	There are lots of professional dog trainers and related trained and knowledgeable canine people who can manage 8 dogs or more. There are a 'few or 'more' not so 'good' dog walkers who give everyone a bad name and are doing dog walking for the money but who don't necessarily know what they are doing or understand dog behaviour. Perhaps dog walkers who are not trained in dog behaviour should have a license to walk multiple dogs.
5661	Support		I think laws need to be given to pack walkers as there are some very irresponsible ones and some dog owners too
5798	Support		We have a consistent 'dog walker' in our area of Clifton Peninsula who brings up to 16 dogs from out of area and does not control them. Only 4 are ever on lead, a dog has been mauled, a horse has been nipped and all responsible dog walkers and owners are terrified to use the Potts Road track currently in case they run into this person/s and their negligent behaviour. No dog waste is picked up, the bird life is constantly threatened and the dogs are jammed, untethered into a hot van for transport. I myself have been surrounded by this pack and I would like appropriate laws put into place to protect the responsible dog walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5828	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No dogs off leash unless in a designated dog walking area away from public walkways. I observe dog owners behaviour on Porterfield Road Whitford trail and also 5 mile bay Taupo lake path. We have properties on each of these path ways so we have seen it all. Dogs off leashes also run onto private properties. ALL WALKERS have the right to walk on a public path without dogs running up to them and dogs jumping or following them. ALL DOG OWNERS have the right to be able to walk their dog without other dogs fighting and scaring their dogs. Dog owners come in all breeds and different behaviors, some owners couldn't care less about others, whereas other owners are more considerate. On Porterfield road we even have horse riders with more than one dog running loose with them. It is annoys me when their dog runs up to me as they don't care. SO! I believe on a public walk area, all dogs MUST be on a lease. Designated dog zone areas away from walkways are the only place dogs can be off their leases on public property. Maximum dogs for one person could be four with none off lease. As you will know already the dog walker on Porterfield Rd has about 15 dogs:1 walker, even though she has lost dogs and a dog has been attacked by one of her dogs she walks, the woman continues to walk the 15-20 dogs at once on the track. Clear rules are needed; there can not be room for misinterpretation or confusion, Its like the drinking driving rules for youth etc. no alcohol when driving, so all dogs must be on leashes when out. In Adelaide on the beach, there is a designated time when dogs can run about without a lease each day. This is a good idea and will stop people feeling negative.
5864	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	We have public bridleways in our area where we take our horses and children and bikes and dog walkers come to off leash pack walk their dogs and it is dangerous. A person can not control more than 2 dogs if 1 decides to take off after a horse or child. I would prefer the bridleways and public parks were all on-leash anyway and there should be fenced off park areas designated off leash
5872	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think a maximum of two dogs both on and off leash. You can't really keep close attention on more than two dogs at a time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5906	Support		I support having a limit, although I do think the limit should be less. I do not believe one can control more than 2 dogs at a time. The responsibility of dog ownership is to keep your dog safe, and to keep other people and animals safe from your dog. If I encounter a dog walker with 3 dogs on leash and 3 dogs off leash, I do not feel like my dog and I are safe. Even if the limit was 3 and all on leash only, I do not believe anyone can have full control over 3 large dogs which are not their own (i.e. a dog walker walking 3 large dogs they have not spent years training - they are having to rely in the training their owners have done, and dogs respond differently to commands they are unfamiliar with).
5923	Support		I believe that it will make it safer
5986	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes on pack dog walks with a very experienced dog trainer who has the dogs under control at all times. There has never been an incident. Many canine pack walks around New Zealand do wonders for dogs and their overall nature, helping them to be better behaved when they're not with the pack. For more evidence simply look at wilderness dog adventures on Facebook.
6073	Support		Thats a fair limit
6096	Support		If the number of the dog under the policy, that's okay. However I don't think some of the people who not following the rules m, so I think we need to create a system to monitor and impose penalties to ensure that the rules are being followed
6098	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In my area there is a considerable problem with "professional" dog walkers. I believe all professional dogwalkers (ie those who are doing it for money) should be licensed and subject to strict rules on numbers (these people are walking other peoples dogs and do not have the same control as the owner would) I would say maximum 3 dogs per person. This is for the benefit of all concerned - the public and the dogs. I believe any legitimate and caring professional dog walkers would welcome being regulated in matters of public safety- as all other businesses are - as it sets them apart from those dogwalkers who clearly have no concern for anyone.
6153	Support		I'll support this proposal although sceptical about how someone can control 6 dogs if something disrupts.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6159	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers should be liscenced . The license should come from the Auckland Council. We pay registration for our dog in a rural area with seemingly nothing from it. That money could be spent on the licensing of dog walkers. Dog walkers who are trained and experienced play a very vital role in enabling many to be able to keep pets. We have a family pet in just such a situation, needing a dog walker to give her enrichment, training and exercise. Unfortunately it is the animals that will suffer if dog walkers in Auckland are limited to just 6 dogs. They would be unable to keep walking as it would not be viable. Listening to National Radio recently we found out that Wellington lisences its dog walkers to walk many more dogs than 6. Come on Auckland keep up!
6189	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers should be liscenced to walk multiple dogs by the Council. If that is so then there should be no limit to the number of dogs under a dog walkers control. I have experienced the effectiveness of a dog walker in Auckland on a reactive family pet and the results have been amazing with the dog under her control at all times. Wellington has this policy Auckland should too.This will mean that dog walkers can continue and not have to stop because they cannot afford to be dog walkers given that they need time to walk a group of dogs.
6200	Support		I think it is hard to control a large group of dogs, and it may be physically hard in particular with large energetic dogs. Dogs can be excitable, and there are also issues like picking up the poos of a large number of dogs whilst keeping them under control. I am a dog owner myself. I would not like my dog to be walked as a part of of a group with more than dogs, to minimise the risk of the group (or some dogs) disobeying the walker and getting of control, endangering themselves and possibly other dogs / other animals.
6277	Support		The key word here is "control" under the Dog Control Act 1996, s 52 Control of dogs generally (1)The owner of any dog shall keep that dog under control at all times. In regard to dog walkers, especially so those generating revenue from their dog walking activity, they have an additional duty of care to ensure dogs under their control do no harm to other users (walkers, cyclists, horse riders) in a public area. This will include understanding the risk the dogs they walk pose to other dogs, babies, small children and the elderly.
6347	Support		Pack walkers are a problem if they have little skill. Many of them have little skill because there is no mechanism to provide benefit to people who have skill. I'd like to see licensed dog walkers able to walk larger packs to provide a mechanism for remuneration of skill.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6375	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I feel that capping the numbers is not the only solution. I believe that the answer is in the STRICT LICENSING of dog-walkers walking multiple dogs as a pack. Pack walkers should have to undergo intensive training and should be assessed by a dog control officer to prove that they can understand a dog's body language & behaviour, have an understanding of dog psychology before being allowed to walk packs. I believe they should regularly demonstrate that they are able to have control of their usual packs without using excessive force / forceful equipment. In the case of commercial pack walks; each dog should also have regular assessments of recall and temperament, showing them safe to be around other dogs / people / stock before being allowed to be part of a pack on public land. If licensing is used, the dog walkers proves themselves to be educated and skilled, and the animals themselves are assessed to have good recall and temperament, then walking more dogs may be allowed. Education on the above by regular pet-owners would also be beneficial.
6430	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have four small dogs who all need to have a good off-leash runaround everyday. Closing off or restricting numbers in parks is not necessary. There is no evidence for the necessity for this draconian move.
6434	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Most dog walkers I see are women which makes sense given they make up the majority of the population. From my personal experience and observations every day (I live next to a dog park) and have owned a large dog. Unless you train a dog and have an understanding of what that is and involved most dog owners do not train or have control over their dog off or on leash and lack the strength and reasoning to respond to their dogs behavior in a controlled manner. With the new generations coming through and their lack of skill sets and interaction with the outdoors I see this becoming a bigger problem over time and needs to be addressed sooner rather than after the fact. There are too many dog attacks on ppl and other animals going on.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6746	I don't know		The responsible businesses that walk dogs and have had no issues should be allowed to carry on. If numbers reduced, will cost more and some owners won't be able to afford to have their dogs walked and will miss out on exercise and social bonding with other dogs. The IRRESPONSIBLE and REPEAT offending businesses should have restrictions put on them, when complaints are received and especially when incidences have occurred...ie K9 Max business.
6776	Support		at the moment, there is no limit on the number of dogs a person can walk at a time. This is ridiculous as one person cannot control multiple dogs at once.
6812	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Professional dog walkers should have registration, certification requirements and licensing to enable walking of more dogs than outlined. The certification should include welfare approved training methods, and animal first aid. Professional dog walkers should also need to renew via a practical assignment their licensing annually. Public complaints should factor into whether there license is renewed.
6930	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. There is a much bigger issue of roaming dogs that needs to be addressed.
HENDERSON-MASSEY LOCAL BOARD			
150	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is no evidence to justify this would change any of the issues people are concerned about
182	Support		Much safer
229	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe that professional dog walkers/trainers should be allowed to manage as many dogs as they can handle off and on leash. Those who are not professional dog walkers/trainers should be limited to a smaller number of dogs like the ones proposed. To prove a person is a professional there should be some sort of way to prove this eg through university or programs that have specialised in dog behaviour/training.
251	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers, absolutely support those numbers. However, personal owners may own more. Personal the dogs are family and are easier to control more at once than those that don't know each other

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
270	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have a packwalker who takes my dog on walks every week. She is highly trained and ensures all dogs are well looked after, exercised, and trained in that session. She pays attention to every single dog and restricting this would mean the packwalks that are so stimulating for my dog would come to a halt. There are no issues that have occurred so I don't want this to become a thing
294	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The dog walkers are not the problem, individual dog owners are. All dogs must be registered and micro-chipped to be part of a dog walking pack. I trust my dog walker with my dog more then when she is with me. This change will have a huge impact on her business and all the owners who entrust her with their pets. My dog walker is 100% responsible, reliable and trustworthy. She has a mix of on and off leash, depending on the temperament of the dog. Reducing walk sizes does not change anything and will only cause more problems having so called 'dog walkers' offering their service as there will be a major shortage. I'd rather the council poured more resources into unregistered, wandering dogs.
295	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No evidence to support policy
342	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Limit to 10, with a focus on licensing to ensure that the walker is competent in their field. Licensing to be run by a regulatory body that reports to the public.
345	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Limit of 6 dogs and all of them being allowed off lead

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
348	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are so many amazing dog walkers out there that I've come across in public spaces that all have had their packs under control and pulled to the side to let the public past. Not once have I had any negative encounter with them. As long as they are all respecting the public and picking up after their dogs in their care I don't see the issue. So many families rely on these Walkers to exercise their own dogs due to work and other commentments, taking this away means prices with rise and alot of other dogs will be turned down. Perhaps caping the total of dogs to 15max is a better way to go about the whole thing. Changing this is going to have a detrimental impact on these businesses.
352	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Six is too many for many to handle and feel that the dog walkers who can handle large numbers would be happy to get a licence as an extra credibility to their businesses in the over saturated market
354	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The people that this suggest change impacts most are dog walkers. If you want to regulate the dog/pack walking industry, you should bring in other requirements such as a formal registration and qualification in order to prove you have the skills and experience required to manage a pack of dogs. This law change will negatively affect a lot of people and their incomes.
423	Support		Handlers unable to control large pack of dogs especially when other dogs are close by
436	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No limit, I believe if the current bylaw was enforced this would not be necessary.
565	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Anyone with more than one dog (unless they are from the same pack) should have a special licence and pay more. The dog walkers with pack walked dogs should all be licenced separately and everyone who offers animal care should have a special animal care qualification
576	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will affect dog walkers who may have more than 6 dogs in their care.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
675	Support		We are dog lovers and have a dog but we have seen far too any professional dog walkers with too many dogs to safely handle. Limiting these 'businesses' is safe for all dogs and people.
805	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The council and a representation of professional dog walkers should work together to come to a number maximum number. By enforcing an arbitrary number they are impacting local businesses (dog walkers) and potentially negatively impacting the dogs if the walkers cannot make time for all the smaller packs to walk all their current dog. Pack walks give dogs added stimulation they they only get when they are on a pack walk. As well as added socialization with professionals.
832	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are providing a valuable service to owners who cannot give their dog sufficient exercise or stimulation. They are an important part of keeping a dog in the city for people who work or have limited transport. Most of them are responsible and caring. Please leave them to get on with their job and concentrate on unregistered, roaming dogs with irresponsible owners who cause most of the problems.
913	I don’t know		Max of leash 2, because 3 big off leashes can intimidate people and knock small and older people over.
923	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My comment extends to professional dog walkers. 1. I believe dog walkers provide an incredibly valuable service to dog owners like myself. My dog is now well socialised, and stimulated - so he's not at home barking if I'm at the office. 2. The problem that council is trying to address in this amendment would not be solved by placing a limit on the number of dogs walked. One not under control dog can do damage. 6 and 3 seem to be numbers pulled out of thin air. 3. The amount of complaints to council about dog walkers makes up a small number of total dog complaints with the majority being roaming dogs. 4. I believe a licensing and accreditation system would be a better solution - dog walkers, who provide a service at a professional standard are held to that standard, and have a tangible reason to do so. This would be easier to 'police" and would bring in revenue for council.
940	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers - no limit on dog numbers as long as they have control (that doesnt mean that they have to be on a lead) the need to be under the pack . Most packs stay together . Never had an issue i have had dogs myself for 40 plus years and my dogs also go on pack runs with a dog walking service. I would like to see how many reports have been made in order that this has been put forward as a change

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
950	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Affects dog walkers . And those who foster dogs
988	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Change does need to happen, but through education of the business. Talking to the experts in their professional field. There needs to be full understanding of what the changes would mean to dog owners, and business owners.
1000	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe that yes, a normal dog owner should not be allowed to walk more than 6 dogs on leads, however, I believe that registered dog walkers should be able to walk more. They should have to apply for a license (similar to responsible dog owner license) and maybe show that they can handle that many dogs.
1016	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The owners who follow these rules are not the ones you need to target. Often those with multiple dogs are professionals and people with high regard to the current rules. Changing this law won't make places safer, often it is one person with one dog off leash uncontrolled that is the issue, not a group. This is not tied to a specific dog breed either, often poodle type dogs are just as uncontrolled as other breeds.
1051	Support		Because I had the unfortunate luck to run into a dog walker with multiple dogs and no control whatsoever of them. She had no public awareness and was blatantly ignoring my request to put leads on them while I struggled with my one dog that was on a leash. Rude arrogance was unbelievable and stressful. This is way overdue
1069	I don't know		I feel like dog walkers can choose and manage their packs, but in saying that, it depends on the strength of the dog walker and the trainer. Also, lots of people have more than 3 dogs and would want to off lead walk them.
1072	Support		You can't control more than 2 dogs at once
1073	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Wr use a professional dog walking service and they normally have up to 10 dogs. Reducing it to six would probably make it uneconomical. Maybe have a category for professional dog walkers who would have to apply and register with appropriate fee to allow up to 10 or maybe 12 dogs to be walked on lead.
1098	Support		There are no current rules, and some dog walking companies are walking too many dogs per person, often uncontrolled.
1131	Support		People can not control a large number of dogs especially those that are not their own. Most do not have a recall. This is terrifying for those people walking their own one dog

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1273	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I don't think that the problems that Auckland has with dogs is due to professional dog walkers. There are so many roaming dogs in my neighbourhood and that's much more of an issue. I would support all dog walkers needing to be registered with a professional body, but then the increase in operating costs would mean that the limit should not be so greatly restricted. I think 8 is probably a reasonable compromise.
1339	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	From what I have seen, this proposed change has come from people feeling uncomfortable with the number of dogs, however there is minimal evidence of harm occurring from the lack of a limit on pack walks. I understand people feel intimidated but this is not a strong enough rationale to make a change when you consider the alternatives. Reducing the number of dogs will increase the cost for dog owners to walk their pets in pack walks which will reduce the socialisation and exercise of many dogs - these factors can then contribute to increased risk associated with dog aggression. Pack walkers that I have observed over the years have excellent control over the dogs otherwise they would not be able to walk them. My concern is more with the off lead dogs that owners have little to no control over. There is such poor rationale and such a limited evidence base to make this change. It will frustrate dog owners further as there have been on going restrictions because of public discomfort. Humans are not the only species on this earth. There are much greater issues with animal control, why the council wishes to impact responsible dog owners who ensure their dogs are exercised and socialised is beyond me. At least have some proper evidence for this proposed change.
1351	Support		No one person can have complete control over a pack of dogs, however small ! Even if they are small, well-behaved dogs, other people may still be intimidated by them.
1352	I don’t know		In quiet areas pack walks are very beneficial for dogs welfare and socialisation. It may be better for there to be a preposed license with specified training for the people hosting these walks. Having people who are knowledgeable about animal behaviour and discipline will suffice for larger groups of off leash dog walking in quieter areas. I agree with this for people who own ill trained dogs and they interact with other innocent dogs in leash

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1372	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As full time workers we reply on pack walks for daily exercise and socialisation. The pack walkers we have dealt with are responsible and reliable and we love the way they treat our dogs. I would suggest having to register if you are a pack walker and are to walk a large number of dogs off leash so the council can regulate these walkers and I'm sure the responsible ones would be on board with this. It would allow you to weed out the irresponsible pack walkers who might be the cause of this suggested change.
1373	Support		I support this change, as long as it comes with a provision for breeders who may have more than 6 dogs in their possession at one time. In the case of breeders, I believe we should have a regulated breeding system that ensures the welfare of the animal is upheld.
1412	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This would seriously impact the business of pack walking businesses and is unfair. It is up to the dog walker to be in control of their dogs and this will not change if they are or not
1450	I don’t know		If dog walkers are restricted, this will have an impact on responsible Dog walking companies. The prices will increase and more people, who have no experience, will offer services. I would be better if dog walking companies are registered and more resources are put towards dealing with roaming dogs, which cause more problems and harm The issue isn't professional dog walkers, it's unprofessional dog walkers and roaming dogs
1456	Support		this number of dogs sounds responsible for a professional walker to be able to manage
1490	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I use a professional dog walker who ensures she receives the exercise, proper structured socialisation, and care she needs. A professional dog walker is more than capable of handling more than six dogs. I am not capable of handling more than two. The issue is not with the number of dogs, it is with the person walking them. Look into creating a licensing agreement for professionals. The professional dog walkers are more than happy to be regulated. Address the real issues, such as roaming dogs and excessive barking, which make up the majority of complaints.

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1502	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I dont beleive this is a true problem. This will also impact heavily on dog walkers and their clients. Therefore punishing people who arent an issue.
1534	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 1 dog. Dogs operate as a pack. I think 3 is too many
1541	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs and dog walkers will suffer. Most dog walkers are incredibly dedicated and love the dogs they walk. There are too few experienced workers, demand for walkers is high, dogs will most likely be dropped if this happens. More hyper dogs without exercise will increase the chances of destructive behaviours and barking.
1553	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The professional walkers are able to handle multiple dogs, the number shouldn't be limited
1556	Support		The stricter the better.I do not believe anyone can have full control of 3 dogs off leash. There are many people out West whose dogs are off lead and out of control even in no dog areas. Owners of small dogs seem to think the rules do not apply to them. A lot of people do not pick up their dog's poops. When I offer them one of my poo bags they get shirty.
1562	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think any dogs should be off the leash if you have others on a lease at the same time simply because you won't be able to control them if a incident happens.
1584	Support		that is about all any one person can actually control... I would be comfortable lowering the off leash number to 2
1606	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are dog walkers providing a service and are trained, you would be reducing and restricting these services. There are households with more than one dog, which again you would create restrictions meaning it becomes hard, people don’t walk all dogs at once and then the dog is the one that has their exercises sacrificed
1607	I don’t know		I think its fair to limit dogs, but there are some awesome dog trainers walking multiple dogs. I think its more about setting rules for regular people and something else for professionals.

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1609	Support		Multiple dogs, particularly unleashed dogs, are often not controlled correctly. Recall is often ignored and a large group of dogs can be intimidating for walkers of all ages and abilities. A maximum of 6 on leash and 3 off leash is appropriate.
1639	Support		As someone who works in the dog walking industry, walking strangers dogs and being unaware of behaviour and recall is always a risk. As someone who would walk more than 8 dogs at a time off lead, it was hard to always have control of each and every dog. Packs were too big for one walker to manage alone. So many company owners don't actually walk the dog packs they hire a bunch of inexperienced people to walk packs of 8-12 dogs in public parks with no idea how to control the environment with public dogs and owners. Parks should be cared for better by walkers by picking up poos and being fully in control of the pack. Other public dog owners shouldn't be freighted to walk their dogs off lead in parks with 2-3 other packs in park. On more than one occasion I would show up to a public park that would have more than 2 other dog walking packs. That alone already puts 30 dogs in one park, putting other owners at risk.
1666	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The number of dog attacks occurring when being walked by a professional dog walker is minimal. I would prefer to see more enforcement of ensuring dogs are on lead in on lead walking areas. This would be a far better use of resources and a reduction in harm to both other animals and humans. Again, Auckland Council your proposals are knee jerk reactions with no data to substantiate them. The "Dogs under control at all times" is loose. I would prefer areas that are strictly on lead and off lead was better monitored and policed. I have been walking my dog reactive dog, on lead, for 10 years and have yet to see any policing of this issue. Restricting the number of dogs taken by professional do walkers will mean that some dogs will miss out on their walks, prices will go up and then you will have more complaints of barking, more dogs roaming and more dog aggression as a result of owner neglect and insufficient exercise for these animals.
1677	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Regulating Dog walking companies in any shape or form will only increase prices to the dog owner. we pay enough in fees as responsible dog owners. why don't councils start regulating and restricting bad and irresponsible dog owners to solve problems

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1705	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	For safety of dogs, better to have them on lease, particularly for dog guardians who are not paying attention. So I prefer a lower number of off leash dogs if we need to allow.
1742	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have several friends that have expressed how positive engaging a professional dog walker has been for their dog and in turn their own relationship with their pet. My own interactions with professional dog walkers around Auckland have always been positive and I have never felt in danger or that dogs under the supervision of a professional pose a threat.
1751	Support		Me as a dog owner find that if people have too many dogs they can't control them and although they think it's ok it's not, they can never say how a dog would react and having more than three at a time it's difficult to control when they gang up and attack
1771	Support		Easy to maintain dogs
1944	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	One person in charge of multiple dogs is not safe for dogs, especially when an unleashed dog without an owner approaches them.
2125	Support		Dog Walkers are spoiling areas for other people with large packs of dogs they don't truly have control over.
2205	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the amount of dogs one person can have off and on lead isn't going to change the issue at hand. The issue is with roaming dogs attacking people and other pets, but these roaming dogs are not that of dog walking companies, they are because of irresponsible owners who let their dogs roam instead of keeping them inside their own property. This rule you're wanting to implement is only going to cost reputable dog walking my businesses lots of money when most businesses haven't done anything wrong to deserve this. If anything, make dog walking businesses have the ability to apply for a licence to walk more than 6 dogs and if there is any issues with these businesses take their license away same way you do with a drivers liscense
2248	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Rules don't work for people who don't want to do the right thing. Too many rules already. Let people decide for themselves.

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2255	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The number of dogs on or off leash aren't really the issue, it is the humans behind the dogs. Unfortunately as per usual the good owners at here are going to be punished because of the people who don't follow the rules and think they have control over their dog so never put it on a lead. But people who want to do pack walks as a business should be licensed or registered
2258	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I would support some form of license, however I do not want to restrict the number of dogs allowed.
2293	Support		Because the full weight of dogs of the dogs at the end of af the leash makes them difficult to control and may exceed the weight of the person controlling them.
2300	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are dog walkers who make their living by walking groups of dogs at a time (often more than 6). They provide a great service for those who lead busy lives and may not have enough time to give their dogs long exciting walks. I believe this change will significantly impact their business and limit their ability to support their families.
2308	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed bylaw change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and the service they provide to our family. Having our dogs walked by professional dog walkers multiple times a week has significantly reduced our dogs barking while at home, provided them with strong social skills and training and greatly improved their quality of life by being able to get off our section and out exploring across Auckland.
2314	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	A person can in my opinion ,only control barely, 2 dogs on leash and keep an eye on 2 other dogs of leash.there is no way that person is able to pick up dog Pooh as well properly for all 4 dogs and carry the Pooh bags to find a bin.there are also at many parks not many bin’s available. I think the dog walking services are great. But if they have more than 4 dogs ,which is heaps they need a 2.nd person for that, job in my opinion

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2330	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree with it for owners but there should be an exception carved out for professional dog walkers. Dog walkers are critical for many dog owners. 'Walking multiple dogs I disagree with the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. I consider there should be an exemption for professional dog walkers for the following reasons: It penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care about their dogs wellbeing. It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further An alternative solution, for example, would be a less restrictive limit, a registration requirement, or licencing professionals to walk larger groups or effectively enforcing existing bylaws.
2341	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	professional dog walkers with training and experience should be able to walk their pack and make a judgement call on the number of off leash dogs they can handle. a license system (annual refresh) for professional walkers would be good for this. anyone that has not proved they are capable and trained in controlling groups of dogs should be restricted to no more than 3 off leash as three dogs are allowed in a home in auckland. I have seen crappy individual dog owners not able to control 1 dog and professional dog walkers have absolute control over 10 or more in a group.
2449	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No dogs should be off leash when walking , because dogs behaviour can’t be fully controlled . I believe if in an enclosed dog park only 1 dog should be allowed off leash when multiple dogs are present or two max . As a human if it’s a big size dog and you have 3 or more of leash you won’t be able to control the dog but also the other dogs and the humans behaviour which puts all your dogs in danger and yourself .
2488	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Walking dogs for friends or even when you need to doggysit them. If you own a dog you usually got experience with dogs or at least you are aware of your dog behavior and training.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2500	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Walking dogs with groups of friends is one of the best ways we have to monitor and make sure the dogs are under control, also helping friends walk their dogs when they need to travel
2579	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This wouldn't help but a licensing system would be far more beneficial. It wouldn't penalise the people with experience And we should be enforcing the rules that are already in place
2586	Support		People cannot manage a large number of dogs that they are walking safely. Once it's a pack situation, that when accidents happen. The friendliest dog can turn when others in the pack has done so. It's a recipe for disaster.
2621	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	While it is acceptable for regular dog owners, this will not work for those who make a living walking multiple dogs at any one time. The number for qualified dog walkers, with dogs either on or off leash, should be more than what the change proposes. Perhaps a license or company/sole trader register could assist.
2645	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	One person will not be able to handle 6 dogs.I have selected 4 because that is the only option available and all of them should be on leash not off leash.
2920	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	NO dogs OFF leash in public areas given the lack of discipline dog owners currently have.
2987	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change will impact on the amount of exercise and socialisation that my dog currently gets as he goes out for walks/runs with his pack twice a week. This will seriously impact his health and wellbeing, and, in turn, my own mental health as I will be worried about him not getting enough exercise. I strongly disagree with this proposed change.
3068	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I use a dog walking company and they are able to easily demonstrate that all dogs in their care are under control. Limiting the number of off leash dogs impacts their business and my ability for my dog to get regular socialisation and exercise in a controlled environment.
3318	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients. In addition to this, it will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3336	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	To Whom It May Concern, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed law concerning dog walking regulations in Auckland. While I understand the intention behind the proposed measures, I believe it unfairly penalizes responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers while doing little to address the actual causes of the city's dog-related issues. The primary concern with this proposal is that it targets responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers who are abiding by the rules and ensuring their dogs are well cared for, exercised, and socialized. These individuals provide a valuable service to the community, particularly for those who cannot provide their dogs with the necessary time and exercise due to various personal or professional commitments. Penalizing these responsible dog owners will only further discourage proper dog care and will ultimately hurt dogs who rely on these services. Auckland's roaming dog problem is not caused by the number of dogs being walked by responsible dog walkers. Rather, it stems from irresponsible dog owners who neglect or disregard the rules and regulations set in place for safe pet ownership. This law does not address these individuals, and as such, it will not solve the root causes of the issues we face in our community. In addition, this proposal would severely limit the ability of

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3339	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care about their dogs wellbeing. It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further .
3344	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	this is ridiculous !!!! It penalises us dog owners that are responsible and make sure their dogs are cared for and exercised when we cant due to work commitments , it socialiseses and teachers our dog good habbits socialising amongst other dogs , it surely limits roaming dogs ! you should target the amount of un registered unvaccinated uncared for dogs as there are allot more of those amongst the community that need help rather than targeting something that dosnt need addressing !!!!!!!
3353	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog owners with multiple dogs are generally responsible or take there dogs to an off lead park knowing that they have control of the dog and the dog is friendly towards other dogs. Accidents do happen but that is the nature of owning dogs and all dog owners and dog walkers know that.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3369	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I suggest a licence system. The better the dog waker, the more dogs they can take out. It would also be great advertising for them, ie “licensed by the council to walk 10+ dogs” They would have to pay for the licence and renew just as builders do. Professional dog walkers provide a valuable service to dog owners in Auckland, ensuring dogs receive the exercise, proper structured socialisation, mental stimulation and care they need. If professional dog walkers are unable to operate as they currently do, there may be an increase in other existing dog issues within the wider community. Professional dog walkers also play a key role in training dogs and educating owners by sharing their knowledge and skills. Current practices by professional walkers already include elements of leash training, recall training, and improving dogs’ overall manners—all while providing safe group exercise. It will take resources away from other areas and be another rule that will not be effectively enforced. This change will primarily impact those who are already following the current bylaw negatively, while those who currently do not comply are unlikely to adhere to the new rules. if all the dog walkers are PAYING to have a license, each year this could be a profit for the SPCA

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3373	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs which will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. In my local areas of Glen Eden and Te Atatu South there are numerous roaming dogs daily. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and they provide a valuable service to my dogs and I.My dogs go out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation. This will impact their ability to do this training and limit their ability to be well looked after and exercised on the days they are with their walkers. I have travelled extensively and noted the numerous countries that try to incorporate dogs into all parts of daily lives and not limit them like we do in N.Z Don't penalise professional who are providing a much needed service that supports to improve the behaviour of dogs.
3400	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe with skilled handlers there should not be a limit on how many dogs they can take. I have seen first hand this is a success with my own dog. He is happy and has better way of life when he is with his pack when possible.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3405	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Submission to Auckland Council – Walking Multiple Dogs New Proposals I am writing as a concerned dog owner and regular user of professional dog walking services to express my strong support for the role that dog walkers play in our community, particularly in light of the new proposals currently under review. I believe that dog walkers provide an essential service, both for the well-being of dogs and for the broader public. The council's own data shows that just 0.7% of dog-related complaints involve multiple dogs being handled so I fail to see the relevance of these changes 1. A Vital Service for Busy and Vulnerable Dog Owners As a dog owner with a busy schedule, I rely heavily on professional dog walkers to ensure my dog gets the regular exercise and attention they need. Dog walkers provide a crucial service by stepping in to offer daily walks, socialisation, and mental stimulation that are essential for my dog's happiness and well-being. Furthermore, many dog owners, including elderly individuals and people with physical disabilities, depend on professional walkers to care for their dogs. 2. Positive Impact on Dog Welfare and Community Well-being Professional dog walkers contribute significantly to the mental and physical health of dogs in our city. Many dogs, especially those living in urban environments, do not have access to large yards or sufficient space to run and play. Dog walkers provide these dogs with an opportunity to exercise, interact with other dogs, and explore new environments. 3. Encouraging Responsible Dog Ownership
3409	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules. Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients so spend your time and resources on this. It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care about their dogs wellbeing. Instead you should ensure all dog walkers need to complete a dog behavior course and complete a certification.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3413	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners (like yourself) who care about their dogs wellbeing. It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further ● Offer an alternative solution, for example, a less restrictive limit, a registration requirement, or licencing professionals to walk larger groups.
3419	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I am afraid to take my own dogs out and walk, I have to constantly be aware of surroundings to protect me and my dog I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dog goes out with a dog walker 3x a week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after, happy and exercised on the days they go out.
3481	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	These dog walkers do this every day and the dogs trust them. they are professional in what they do and all dogs are owned by responsible people.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3517	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I had a very friendly dog pre-covid, but after her socialising had dropped off and when it was time to go back to work, when we walked on the local off leash park, she started being very protective of me towards other dogs no matter how friendly. Her heckles would go up and she would growl so I would put her on the lead. I enlisted Kilts&K9's pack walking services for twice a week and within two weeks, she stopped being protective and went back to her friendly self. Pack walks also tire her out while I am walking. If this rule is changed, our amazing pack walkers who take very good care of our dogs and ensure they abide by rules and safety, won't be able to afford to run their services, or they will have to put prices up drastically and we won't be able to afford this service. It would be a great loss to me and many others. Professional dog walkers should not be impacted by a change such as this. People who do own multiple dogs personally and who just don't care about others in their surroundings, should definitely be limited and fined if found to be breaking rules.
3530	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A change like this will financially impact responsible dog walking companies and also people such as myself who value the support of professional dog walkers! They provide a friendly pack mentality, tired my dog out while at work, and help with recall training. I understand there are many irresponsible owners out there and they should definitely be restricted and fined should they break rules. But this blanket law change would be unfair. Could you have an alternative for Professional Registered pack walkers such as: A licence to walk larger groups of dogs off leash; registering dogs under their care/supervision, or a les restrictive off leash limit of 8 - 10 dogs off leash. I would be devastated if our dog walkers Kilts&K9s had to closedown due to not being able to afford to run their business due to these restrictions. And I am sure many other people would also feel the same. The friendly pack mentality is so important and even though I walk my dog every day myself, she thrives with the pack and has become even more well behaved with recall and socialising with others. Please don't penalise our professional dog walkers because of selfish lazy dog owners who let their dogs roam the streets. Penalise them directly. Increase the value of fines for them. Dog walkers don't let the dogs under their care roam, they ensure safety and control. We need dog friendly parks and professional dog walkers. Please re-assess what you are trying to do here. Thank you.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3612	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Have multiple dog walkers be registered and licensed. That way, dog owners can be sure their dogs are being looked after by responsible walkers, the walkers are seen to be maintaining a standard of care, and the council can make a profit by creating new revenue
3636	Support		However, as a regular walker through a local park, I don't believe any dogs should be off leash. If one, or all 3 off leash dogs attack another person, child, or dog, what is the dog walker to do with the dogs on the leash while he attempts to get the off leash dogs under control?
3650	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It seems that the proposed change unfairly targets those who are often most experienced and knowledgeable about dogs and dog handling, like dog walkers, but completely misses the opportunity to address the current significant issues relating to dog ownership in Auckland. Those issues can be split into two broad categories: private dog ownership, and monitoring and enforcement of existing rules and regulations. Private dog ownership is limited to two dogs unless a permit to own more than two is obtained. This seems a reasonable approach. However, there are virtually no rules around how are those dogs kept, which leads to issues that cause a considerable public concern, like life-chaining of dogs. Council may chose to continue with the current policy (wait for a national level legislation), or can opt to act proactively and regulate on the local level. This proposal would be much more useful to the welfare of dogs and achieve a significant public support. It would be addressing a real issue. The other type of issues are related to how Council approaches animal, and particularly dog welfare. Animal control offices are far and few between, and their lack of availability is a serious concern to public. When Council is contacted with an issue, being told nobody is available overnight, or that somebody will attend in a couple of days is beyond appalling. There are daily reports of roaming dogs, dog attacks, etc. yet seemingly Animal Control is nowhere to be seen. I am sure that man and woman at Animal Control are working very hard , but they are obviously under-resourced for the job at hand. To follow up from this, the lack of education of dog owners is
3686	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My experience is that dog walkers are responsible and control the dogs in their care, I believe dog issues are far more likely to happen from dogs who are not walked or cared for well and these are the dogs we should be trying to change laws to help

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3691	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think having some dogs on leash and some off will cause problems. All dogs that are being walked should be able to be off leash in areas that allow it
3692	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are many highly skilled and talented people who walk our dogs on a daily basis. They help with socialization, training on and off lead behavior and giving my dog the exercise she desperately needs in environments that I do not have access too. My dog would not be the dog she is without her walks twice a week.
3731	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support any change to the existing policy as it will unduly affect professional dog walkers. This suggested policy amendment is haphazard and doesn't actually address the key issue that the public has with dogs, which is roaming dogs causing a nuisance. Professional dog walkers provide a valuable service to dog owners in Auckland, ensuring dogs receive the exercise, proper structured socialisation, mental stimulation and care they need. If professional dog walkers are unable to operate as they currently do, there may be an increase in other existing dog issues within the wider community. Currently less than 1% of all Council callouts are for situations where multiple dogs are being walked, while 38% is for roaming dogs. I would rather see the Council prioritise its focus on addressing issues around roaming dogs than trying to unduly affect the livelihoods of small business owners. This change will primarily impact those who are already following the current bylaw negatively, while those who currently do not comply are unlikely to adhere to the new rules.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3736	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose the proposed limit, as only 0.7% of dog-related complaints to the Council involve multiple dogs, and this figure includes everyday pet owners. The majority of complaints stem from issues such as untrained pets, roaming dogs, and underfunded animal control services. This proposal does not address these core concerns and instead penalises responsible professionals who contribute to safer and more controlled dog management in the community. As the owner of a 12-year-old Huntaway x and an 11 year old Beagle cross Lab, I consider professional dog walking an essential service that keeps my dogs calm, social, and well-trained. These services provide crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. If these restrictions are implemented, many experienced, qualified dog walkers who have dedicated their careers to providing safe and professional services will be forced to leave the industry, relocate, or significantly increase their fees—making professional services accessible only to wealthy owners. This could create a gap in the market, allowing inexperienced individuals to enter the industry without proper training, ultimately worsening the very issues the proposal aims to address.
3746	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules. Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients. It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers. It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners (like yourself) who care about their dogs wellbeing. It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further. Offer an alternative solution, for example, a less restrictive limit, a registration requirement, or licencing professionals to walk larger groups or effectively enforcing existing bylaws.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3747	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I live in West Auckland, Massey and there are constantly dogs roaming my area. Most days I walk the block I am approved by a random dog which makes it extremely unsafe for not only my dogs but also myself. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dogs go to a professional dog walkers a few times a week, it's great for their socialisation not only with other dogs but with the environment as well. The dog walkers take precautions to keep our dogs safe and happy. I would be lost without then due to the long hours I work. Bringing in this law would be an increase for all the clients and some messing out on this service. I really believe more should be done about the roaming dogs in auckland and the owners not having control of them. Please don't take this amazing service away from the dogs owners that would do anything to keep their dogs happy, healthy and safe.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3759	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There may need to be a maximum number of dogs someone is allowed to walk, but 6 is too limiting for people who walk dogs professionally. I have seen incredible skill from people walking upwards of 15 dogs who come to them daily for care, that most people with 1 dog can't manage themselves. It's not the amount of dogs that is the issue, its people who can't control their 1 dog, as shown by the amount of complaints that were received by Council where only 0.7% were about multiple dogs being walked. Additionally, I know of multiple people who own more than 6 dogs who will not be able to take their own dogs for a walk if this proposed change goes ahead. People who own or walk upwards of 6 dogs typically do so because they have time and energy to invest in these dogs lives and to train them properly. I have had far more bad experiences with people walking 1 or 2 dogs. If pack size is a concern to Council and the public then I would be supportive of the following options. - Licencing professionals to walk larger groups - Having different limits based on the density of the population in an area - Enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control' which is already in place - Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them. Ultimately, the people who already follow the rules and have their dogs under control off leash will be the ones who are punished as they would follow the new laws, and the people currently out in public with dangerous or threatening dogs will continue to do so. I
3779	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	We have dog walkers who take our dogs out. It is a social activity for our pets and keeping at 6 means they'd only interact with 4 others. Moving the number to 8 is a good number in between unlimited and 6
3786	Support		I have never had any problems with group dog walkers. But having a dog myself i know that when there is a problem its hard enough to look after one dog let alone a group. So setting limits is a good idea.
3791	Support		Walking lots of dogs disrupts others
3794	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers have experience in dog management, training and control In Auckland - they have an integral role in healthy dog exercise, adding to and guiding owners on management of recall and other behaviours Placing an arbitrary number on safety significantly limits these businesses ability to continue this important work In reality - it is more difficult to manage some dogs on lead and some off lead. This does not reflect pack behaviour

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3797	Support		I would agree 6 should be the max. Any more becomes too difficult to control.
3822	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Not only that it would penalise professional dog trainers and or owners who are trying to make a living out of their passion and expertise and thus reducing access of every day people to dog professionals who can actually help make Auckland safer. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I am scared of walking my dog in my local area of Te Atatu Peninsula because of the multiple roaming and aggressive dogs I see. I witnessed a roaming dog attack a walker and her dog just last night. The only reason the attack stopped was because the dogs got tired! My dog would have died instantly and or I would have been severely injured in the process. I do support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and my community. My dogs go out with a dog walker every three times a week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and [illegible]

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3829	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This feels like a solution in search of a problem. I saw that there was a dog attack by a dog hat was part of a pack walk some time back and I think that's awful but it's clear that was an unqualified pack walker. We own a dog that we send on pack walks with a qualified dog trainer. The whole point of doing that is to give him off leash time with other dogs that he isn't able to get at our local park. In fact a lot of dogs are quite unhappy and can get defensive when they are on leash and other dogs are off leash. The solution is requiring that dog walkers planning on walking more than 2-3 dogs where they are not the owner of those dogs, need to be registered. If there are complaints or concerns about a dog walker, that person should be deregistered. People wanting to register should have some sort of qualification. This industry has become the wild west with people out in public who are unqualified to manage multiple dogs or not equipped to handle situations where dogs get aggressive. Just get rid of the unqualified people. Pack walks also should not be allowed at off leash dog parks or public parks which are shared spaces with children/recreational sport. Most good pack walkers take their dogs to riverhead forest, the off leash part of Piha (during the weekdays when it's quiet) or other quiet areas. Large packs of dogs should not be allowed in public areas.
3837	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	One of the proposed amendments is to limit the number of dogs that can be walked at once (maximum of six dogs, with no more than three off-leash). While I understand the intent behind this rule, it does not distinguish between responsible dog walkers and those who do not control their dogs properly. Professional dog walkers often ‘pay it forward’—for example, picking up additional waste and ensuring good behaviour. Meanwhile, some individual owners with a single dog fail to pick up waste or control their pets. A blanket restriction does not account for experience, training, or capability. Recommendation: Allow responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers to apply for a license or permit to walk more than six dogs. Require a training component to ensure that individuals handling multiple dogs can demonstrate control. Reward responsible behaviour rather than penalising all dog owners.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4075	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. In the area I live in there are constant number of roaming dogs with no collar and which are overly aggressive. This makes it difficult to walk my own dog as it would be hard to manage her and any roaming dog if it were to approach us. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. Dog walkers play a valuable role in keeping my dog exercised, happy and socialised. My kennel will also take the dogs out for pack walks which means my dog gets plenty of exercise when she is with them. She loves the pack walks and I have 100% confidence in my dog walkers that they are able to keep track of and control of all the dogs they have with them. By adding dog limit rules all you are doing is penalising the dog walkers who already have good controls in place by limiting their business opportunities. With the rising cost of travel and dog care, if you were to set a limit this business would end up charging more than we could afford to complete dog walks as a result you would end up with more dogs at home unexercised and agitated. A blanket rule does not effectively mitigate the risks you are trying to achieve. A more targeted approach is required to ensure it is fair for dog walkers and owners. You should be introducing a licensing system to
4094	Do not support		I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. [Add your own story about roaming dogs such as "I am scared to walking my dog in my local area because of the multiple roaming and aggressive dogs I see."] I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. [Add your own story about dog walkers. "My dogs go out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out."]

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4170	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The times that I have felt unsafe around dogs there has only been one or two off leash dogs. These have been roaming dogs and also dogs not under controll. I feel that reducing the number of off leash dogs permitted will not affect the current safety issues around dogs. There should be more focus on enforcing the current rules, or adding in a requirement to hold a licence to walk more than 3 dogs off leash.
4187	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Professional dog walkers, who already operate responsibly under the current rules, are being unfairly penalized by these arbitrary limits. The existing bylaw already requires dogs to be under control at all times, which is sufficient when enforced correctly. Additional regulations are unnecessary and will place undue strain on responsible dog walkers and dog owners alike.
4200	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit in dog walking only penalises professional dog walkers and does not resolve the roaming dog issue in Auckland. I live in Te Atatu Peninsula and almost every day I come across a roaming dog in our suburb, leaving me quite scared to walk my dog with my baby in a pram alone. Once a week my dog goes out with a dog walker with a group of dogs, generally more than 6 at once. I have seen huge improvements in my dogs behaviour and socialisation going on these pack walks.
4266	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	○ Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules ○ Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers ○ It does not address any issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs walkers ○ It will stop professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care for their dogs ○ I currently use a professional dog walker twice a week for my dog as I work full time. This will impact on her capacity and my ability to rely on her service.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4381	I don’t know		I support limitations on the number of dogs. I do not have the expertise or evidence from collected data to suggest the correct number. It should be noted that a key point here is the handler competence. An experienced owner who has multiple dogs, who have temperaments and behaviors that are well known, may be well placed to manager a larger number of dogs compared to an inexperienced dog walker. The latter I imagine may be a dog-walking professional or a family member/friend. On the flip side, there are some dogs and handlers who should not walk more than 1 dog. Both need training. While I support the regulation and encouragement for safe walking practices, I worry that setting a limit (of 6, or some other number) does not address the core issue of temperament conditioning and training. Suggestion: Council has the opportunity to regulate this during registration. Dogs that have demonstrated capacity to be walked with other dogs in public (possibly via accreditation) could receive a different color tag to make it easy for Council staff to quickly identify and enforce the rule, and to inspire owner responsibility. Suggestion: Consider the approach being applied in at least two
4456	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Currently our dog does pack walks each week. Our dog walker is amazing and it has seen so good for our German shepherd. I believe it’s not so much the number of dogs its regulations around dog walkers. Is there a way that dog walkers have to register and do specific training every 1-2 years to ensure they are abiding by the law and keeping the community safe. It’s a shame that a few inexperienced dog walkers have ruined it for people who are passionate about dogs and training along with this being their job. A lot of dog walkers will not be able to afford to do pack walks unless they rise their prices quite a bit.
4457	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use a reputable dog walker and know they are trained properly to walk multiple dogs. The only time I ever come across issues, is normal public walkers who let thier off leash and don't control them.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4462	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do believe there needs to be a maximum but could be higher, a maximum of 8. Making pack walking not viable or very expensive might mean more dogs at home with their needs unmet. I don't believe there should be a set number that must be on lead as some dogs are more reactive on lead, that actually, the walker needs to know the dogs and what would work well for the group as a whole rather than a black and white arbitrary number. I think the size and temperament of the dogs also matters.
4491	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	This will negatively affect the professional dog walkers who we personally know and trust. I believe a blanket rule would not make any sense, and only punish those who are already abiding by the laws. This will also increase the prices of pack walking, which is a service we rely on to keep our dog happy and socialised throughout the week. Regardless of walking our dog, (which we have time for 1-2 hours every day) pack walking is important for him to learn from other dogs, and how to socialise with them. Even if there is a price increase, we will continue to send our dog to pack walking as we believe in the benefits, however this will of course put a strain on our other finances at a time of already economic unrest. I have witnessed people in public walk under 4 dogs and still have 0 control over their pack, being a menace to myself and my dog and forcing us to cross the road or change directions altogether. It is not the number of dogs that dictates the danger to the dogs and others, it is the ability of the pack walker to assess which dogs can be walked together. I think this could be helped with licensing or qualifications that would allow certain professionals to walk dogs over a certain number. I support the idea that civilians/people without a license (such as children earning extra pocket money) should not be allowed to walk more than 4 dogs unsupervised.
4598	Support		The maximum number of off-leash dogs should be zero. There is no reason for dangerous animals to be let loose around the public. More than anything I want to see more resources put into enforcement around roaming dogs. They are a public threat. I have witnessed a dog attack in my area recently and after making many reports to Council over the years I strongly believe that the culture of dog ownership in Auckland is completely out of control and a radical approach is needed to curb this danger.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4644	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We are dog owners - we have been dog owners for 16 yrs and have a fully fenced property that is currently under major renovation - this means our dog is locked inside for his safety and that of workers and vehicles coming and going every day. We have engaged with an amazing couple who take our big boy on 'adventures' and ease his cabin fever, provide valuable socialising opportunities for him and maintain strict boundaries, control and training for him at all times (he's a young dog). We wld like to see Prof Dog walkers undergo some criteria/licensing standard to ensure only those providing a safe, controlled excellent service are able to operate - our dog walkers have worked extensively with large breeds overseas, here in NZ and run an extremely professional business, they are transparent in their daily 'adventures' and we wld be so sorry to see such a great couple who work so hard and provide superb service to many in our community (west auck) - they came on a recommendation from wk colleagues and we all speak so highly of them both (husband and wife) - daily we see 'entire' dogs roaming, unlicensed, hungry, often aggressive in our community *Te Atatu Peninsula* - PLEASE target this group of non resp dog owners.....not those being responsible! We wld hate to see such upstanding community members that our walkers are being out of business - they have 2 young kids at the local school and deserve to continue their work in the community. PLEASE look at the actual issues that exist in our community - entire dogs roaming, being aggressive to dogs being walked by resp owners, hungry, often pups are dumped at the vets and the prob increases by the day - this is the issue and I wld not let our children walk our
4709	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The key wording is that "All dogs must be under control at all times". This may not require a leash but is the responsibility of the owner. You have appropriate mechanisms if the dogs are not "under control".
4801	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Two off leash rather than 4 minimises unexpected situations where the handler has to get them back under control quickly. Reduces “pack” mentality.
4924	Support		I support this proposal partially. The reason being is the basic dog rule of all dogs being under control at all times should be sufficient. This needs to be policed and reinforced better than it is currently. Some owners cannot control one dog on leash. Others could control 6 of leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4968	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This doens't need a bylaw
5143	Support		Because i agree that with the amounts of on and off leashs as i feel 3 leashs in hands is okay but anymore would end up being uncontrollable and 3 off is maintainable also
5208	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe that there needs to be a bigger focus on the individuals that are currently completing dog walking in Auckland. There is a large portion of them who have little to no dog handling or training experience. Changing the limits on dogs will be to the detriment of people who have send years and thousands of dollars studying dog behaviour and training.
5243	I don’t know		I don't think dogs should be off leash unless at a park specified for dogs
5333	Support		Too many incidents of off leash dogs being out of control in public spaces. Diogo also being lost
5384	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Current dog walker is experienced in this field and i support her cause

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5403	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Either no change as the current rules require dog walkers to have dogs under control and good pack walkers will adjust numbers accordingly - OR - Introduce a licensing regime. Require anyone who walks more than 3 dogs (on or off leash) to obtain a licence as a dog walker. I do not support the arbitrary proposal that the number of dogs be limited for everyone. It appears to have been reached without consultation with professional dog walkers and will put many out of business. Pack walking will become so expensive that dog owners will not be able to utilise the services and that will cause harm and stress to the dogs and owners. You will end up with more noise complaints with distressed dogs left at home. You will lose the benefit of socialising and training that comes through using a good dog walker. The proposal is reactionary despite the fact that very few (0.7%) complaints are reportedly related to pack walkers. A licensing regime could be graded - for the lowest level it could be 6 dogs (3 off leash if you complete an online test about rules in relation to dogs and good dog management - similar to the highway code online test. For a full license which could be subject to the judgment of the dog walker - or a more sensible limit such as up to 10 dogs off leash where permitted - you could have a higher license fee and a harder test. Saying 3 dogs on leash out of 6 also ignores what every good dog owner knows - that problems between dogs are more likely to occur if one or both are in a leash. If a dog walker knows a dog does not respond to his/her commands they will be leashed. That should be left to their judgment and not made into a rule. It is
5419	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking is a genuine business and there is high demand for it in Auckland. If these changes go ahead, then we are simply putting people out of work, or making it harder for them to work, and more expensive for dog owners to use their services. If you have several dogs, or foster dogs, this proposed change will simply make peoples lives harder. Life is hard enough.
5580	Support		6 is a reasonable amount of dogs to be walking and controlled at one time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5633	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Currently the rule works extremely well for those who are professional dog walkers and fully understand their obligations to maintain control over dogs at all times. Theirs is a valued cottage industry especially in an urban environment like Auckland - regular pack walks with professional walkers is an excellent supplement to the routine of walks in local parks with owners. Placing limits on their capacity of 6 is unreasonable given they operate closely with dogs and have good understanding of both the dogs and the types of environment they visit. A good operator makes tactical choices daily to ensure they work safely and maintain control of their pack at all times. They will also exclude dogs who lack the training to comply with commands. Blanket restrictions will not serve the public interest. Dangerous dogs ought to be the focus of dog control rather than programs to curtail or kill a number of well managed small businesses. The dogs will also suffer if the council kills off pack walks, it's great for the animals to be exercised in groups, they clearly have more variety and fun on their pack walk days. I am trusting the council will not be myopic on this topic, as all choices have consequences. Recommend a voluntary register for the professional pack walkers with a code of conduct - so that amateurs are easily identified should a pack ever pose a problem to the public and breach the 'under control' aspect of current regulation.
5646	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't think a blanket rule of a number of dogs is the answer. There are plenty of dog walkers who have more than 3-4 dogs off leash and well under control. I think you need to look at individual businesses and their operating processes rather than hindering an entire industry because of a few bad practitioners. In the same vain, limiting the number of dogs does not mean that someone who handles them badly is going to be able to control the three off leash that they do have. You need to look at the handlers, not the numbers.
5731	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are local dog walkers with skills and experience that handle far more dogs off lead than 3 and have no problems and cause no issues to others. I understand the need for regulation but penalising skilled dog walkers and the dogs they take out by enforcing 3 on 3 off is not the solution.
5817	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I want to make the rule stricter so that there arent any dog bite attacks
5928	Support		dogs may be a annoying to some people, having them better in control is neccessary

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5953	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. The reasons for this are: •Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walker. This proposal penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules •Because Auckland has a roaming dog, problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers •It will not address any issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs walkers •It will stop professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care for their dogs •By limiting the number of dogs that can be walked by professional dog walkers, this will increase the cost of these services substantially, making it unaffordable for many dog owners who rely on this service, or this service will become financially unviable for businesses and will no longer be something that owners will be able to access. If this service becomes unavailable this will negatively affect owners that need their dogs to be taken out while they are at work, and not all other services such as daycares are suitable for every dog, this will lead to an increase in barking dog reports. Alternative suggestions: •Licencing professionals to walk larger groups •Having different limits for the public versus professionals •Enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control' no matter the
6049	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We get our dogs walked by a professional dog walker. Our dogs are so much better behaved and socialised around other dogs due to the pack walks. They generally go to remote areas and I can't see that having dogs leashed in these areas means that they aren't getting the amount of exercise and socialisation. I do think there should be regulations. Maybe a maximum of 8 dogs with no rules on leashed dogs if they are in more isolated areas.
6105	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A good, skilled and trained dog walker has more control of their pack than some owners have with their own dogs. The number of dogs being walked together is not the problem, it is un-skilled and under-qualified dog walkers with no proper knowledge of dog behaviour that cause issues amongst the dog-walking industry. Limiting numbers of dogs being walked at any one time does not address this.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6223	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change will severely hamper professional dog walking services, which we, as responsible dog owners who work, rely on. We need this safe and valuable service to safely exercise, socialise and provide mental stimulation and training for our dog, who loves the controlled freedom and fun! What is being proposed in the dog control bylaw will penalise responsible dog owners and do nothing about irresponsible owners. Auckland has a roaming dog problem, NOT a problem with responsible dog walkers and businesses providing a valuable service. In fact the proposed limits will not actually address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers. Not only this, but if these changes come into effect, the services that are provided, which are flexible and value for money, and a vital support avenue for us, would be seriously impacted. The dog walking service we use is responsible and already adheres to existing bylaws. We would urge careful reconsideration and that Council CONSULT the dog walking industry, regarding some sort of licensing or registration, rather than imposing regulations that could severely affect these important professional services and not solve the issues of aggressive and roaming dogs in Auckland at all.
6274	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. "I am scared to walk my dog in my local area because of the multiple roaming and aggressive dogs I see."] I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community."My dogs go out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out."
6289	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I've see no evidence in the report that says multiple dogs is the issue. So a change makes no sense. Seems to me the issue is dog owners that don't know how to train their dogs. This has nothing to do with the number of dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6317	Support		Sounds fair
6378	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	this isnt the issue at hand. it is the education around dogs and ownership
6523	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Having worked with dogs and dog packs for 60 plus years. I believe that the number is not relevant. All of our dogs have always been controlled qnd under control. The answer is dog training and dog handler training
6527	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. "My dogs go out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out."] my dog was previously anxious around children and other dogs but a professional dog walker has instilled confidence, recall and overall growth. I am in support of regulating the industry in a sense of professional and trained dog walkers being able to safely take as many dogs as their skill allows and not punishing them for their services and creating healthy well rounded dogs that therefore prevent any incidents of poor and dangerous behavior in the future. In addition talk to the industry get some actual insight of what the industry looks like. Working collaboratively always wins.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6533	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners & dog pack walkers and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. Our two dogs currently go out twice a week with a dog walker in a pack environment. We specifically researched dog walkers before settling with Angela, who is by far the best person to help us with walking our dogs while we are working but also providing training as part of this. To limit the amount of dogs Angela is able to take will be detrimental to our dogs who get to go on a walk which is stimulating and also helps with training. It will also likely push up the prices for us Aucklanders who are trying to do the best thing for our dogs but also likely to see good pack walkers go out of business due to the ridiculous limits proposed. From what I hear, Auckland Council haven't even bothered to talk with PDWA, which I can't understand. These people are wanting to find the right solution, licensing makes much more sense than restricting the number of dogs. Suggestion to council, talk to PDWA, go for a walk with some of these dog walkers and you'll soon see the
6534	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I think dogs off leash should be higher than 3, four seems reasonable. I walk my sisters dogs when they're on holiday and in addition to our 2 we have 2 more furry pals to walk and they love exploring off leash in dog friendly areas. 4 would be a reasonable upper limit for off leash walking as long as the dogs are not aggressive.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6551	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am the proud owner of a lively 18 month GSD, my 5th GSD but first puppy, all others have been rescue dogs, I honestly thought this would be easier, a well socialised dog is such a joy. This lively girl needs far more exercise than I am able to give her, being referred to Pet Adventures by Mark Vetty, I am just so wonderfully impressed. Caleb spent 12 weeks working with me and my dog, training us before accepting her into his pack. She returns a happy, tired dog, but ready for our activities later in the day and weekends. If all dog walkers were to take the time and effort into making sure each dog they accept into their pack there would be very few situations which require concern. I greatly value the service they provide, making my life and my dogs life more enjoyable. Following Caleb's training I feel confident joining other Auckland dog owners on our doggy walks, yesterday I had the pleasure of seeing her romp and play with other young dogs, walk respctfully beside older dogs. To reduce the number of dogs these dog walkers are allowed to walk would change the whole business and maybe entail us loosing our wonderful service. Please set up a system of liscencing the dog walkers, please do not punish the GOOD walkers along with those who have not taken the trouble to train their pack. As is often the case the law abiding good owners are disadvantaged because of those who will not abide by the law. Thank you.
6556	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I feel like something should change yes, but by bringing in this change will make it unaffordable for the professional walkers to run a business unless they put there prices up so much, that it then affects us the dog owners. Pack Walking has been so beneficial for my girl, to have this excellent service become unattainable is so sad for the dogs, what then do we do with them while at work full-time. Dogs will become frustrated, they will no enrichment or positive structured fitness.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6565	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. such as "I am scared to walking my dog in my local area because of the multiple roaming and aggressive dogs I see." I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community.. My dog goes with a dog walker and she enjoys it so much. Her behaviour has improved and my dog walker has all the dogs under control. All dog walkers should not be penalised for stray dogs and dogs whose owners don't look
6582	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Hi Auckland Council, We recently read your proposal on the updated policies and bylaws for dogs in the Auckland region. First, thank you for all your hard work. We appreciate how much effort goes into researching and preparing a proposal of this scale. We did, however, want to offer feedback on one key change that we didn't quite understand – setting a limit on the number of dogs a person may 'walk' in a council-controlled public place at one time (a maximum of six dogs, with no more than three of them off-leash at any time). This struck us as a bit odd, as we've never personally had issues with larger packs of dogs. It's usually smaller groups or dogs without an owner around. In fact, we've had lovely experiences with some of these walkers. Looking at it more closely, the reasoning for this change also felt opaque. Despite multi-dog packs being described as a "low to moderate" problem in frequency and "mostly low in impact," and the data for this decision being "difficult to analyze" and "may not identify the number of dogs involved in an incident or the impacts," the proposed solution is a hard limit of six dogs. This is despite other solutions, such as dog-walker licensing for commercial operations, being presented (though not elaborated upon). A quick Google search revealed that this is already happening in Wellington, so we're curious why a different approach is being considered here. Wellington's dog walking license information All in all, this feels like an arbitrary change based on information that is simply not strong or conclusive enough. It's already challenging enough for businesses to stay afloat in a recession

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6586	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	To Whom It May Concern, I do not believe the proposed bylaw, limiting the number of dogs a person can walk at one time is beneficial for Auckland. From my experience, professional dog walkers contribute positively to community safety. The ones I know keep their groups under control, follow the laws and have protocols in place to make sure it stays that way. They ensure dogs are well-socialised and calm. In fact, I feel safer and happier seeing these groups because I know the dogs are being well cared for, and trained to be obedient when out with their owners who will have less experience getting their dogs to a place where they are safe and well trained in these areas. I have actually noticed more issues with individual pet owners who are unable to control their one or two dogs. And more issues with roaming dogs. This proposal seems to target the wrong group. This bylaw won't solve the problem of irresponsible ownership; it will just make it harder for people to access safe, professional services. I strongly believe a licensing system would be more effective. It would ensure professional walkers are qualified and accountable, maintaining high standards of safety without unfairly restricting their ability to work. I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and consult with industry professionals to find a balanced solution. Kind regards, Cheril Warby
6638	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there no harm in a limit the proposed limits are overly restrictive and there is no data to support these being required, in such a restrictive manner. I also think that keeping 3 dogs on while 3 of their pack mates get to be off leash will increase dog behaviour issues rather than reduce them. (Creating frustration and reactivity)
6681	Support		I would support even fewer dogs off leash where there are multiple dogs under one persons control. There is a tendancy for professional dog walkers to maximise profit over everyone else's wellbeingsafety. I think three dogs maximum (on or off lead) per adult walker. Dog walking is a big responsibility, and dogs are unpredictable. If there is an issue, the adult walker wont be able to control the situation and minimise damage if they have more than three dogs. . Professional dog walkers with large groups of dog packs could be limited to certain parks eg Meola Park which has a larger capacity for dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6699	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current rules are adequate when properly enforced. They ensure that dog walkers—professional or otherwise—are responsible for keeping dogs under control, without imposing arbitrary and restrictive limits. Professional dog walkers already operate within these rules, providing essential services such as exercise, socialization, and training for dogs, which benefit the wider community. Adding further restrictions will do little to address the main problems in the dog community, such as roaming dogs and owners/walkers with no control over their dogs. Instead, resources should focus on enforcing existing bylaws and addressing these larger concerns. The current system works when applied effectively, and no changes are needed.
6711	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current rules are adequate when properly utlised by trained professionals. They ensure that dog walkers are responsible for keeping dogs under control, without imposing arbitrary and restrictive limits. Professional dog walkers already operate within these rules, providing essential services such as exercise, socialization, and training for dogs, which benefit the wider community. Adding further restrictions will do little to address the main problems in the dog community, such as roaming dogs and owners/walkers with no control over their dogs. Instead, resources should focus on enforcing existing bylaws and addressing these larger concerns. The current system works when applied effectively, and no changes are needed.
6712	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A law on this will destroy a social eliment for the dog itself if you couldn't walk with six friends you'd fight to stop the law being place it also has a negative impact on small businesses owners.
6715	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A law on this would impact small business that are based off dog walking and removes their income and their support of local business’s
6716	Support		I think pack walking a large number of dogs is unsafe. There is no way one person can have control over as many dogs as they walk at the moment. It's ridiculous

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6810	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There is no clear evidence that dogs walked in groups is causing issues in Auckland. It would be reasonable to seek. Professional dog walkers to seek a permit to ensure they can capably walk large groups of dogs on and off leash.
6834	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I think there should be licenses for the professional dog walking companies and they can then safely have more dogs on leash and off leashwhen out walking. This would also mitigate the 'cowboy' dog walking companies who are not able to control the dogs and would get rid if the problem in parks.
HIBISCUS AND BAYS LOCAL BOARD			
3	Support		Dogs are pack animals and get much bolder in a pack. Forming a group of dogs is dangerous
27	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The issue isn't the number of dogs being walked at a time its more the ability of the dog walker to control the dogs. Instead of putting an arbitrary/generic rule in place there should be a permit that commercial dog walkers should have to obtain which assesses their competence. There is a difference between a student who is walking dogs for some pocket money vs an experienced/trained dog walker that understands dog behaviour.
29	Support		one person should only be responsible for 6 dogs to give them appropriate attention.
91	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Six dogs is a lot for one person to manage, I'd support 4 dogs maximum, with 2 off leash, definitely no more. I'm also a dog owner and you can't give 4 dogs your attention at the same time and all it takes is for one to react badly to another dog / person / situation and you'd potentially lose control of all of them.
95	Support		6 dogs is plenty for one owner. Large commercial pack walking should be discouraged for the sake of the dogs welfare.
207	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 4 dogs with 0 offleash allowed.
214	Support		If all 6 dogs take off together to chase something then the person holding all 6 leashes will struggle to be able to stay in control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
245	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I appreciate this is an incredibly important review into current legislation, but also a contentious and potentially damaging one, particularly for those whose livelihoods will be significantly and irrevocably impacted by this adapted legislation (namely professional dog or pack walkers). I note that the Auckland Council's survey into the issue identifies people walking multiple dogs can create nuisance and distress to people, but significantly the most prominent issue facing dog management in Auckland is roaming dogs. I agree that this is an issue that needs to be looked into as part of this review, as I've witnessed this myself. But I's argue that this blanket adaptation to existing regulation is both profoundly unfair for those whose livelihoods are based in the dog walking industry, to those who rely on these professional services, and will ultimately lead to damaging and significant unintended consequences for professional dogwalkers and those who absolutely reply on these services. In addition, Auckland Council's own data doesn't accurately support this proposed legislation and the impact it will have on professional dogwalkers who, in my personal experience over the last five years, provide an incredible, professional, highly specialised service. I believe the current wording of the legislation that's being proposed does not take into account the highly skilled dog walkers, and rather creates a blanket piece of legislation that is not fit for purpose. I would, without doubt, struggle were it not for my professional dogwalker, and she has become a huge part of my dog's regular routine and ongoing training. I believe their are alternative solutions that are being seriously overlooked, such as licensing professionals to walk larger groups in the same way we do

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
291	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I appreciate this is an incredibly important review into current legislation, but also a contentious and potentially damaging one. The proposed legislative review, while addressing some important issues, risks causing significant unintended consequences and harm, particularly to professional dog walkers and pack walkers whose livelihoods depend on this work, and of course to those that rely on these services. Auckland Council's own survey identifies people walking multiple dogs can create nuisance and distress to people, and roaming dogs as the primary problems in dog management, yet fails to articulate or consider the intricacies of these complaints. The proposed blanket restrictions will unfairly target professional dog walkers, who in my experience are highly skilled in dog training techniques, without addressing the root issues or oversight of potential legislation. My personal experience over the last five years has been life changing, and I would, without doubt, struggle were it not for my professional dogwalker. She has become a huge part of my dog's regular routine and ongoing training, providing an incredible, professional, highly specialised service. Unfortunately, this proposal would be life changing for my dog, for me, and for my dog walker for all the wrong reasons, and unfairly target my dog walker's business and livelihood. This approach overlooks viable and important alternatives, such as introducing licensing for professional dog walkers to ensure regulation and high standards within the industry, and focusing
317	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Owners (with usually 1 dog)who lack responsibility and control over their dog is more the issue I would like to see addressed.....so many dogs wandering unchecked from private properties.....limiting numbers will adversley affect responsible,professional dog care businesses such as the one I have my dog enrolled with.Their experience and expertise managing groups of dogs is proven yet if this bylaw is passed they would be unfairly victimised
319	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have never experienced an issue with people walking multiple dogs, this seems like penalising the majority because of a minority.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
351	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You are targeting dog walkers who are 99% trained professionals that keep the dogs under control , they also provide a service for people who walk full time . People pay big money for this service and people who use the service care about there dogs enough to that money. It also provides enrichment and socialisation for dogs . Here you are targeting responsible dog owners !!!!
435	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Six dogs are unmanageable and too likely to result in pack behaviours which can be aggressive and problematic to others
443	Support		6 is a large number of dogs to have under control of one person already, this is a generous limit and shouldn't cause any problems for reasonable people
449	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as the dogs are under c9ntrol it d9es not matter how many are off leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
457	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	As a professional dog trainer and dog walker myself, I handle 10-12 dogs a day. On lead I will walk in public places and then take them to private property to let them off lead to socialise. Many professional pack walkers in Auckland are experienced, it is a very small minority who are inexperienced. There is too many people starting to walk packs of dogs with no training, this is a huge issue. I believe there should be a licence for professional pack walkers to hold, Wellington has done an amazing job with this depending on the company allowing 10 or 12 limit per handler. I believe that the industry really can benefit from regulation, however, these proposed rules are unlikely to have a meaningful impact on the real issues affecting the dog community. Instead, they would place unnecessary restrictions on professional dog walkers and others who care for multiple dogs responsibly and divert resources from the major problems. People in the public see me walking and see how well behaved all my pack dogs are, it takes a lot of time and effort to get the dogs to this level and it would really upset me that people who are inexperienced has ruined the future of my business due to the lack of regulation. I believe each business should have to apply for a yearly licence, within that process the company is to advice the council how they run their business where they mainly walk, how many dogs they [illegible]
479	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	this impacts peoples lively hoods - they are professionals and deserve to be executing their craft and earring money Due to cost of living we all have to work and need dog handlers to walk our pets.
528	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It is just too dangerous to have someone trying to control so many dogs, three or more dogs is a pack and potentially dangerous
543	Support		6 dogs is a lot but an improvement on current state. Would like to see this reduced to max of 4 dogs per person.
566	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 3 dogs being walked by one person. It's impossible for 1 person to control 3 dogs at once, and especially if off leash they inevitably cannot track and collect the dog poo. Dog poo in public spaces is widespread even though it is a legal requirement to collect it immediately.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
579	Support		In my experience with and without my own dog, I do not believe one person is able to control multiple dogs. I think 3 on lead is more than enough, Doggy Day Cares exist for this scenario. One person cannot surpervise more than one dog off lead especially when monitoring their bowel movements. Have often noted owners not noticing, or choosing to ignore their dogs when multiple are off lead.
601	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Provide a training option for dog walkers who wish to walk more than 3 dogs. Do not allow any off leash because the pack mentality dogs have when together poses a threat to other dogs that may be nearby or walk past. Impose an age restriction.
606	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This affects peoples dog walking businesses and there doesn't seem to be a need for this law at the moment.
607	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	A dog owner cannot pull three leashed fogs towards 3 off leash dogs, potentially with all 3 in different places, if a dog fight or other trouble broke out. If there is any kind of dog fight, 6 dogs cannot be held on leash by one owner without breaking free.
623	Do not support		Each person can only bring two dogs, and they must be on a leash at all times.
680	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 2 dogs and no dogs off leash to enable proper control and safety to people walking
706	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	maximum 2 dogs per person on or off leash. When you are out you can see plenty of people who cannot control even one dog.
745	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In my experience the majority of pack walkers are dog trainers and know how to manage dogs. our pack walker uses a private property to ensure other off lead dogs do not enter her pack. I think Pack Walkers should have to pass a exam to ensure they have the skills to handle dogs. If you are not able to handle dogs then still having 3 off lead dogs with 3 on lead dogs would still cause issues.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
767	Support		Dog body language can be so subtle and fleeting that in order to watch and act upon the individual communication of each dog, one must be vigilant. Limiting the number of dogs a dog walker (professional or otherwise) can walk at once to 6, is a step in the right direction. I suspect people that oppose this limitation will do so because they are either a dog walker whose earnings will be limited or an owner who will have to pay more for a better service: either way, I doubt objections to limiting the number of dogs being walked at once will have anything to do with the dogs welfare or the public who have to navigate their way around packs of dogs. To encounter a large pack of dogs on leash or off, is hugely intimidating. Off leash dogs can break free from their walker and/or pull them to the ground. I would like to see a licence introduced for professional dog walkers who intend to walk 6 dogs at once (as their profession). Walking a neighbourhood dog used to be a good way for young people to earn some pocket money but walking big packs of dogs has become the norm and is so heavily monetised, these "professionals" are out in force to object to the new limits and their potential loss of income. The new proposal is more in line with other countries who prioritise animal welfare. This is a good move for Auckland Council in 2025.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
771	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The issue is not the number of dogs walked or if they are on or off leash but whether the walker is trained in animal behaviour and registered. Anyone can take up dog walking, there are no qualifications or registration. I have seen local students on facebook as young as 12 set themselves up as a dog walker all because they have a dog. And then they take a pack out. They are not trained dog walkers and not qualified in animal behaviour. A recipe for disaster. We have used Pet Adventures to walk our dogs. One of our dogs is reactive because she was attacked twice on the beach by off leash, supposedly in control dogs. She is non reactive and happy pack walking off leash with Pet Adventures all because Caleb and his team are experienced well trained dog walkers. It meant she could go off lead in a secure and safe situation. We referred our daughter to Hazel from Fur and Forrest because she was trained under Caleb from Pet Adventures and had experience. That's how it should work. Make registration a criteria, make it impossible for someone to be a dog walker or advertise their services without previously working under a registered dog walker. Make them sit a test to ensure they are qualified in animal behaviour .before they can call themselves or advertise as a dog walker. Don't restrict the walkers who are trained because they offer a good well trained service that a lot of dogs and working families need.
775	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We strongly disagree with the proposal for "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash". This proposal would make it an unviable business model for the company we use. We have dogs to encourage empathy and compassion for our children. It is unlikely we would be able to keep them without the help of professional dog walkers. The barking alone would cause an increase in nuisance complaints, which have reduced to nil since engaging this service. We propose areas that are currently utilized for dog walking groups to be sign posted as leash free dog areas.
776	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 2 dogs unless 'licenced' through specific training as, even with only 2 dogs, 'pack mentality' can emerge and, without proper understanding, there is risk to dog, handler or general public.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
785	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	As a professional dog walker my self, who walks in public places, I know that I am well capable of walking 10-12 dogs on lead safely and have no effect (other than admiration) on public and safety of public. Restricting us who are educated, can prove our abilities and our own policies we have in place for safety and control, is completely unnecessary and unfair. This would dramatically decrease business if not shut down business, a business I have worked hard on building and maintaining for 6 years.
814	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe you are targeting the wrong people. The dog owners that are paying people to walk their dogs are responsible and care for their dogs. The Dog Walkers I have seen are responsible and allow dogs to be dogs, socialising while being kept under control (not necessarily on a leash). It's the wandering dogs owners that you need to target! Dog Walkers are performing a valuable service and to restrict the number of dogs will make it more expensive for owners with the possibility that they will cease it as an option for their dog .... creating more anxious unsocialised dogs!
848	Support		Too many dogwalkers (professionals) don't have their dogs under control. If all of them are off leash they can misbehave towards single walking dogs and owners as they operate in a pack. I had a very nasty experience like that. I even think that 3 off leash is too many
852	Support		I see too many incidents on Orewa beach where walkers have all dogs off leash and they are not under control. My dogs are on leash and it's a problem trying to keep off leash dogs away from them
857	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is affecting all local dog walking businesses. I'm saying that - This is a targeted 'rule' as you will know in New Zealand a person cannot own more than 2 dogs per residence unless they have a kennel license. You are putting people out of jobs and making it harder to live in NZ than it already is
864	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is increasing usage of pack walkers. For dog behaviour specialists that do this they manager larger numbers of dogs and qualified to do so. They use local parks and regional parks to provide experiences for our fur babies. It may be better to set regulations for dog walkers than blanket numbers and just anyone walking significant numbers of dogs. If a dog walker had to register and be certified this would demonstrate their specialisation etc
888	Support		Dogs have attacked my son on the beach. It's not safe to have to many dogs together.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
912	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Key points are 1) complaints against pack walkers are LOW 2) most pack walkers are safe and experienced 3) bylaw bad for small businesses who may not be able to operate 4) bad for owners who can't afford pack walks 5) bad for dogs who will miss out on walks
915	Support		Am a dog owner myself but I think a limit is a good idea as more controllable
968	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The issues with most dog incidents in public have nothing to do with the amount of dogs that people or businesses have at any one time. By limiting the number of dogs, it is only crippling responsible small business owners who have their dogs under control. There may need to be regulations brought in to license companies that walk upwards of 6 dogs at a time but creating a blanket rule will not help the current issues that are occurring, if anything it will limit the exercise and quality of life for those dogs who rely on experienced pack walkers to allow them the freedom that they may otherwise not receive.
996	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have a dog and as part of our responsibility as a dog owner we have her enrolled in weekly pack walks for extra training and socialisation. These walks have aided the work that we do at home and have made a massive difference for our dog especially given her limited socialisation due to Covid. These walks are essential to a lot of dogs, their training and how they behave around other dogs. Changing these rules without proper consultation and understanding of these walks will cause more issues not less. It would make more sense to make dogs on long leads a minimum requirement on beaches where most attacks happen rather than focusing on this rule which only contributes less than 1% of poor dog behaviour reports. This change doesn't make sense. If you want to make positive change you are focussing on the wrong thing.
1002	Support		This number can be handled well.
1008	Support		As a responsible dog owner, I walk my dog on leash 100% of the time as, although he will always come back to me, I don't believe you can consider your dog under control unless they're in leash. The number of off leash dogs that run up to him whilst on lead is shocking. I wish people accepted that there is nothing wrong with walking your dog on lead

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1009	Support		I'm a dog owner myself. I don't support having more than one off-leash dog at a time. If one dog approaches, the others tend to follow, and owners often struggle to control them all. I've experienced situations where my child and my dog were approached by off-leash dogs that didn't listen to their owners. It can be quite a scary experience. There were a lot of cases of kids being attacked by dogs in public - something needs to be done here.
1020	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If a dog trainer and experienced dog walker is licensed (not expensive) should be able to walk on lead in public. Our pack walking has made a huge difference to our dog and his lead walking with me has been a massive change. Our dog trainer and pack walker ensures each dog has one on one walks before joining a pack- and no off leash in a pack until she has trust and trained all the dogs. What your proposing is a good thought to bad operators but the impact is unfortunately affecting the good ones and this change will force costs up, and we and other will end up not being able to continue- you need to set some standards of pack walking not just a blanket rule. The bad eggs will still abuse your rules.
1031	Support		It makes sense. Off leash you cannot control more than 3 dogs. Its better for all dogs and the public
1034	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Introduced a license for dog walkers to ensure skills, those without being restricted to limit on/off lead dogs
1042	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers have no been consulates at all re these numbers! While there are “cowboys” in the industry multi dog walkers as a whole are only a “small” portion of the problem! Out of control pet dogs with their owners who have little to no idea pose a much larger issue!
1059	Support		I am an experienced dog owner and I believe it isn't easy to control too many dogs especially if they tend to follow each other.
1108	Support		More than 6 dogs is not feasible for one person to manage. professional Dog walkers should be registered and insured
1111	I don’t know		I feel the ratio of 6 dogs to one person is quite high, and especially having 3 off leash seems too many. 2 dogs maximum would be our family’s preference
1136	Support		I think it's difficult for one person to control this number let alone more than this number of dogs. Is also very difficult to control when they come across other dogs and people
1153	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't feel the council should be involved in making up rules it can't enforce. Instead invest more in park infrastructure like bins!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1173	Support		I think it should be 3 or 4 on or offleash. Dog walkers can not control 6 on leash if something happens. I have watched some walk up to 8 digs with a further 3voffleash so it needs to be total dogs under the persons control.
1221	Support		6 is a practical number of dogs for one person
1239	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current model is working and this proposed bylaw will cause harm to dogs and small businesses. An extremely small fraction of complaints to council are about multiple dogs/pack walkers. This bylaw is an overreaction to the very unfortunate behaviour of a few inexperienced and dangerous walkers who should not be in business. Don't punish other experienced, safe walkers because of a small minority. I am an owner of two dogs who benefit immensely from a pack walker who walks 10 dogs at a time, with all dogs off leash IF those dogs have earned the privilege. Go out to Riverhead forest on any week day and you will see this replicated over and over. Safe, experienced walkers who have complete control of 10 or so dogs off lead. The dogs follow off lead, pull to the side of the track and wait for other packs, horses and bikes to pass, and enjoy their freedom because their pack walker is their leader. The number of dogs does not make a difference—if a pack walker is not an experienced leader for the dogs, limiting the number of dogs being walked will not help. It's the skill, not the number which makes a difference. Luckily, the huge majority of walkers in Auckland are safe and experienced, with total control over their dogs. They also use their judgement to make decisions about which dogs are off lead, which are walked together, and what privileges or limits the dogs require. A huge problem in Auckland is the cruelty of dogs—working animals with huge exercise needs—spending their lives indoors. Underworked, underwalked, understimulated, these dogs become more of a nuisance for their owners and for society in
1246	Support		It's hard to control more dogs and some people aren't responsible enough
1257	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack/group walks will be disadvantaged. They are experienced dog handlers- why does it need to change

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1259	Support		I think it is good to set a limit, especially for dog owners who may or may not have trained or completed dog training and handling. Curious, if this includes people who want to walk dogs as a job, and if there will be an exemption or a clause added to include training of handling a dog, is essential to the number of dogs one person can safely manage in public.
1267	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 10 on leash.
1272	Support		Helps keep the dogs and other bystanders safe
1292	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	6 dogs are too few to have a viable business for the dog walkers. Maximum ought to be 10 dogs, all must be under control, and the dog walkers ought to be licenced. Most of the dog problems in Auckland appear to be with dog owners walking dogs off leash & not under control. Auckland Council seems to be fixing a problem with dog walkers that to me does not exist.
1294	Support		I honestly don't think anyone can safely control any more than six dogs at a time. If another dog/dogs came along it could create a huge fight and one person wouldn't be able to control a pack of dogs - it is crazy! Also letting 3 dogs off at a time is also asking for problems. How can one person control 3 dogs off leash and 3 dogs on leash if there was a situation of a fight with another dog/dogs? I think 3 or 4 dogs should be the maximum one person should be in control of at one time, particularly big dogs.
1308	Support		Big groups of dogs running up to lone dogs, even when the dogs aren't aggressive, is very threatening to the lone dog and can very easily start a fight, and this does happen when there are many dogs together
1321	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 10 dogs, with no more than 5 off-leash If an experienced and qualified dog walker can keep their dogs under control, they should not be penalised as for some people this is their only income My thoughts to be eligible for this walkers would need to attend a class provided by council and pass an exam to show they can control that number of dogs and pay a fee for a registration certificate confirming they have been verified as "qualified" by Council
1355	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A friend walks 10 + dogs off leash and has very good control of these dogs. They're well mannered and friendly. I think there should be a certain license for people walking multiple dogs to prove they have control
1359	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Only dog owners should be allowed to have dogs off-leash. Therefore the person walking the dog is liable.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1367	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Some dog walkers are well trained and this is their income. To limit how many dogs they can take out for walking / training, would either limit their income or how long the dogs will be out for. I would suggest you make dogwalkers register after completing a day course arranged by council / SPCA and if they course provider feels the dog walker knows what they are doing, let them register.
1385	Support		6 is more than enough for someone to handle at one time
1398	Support		So that better control is enabled particularly for dogs off lead. However I do think that some thought needs to be given to professional dog walkers if there businesses will be impacted by this change.
1460	Support		6 dogs maybe can ensure dogwalker pick up dog poop possible
1464	Support		There are too many irresponsible dog owners who do not have their dogs under control when they are off the leash - when one person has three dogs off leash they may act as a pack and attack other dogs, children or even adults, as happened recently. HOWEVER, and this is a big however, this will ONLY be beneficial if the rules are enforced and monitored, for instance through CCTV - which will allow enforcement officers to be able to check camera footage after an incident. At the moment, we have many by-laws and regulations but where it all falls down is with the lack of enforcement. Australia has signs saying STOP it or COP it - New Zealand has signs, but nothing happens in terms of enforcement. This will need to change.
1480	Support		Because some people walk too many dogs at one time and it's unsafe for everyone if the dogs get into a pack mentality and want to go after something. The walkers often do not have control of their dogs.
1483	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dogs have enjoyed pack adventures for several years with a reputable and responsible business. There have never been any issues with any of the dogs or their handlers because of the high degree of professionalism and skill. I see this as punitive restriction that does not benefit the whole, but punishes many, because of the actions of a few. It will have a negative impact on dogs and their owners
1514	Support		I've seen people lose control when walking large numbers of dogs. It also a safety risk have multiple dogs attached to your waist as many dog walkers do

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1527	Support		Because anyone can say they are a dogwalker, I see this as a good regulation for the ‘ cowboys’ in the industry. I am so fed up of people setting dogs up to fail. It’s been a long time coming. I would also like to add that if I ring up and make a complaint to the council about a dog on the road running loose, I don’t expect the council to ask ME what I would like to happen with that dog. You need to make those decisions and take that responsibility, not me!
1546	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum four dogs with no more than two off leash for one person, if it's a business they should get a license, that somehow tests if they understand dog behaviour. The size and breed of dog should also be considered, as two dogs on lead and two loose already in pack mentality if a larger breed is still no match for a dog or child or person if they just one decided to attack and the others join. Six dogs is still significantly frightening on approach even if three are on lead, often dogs on lead tend to be more aggressive, lead aggression.
1588	Support		It's safer for the dogs and the public they get in contact with. Way too many are off leash, charging at people and other dogs. Dogs should always on-leash in neighborhoods.
1618	Support		I have seen an increasing number of dog biting incidents reported on community groups which is concerning. I think a limit would help with this.
1621	Support		I support limiting the number to 3 off leash
1634	Support		6 is enough for 1 person to manage.
1672	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as the dogs are under control, it should be possible for a dog walker for example to be able to control up to 8 gogs at a time
1682	Support		Too many people walking multiple dogs without control over them and not picking up their poo
1700	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	1) complaints against pack walkers are LOW 2) most pack walkers are safe and experienced 3) bylaw bad for small businesses who may not be able to operate 4) bad for owners who can't afford pack walks 5) bad for dogs who will miss out on walks.
1704	Support		I'm a dog owner and lover but I don't think proper control of over 6 dogs at a time is possible.
1792	Support		for x 1 person to have full control of dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1804	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog is walked via a professional, trained and highly skilled dog walker. They are more than capable of having a larger number of dogs off leash. Instead of capping the number, why not consider greater regulation or registration for dog walkers etc
1827	I don't know		I think the maximum allowed dogs per person should not exceed 2 except for professional dog walkers. This is because being in the vicinity of one person even having 3 larger breed dogs who are pulling can feeling very intimidating. Many people don't have full control over their dogs so limiting numbers to two in public means less chance of incident. Having more than two dogs seems excessive anyway
1909	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We had a rescue dog who was taken to rural pack walks with professional dog walkers with larger groups of dogs, and it had an immense positive effect on her behaviour. They never had any issues with their walks; they kept the dogs perfectly under control. They came and picked our dog up and dropped her off at the end of the day, which was a huge blessing. The proposed limit would make their business model financially questionable; it is hard to see how they could make it worthwhile with such a limited amount of dogs. I also failed to see any evidence supporting the council's proposal.
1983	Support		A person cannot control that many dogs, and if they can they cannot keep a constant eye on more that 3 off-leash dogs to ensure they are not tolieting or making a mess or damage.
2007	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Many dog walking services provide an essential service to those who work full time. This rule with prevent many of them from operating effectively. Less dogs being walked = more complaints from neighbour's about barking

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2019	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support an approach where we can keep the current rules (no limit on the number of dogs being walked) provided that the dog walker is representing a registered business specialising in dog walking or animal management, can provide evidence that they undertake training in animal management, training or behaviour and have not had any complaints upheld in court or by council. This approach finds a balance between responsible dog walkers who are passionate about animal management, training and behaviour vs those who are taking advantage of the current rules on dog walking to earn additional income.
2024	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the better approach is a licence for the dog walker (if not already in place) . My dog goes to a dog walker and they have taught him a lot of great social skills. My concern when I walk him is dogs with owners who can’t control them, I’m unsure why trained dog walkers are being singled out
2025	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	While I do think it's good to have more rules around people keeping dogs under control I've also sent my dog to pack walks before which would be made impossible by these new rules. Perhaps something could be brought in to allow people who do these group walks to obtain a form of licence after proving they have adequate dog experience and control and have plans in place in case something were to go wrong. That way they can remain doing their jobs but the average person still can't have too many. My other concern is how this relates to separate people meeting up. Say I took two dogs to the beach and ran into a friend who also has two dogs are they all allowed off leash? Is it three dogs per person allowed off leash or if you walk too close together are you at risk at getting in trouble for having too many dogs off leash playing together despite two owners being present. Lastly I would be a bit concerned about additional stress for the dog control officers who already have their hands full dealing with dogs with no owner present without adding in this as well.
2031	Support		Safer for the dog walker, public and the dogs.
2041	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Big off lead dogs can be terrifying and fo in directions, chaos.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2042	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It's a shame you've not made contact with those who are extensively involved in this business. There are a few cowboys out there, but there are many high quality dog walking outfits, thst provide an exceptional service for families that would simply not be able to afford the costs increasing if they had to suddenly increase their costs statistically, dogs causing issues are not those that are part of professional walking packs. Less than 1% of your complaints are related to professional walking groups. Given the enormous costs associated with councils, of which are passed on to your rate payers, wasting our money on reviewing something that you've not had professional dog walker consultation with belies belief. If you are adamant to impose restrictions, then it should NOT include those groups who are registered professional dog walkers. Otherwise, you're simply adding to the costs of the everyday Aucklander.
2044	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Some dog walkers are very capable of handling more that six dogs. As long as they have the proper training n run a legit business
2075	Support		There are packs of dogs in woodhill forest where the walker has no control.
2084	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Because the dog walkers will generally always have over 6 dogs and their job to command and control the dogs will be made more difficult with three on a lead.
2140	Support		One person cannot be guaranteed (as the walker, not owner) to control 3 dogs off leash if they get into an altercation or potentially negative situation with other dogs (on or off leash) or people who do not relate well to dogs. The walker will be busy with on leash dogs who could potentially get into a negative situation if abandoned to deal with the off-leash altercation.
2165	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Some kind of licensing programme for those that walk multiple dogs for a living ie on structured pack walks
2168	Support		Safety for all persons. Unlimited numbers of dogs and off leash is very dangerous for the general public.
2175	Support		there should be a limit.
2234	I don’t know		For dog walkers I believe we should take into consideration that they are small business owners and qualified to walk more dogs together than the average person. Perhaps specifications need to be outlined to ensure there are no unforeseen consequences on these small business owners and people can still access this vital service at a reasonable price. Limiting qualified dog walkers to knly 6 dogs may lead to unsustainable business practices and ultimately lead to them nonlinear providing this service

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2268	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Introduce a dog walker licence. Be a licensed, qualified dog walker to walk more than 2 dogs. Regulate and build a proper framework for industry that's booming rather than banning it outright. Dog walkers have a responsibility and people have a right to use their services much like a nanny.
2278	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog has been going out with a dog walking company for the last year twice a week. They take 10 dogs per handler, the dogs are under control and have a great time. All the handlers are fully trained and from the first time my dog met the handler he listened to her and followed her instructions, due to her skills. My dog has learnt so much from being with them, including totally ignoring the ducks walking up Hythe Terrace, socialising well with all types of dogs and people. I get photos everytime they go out and the dogs are happy and controlled. For one instance of an untrained dog walker this is a total over reaction. Most people moved their dogs from that dog walker per newspaper articles, so the public controlled the situation by removing their dogs from a badly run business, so heavy handed rules are not necessary. Auckland Council should consult with the dog walkers about what they can do and how many dogs they can handle effectively and not just arbitrarily decide what they think is correct. There are so many issues such as dogs roaming the streets in some areas, dogs being chained up 24/7, dogs barking all day because they are left outside alone. These are the issues that cause injuries and dog attacks, not the dog walkers, please can you bring these matters to Auckland Councils attention and get them to rethink their unnecessary and unfair new rules regarding dog walkers
2299	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walking is very important for dogs. Socialisation
2376	Support		I think this is a good number to look after when walking

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2435	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking companies (who have great control over large packs of dogs) bring so much help to family's who otherwise would have badly behaved barking dogs at home alone all day during the working week. By stripping these companies of being able to walk and train large amounts of dogs with control, we would collectively suffer the consequence of loud, and undertrained dogs stuck in homes during the day. Dog walkers are an asset to the community. I have two dogs myself and utilise their services often.
2498	Support		Still too high at six but better than now. Large packs of dogs, even on leads, are intimidating.
2512	Support		This provides more comfort to other users of council controlled areas as I doubt having more than 6 dogs at one time would be in control
2522	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think the problem is regarding the number of dogs but more the qualifications of the walker. As an owner of 2 dogs who use these services weekly I use walkers who have proven to be in complete control of large groups of dogs and trust my babies with them completely. I also see the general public who do not have control of 1 dog. This blanket proposal is penalising the capable who help people and families who are working hard to get through life. The responsible walkers who help me are invaluable!
2523	Support		This has got out of control in our parks and at the beaches. We've seen up to 40 dogs at Monte Cecilia park with one dog walking business and the dogs were absolutely out of control. We've also seen aggressive dogs at the beach with walkers that are roaming around like a pack. These walkers take the money but do not have the animals under control.
2546	Support		Proper supervision for all dogs
2549	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposed limit fails to address the issue it is trying to address. Such as owners with no control over their dogs or dangerous dogs roaming in the community. It does however directly impact the livelihood of professional dog walkers who responsibly handle dogs. Professional dog walkers play an important role in the community by ensuring dogs are excercised, socialised and provide on going positive training. The families that employee these professionals are also addressing the needs of their family dog and rely on the service they provide. Applying arbitrary limits overlooks the skill and training required to walk multiple dogs safely. An evidence based approach in consultation with the Professional Dog Walkers Association is needed to create practical solutions.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2563	Support		6 dogs is a lot to control if something unexpected occurs. Any more than this would be irresponsible.
2573	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Alternative Option Suggestion: Introduce a licensing system for professional dog walkers, allowing them to operate with higher dog limits (e.g., up to 15 dogs) based on training, certification, and adherence to a code of conduct. Licensing would: ● Ensure high standards and safe practices among professionals. ● Provide the Council with the ability to monitor and enforce compliance. ● Allow professional walkers with proven skills to continue operating without arbitrary restrictions. Explanation: A licensing system is a better solution than imposing blanket limits. It recognizes the expertise of professional dog walkers and ensures safety and accountability while addressing community concerns. This approach would also allow council resources to focus on more pressing issues like roaming and barking dogs, which make up the majority of complaints.
2580	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Instead, it penalizes professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2585	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Alternative Option Suggestion: Introduce a licensing system for professional dog walkers, allowing them to operate with higher dog limits (e.g., up to 15 dogs) based on training, certification, and adherence to a code of conduct. Licensing would: ● Ensure high standards and safe practices among professionals. ● Provide the Council with the ability to monitor and enforce compliance. ● Allow professional walkers with proven skills to continue operating without arbitrary restrictions. Explanation: A licensing system is a better solution than imposing blanket limits. It recognizes the expertise of professional dog walkers and ensures safety and accountability while addressing community concerns. This approach would also allow council resources to focus on more pressing issues like roaming and barking dogs, which make up the majority of complaints.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2598	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why? The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Instead, it penalizes professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Alternative Option Suggestion: Introduce a licensing system for professional dog walkers, allowing them to operate with higher dog limits (e.g., up to 15 dogs) based on training, certification, and adherence to a code of conduct. Licensing would: ● Ensure high standards and safe practices among professionals. ● Provide the Council with the ability to monitor and enforce compliance
2608	Support		Safer for general public and other dog owners and their dogs.
2648	Support		i do not believe that one person can control, or pick up after more than 6 dogs. I don't believe that any house hold should have that many dogs. This would only affect professional dog walkers.
2672	I don’t know		Having six large dogs (25kg ave) on leash is vastly different to having six small dogs 10kg on leash. 150kg plus versus 60kg with a person who can handle them. Licencing dog walkers may be an option.
2679	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Too often we see large dog owners of leash not paying attention and my dog was injured by a much larger animal left to run free
2741	Support		It’s impossible to control more dogs
2742	Support		I’d support lower. Like 4 on leash and 2 off.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2746	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No limit on dogs, but all dogs should be on leashes. I have seen how dogs run around on the beach and attack other dogs which are on leashes (including my dog), and their owners are nowhere in sight. This causes the situation to be very dangerous for the owners of dogs which are on leashes and tries to separate the dogs fighting. Also I have experienced many incidents where dogs ran over my kids while they were playing, as well as running into me. The owners then just tell my kids not to run around or wave any sticks around because it excites their dogs. Since when can't kids be kids on a beach just because dog owners dont want to put their dogs on leashes? I have a dog myself and I keep it on a leash at all times.
2770	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have spent many years working with and training behavioral training. I am employed by a Professional Dog Walking Company and I'm very passionate about the fulfilling purpose of walking "my" wonderful packs. We are very selective of the dogs we take on, and find it rewarding to see their confidence and social skills grow, making them well adjusted,obedient, calm happy dogs within the pack and individually aswell. Our clients always mention how improved their dogs are in every way since joining us. I am personally commended frequently on how calm and controlled my packs are. We have a positive impact on our clients daily lives by providing a safe walking environment for their beloved dogs. Well socialized,exercised and mentally stimulated dogs lead happy healthy lives in comparison to those whom are left alone, unsocialsed,untrained and/or roaming. I believe mandating the number of dogs that have to remain on lead will increase the risk of injury for handlers by creating pent up energy within the restrained dogs whilst their comrades enjoy exploring, playing,swimming etc. Also public dogs often run into the pack and could cause injury also. I feel 8 dogs is perfectly manageable especially as we train our dogs to be well mannered and respectable, the impact of reducing numbers will be damaging to our company and our clients. I feel I would be prudent for time an effort to be put into the problem of roaming, poorly exercised and uncontrolled dogs instead of punishing Pack Walkers whom are not the problem -
2778	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Easier to control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2798	Support		Support limiting, but don't think there should be 3 allowed off leash, unless in a controlled environment like a private land arrangement, or an organized group at a dog park, with more than one person attending.
2806	Support		Yes I support the walking dog numbers , on leash of 6., and off leash of 3. Because anymore is potentially dangerous to the walker or the public should the dogs become scared threatened etc in a public place. I have seen very good walkers with up to 6 dogs on leash.
2820	Support		Yes this would be safer than currently, if dogs are well trained than 3 is fine.
2824	Support		The dog walking business is not regulated so there is no guarantee that someone walking multiple dogs has the skills and knowledge to prevent and/or deal with a dog fight which could result in injury to dogs and people.
2839	Support		No matter how well trained dogs are, when off the leash they are still capable of running away and disobeying the person in charge, especially if that person is not their owner. As the owner of a small dog, I am very wary of exercising my little dog even on a leash where someone is walking several dogs especially with when some aren't on a leash. A small dog can be hurt or even killed very quickly by a large dog running off a leash.
2844	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I fully oppose these new rules Auckland council are proposing as it is unfair to responsible dog owners and business owners that operate safely and have done for many years now with no issues. They can prove they know what they are doing and have walked my dogs with the utmost care for many years. This would affect their businesses and my dogs mental and physical wellbeing. It is an essential service that does not need to be limited. They are educated professionals that restrictions like this would not focus on the REAL problems like roaming dogs and irresponsible dog owners, NOT these professional people. I believe licensing of some sort would be more effective and fair without limiting their business they should have control of.
2848	Support		I have seen packwalkers who are unable to control all of their animals. I would support council offering qualifications to allow packwalkers to walk more dogs in the future if there is evidence that more dogs can be managed but this would have to be funded by pack walkers with no council subsidy. Currently three off leash and three on leash total feels reasonable.
2851	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum Three dogs on leash and no more than two off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2865	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog walker is amazing. She wouldn't be able to do her job as she has 8-10 dogs. All listening and following her commands.
2875	Support		As a trainer who also walks clients dogs I feel 6 dogs is plenty at once if dogs are being walked on public land. How ever I do feel if dogs are under control then their is no problem in all six being off lead. I have more issues with owners and their personal pets off lead than other walkers or trainers. I also feel if we are finally making rules on walkers doggy day cares NEED stricter rules too. I have worked in a day care and talk to others who have also and the amount of risks or bad situations that take place wouldn't happen if they went through special training as well as having smaller numbers
2924	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I had my dog for the past 5 years at 2 different dog walking companies. Never did I have any issues and my dog is better behaved than ever before. My dog has much more patience with people and dogs and I am sure of him walking with so many other dogs and constantly getting training on his walks. I feel if there are specific dog walking companies that do not know what they are doing and get complains, those dog walker should be dealt with.
2929	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers have better control over the group of dogs they are walking in a trained pack than the equivalent number of dogs walking individually by their owners. Just observe a beach or park on a weekend to notice groups of individual dogs playing without any structure.
2932	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dogs are under control, they are under control, no need for quotas.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2991	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am a responsible dog owner, I work full time so have my dog picked up to go on pack walks by a very professional company. Not only would new laws be dangerous for the walkers, it would reduce the exercise & socialisation of dogs. They need to run, sniff, play with each other. Dogs need to run, not be kept on a lead the entire time. This would be punishing not only the dog, but the responsible dog owners. In my experience walking my dogs over the years, the aggressive dogs are the ones ON leads because they cannot act naturally around other dogs. I strongly oppose the laws being changed.
2998	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Our dog Milly is a result of backyard breeding, she was dumped at only 2 weeks old at the start of the covid lockdowns. She had a tough start in life, with no Mum to teach her how to be a dog. We tried our hardest to train her and build her confidence, but it got to the stage where we almost had to make the decision to rehome her. Instead, we engaged an amazing dog trainer. He turned not only Millys life, but also ours around. Following her training, Milly has been attending pack walks with the awesome team at Pet Adventures. She is so excited to see her walker each week. These walks structure her week with socialisation with other dogs in a controlled environment. These walks allow us to be responsible dog owners; our dog is not left for hours at home alone while we have to return to the office. Instead, she is exercised for a minimum of 3 hours and comes home tired and content. With the added bonus that the training we put in place is reinforced on a weekly basis. Each dog has to complete a 48-hour assessment with the company to assess their temperament and any training needs before being allowed to join a pack walk. The dogs are then matched with the most appropriate walker and days of the week to ensure they fit in and balance the pack. This is what professional dog walking looks like. Limiting the number of dogs that can be walked at any time does not address the perceived issues of multiple dogs being walked. The Council's data shows that just 0.7% of dog-related complaints involve multiple dogs being handled. Of this number, Auckland Council can't distinguish between professional dog walkers and regular multi-dog owners. In addition, the current dog bylaws are almost impossible to
3053	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would like to see a license for dog walking businesses so they are able to access the public spaces. Many provide a great service to their local community are contribute greatly to the welfare of dogs who might otherwise be locked inside during working hours. I think a member of the general public should only be able to walk up to four dogs at a time

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3118	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Those people doing the walking with the dogs are professionals and generally have dogs in their care well controlled.
3222	Support		Walking with my own dog locally and walking regularly with a group of people I have encountered large groups of a mixture of dogs with a dog walker. On the whole as a dog lover these encounters have been fine - dogs under control & no problems with them running off but the number of dogs some walkers are in charge of is increasing so I think a maximum number of dogs at 6 would be a good number I think. Something I have noticed when walking with a group there are some people who are scared of dogs in general or just don't like dogs of any sort and are reluctant to pass these groups.
3332	Support		I think it depends on the type of dogs you walk. If it was 6 rottweilers it would be different to 6 chihuahua's but i dont know whether you can differentiate with the rules.
3350	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Our dog walker does an amazing job, and with a limit it would put her out of business or she would have to charge us more which would no longer be viable for us to use the training she provides.
3356	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Current rules work well no change required.
3433	Support		Effective control of dog by one person varies. Apply a limit makes it safer for everyone and promotes fare sharing of space
3446	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	All dogs must be on leash except for at designated Fenced Dog Parks
3450	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The limits should be further reduced to: Maximum number of dogs (both on-leash or off-leash) - 2 Maximum number of on-leash dogs - 2 Maximum number of off-leash dogs -1

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3522	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You are targeting the wrong people and are jeopardising a world renown and respected pack walking industry that we have in NZ. Studies and evidence shows that Dogs are actually safer socialised and in numbers. In any of the "attacks" it has been only one dog involved. It is important for dogs to be socialised, the proposed change will make this more difficult. My suggestion would be to regulate (or licence) the pack walkers, set them up with a qualification. many of them already travel overseas every year to attend training and conferences. They are honest, hardworking business owners who go the extra mile for their dogs and the dogs' owners
3562	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dog walkers cannot possibly keep their eyes on so many dogs all at once. Dog walkers tend to stand and chat to their friends whilst their dogs run around freely without supervision.
3566	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No More than four dogs on leash as it is likely one person won't be able to keep control if things go wrong. Off leash dogs should be 1 per person as you can't be in two places at once if the dogs go separate ways- many people do not have their dogs under control off leash
3634	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We have our dog walked by a company who have 10 dogs at a time- the dog walkers are all fully trained dog handlers, they meet each dog prior to agreeing to walk the dogs or not. They match the dogs by temperament & they always have the new dogs in a pack on a lead for several weeks before trusting them off lead. They walk in areas that are often privately owned properties that they have permission to access. The benefits of these walks for the dogs are huge- our dog has gone from being a fearful dog(having been attacked by two dogs who were allowed to roam freely off their y fenced property) to a dog who has learnt how to play happily & enjoy the company of other dogs. He used to snarl aggressively at other dogs as they walked past him due to his fear- now he is gentle & respectful of other dog. He enjoys running free off the lead as this is what dogs are meant to do. The company we use is mindful of the fact that some dogs should not be off lead, however- it is owners who should attend dog obedience classes. Our dog walkers have control over the dogs, they are aware of managing the energy of the dogs. Our dog comes home happy & exhausted & well behaved. We get photos of the group after every walk. Please don't bring this rule-, reinforce the laws already in place- bring in tighter rules around ownership of dogs & training of owners & dogs.
3654	Support		6 dogs under one persons control could even be too many should one dog become difficult or unwell. 3 dogs off lead is maximum to be kept under control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3718	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support this proposal. The issue isn't the number of dogs its the ability of the dog walker to control their dogs. If the issue is commercial dog walkers I'd suggest putting in place a license that is required to put in place an element of regulation. I think this proposal is unfairly targeted small businesses and we should be looking at ways of supporting.
3788	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Responsible pack walking is vital for dogs in Auckland, given how many professionals own dogs but also want an affordable option for keeping their dogs exercised, trained, and fulfilled. The proposed changes, as I see them, don't provide any benefits. The majority of complaints around dogs involve roaming dogs and excessive barking, neither of which will be remedied by imposing limits on dog walkers. Adding limits to walkers will drive up prices past the point of affordability for most Aucklanders, meaning dogs will be less looked after and likely to become harder to handle. A more reasonable solution is to create licensing for professional dog walkers so that there is more education and accountability. Limits can still apply for unlicensed walkers in my opinion (and the maximum of 6 seems reasonable in that case).

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3803	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The reality is that dogs are better off the more time outside and of lead being socialised and having fun they are. A limit that doesn't allow for professional dog walkers will be bad for every one and every dog. The dog walkers may well shut down or you will get a lot more of them and they will be less trained with no incentive to be better because they cant handle more dogs regardless of their ability The cost of dog walkers will go up and or the quality go down by nature of supply and demand Many people wont be able to afford to send their dogs out with professionals and dont have time in their personal lives to do it everyday, that's bad for the dogs and it means when they do go out they will be worse behaved. From what I've seen professionals are typically better controlled of 20 dogs than many owners are of 1 or 2 dogs. Any new rule needs to allow for professionals to continue to offer their services. Any new rule needs to be designed to solve a problem. If the problem is people arent following the rules right now making the rules stricter wont help and that shouldnt be a reason to change them. For instance a dog attacking someone is already against the rules, any dog off leash could in theory do the same thing so perhaps working out better enforcement of the current rules rather than new rules would be more effective
3813	Support		that seems right you need to be able to control the dogs you have
3817	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It is very difficult to control more than one dog off leash. This is evident in our local area.
3832	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think the most important is to have the dogs under control. Some can walk 10 dogs and not have any issues, with proper training. And some can't control two dogs off leash. I don't think the number of dogs is the problem
3842	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think that the six dogs rule is more than fair for normal owners, but professional dog walkers should be certified and licenced to walk more. We already have a responsible dog owner certification. It should not be hard to extend that for an exam for professional licences dog walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3854	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this, not multiple dog walkers who make up a very small percentage of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. I am a first time dog owner with a boisterous dog. Having her taken out by a dog walker once a week from a pup has given her valuable structured socialization time with other dogs that I was not able to provide. She's learned to play and walk nicely with other dogs, and now walks nicely with me while out and about. Off lead I can now recall her from play, something her skilled pack walker has helped to train. Before pack walking she used to strain at the lead to get to meet others and was hard to take anywhere. Her pack
3856	Support		Very few people can control 6 leashed dogs, or 3 leashed and 3 unleashed dogs, if things go pearshaped. On their own, without other people and dogs around, yes - but this is not the case on public land where there are other uncontrolled circumstances happening.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3877	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this, not multiple dog walkers who make up a very small percentage of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dog has been going on pack walks for the last 3 years with a professional, trained walker and the difference this has made not only on our dogs life, but ours is huge. We have seen a significant improvement in her behaviour and socialisation. To know that she is being exercised and getting a run around, whilst being trained is wonderful.
3878	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. I believe it will only punish responsible dog owners like myself, and won't deter irresponsible people who already disregard existing laws. Professional dog walkers are crucial for ensuring dogs get the exercise, socialization, and training they need, which in turn reduces behavioral problems. I think arbitrary limits on the number of dogs a walker can handle ignore the skill and training required for safe and responsible dog walking. I believe a practical, evidence-based approach is necessary, one that includes consulting with experts like the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA). In my opinion, Auckland Council should focus on the serious problem of roaming dogs, rather than targeting multiple dog walkers who represent a very small fraction of reported issues. I support a licensing system for professional dog walkers, as they have the expertise to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service. My own dogs go out with a dog walker every week, and I've seen a huge improvement in their behavior and socialization. I love knowing they're well cared for and exercised on the days they go out.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3882	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers provide a valuable service to many of us fulltime workers. They are professionals and the dogs are always under control and well behaved, not to mention well trained. There seems no legitimate reason to change the current status. This suggested change will create one of two scenarios - Reducing the pack numbers will either increase to cost of the service which is already expensive, which means i could no longer afford it, especially with the current economic squeeze we are all under. I can not walk my dog.myself for personal reasons and if he isnt walked then been shut up at home allday means he barks and then they'll be complaints about that! Secondly the Dog Walkers are running a business and if you force them into reduced numbers and therefore income you could be forcing them into closing their businesses, this is incredibly irresponsible of the Council to put these small business owners into such an untenable position.
3885	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. It would also penalise professional dog walkers who are so important for ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. These number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this, not multiple dog walkers who make up a very small percentage of reported issues. My dog attends a pack walk with a qualified trainer/walker every week and it does wonders for his socialisation and behaviour. It's his favourite time of the week and very important for us as a family to know he is looked after and exercised on a day we are unable to take him out ourselves. We support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3910	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this, not multiple dog walkers who make up a very small percentage of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. "My dog goes out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in her behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that she is well looked after and exercised on the days she goes out."
3947	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The changes would negatively impact the current professional services I use for my dog and as a responsible dog owner I can see how much impact the professional walker and trainer has on effective control and training of my dog and the pack that she is walked with.
3988	Support		I walk 3x dogs everyday. They’re easy to walk on lead. We occasionally board 1 or 2 more dogs for friends. It’s harder walking other dogs as well. I do see some walking 5 dogs who are being pulled out of control & drop the leads as they can’t control their own 1 let alone more than 1.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3991	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	As an owner of a miniature schnauzer since 1990 in nZ and UK and BREEDER I wish to be able walk my dog SAFELY. MY DOG will always be on LEASH. Places where my DOG is off leash is HIOME. Two places I walk my dog in Auckland BROWNS BAY and OREWA. I feel safe is owners walk their dog on leash! Any dog at any time has the capacity to maul another dog. In UK there were cases of dog Jack Russell mauling a child in a push chair. There should be 'dogs on leash' only places. I walkeds 5 of my own together. My trouble in UK was another dog going for mine. 14 dogs with 3 off leash - No WAY. If a trouble existed NO WAY COULD A WALKER change tact to put the dog back on leash. Picking up dog poop - well, I get the bag open and it drops straight in. How about teaching dog owners and walk walkers.
4005	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Two dogs for one person is enough for them to keep the dogs under control at all times - 4 and 6 far too many
4046	Support		Dogs off the lead can cause issues if they are trained properly. Having too many dogs can cause the person walking them to lose control.
4121	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the number of dogs doesn't mean the owner will be more in control.
4165	Support		This is a good idea for both the safety of the public and the dog owners. There is no way that anyone can safely control anymore than 6 dogs by themself.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4185	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am a professional dog walker and routinely walk & offer managed socialization for 10-15 dogs (mostly on private land) and occasionally in public when appropriate. I support licensing dog walkers to handle an appropriate number of dogs according to experience, training, competence, business structure (i.e. risk management & health & safety policy's etc). The service I offer provides exercise, mental stimulation and appropriate fulfillment for a range of dogs. Some of whom have behavioral issues and would otherwise either not get exercised enough or possibly be a nuisance in public without the training and managed socialization services I provide. With long work hours being a common theme amongst Aucklander's having access to professional dog walkers is very important to our dog owning community. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions.
4224	I don’t know		I think more than 3 on leash dogs at any one time would be more than enough and 2 off leash. Off leash only if the person can control the dogs. A person having more than 3 dogs seems like a commercial operator to me.
4338	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think professional dog walkers should be licenced to walk a large group of dogs. Dog walkers companies will suffer if this limitation on the number of dogs you can walk go ahead. I’m not a dog walker, but have used Pet Adventures and they would suffer if this rule went ahead.
4347	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Licensing for dog walkers to allow more dogs. Limit of 3 for non licensed.
4353	Support		When I come across 1 person walking multiple dogs off leash I feel very anxious, as all dogs can be impulsive and react. I am a dog lover, but don’t own a dog at the moment.
4354	Support		People without dogs are focused to move off of pathways because of people walking multiple dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4402	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	issue of dog atrack is the walker or dog owners fault. Regulation on number of dag is not the cure but limited the capacity foe trainer work properly. Please strict the dog walker rules and impose license on them for what they can do and cannot do. Punishment on the wrong doing rather put blanket rules for nhmer of dogs
4429	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I support having 3 dogs off lead but think 6 dogs on a walk is too much and too easy to go badly for surrounding people, dogs and environment/property. Any more than 3-4 dogs are quite a serious pack (particularly if the dogs do not live with each other) the dynamic would be ever changing and never completely under control. The environment is uncontrollable
4435	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Off-leash dogs can rush around, 2 is more than enough to keep tabs on (i e where they **********, what person or animal the run after) at the same time as having control of the other 4.
4465	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	A licensing regime makes much more sense. Allow the professional dog walkers to provide the services they currently offer. They are the professionals, they have the training and skills to handle larger numbers of dogs, they understand the breeds. Licensing allows council to know who is doing what and where. It will also help eliminate any rogue dog walking operations. The current proposed dog limits will likely force these professional operations out of business...they will either have to reduce their dog numbers, charge more and disappoint existing customers OR increase there staff and charge more. The businesses won't survive as these services are already expensive as is. Moreover it's easy to forget but no less important that the service these professionals provide helps our dogs get the exercise and socialisation they need which means less anti-social potentially problematic dogs on ours streets.
4480	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don’t believe this will have effect to gain the needed outcomes to provide safety of dogs and people. Having had my own dog attacked twice when out walking this has not been due to the number of dogs but the lack of control owners over their dogs. This rule will only affect dog walking businesses that actually take care of dogs for people who genuinely look after their animals.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4509	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialised, and trained, reducing behaviour issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this, not multiple dog walkers who make up a very small percentage of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My very anxious French Bulldog goes out with our dog walker every Wednesday and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation. I love knowing that he is well looked after and exercised on the day he goes out. He looks forward to it every week.
4574	Support		Many people can't handle 1 dog let alone 6!
4577	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Experienced professional dog walkers can judge how many dogs they are able to control. Depending on the dogs temperment experience of the dog walker the number can very on each walker. Oweners will not risk entrusting their dogs to inexperienced walkers as Vet bills are expensive and they do not want to lose their pets.Bad or unprofessional walkers will soon be out of business. Instead of wasting time and money adding further regulations council should maybe educate the public re responsible dog ownership and how to approach dogs in public places. Children running towards a dog on a leash waving arms and shouting present a danger to themselves and may be bitten. This also applies to adults
4590	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The amount of dogs one can handle walking should be up to the person walking them. Having a limit does nothing but make this activity harder

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4621	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The maximum number of dogs should relate to the size, strength & obedience of the dogs and the strength, competence and skill of the dog walker. In our AGE-FRIENDLY CITY dogs should only be allowed to be off-leash in designated areas where older and younger residents are not at risk of being knocked over. As a toddler our granddaughter was knocked off a picnic bench in Long Bay Beach Park by an exuberant off-leash dog. Sadly the incident left her fearful of animals for a long time, and it took considerable reassurance from her whānau to help her feel comfortable around dogs, cats, horses and even birds! As an advocate for older residents I'm aware that some older folk avoid walking in parks and places where uncontrolled off-leash dogs might knock them over. This limits their access to environmental spaces that enhance their wellbeing.
4730	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are dog pack walkers and then there are PROFESSIONAL pack walkers . We have 2 dogs that we ourselves find difficult to walk yet, our lady sends video footage every day of her pack walks with muliple dogs and ALL ARE UNDER CONTROL. To limit her pack walks is to demise her livelihood and this is not acceptable. Plus her level of understanding of dog behaviour is above all of that of the owners and the decision makers in council/government. Council and government have a nasty habit of broad spectrum control and ********** the consequences to others. You are not focusing on the bigger issues of owners with lack of control.
4755	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Off leash dogs need decent supervision . Difficult to do this if more than one off leash plus several on leash. The young and the elderly are particularly vulnerable from dogs jumping up.
4760	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No dog should be off leash in a public place! No more than 2 dogs on a leash.
4777	Support		Too many to control otherwise
4786	Support		It's practically difficult for a person to manage more Dogs on their own and that endangers public safety

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4835	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed change of limiting the number of dogs a person can walk in a council-controlled public space. The current regulations seem adequate and allow for responsible dog walking, ensuring that owners can manage their pets effectively. By limiting the number of dogs, it may create challenges for people who have well-trained dogs and can handle multiple pets at once. Additionally, many people walk dogs as a job or for a living, and limiting the number of dogs they can walk at one time could impact their livelihood. Professional dog walkers often have experience in managing multiple dogs safely and efficiently. Imposing this restriction could make it more difficult for them to run their businesses or provide affordable and reliable services to their clients. No change to the current rules would allow responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers to continue their routines without unnecessary restrictions, while still ensuring the safety and comfort of the public space.
4851	Support		I support and think that it could even be more restrictive, even 4 dogs can be too much for one person to watch carefully.
4868	Support		I am a dog owner myself and have had several different breeds and I know dogs are pack animals and are likely to stick to the majority in the event of a fight. Dogs are unpredictable and you can never truly know how they may or may not react. Reducing the number of animals in the situation reduces the risk of a tragic or fatal situation. I also feel that, walking your own one or maybe two dogs is very different to walking 6 of someone else's dogs, you will know even less about the likely or unlikely behaviours of those dogs and therefore are taking a huge risk whilst walking 3 or more, particularly larger breeds.
4921	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A maximum of 3 dogs and NO dogs off the leash. I have seen too many terrorised children and adults
5157	Support		dogs can have a pack mentality,and gang up on another dog ,or human they dont like the look of
5178	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Four dogs are too difficult to manage. Maximum should be two dogs on a leash or one dog free only.
5185	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It's difficult to set a figure based purely on the number of dogs, size and physical strength. Hence 4 would be the max.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5189	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I disagree with the proposed limit of 6 dogs at any one time (with three being off-leash). This change will negatively affect professional dog walkers. I have a dog walker who picks my dog up, takes him out for exercise/walks when I'm at work. Our dog walker is professional and has years of experience walking and training dogs. She currently walks around 10-12 dogs. Some are on a lead / harness attached to her but the majority of dogs are off lead (in off-lead forests/areas) but every single dog on the walk/off-lead has 100% recall and has built a rapport with her. This will have such a huge impact as it will also mean there will be more and more 'cowboys' taking up dog walking with absolutely no experience. This unfairly targets responsible dog walkers and will have absolutely no impact on the real issue - roaming dogs and irresponsible dog owners. I strongly encourage Auckland Council to have open discussions with the industry (professional trainers / walkers) to fully understand the impacts and discuss the best outcome. Many dogs will now not get the exercise they need, especially when most of us are now back in the office full time, and this could lead to larger behavioural issues in Auckland dogs. We pay our annual dog registration but I never see any communication from council with tips or educational material to

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5217	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Option 1A - DO NOT SUPPORT The proposed limit of six dogs, with a minimum of three off-leash fails to address the real issues effecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers who lack control over their dogs and roaming dogs. This proposed limit unfairly penalises professional dog walkers who already handle multiple dogs responsibly. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialised and trained, which helps reduce behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Sending my dog on professional pack walks has been extremely beneficial for her learning to read other dogs, respecting the space of others and understanding acceptable behaviour when off-leash. Her training with her professional dog walkers has also helped me immensely as a first time dog owner. Professional dog walkers train their packs to calmly sit to the side to let other dog walkers, the public (both human and dogs) and animals (such as horses) to pass safely. They are very aware of their surroundings and their packs' awareness and discipline reflect this. When my dog goes walking with her professional dog walkers, I know she is always in a safe and well-managed situation. There is a greater risk of "friendly" uncontrolled dogs charging other dogs and people at the beach, which then results in a reactive dog and/or scared owner or member of the public.
5221	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In all public places all dogs should be on a leash. How could a dog walker have dogs on leash and off and be able to control them all? How could they pick up all the dog poop? Dogs off lease and not under control, and poop being ignored effects others enjoyment and safety.
5232	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Licensing professionals to walk larger groups Enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control which is already in place Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them.
5246	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walking company's understand what needs to be done,fly by nites,are just out to take advantage of people who want there dogs walked, and take advantage of this and just take the money

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5354	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use a professional dog walking service from Pet Adventures. Their service has been hugely beneficial to our dog in terms of fitness and socialisation. These changes would have a detrimental effect on the profession itself (would wipe it out) and on our dog.
5430	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This affects the way dog walking services can operate, and will affect how dogs can be exercised responsibly, need to address some sort of licensing not change this aspect of the rules, completely disagree
5444	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this, not multiple dog walkers who make up a very small percentage of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dog goes out with a dog walker for pack walks every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out.
5479	Support		It's hard for one person to control multiple dogs. I have seen people struggle and several close calls where either someone could have been hurt or dogs were fighting. It's safer

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5662	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You will be impacting on legitimate small businesses who provide invaluable support to working pet parents.
5675	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You need to look at the capability of the person in charge. It's a bit like needing a different license to drive a bus than a family car. My dog walker is highly trained and has an introduction programme. The one down the road has dogs in her backyard and is not.
5692	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	6 dogs is just too many for any one to control at one time.
5710	Support		I think it would be impossible to control more than 6 dogs, in fact I think 6 is overly generous.
5712	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	As a diploma vet nurse I have been exposed to many different dog walkers and 99.9% of them are amazing responsible professionals! they provide joy, enrichment, training and exercise for dogs. whilst there has undeniably been a very small percentage of dog walkers with incidents this should not effect a whole industry. alot of pack walkers own many dogs of there own and use them as role models to the dogs they walk and to establish a pack system, this automatically raises the number of dogs yet increases safety. Another concern I have is If only 3 dogs are aloud off leash you are severally limiting the experiences and services available to dogs. I also believe this restricts many average people who own dogs, as a vet nurse I know of many people who own 3 or more dogs responsibly. is this to say people with more that 3 dogs between them or people they choose to walk with socially have to pick and choose which dogs get to freely exercise?!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5824	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendment to the Auckland Dog Bylaw, which seeks to limit the number of dogs that can be walked by a single person to six. While I appreciate the intent behind ensuring responsible dog ownership and public safety, I believe this restriction is unnecessary and could have unintended negative consequences. Many professional dog walkers and responsible owners are fully capable of managing more than six dogs safely and effectively. Arbitrarily capping the number at six disregards their experience, training, and ability to maintain control in public spaces. Instead of imposing a blanket restriction, a more balanced approach—such as a licensing or accreditation system for professional dog walkers—would be more effective in ensuring responsible handling without penalizing those who are already managing their dogs competently. This change could also have unintended consequences, such as an increase in unqualified and inexperienced individuals offering dog-walking services. Instead of addressing genuine concerns around dog control, the bylaw would push out responsible professionals while doing nothing to curb the real issues—roaming dogs and irresponsible ownership. Furthermore, this change could significantly impact dog owners who rely on professional walkers, particularly those who work full-time, are elderly, or have mobility challenges. A reduced capacity for dog walking services could lead to higher costs, fewer options for owners, and ultimately, less exercise and socialisation for
5829	Support		One person cannot control more than this number of dogs at one time, and this still assumes they are well-behaved and trained.
5834	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The people walking this amount of dogs at a time are dog walkers who are trained and know how to control animals. This is their livlihood and very important for many people who rely on dog walkers to exercise their animals during the day.
5962	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It's too many dogs, most dog owners have no control of one dog off leach, I'm fed up with being attacked by dogs.
5984	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	It is important that dogs excrement is taken care of max 1 person can look after is 4

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5997	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Imposing a limit will not address the issue. Responsible pack walkers and the dogs they care for are not the problem and there is little to no evidence of multiples of dogs being walked is causing a nuisance to or distressing the public. Roaming dogs cause a far larger and more widespread issue. The proposed policy to reduce the numbers of dogs being walked simultaneously seems to be an over-reaction to pander to public who do not understand the issues at hand. Instead, licensing for dog owners and walkers who walk multiples of dogs at the same time should be introduced. This could be used to ensure that those who walk multiples of dogs are behaving responsibly and can be used to address known and evidenced issues.
6081	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I think professional dog walkers would have the ability to control their dog pack and therefore perhaps a licence system whereby they need to prove their skills would work better.
6162	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support that one person should be in control of no more than 6 dogs at a time. I do not agree with 3 being off leash and 3 on leash. Having been a dog walker a few years ago, I believe trying to manage three on leash dogs and three off leash dogs would be harder than just managing 6 off leash dogs, provided you have the necessary training.
6214	Support		If controlled then no problem
6299	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a dog owner, if you choose to send your dog on a pack walk, you should make sure you have sent them with someone who has experience and training. You should also know the risk involved by sending them if they were to escape etc. Our pack walker is amazing and we wouldn't be able to work full time to pay our bills and put a roof over our heads if she wasn't there to help us.
6315	Support		I believe it is impossible to proficiently control large numbers of dogs that are not walked by an owner. Dogs lack of response to non owners is to be expected. It is also impossible to control a pack of dogs off leash that perhaps have never met each other and do not know the dog walker. Quite simply it is not in a dogs nature to respond well to anyone other than their owner.
6321	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It is doubtful that someone walking 6 dogs 3 o9f which are off leash will have control of the off leash dogs. It is illogical to permit 3 off leash and 3 on. This is trying to have a bob each way so no o0ne is offended. It is either 6 on leash or 6 off. Clearly to protect the public, like we protect birdlife in some areas, all dogs should be on leash as no owner can guarantee their dogs are under control. When will we treat our children the same as birdlife.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6355	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum number of dogs per person should be 2 and on public beaches they should be on leashes when walking on beaches. Beaches are primarily for people and their families to enjoy without dogs running at them and around them and urinating and pooing on the same grounds they are lying on and children playing in. Children love playing with sticks on the beach and invariably they pick them up to do that and dogs have already urinated on.them.
6396	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I walk 4 dogs off leash and have control of them at all times. I leash them if there are dotterel on the beach
6431	Support		This is a reasonable number for one person to maintain control of - such as a 'professional' dog walker - more than this is dangerous for the dog walker, the dogs and other park or road users.
6476	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	It is problematic when regular dog owners or inexperienced professional dog walkers have no control over multiple off leash dogs. These people should be limited in the number of dogs in their group. It is less problematic when there is an experienced walker who is trained/has qualification and has full control of their off leash dogs. If these individuals were able to apply for a license and pass a test/supply their qualifications then it would give busy aucklanders a way for their dogs to be walked for a reasonable price. If these experienced walkers had small numbers they would have to increase their prices to make their business viable which would increase cost for users.
6485	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I would support initiatives to make sure that people who walk more than a few dogs at a time had appropriate training, licences, etc. to do so as part of their professional work.
6569	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	People have dogs. People work. People enlist the help of pack walkers to socialise and exercise their dogs. This is good for the dogs and makes it affordable for owners. Licenced walkers will keep their dogs in check and respect others.
6609	Support		As a non dog owner I find large groups of dogs intimidating and think the owners often have very little control over the groups.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6678	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I am scared to walking my dog in my local area because of the multiple roaming and aggressive dogs I see. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dogs go out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out. Having a newborn baby means my dog can get the exercise and stimulation he needs when n can't give it to him.
6752	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	No evidence provided that a single person can keep 6 dogs under control at all times. It is very confronting to meet 6 or more dogs on a public walkway on your own or with you own dog. Any Professional Dog walkers need to be registered and have passed a comprehensive training course and competency assessment - showing they can handle 4 dogs on-leash and 2 off-leash - This appears to be a good guiding document: www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Downloads/DogWalkingGuide.pdf
6762	Support		6 dogs is more than enough for one person to be trying to control at one time.
6800	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My understanding is that there have been very few complaints or incidents regarding multiple dogs. Multiple dogs tend to be walked by professional dog walkers, who generally try and avoid public places where possible and ensure that all restrictions are followed and dogs are key under control at all times.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6802	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. I am a dog walker who services Auckland dogs in North Shore. I have been operating since 2023 and currently walk 28 dogs every week. I do not the proposed limit because: 1. The data does not support that people walking more than three dogs off lead are creating a problem. Incident data presented by Auckland Council showed only 0.7% of complaints related to people walking more than two dogs, meaning those walking more than three must be even less. In addition the data used to support that there is a problem and presented to council in July 2024 was based on a survey of 2,000 civically minded people and its interpretation by Council is seriously flawed and fails to show that over half of respondents had never had an issue with people walking more than two dogs. The survey also doesn't ask how many people had seen more than three dogs being walked at once. There have been more than 2,750 signatures on the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition opposing this proposed limit so more than 2,750 people don't think there is an issue when less than 1,000 respondents to the peoples panel think they saw more than two dogs being walked causing a problem. 2. The change unfairly targets professional dog walkers only. Auckland Council staff have said that they are not targeting professional dog walkers, but this bylaw change will only impact
6867	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am OPPOSED TO DOGS OFF LEASH in public areas. ESPECIALLY BEACHES. Currently dogs off leash make walking hazardous. Dogs meeting other dogs and chasing balls or sticks are NOT UNDER CONTROLL. No owner has controll when dogs are racing around with other dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6874	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I've had bad experiences at Long Bay Beach where dog walkers with multiple off leash dogs can't or don't control their dogs. When I ask them to put their dog(s) on a leash so I can get away from it, they refuse and use words to the effect that it's an off leash dog exercise area and if I don't like it I should not go to Long Bay Beach. Part of the problem is that the judgement of “You must always have your dog 'under control'" is up to the dog owner. There needs to be a bylaw that states "If a member of the public requests a dog owner to leash their dog, the dog owner (controller) are legally obliged to leash their dog" '1. Limit individual dog walkers to four dogs per person. With only one of those dogs allowed off leash at a time.
HOWICK LOCAL BOARD			
40	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Licensing system for pack walkers. This is something the Professional Dog Walkers Association is wanting.
103	Support		I suppose 6 is better than no limit, but six digs being walked by nit their owner meets a poodle and a kuia coming the other way isn't going to end well. Six is a lot. A person only has two hands and dogs are strong. I'd suggest 3 at most
111	Support		Dogs are pack animals. It is dangerous to walk multiple dogs, especially if there is a loss of control. This happened in the UK in 2024 with Natasha Johnston in south London who was walking 8 dogs on leash. She lost control and was mauled to death. A coroner's finding noted that there was a lack of regulation in this area. It is only a matter of time before this happens in NZ unless regulations are put into place such as this proposal.
164	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This policy will not affect 99% of Aucklanders. This policy is a knee jerk reaction to a few complaints - It is like the tail wagging the dog (pun intended).
287	Support		To many reported incidents where walkers cannot control multiple dogs at once leading to attacks on other dogs and people
312	Support		Dog walkers with massive packs ruining our parks and disruptive to others using same areas
315	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Mark Vette says 10 so 8 with 4 on lead at a time sounds right as he is a great manager of dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
407	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum one dog, no off leash No pitbull type dogs in public
410	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers and responsible pet owners know how to manage the dogs who are under their care. It makes no sense to punish these dog walkers when there are plenty of irresponsible owners with just 1 or 2 dogs who have no capacity to get their dog under control.
434	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I don't see how a dog owner can control two off leash dogs of medium to large size when they are not well trained and disobey their orders when they decide to attack random strangers in public places. I have been attacked by off leash dogs on various occasions when out running and cycling. Luckily, my windbreaker and my sneakers took the bite instead on 2 different occasions. I feel much safer when dogs are on leash as they can easily be controlled by their owners physically.
445	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	This should decide on size of the dogs as well Six big dogs could be hard to control This effects other dog walkers as well
475	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dogs need to be well looked after in public areas. Having too many dogs, especially off leash, is an unnecessary risk to other people present.
481	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It should be lower
512	I don't know		I actually think it should be less than 6. The dog walking industry is unregulated. There are too many "dog walking businesses" out there with no animal management qualifications. I think 6 dogs per person is far too many. 3-4max to ensure the safety of the dogs being walked, random passer-by's and the actual dog walkers
521	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Simplicity and clarity
531	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For licenced operators, up to 12 dogs at once, BUT all of them must be on a leash. This would allow professional pack walkers to operate efficiently but minimise the potential for unwanted interactions with other people and dogs For unlicensed dog walkers a maximum of four, all on leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
537	Support		As a dog trainer in the industry, too often have I had people having their dogs hurt, I know there are unsafe practices being had and it is time that we as a country put firmer restrictions in. There are a lot of people getting into pack walking with multiple dogs who don't know the structures, boundaries and behaviors of the dogs their walking and with recent events of dogs getting killed in Whitford, this needs to change. Trainers should be able to hire their own venue as part of their business and put less of the public at risk
541	Support		I support this because 6 dogs is plenty (almost too many for one person to control. And three off-leash is also plenty for one person to control, watch and pick-up after
563	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	four dogs is the maximum number an adult can meaningfully handle.
738	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Based on our experience and in consultation with our professional dog walker, I feel the maximum number of dogs should be no more than 6 dogs on leash and/or 6 dogs off leash per person at any one time - all dogs must be under control at all times regardless. Any more dogs on OR off leash per person at one time is too many for one person to handle, even for the most experienced dog handler. It's unsafe, dangerous, and potentially lethal.
858	Support		Far too many dog walker walking packs of dogs
929	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No limit for licensed dog walkers.
963	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think dog walkers should be licensed and have some training around dog behaviour as a part of these. Limiting the number of dogs will not stop cowboys with unruly dogs causing issues
984	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is restrictive on those dog walkers who are competent in taking a higher number of dogs on walks. Instead training should be offered, some sort of registration where face to face training or assessment of abilities is undertaken
1101	Support		That's fair enough for non professional dog walkers. Professional dog walkers however should have different rules
1189	Support		more than 3 dogs off leash and people can't control them
1215	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the amount of dogs does not ensure that the dog walker is professional or a trainer. It will limit the socialisation and training aspect of pack walks and minimise the benefits it provides for dogs and their exercise. Even if you limit the amount of dogs being walked, you would still have people who are not in control of their dogs, but the business of professional dog walkers/trainers would suffer.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1258	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We utilise the service of a packwalker who is absolutely fantastic and offers great structured training and fulfilment for our dog. She routinely manages a pack of 10 dogs and has them under control at all times because of her capability, experience and training. Changing these laws would impact her ability to provide this service to us at a rate we could afford, and would not be creating a safer Auckland. I would argue she has those ten dogs under much better control than many owners with one dogs! Please continue the current rules, enforcing under control at all times more strictly, or if you do implement these rules have a process for exemptions or certification highly trained people such as herself can apply for so they can continue the invaluable service they provide.
1310	Support		6 dogs to walk is more than enough - it's a pack
1419	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The general public should not be allowed to have more than three dogs per person on leash or two dogs off leash in controlled areas / circumstances, given the "pack mentality" that applies to some aggressive dogs. However, dog walking businesses should be able to obtain licenses to walk multiple dogs on leash at the same time. The maximum number should be between 8-10 dogs per person with no more than one or two off leash at the same time for licensed dog walkers. Many Aucklanders, including myself, are reliant on dog walking businesses and dog daycare services while we work. These services are for the welfare of dogs who would otherwise be locked inside, alone, for several hours during the day while their owners are at work.
1486	Support		Minimize potential problems with pack mentality
1557	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 3 dogs with no more then 1 off-leash
1560	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Rather enforce licensing of existing and future dog walkers. Enforce recognised training courses and documentation of all walks.
1693	Support		Dangerous when exceeding multiple on leash or off leash dogs a time per handler. They are pack animals, 1 handler can not control multiple off leash or on leash dogs at one given time to view any corrections needed or sense each dog at one time. Off leash dogs are pack animals meaning they could all turn at any time pending the pack leader then causes extreme issues if they get into a fight with a human or anouther animal
1725	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I'd rather two, three at the most with none off leash.
1730	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	With sufficient training in Canine care a person should be able to walk more dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1752	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe the dog walkers should be licensed and have training to walk multiple dogs. Then current numbers are ok. It's the inexperienced ones out to make a buck that let down the responsible ones.
1815	Support		The unregulated dog walking business puts those of us that are walking their dogs at risk. I walk 2 dogs, English Springer Spaniels, always on lead. It is frightening for both me and my dogs to have multiple dogs under the "control" of one person bounding up to us.
1857	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will affect the owner get limit access to hire a dog walker. Busy working life style in Auckland, many owner hire dog walker to walk their dog. If this rules applied, dog walker might quit the job or increase the price. This may lead to shortages in dog walker or owner can't afford the cost. Then, the dog will get less socialised and lack of socialisation lead to aggression.
1940	Support		common sense, max 6 is still high but a good place to start.
1950	Support		Makes it safer to manage the pack
2006	Support		The fewer dogs off leash the better please
2028	Do not support	Other (please	Maybe license the dog walkers - there are professional dog
2039	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes in a pack walk each week and the pack walkers are professionals who would never have the dogs off leash nor would they walk them in busy spots. I think by changing the law on the limit of dogs per person this would unfairly impact their business
2124	Support		To make sure the dogs are under control or keep eye on by the owner at all time.
2148	Support		Should be even lower, six dogs per person is an unmanageable amount.
2207	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I support a very responsible professional dog walker and have done so for 5 years. Her dogs get trained to be off leash and be in large groups and dogs enjoy the large bunch. Maybe issue licences that can be revoked if any issues are experienced.
2211	Support		Minimize risk for individuals with dogs when passing dog walkers
2215	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's the roaming dogs I have issue with, no owners on site. I walk around dog walkers with heaps of dogs and have no issue. They are controlled and behaved what's the issue?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2216	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a dog owner and someone who pays the council for owning a dog in my own property and rates paid aswell the council should not be able to decide how many dogs a person can own. When I'm in public other peoples kids irritate me an disturb my free time and yet there's no limits on how many kids someone can have!
2223	Support		I feel 6 dogs at one tu E on leash is too many if the dogs are larger breeds.
2233	Support		One person may not be able to control more than 6 dogs, especially if one or more go rogue
2254	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the number of dogs that can be walked is totally idiotic. The council seems to punish people who actually follow the rules just becuase a small number of people do not follow the rules or let their dogs roam free. These people already not following the rules are definately not going to follow the new rules. So the wrong people are being punished!!!!!
2264	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think it should be different between medium-large breeds and small breeds (like toy size) because it is much easier to keep under control smaller breeds than large ones. I have two small dogs myself and look after my friend's two small dogs time to time, and my friend does the same for me. We support each other. When I have four dogs, I take them to a offe-leash park because it is hard to walk four on leash. They are a good company and always walk nicely. If only maximum of 3 dogs offe-leash were introduced, I would need to keep one on-leash which would be sad for the one dog. I support maximum of 6 dogs, but I am wishing maximum of 4 off-leash is allowed at least for small breeds.
2334	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No limits on professional dog walkers but professional dog walkers must be registered/licensed.
2347	Support		I am a dog owner and dog lover I support this change but believe it should be even more restrictive. I know from watching that even an experienced owner cannot responsibly control and clean up after three dogs off lead. Let alone have another three on leash There is such a person using our local beach who constantly fails to see and clean up after one of her three dogs have fouled. This person is not negligent but cannot have eyes in the back of her head. I would like to see a plan where anybody walking more than two dogs, let alone six, should demonstrate some specific ability to manage and control.. such people should be specifically,permitted.
2380	Support		One cannot control a large number of dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2390	Support		So the dog walker can have more control over the dogs they are walking.
2432	Support		I frequently walk my dog on the foreshore and meet groups of dogs with a dog walker. Even with some dogs on leash, it seems nearly impossible to effectively control more than three dogs. You make no mention of combining packs with more than one dog walker. I would recommend not increasing your proposed limits even if there is more than one handler.
2440	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Last year at Eastern Beach, I saw five large dogs with a commericial dog walker off lead and out of control. Dog walker was on her phone with no ability to control or pick up after the dogs. Just scary!! Similar instances also at Mellons Bay, where I and many other locals will not walk their small dogs anymore. Similar instances at Lloyd Elsmere Park. Other times we have been frightened by large loose uncontrolled dogs and with small children in tow. Too many irresponsible dog walkers are on their phones and don't care what their large dogs are doing. (This is the worst I seen it after forty plus years of having family dogs).
2447	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If they are professional trained dog walkers I believe they have the best interest of the community and the dogs. It is the non trained walkers who spoil it for others.
2464	Support		Dogs can be difficult to control. This will encourage dog walkers to be responsible in the number of dogs they take on and, hopefully, keep on and off lead chaos to a minium.
2496	Support		I am against large number of dogs going on pack walks from experience. We had a dog walker who had more dogs than she could handle. On our dog's very first day with her, she let him off the leash and he disappeared. Was missing for 3 days before someone found him. Dog walkers need to have a manageable number of dogs in order to keep the dogs safe and also for peace of mind of the dog owners.
2506	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Safety of walked dogs, other dogs and pedestrians.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2516	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People who are registered business dog walkers Should be allowed ten dogs at a time and five off leash. But if they are known of reckless behaviour or have caused death to outside dogs Then they shouldn't be allowed to walk group dogs. I want to encourage waking group dogs 10 is the recommended amount As I think it's important for our dogs to be encouraged to walk alongside other dogs In a safe community
2561	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs being exercised by owners or dog walkers are all accompanied, desexed, microchiped, and registered and under control. Packs of dogs who are allowed to roam free consistently are the problem, often entire, no collars and possibly not registered or microchipped.
2562	Support		Dog have a pack mentality if too many dogs off lead and something goes wrong I don't want my dog mauled
2578	Support		Safety, respect for all park users, better for all dogs, peace of mind for all park users
2651	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	All dogs should be on leash. How can multiple off lead dogs be controlled if you have several dogs on leash? Also there is no use having any laws around dogs unless they are enforced. There needs to be dog enforcement officers patrolling these parks and walkways.
2654	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be a difference on what it means to walk your own dog versus the dog walking industry. The dog walking industry should be more controlled and regulated/licensed.
2692	Support		This is a reasonable number of dogs for a responsible and qualified person to walk. Three dogs off lease is manageable for a professional responsible person to walk, any more than that is too much to keep under control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2697	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My name is **** ******* and I am a dog owner, dog trainer and Obedience judge with the NZ Kennel Club. I am in favour of limiting the number of dogs being walked in our dog parks. However I feel that to limit this to 6 dogs is too many. I would prefer to see this as 4 dogs. I cannot see how one person can control 6 dogs regardless of their size if for example another dog approaches the pack or one of the pack disrupts the others. I also do not agree if you are walking a pack of dogs limiting the number off lead at one time. That could cause problems if one or two dogs are on a lead and the others run free. If the number of dogs is limited to 4 then all 4 could be off lead. 'Introduction and Expertise: The author is a dog owner, obedience dog trainer, and judge with extensive experience in dog behavior. Proposed Changes: 31 changes to prohibit dogs from certain areas. 19 changes to convert off-leash areas to on-leash. 10 new off-leash areas. Importance of Off-Leash Exercise: Essential for dogs' health and well-being, especially for owners with small sections or physical limitations. Limiting Number of Dogs: Supports limiting the number of dogs one person can walk but suggests reducing the limit from 6 to 4 dogs for better control. Specific Concerns: Disagrees with limiting the number of off-leash dogs in a pack
2702	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Our dog has been walked by a dog trainer who has a tertiary qualification and who makes good judgements about how many dogs can be off-lead at any time. She uses longlines for dogs when needed, will leash a dog if it gets too hyped up to help them calm down again. I would support people who hold qualifications being able to apply for a permit to walk up to 8 dogs, without a limit on how many can be off-leash because the judgement of qualified dog trainers would be reliable.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2913	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use an experienced dog walker/trainer who needs to walk more the 6 dogs on some days and has the experience and ability to have all under control at all times. I have walked with them before and witnessed full control. The trainer needs to be able to have more than 6 to be able to make enough money to make this all viable. After all we live in Auckland and rates, tax, cost of living etc. all come at a high cost. The main issue is not the amount of dogs, nor the control the experienced walkers have. It is the single/double dog walkers who walk off leash but not fully under control. Dogs are notoriously more protective/reactive when on lease whilst fearing attack. Singular dogs running into a pack of 6 dogs on leash would be far worse than having 6 under control dogs off leash and single non controlled dogs on. In my opinion changes should be around educating people on what under control means and extending the amount of areas for people to walk dogs (i.e. beach access all day rather than restricted times, opening up more parks/walks
2927	Support		Support for the general pop. Professional Walkers should have to be registered and approved by council and have necessary insurance in the incident something did happen. All dogs should be Recall, E-collar and GPS tracked.
2955	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a former professional dog walker I knew how many I could handle, when they needed to be on lead and when I could safely let them off lead. I believe that the dog walking community should be regulated but that there are many very good dog walkers that walk on and off lead with may more than this.
3092	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There will be more issues with some dogs on leash and some off. My dog has been much better behaved since doing the off leash walks. The walks are in isolated areas as well. All my issues with dog aggression have been singke dogs off leash.
3095	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Allowing a dog to learn within a pack supervised by orofessionals calm and teaches positive behaviour. Dogs are more relaxed and calm following an off leash pack walk with an experienced organised walk group.
3132	Support		Unable to control more than this. Concern for my one dog and for the public with a pack of animals.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3292	Support		Safety and security of other members of the public
3323	Support		More control over dogs and safer for everyone
3398	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Ive owned dogs my whole life. If off leash you cant keep eyes on more than 2 dogs at a time.
3550	Support		I think this is a good change as more than 6 dogs are difficult to control for one person. Any more dogs and it is quite easy for one to be out of control.
3705	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe that its important for dogs to interact with each other and run free in safe designated areas. This is more so for bigger dogs who need the freedom to run and play and release their energy as well as exercise. Just walking and that too on a leash and limiting their interaction is cruel
3733	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I believe it's hard to have easy handling on any more than 4 dogs, let alone 6. I'm more choosing this option for the off leash rule as it is difficult to give recall on multiple offleash dogs without delaying their reaction when likely dangerous situations may arise (I.e horses nearby or reactive dogs the offleash dog may be approaching)
3783	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on that anot multiple dog walkers. I never walked my own dogs in my old neighborhood because there were always loose dogs roaming around and when owners were spoken to they did not care. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service. My dogs go out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation,I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out."
3806	Support		I think a person cannot handle many dogs at a time. Too many dogs also blocks the path for other users.
3905	Support		I support this but I wish the limit is lower. How can someone even control 6 dogs at once?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3911	Support		Perhaps there should be an exemption for breeders though. I just don’t feel safe with my dog or kids and large pack walkers. I don’t feel they could possibly have enough control over all of the dogs at once off leash. For starters they (the walkers) let the dogs get too far away from them and they can only be in one place at once to respond quickly to any issues.
4085	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog owners who employ pack walkers to exercise their dogs and socialise their dogs will be penalised by this change. Some dogs require more exercise and stimulation and these pack walks supply that for them. This change could also have financial implications if the cost of these services increase because they can’t spread it over more dogs.
4090	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walks are a great way for dog socialising and are a responsible way for busy dog owners to ensure their dogs have an outlet for energy
4133	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	One person can't safely control three off leash dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4225	Support		My concern with walking very large packs of dogs is the one stray dog that happens upon a pack. What then? One person, or even two walking large numbers of on leash dogs and having some off leash - that is an accident waiting to happen I feel. And I don't believe anyone has the ability to extricate themselves from a potential problem in a pack with an uninvited "guest". There are too many stray dogs now and it is getting worse. An increase in bad human beings means bad dogs - the two go hand in hand. Having said that. My two small dogs go on pack walks with a very professional couple, who are expert trainers, have all dogs on leash, never off leash. The dogs are sorted into size packs for different days/walks. Mine go on a small dog pack walk once a week. Some dogs wear muzzles for various reasons. They visit a quiet public park not used by many and are well controlled at all times. I trust this business 100%. My dogs are gone in one bite so I have to have a high level of trust. The dogs are also transported in vans in a contained fashion, crated, so always safe. I have seen some appalling pack walkers, only pack walking for the easy money. I have seen unscrupulous walkers with dogs hanging out windows of a van, kicking up a barking storm inside. I have seen appalling examples of driving by dog walkers and just hope the van is empty of dogs, as it would not be a pleasant journey if not apart from the obvious repercussions if an accident should occur. I have seen dogs being collected from houses unrestrained (I narrowly missed running one over as it ran onto the road in a frenzy barking around the carrier vehicle)- I have heard stories of unscrupulous, untrained and little to no
4249	Support		Dog walkers are unable to control the "packs" they are walking which is leading to other dogs being attacked and people too
4351	Support		Walker can't control multiple dogs.
4357	Support		I am a responsible dog owner, so i see the need for our fur babie's to get exercise. However, public spaces that are open to the public and other dog owners with their dogs, the level of risk goes up. Dogs can be well trained, but they have nuances i.e. prey drive, hyperactivety as they feed on the energy of other dogs in the group. You have to be watching all the time, and ready to act on behaviours that could lead to more. I can't see how you can safely do that all the time if you have more than 6 dogs. I understand the issue with dog walking companies, so I would also be in favour of licensing for those business'. They are necessary, but its the actions of a few that ruin it for the whole, so anything we can do to be able to reduce the amount of cowboys then we should. So overall i support this proposal.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4376	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there should be a distinction between dog walking businesses and private citizens. As a private citizen, the biggest issue I have when walking my dog is being rushed by off leash dogs. As a community we should be normalizing walking dogs with long leads rather than having them off leash with little to no recall. My dog is always on leash outside of our property and we regularly encounter off leash dogs running up to us. which makes me uncomfortable about walking my dog. All dog walking businesses need to be licensed & have the ability to walk up to 10 dogs on leash. For a dog walking business to walk any dogs off leash they need a special license. Dog walking businesses fulfill a great need in the community & ensures dogs are safely socialised &
4378	Support		I do not believe that a person can possibly keep control of more than that number of dogs. There have been too many instances of people and dogs being hurt.
4445	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Rather than punish the professional dog walkers to try to stop the amateurs, perhaps it would be prudent to focus on those causing the issues. Like so many law bought in, only the law abiding follow them. The ones causing the issues will ignore them and continue to cause problems. Perhaps there needs to be an accreditation system bought in, whereby the professionals continue to operate without restriction and those who choose not to get accreditation face restrictions? Of course, it would need policing, but it will actually stand a chance of addressing the issues rather than hoping that the blanket changes will. We all know that they won't. It will just punish the professional dog walkers.
4446	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe that the issue is free roaming dogs that are causing a negative Impact on our communities, not those that are under control/supervised. This proposed change would do little to curb safety concerns while heavily impacting owners and dogs that are not causing any problems.
4454	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a professional dog walker we train all of our dogs to walk under control on lead at all times. We have 10 in each pack. There is more harm done by roaming dogs and one person with one aggressive dog offlead than professional pack walkers. Limiting numbers will not solve the problem. Licensing and regulation of walkers is a good idea not limiting numbers. That will not solve the problem.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4458	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be a number for those who don't take the time to train and integrate dogs to walk together in a pack. If this is what they do as a buisness as long as they have a procedure in place on how they integrate dogs into their packs and give training they should be allowed to set the number if dogs they walk as they are the ones that know them best.
4466	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Instead of limiting numbers I would prefer rules are put in place to ensure only reputable dog walkers are able to walk groups of dogs.
4475	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as dogs are under control by a good owner, trainer or walker, then there is no problem. A business and/or trainer should be professional enough to keep dogs under control.
4479	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am new to dog owning. But my dog does a once weekly pack walk with an amazing, caring team and I would hate to see this be hindered in any way with placing a maximum number on the dogs that can be walked at any one time in a council operated area. My dog loves going out with her friends every Tuesday and her confidence with other dogs and walking on leash has improved immensely. If a maximin is applied you are restricting well controlled opportunities for dogs to socialise and become comfortable walking in a pack. I think this would be horrifically detrimental to the wellbeing's of our dogs and depriving them of a huge opportunity to walk with other dogs in a welcoming and supportive and caring environment. Please don't punish these pack walkers who provide such an exceptional experience for our four legged family members.
4502	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Rather than limiting or changing the number of dogs, it is essential to establish a professional standards Body for dog walkers. This is already being done by ethical and caring pack walking companies. This would facilitate the creation of a professional standards body that promotes safe, ethical, and responsible dog walking practices. However, overly stringent regulations, instigated at huge cost, may deter people from utilizing these services, placing undue financial burdens on working dog owners who are attempting to provide adequate care for their dogs, which may otherwise be confined indoors for extended periods. Moreover, such regulations could also adversely impact reputable pack walking businesses that prioritize the welfare and well-being of canine companions. Rather than punish all, go after those who flaunt the systems already in place causing potential for harm to other park users.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4528	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I propose instead of restricting the number of dogs that can be walked in public. Auckland Council introduces a specialised licensing system for professional dog walking businesses. This would allow experienced and responsible dog walkers to operate without limit and ensure public safety.
4539	Support		Too many badly controlled dogs post Covid.
4583	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes on pack walks with a dog walking company that are great dog trainers! It helps with socialising with other dogs, show them how to behave around distractions, and leash training. By limiting the numbers of dogs will affect these businesses which then would affect me limiting availability and potentially increasing these costs!!
4629	Support		Reasonable and seems to be inline with overseas environments
4697	Support		Dog walker must be able to control any dog under there care. 6 is more than enough
4712	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I feel that there should be no limit on the number of dogs being walked by one person, as long as they are under control. Many dogs, including my own, participate in controlled pack walks which provide them with socialisation and training opportunities, which my dog has benefited from immensely. Limiting the number of dogs being walked would deprive mine and other dogs of these opportunities, which I believe provide learning opportunities, training, a sense of enrichment for Auckland dog owner community. I do believe dogs should under control at all times, however as long as this is done effectively such as in a training pack walk environment, I don't believe that there should be a limit.
4771	Support		I have spoken with people who have had their dogs killed by dogs, supposedly under the control of dog walkers. Off leash, I think that even 3 is too many to control.
4823	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers need to be registered and comply to rules stated. They should then be allowed up to 12 dogs on leash.
4840	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No off leash dogs should be allowed, there are too many attacks on livestock and people by off leash dogs
4846	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers should be required to be licensed and the industry regulated. Currently, less experienced and skilled dog walkers with fewer dogs could pose more risk than others walking more dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4940	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I oppose the proposed limit of 6 on leash and 3 off-leash dog per walker. My dog Moose has been going on pack walks for a year now and has flurished there. He used to previously go to Doggy Daycare where there was little control over a large group of dogs. His behaviour changed and we eventually pulled him out. Since joining the pack walk with a professional walker he has a structured outlet of socialisation and his walking manners, overall obedience and happiness have drastically improved. It is difficult enough to find someone you trust to mind your dogs while you're away that fits in your budget and is in your area. When limiting the amount of dogs a walker can walk you'll will hike up the price of dog walkers making it less accessible for the average person resulting in dogs being left alone on the property while owners are at work and in return will result in roaming and menacing dogs that you are trying to prevent with this change. I agree that the 'cowboys' of the dog walking industry need to be rained it but limiting the amount of dogs someone can walk won't do that. Both owners as well as professional need to be educated on how to safetly walk/ mind/ care for dogs. There are several other options that can contribute to dogs being handled more safely: Educate pack walkers (and regularly re-educate + assess) on best
5003	Support		Rogue dogwalker who frequents Porterfield road in whitford has no control of the dogs she walks and it leads to others not been able to enjoy public amenities. It will help weed out those who don’t take the job seriously
5019	Support		I do not believe one person alone can control 6 dogs. It is a question of keeping other dogs and people safe.
5040	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Personally no dogs should be off leash.
5057	Support		I don’t believe someone can monitor or manage more than 3 off leash dogs at once, and as someone who walks a single small dog on leash I would actively avoid someone with 3 off leash. Ditto with 6 on leash - more would make me feel v unsafe.
5145	Support		Because currently, there is a dog walker in Whitford walking around 20 dogs at a time. They have already killed 1 small dog in the area. They are clearly out of control whether on or off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5235	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	One dog on leash with one dog walker at a time. In a Council Controlled Area only one person can manage one dog at a time.
5365	Support		Because nobody can control six dogs either on leash or split into leash 3 and off leash 3. If owners cannot walk their own dogs, they shouldn't have a dog.
5396	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Too many dogs is intimidating to a dog walking with its owner on a leash. Sometimes the dog walker with lots of dogs has trouble trying to keep a pack of loose dogs under control. Also I wonder about the value and quality of the dogs walking time, at times the dog walker isn't able to pick up dog poop of them all.
5564	Support		Dogs need to be kept under control
5711	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	There should be licensing for pack walkers that dictates their training and good Dog ownership / business function and are by law allowed to walk these dogs. Then those that are professionally walking dogs's reputation isn't impacted by hobbiest walkers without any dog behavioural experience. You wouldn't let someone take care of 8 children unless they were trained & qualified.
5786	Support		Anyone walking more than 3 dogs either On leash or Off Leash should have to have a License and it should bbe required to be displayed so that if these people or businesses flought the law they can be bought to the councils attention. e.g.not picking up after any of the dogs under their control. Signage with Penalties & contact NO's for complaints
5855	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think there should be a limit of no more than four dogs per person, whether they be on leash or not. Any more than that and you have no control over the dogs. I have been walking dogs for over ten years.
6006	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I believe that a properly trained person walking dogs (i.e trained in animal care or behaviour) is and to assess if dogs are able to be off lead or not. My dogs walk in a mixed pack of 8 that have been assessed on their personality,social ability and recall with no issues. It is others that are not trained and have dogs not under verbal control that are the issue.
6051	Support		This is a manageable number for one walker, some people do own 4+ dogs of their own and need to walk them all at the same time. Low group numbers not so threatening for other members of the public.
6328	Support		All dogs must be under total control to keep the public other dogs and the environment safe. People and other dogs have the right to be safe and feel safe. My dog has at times been intimidated by out of control dogs and terrified when there are a number.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6338	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a professional dog walker dogs go through a assessment/ training period before joining a pack walk. There could be 20 dogs in a pack and all are under control. The majority of issues in public areas are dog owners walking there personal dogs which is usually just 1 dog and that dog is not in control
6555	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Most walking packs are 'commercial' - therefor must be licensed or RDL
6962	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 4 dogs - either on lead or off lead in off lead areas
KAIPTAIKI LOCAL BOARD			
7	Support		Pack dog walkers with more than 6 dogs struggled to be be adequately in control of all the dogs
8	Support		Even 6 dogs would be tricky to control, more than that would be impossible.
21	Support		Limit problematic interactions between dogs (fights) and make it easier for more timid dogs to go to places like this knowing they won't be mobbed.
30	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is absolutely devastating and so unnecessary. Council should be THROWING money at desexing all roamers they pick up to reduce the population and reduce the chances of an idiot owners getting a dog in the first place. Dogs are pack animals and gain an amazing amount of knowledge through packs. It's incredible enrichment and if done with a reputable company, is done so with training and structure. Punishing experienced trainers by changing the law about how many dogs they can walk isn't going to fix any issues. Yes, regulate the industry - make all pack walkers do a multi dog course to ensure they are responsible while walking, but if you ever see my dogs group on his pack walks, they are INCREDIBLY well mannered to the point that people take photos of them.
31	Support		It is intimidating for dogs on their own to be greeted by a large pack if they are walking head on to us. Having a maximum of 6, with only 3 allowed off the lead will help to stop the dogs charging other dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
41	Support		Large groups of dogs running through the local bushes have destroyed the lovely bush tracks and they become impassable in the winter.. Commercial operators should pay to us council land to help with the up keep.. there is no way someone walking 10 dogs picks up all the dogs poo.. It is very intimidating coming across large groups of dogs with only one person in control .. I am a dog owner. The money they make should be able to pay for an annual license to be able to walk the bush tracks with the dogs they walk.
42	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No restrictions but walkers need a license to walk multiple dogs. This could be a tiered option, where after proving the quality of control they can have a higher number of dogs.
50	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't believe that professional dog walkers should be forced to restrict the amount of dogs they walk. If they prove to be in control of the dogs in their care, it's not fair to limit their income/experience for the dogs too. An option could be to allow the dog walkers unlimited amount of dogs, and if they are found responsible could obtain a licence. If there are others dog walkers of concern (receiving complaints) then they would be the ones to be limited on how many dogs they can walk. Another add on to this could be to limit the amount of dogs walked in high public areas (some beaches/reserves are used more then others) and allowing the dog walkers to walk unlimited dogs when less public around. Whether this be towards certain areas across Auckland or for certain times. (High public times)
53	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes on pack walks twice a week with a qualified and experienced responsible dog trainer and it has totally changed his social skills and behaviour. It has been a game changer for him and me as his owner. Dogs are pack animals and actually can be quite challenging and reactive on leash by instinct when with owner and around other dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
59	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is absolutely devastating and so unnecessary. Council should be THROWING money at desexing all roamers they pick up to reduce the population and reduce the chances of an idiot owners getting a dog in the first place. Punishing experienced trainers by changing the law about how many dogs they can walk isn't going to fix any issues. Yes, regulate the industry - make all pack walkers do a multi dog course to ensure they are responsible while walking, but if you ever see my dogs group on his pack walks, they are INCREDIBLY well mannered to the point that people take photos of them.
70	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What about professional dog walkers. They can have more than 6 dogs on a walk at 1 time.
71	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	These number of dogs are normally being looked after by professional dog walkers and are not a problem as they have good control over them.
113	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think the pack walking industry needs regulations for the people who are calling them selves pack walker with no qualifications. Any number of dogs can be an issue in the wrong hands. The pack walkers and owners doing things correctly shouldn't be punished.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
124	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	instead of limiting pack size, we propose focusing on regulations for professional dog walkers. Currently, there's no legal distinction between trained and untrained walkers. Implementing a licensing program that requires experience, training, and certifications (including pet first aid), along with a yearly registration fee, would ensure public safety and separate responsible professionals like myself from those just looking for a quick profit. We work with each dog individually and as part of the group, strategically selecting which dogs can go in each pack. We also advise when a dog is unsuitable, and recommend individual training. We educate the owners on training techniques and ensure they complete the same types of training at home. Education is absolutely vital to dog ownership, and well-trained dogs are absolutely vital for community safety. By focusing on qualifications for pack walkers instead of a limit on size, we can improve dog behavior and public safety for everyone. By putting qualified experience handlers out of business Auckland will have an even BIGGER issues than it does now with roaming dogs (due to lack of exercise). More anti social dog behavior due to lack of socialization and training. What you will happen is the big huge dog walking companies will just hire more in handlers with no experience, so the can carry more at one pack. i.e 12 dogs 6 leashed. Not to mention the issues that will arise with dogs playing at the beach, 3 being able to swim and play will 3 are Teather together
163	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog enjoys a dog walk with a responsible walker and she has to run a business - it would be very hard for her to do so with massive restrictions on dog numbers. I think instead the key is making sure that dog walkers who want to do it as a business like this are properly vetted and understand pet first aid and accept it is their responsibility to only take as many as they know they can fully control.
168	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have a professional dog walker for our dog. The pack of dogs is well controlled and provides excellent socialisation for our dog. Reducing the number of dogs she is exposed to would be unhelpful for her temperament.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
172	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Changing the rule isn't dealing with the broader issue. Professional dog walkers need proper certification. The proposed rules aren't going to deal with this. Plus who's going to police it?
205	Do not support		Council should make new dog walking policy and assess the dog walkers ability to grant them the number they are allowed to walk. This change is very unfair for a lot of capable dog walkers
224	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and the services which they currently provide us. I think it would be better to bring in the following alternative Licensing professionals to walk larger groups Enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control' which is already in place Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them
238	Support		At the best of times, a dog-walker can only control so many dogs even if they are well-behaved. However, some are not - maybe they spend too much time at home and are stressed - and they can cause havoc within the whole group. When that happens, the walker may not be strong enough to hold the pack together, by which time all the dogs are excited and it doesn't take much to set them off.
254	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think even having four dogs to one person is too many, it should only be two. Fully support a licencing system for dog walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
258	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Propose focusing on regulations for professional dog walkers. Currently, there's no legal distinction between trained and untrained walkers. Implementing a licensing program that requires experience, training, and certifications (including pet first aid), along with a yearly registration fee, would ensure public safety and separate responsible professionals like myself from those just looking for a quick profit. This approach, supported by this recent news article [https://www.1news.co.nz/2024/05/06/regulations-for-pack-dog-walkers-could-reduce-attacks-expert/], would allow trained and certified professionals to continue walking pack sizes we're experienced with. We work with each dog individually and as part of the group, strategically selecting which dogs can go in each pack. We also advise when a dog is unsuitable, and recommend individual training. We educate the owners on training techniques and ensure they complete the same types of training at home. Education is absolutely vital to dog ownership, and well-trained dogs are absolutely vital for community safety. By focusing on qualifications for pack walkers instead of a limit on size, we can improve dog behaviour and public safety for everyone.
260	Support		People living in a city shouldn't have too many dogs and shouldn't have a dog that they can't walk themselves. So these restrictions are obviously appropriate.
284	Support		Realistically one person cannot control 6 dogs, and there are too many people claiming to be a dog walker and walking multiple dogs who have no respect or appreciation of other dogs walking on leash. We often have to move off the pavement to allow them to pass or give them plenty of space as it's just not possible to control so many dogs if anything were to happen.
285	Support		6 seems like a lot I would have ticked 4
289	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I actually don't agree with off leash dogs in public places. If there is a dog walker (single) dog I will often cross the road. You cannot tell in advance if a dog is going to lick or bite you. All dog owners say their dog wouldn't bite. I would say 50% of the dogs I meet off leash do not obey their owners trying to call them back

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
298	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Having a set amount on and off lead doesn't make sense. It would cause more issues. Most times it is the single member of public with one dog who causes an issue. My dog gets walked in a pack of 5. All off lead. There have been no issues with this. Having some on lead and some off is ridiculous.
301	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current model is working and this proposed bylaw will cause harm to dogs and small businesses. An extremely small fraction of complaints to council are about multiple dogs/pack walkers. This bylaw is an overreaction to the very unfortunate behaviour of a few inexperienced and dangerous walkers who should not be in business. Don't punish other experienced, safe walkers because of a small minority. I am an owner of two dogs who benefit immensely from a pack walker who walks 10 dogs at a time, with all dogs off leash IF those dogs have earned the privilege. Go out to Riverhead forest on any week day and you will see this replicated over and over. Safe, experienced walkers who have complete control of 10 or so dogs off lead. The dogs follow off lead, pull to the side of the track and wait for other packs, horses and bikes to pass, and enjoy their freedom because their pack walker is their leader. The number of dogs does not make a difference—if a pack walker is not an experienced leader for the dogs, limiting the number of dogs being walked will not help. It's the skill, not the number which makes a difference. Luckily, the huge majority of walkers in Auckland are safe and experienced, with total control over their dogs. They also use their judgement to make decisions about which dogs are off lead, which are walked together, and what privileges or limits the dogs require. A huge problem in Auckland is the cruelty of dogs—working animals with huge exercise needs—spending their lives indoors. Underworked, underwalked, understimulated, these dogs
308	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are some amazing dog pack walk services out there, it is in a dog's nature to be part of a pack - us as humans have taken that away from them. I do think there are some 'bad eggs' of pack walkers that ruin it for everyone else, but these people should be dealt with separately. It isn't fair to punish those who are doing it well! We have used Pet Adventures for years and they also helped train our dog to make her a well rounded animal that fits into our society. Please don't take her pack walks away from her, it would be devastating for us as a family and be detrimental to her behaviour.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
323	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change would significantly impact the ability of responsible dog walking businesses to operate, and reduce the access to responsible dog walking services for people who need them. This would have the effect of increasing the number of bored dogs potentially trying to escape their properties. It does not address the real problem, which is roaming dogs, as unmanaged roaming dogs pose an actual threat to the public, rather than responsible dog walking. This new policy feels like an attack on dog walking businesses. I personally use a dog walker when my husband and I both work out of the home for the whole day, and if this proposal went through our dog walker would be forced to increase her prices so much to stay afloat that we wouldn't be able to continue to use her services. I am strongly opposed. It would be better to require listening of dog walkers to ensure they are properly trained.
333	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current system is effective, and the proposed bylaw will harm both dogs and small businesses. Complaints about multiple dogs or pack walkers represent an extremely small fraction of council concerns. This bylaw overreacts to the actions of a few inexperienced and unsafe walkers who shouldn’t be in the industry. Punishing experienced, responsible walkers for the behavior of a small minority is unjust. As a dog owner, I’ve seen the tremendous benefits of pack walks. Our walker takes up to 10 dogs at a time, granting off-leash privileges only to dogs who’ve earned it. The key issue isn’t the number of dogs but the walker’s expertise. Limiting group sizes won’t address unsafe practices—skill and experience are what truly matter. Pack walkers play a crucial role in ensuring dogs get the exercise they need, when owners lack the time. The proposed bylaw would make pack walking unaffordable for many owners by drastically increasing costs—all while Aucklanders are facing a cost-of-living crisis and small businesses are already struggling to stay afloat. Instead of imposing blanket restrictions, consider alternatives such as licensing professional walkers to handle larger groups or enforcing the existing “dogs must be under control” rule. Please don’t let this bylaw pass.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
335	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are so many dog walking businesses that would be out of business if this new rule comes in, I do not want to lose our dog walker
337	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is no recognition for professional trained dog walkers. It would be better to work with the professionals to develop and effective implementation proposal. Non professional people making an all inclusive decision will not work and will cost too much in administration.
343	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We rely on dog walkers to exercise our dog every day. Our dog walker has her pack under control at all times. You should spend time putting harsher rules in place for dogs that walk the streets and scare people instead.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
355	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This bylaw is not evidence based and will harm dogs and owners and force small businesses to close. In an economic climate where businesses and Aucklanders are already struggling, why limit businesses, causing them to increase their prices, lose clients, and probably close down. I have two dogs which are walked by an experienced pack walker who has total control over a pack of ten or more dogs. Because she is their leader and the dogs trust and respect her, they can all be off lead (if the walker believes they have earned the privilege, if not they stay off lead), and they will ignore people, dogs, horses and bikers. Our walker has good judgement and is constantly upskilling. She invests in ongoing mentoring from respected international trainers and is more than capable of walking a large group of dogs. Your bylaw will harm her business unnecessarily. This bylaw seemingly targets walkers like the one in East Auckland who had two out of control dogs that killed another dog. This was a tragedy. However, the current restrictions already address this! The walker breached the current bylaw as her dogs were NOT under control. The number of dogs is not the issue. The issue in that case was CLEARLY the skill and judgement of the walker, and nothing being done by council BEFORE this incident even though she was well known to be a dangerous practitioner. Ban her! Of course! But do not punish others for her mistakes. Dogs are suffering from being under exercised, and this bylaw will only exacerbate this. I will not be able to afford to send my dogs
359	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I consider the issue is not the number of dogs but it's the control of them that is most pertinent. A person can easily have one dog off leash but have no control of it at all. It's the control of the person who is walking the dog/s that matters more. Professional dog-walkers with expertise in dog-handling and awareness of dog behaviour, and their consideration of other people in the vicinity, is the key.
368	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This bylaw overreacts to actions of a few inexperienced and unsafe walkers who should not be in the industry. This would unfairly punish experienced and responsible walkers who are small business owners who take care of dogs. A blanket restriction would drastically increase costs, reducing a needed services to keep dogs well cared for. Alternatives such as licensing walkers or enforcing dogs under control rule would be more effective.
377	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think that there should instead be regulation for professional dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
381	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Use your brain Council, there are amazing PROFESSIONAL dog walkers that are also trainers and have perfect control of their dogs. Why would you leave them without a job? Pack dog walking is a perfect industry all over the world but here you want to ban it? I suggest 2 alternatives: -up to 10 dogs with one walker, all of the lead. -provided that the walker can present credentials, past a test and gets a business license. If you want to regulate it, DO IT PROPERLY!!
411	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think all pack walkers should be qualified and registered. If so, the number of dogs shouldn't matter as they are experienced to do it. The problem is all the pack walkers that they haven't got any type of training and just do it to profit themselves. Another problem I see for those trained pack walkers is that if the number of dogs they take are reduced, it will be hard for them to make a living and they would to put their prices up making hard on the families that like their dogs being taken out while they are at work. So make it compulsory for anyone interested on taking dog walking as their career path to do training and pay an annual fee
425	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is unfair to other dogs which are on leash while another 3 free ones are enjoying their walk. It is against dogs' nature and I think this rule is very unpractical.
469	Support		No dog walker no matter how skilled can manage more than 3-4 dogs at once. I have witnessed dogs going missing from commercial walkers, other Walkers dogs being attacked by too many uncontrolled dogs in a large group.
476	Support		Dogs off leash in the bush on paths with the public are never a good idea, so great initiative while leaving plenty of off-leash room for them in grassed spaces and for the paid walkers.
516	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I think it's a great idea to ensure professionals are handling this number of dogs. If they had a lisence to prove they are trained experts I don't see why we would lower the number of dogs they take
546	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walkers provide a valuable service. Reducing the number of dogs will make this unaffordable for most

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
550	Support		Too many dogs creaate a pack mentality and can physically pull the walker over. Many dogs get away in the bush near us and walker can't find them due to the other dogs there
553	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are highly trained and skilled in managing their packs and know what works within their pack. I think you will find problems with dogs in these areas are not with walkers and their off leash dogs but instead with individual members of the public that cannot control their dog
568	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Trained professionals should be able to walk more than the above mentioned dogs. Put in regulations for professionals dog walkers and regulate them.
572	Support		For the general public 6 is more then enough and 3 offleash to keep under control too. However I would expect there to be a dogwalker exemption, those that can prove they are.proficient in controlling packs that can walk more then 6 or take more then 3 of leash.
585	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	While I understand the need to address safety and the welfare of animals, I believe this bylaw will harm experienced, responsible dog walkers and small businesses without effectively addressing the underlying issue. The vast majority of dog walkers are professional, experienced, and prioritize the safety and well-being of the animals in their care. Complaints to the council about multiple dogs or pack walkers are extremely rare, and this proposed bylaw seems to be an overreaction to the actions of a small minority of inexperienced or irresponsible walkers. Rather than penalizing the responsible majority, the focus should be on ensuring that individuals who are unqualified or unsafe are not allowed to operate in the first place. Punishing experienced and safe walkers through additional restrictions will not resolve the issue caused by a few bad actors, and it risks harming small businesses that are vital to the local economy. I urge you to reconsider this bylaw and explore more targeted solutions, such as stricter licensing or certification requirements for dog walkers, to ensure that only qualified professionals are in this field.
705	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers need to be certified. you could be walking 1 or 2 of your family dogs and not under control. generally professional dog walkers have their dogs under control. Make it like a day care - you need a certification to walk more than 6 dogs at a time for example. MANY dog owners of one dog are irresponsible!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
744	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I oppose a blanket restriction on the number of dogs that can be walked. However, I agree that some regulation is needed to ensure public safety. I believe that professional dog walkers should be permitted, subject to approval, to manage multiple dogs (both on-leash and off-leash) - provided that they have demonstrated an ability to do that safely. My partner and I own a dog. We are responsible owners: our dog is de-sexed, registered, and we have put her through dog training. We both work full-time, so pay a reputable dog walking company to take our dog for a five-hour walk two times a week. Those walks represent the bulk of her exercise during the week. While we take her out on all other days, we are unable to provide that amount of time during week, nor is it in the company of other dogs. Our dog's outings with the professional dog walker are essential to her health and well-being. I am concerned that a blanket restriction on the number of dogs that can be walked will render dog walking companies' business model uneconomical; either the companies will need to cease their business, or they will increase the prices to a level that is prohibitive to regular dog owners. I acknowledge that there have been recent issues with relatively untrained or unfit walkers placing dogs under their charge into situations that pose a risk to the public. That is not the case with the company we have engaged. Before our dog was accepted into the pack walks, we underwent and in-person interview, and our [illegible]
782	Support		Currently the number of group dog walkers using the Kauri Point Domain off Balmain road is excessive. I suggest the single dog walkers should be able to walk dogs off leash but groups over say five or six should be leashed.
791	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think Pack walkers should have no limit as such if they obtain a license after specified training
800	Support		There have been too many attacks on dogs from pack walkers dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
810	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have an excellent dog walker who has assess dogs before she takes them on. She has them on leads for a long time ie for recall to be 100% before she even attempts to let them off. Even when off lead they are under control at all times. She has faced other walkers with numerous dogs some up to 20 with no control, no assessments ie off lead first time and a no care attitude. Dog walkers should be registered and pass a test wherein they are deemed appropriate to have a number of dogs per walk at a time. Cutting the numbers to 6 will affect our walker enormously. She at most has 12 and at all times are fully under her control. I forgot to add all dogs should be registered and if they're not they are taken off the owners until they are so registered and pass a responsible dog owners test.
894	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Auckland Council has not articulated an issue that this is attempting to solve. The majority of dog related complaints is reported to be unrelated to multiple dogs and lack of their control, so it is unclear what problem this solves. In addition, a change to this rule will have a material impact on the cost of dog ownership as it will force dog walkers to increase "per dog" fees. One probable impact will be an increase the number of dogs left uncared for during the working day (due to cost of care) and thus an increase in noise complaints and roaming (escaped) solo dogs. In this proposal, Auckland Council has not indicated additional funding for animal control and noise control to manage this.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
924	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	On-leash and off-leash should be managed on a case basis. If the walker had a well-trained group of dogs, there is no reason to have such an unreasonable number. To whom this may conceren: I have completed the feedback form regarding the proposed bylaw amendment to change the maximum number of dogs that can be walked by a dog walker. However, I found that your questionnaire and feedback form were quite limited in scope and did not allow for a comprehensive expression of my views. Below, I have provided more detailed feedback for your consideration: Negative impact on dogs, families, and communities Long term behavioral problems for dogs Dogs that do not receive adequate exercise or socialization are at risk of developing destructive behaviors, including excessive barking, aggression, and separation anxiety. Limited social exposure can also increase fearfulness and reactivity, making these dogs more challenging to manage in public settings. A reduction in available spots for dog walking services would exacerbate these issues, as fewer opportunities for exercise and interaction could negatively affect dogs' behavior and overall well-being. Stressed families Dogs play a vital role in supporting mental health across all age [illegible]

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
928	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Negative impact on dogs, families, and communities Long term behavioral problems for dogs Dogs that do not receive adequate exercise or socialization are at risk of developing destructive behaviors, including excessive barking, aggression, and separation anxiety. Limited social exposure can also increase fearfulness and reactivity, making these dogs more challenging to manage in public settings. A reduction in available spots for dog walking services would exacerbate these issues, as fewer opportunities for exercise and interaction could negatively affect dogs' behavior and overall well-being. Stressed families Dogs play a vital role in supporting mental health across all age groups. Imposing further restrictions on dog ownership could have long-term negative impacts on families and children. Research highlighted in the Harvard Gazette (2024) and a study published in PLOS One (2021) indicates that families with dogs are less likely to experience depression. Furthermore, families with busy schedules or physical limitations (disabilities) may struggle to meet their dogs' exercise needs, leading to stress and guilt. From my own experience, as someone balancing a family of four while running my own business, my dog walkers are a savior to my mental health. Cost for the taxpayer Introducing a law to limit the number of dogs walked at one time could impose significant costs on taxpayers. Enforcing such regulations would require additional resources, including increased staffing for monitoring and animal control, as well as
945	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs should be on leash and under control at all times. Introducing rules for number of dogs on and off leash. Dog owners that currently do not have their dogs on leash or under their control wont change their behaviour with the proposed rule changes. This will penalise responsible owners who are already doing the right thing

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
971	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I am benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company: * ensuring my dog is well socialized * developing good off lead habits * burning off energy and not damaging my property If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would affect me: * potentially higher cost * might have to cancel the pack walks leading to less socialization and a more risky dog when off lead with me
983	Support		We need a responsible number of dogs to people ratio to keep our community safe.
1015	Support		The current situation with unqualified and often inexperienced dog walkers dominating public parks during the day is wholly unacceptable to the rest of the public. There absolutely should be a limit and 6 is appropriate (we have direct and relevant experience of this industry). And the number off lease should be restricted.. the number of accidents is unacceptable and this needs to come to an end.
1061	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	License to allow professional dog walkers who pass set standards or qualifications to walk over the proposed maximum number. This would allow the right controls to be put in place and not penalise professionals who can control dogs.
1083	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The 'dog number' rules are simplistic, not factoring in things such as handler experience, dog training level, dog size, etc. I think it makes more sense to just follow the no limit/dogs must be under control at all times approach - and to allow complaints and/or ad-hoc council monitoring to identify poor performing dog walking individuals and businesses.
1087	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In my experience, it is usually not the dog walkers with multiple dogs that are a problem but irresponsible dog owners with smaller dogs in public spaces with off lead dog. As such, I do not support the change as it will negatively and unfairly impact dog walkers and their business that I consider to be more equipped and trained to handle multiple dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1119	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This proposal is tackling the wrong issue. Qualified and experienced pack walkers know how to manage a pack - that is the whole point about pack walks. Issues come up with pack walkers who are not qualified or experienced. At the moment, anyone can start a dog walking business. This is where the focus should be - if you want to run a dog/pack walking business then you should have to have a licence to do so. By restricting the size of packs so significantly, it will make this type of business untenable and therefore this valuable experience for dogs and option for dog owners to keep their dogs exercised, stuimulated and happy will disappear. And of course it will affect the livelihood of many experienced and qualified pack walkers. Issues with dogs and dog behaviour stem from many issues, restricting one area that actually encourages good dog behaviour is a step in completely the wrong direction. Dogs that cannot socialise and do not have outlets that use energy and stimulate them become problem dogs. The focus should be on ensuring that irresponsible dog owners and dog businesses are brought into line - not putting these massive restrictions on owners and businesses who do an amazing job with their dogs every day.
1142	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Locensed accredited dog walkers should not be limited if they are deemed competent. A competent dog walker with multiple dogs is far safer than an owner that cannot control 1 dog.
1199	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	For built up areas, I'd probably say 6, but I think this is down to good and bad ownership and once again good dog owners are being penalised for the bad dog owners out there.
1281	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers are not the problem because they are trained to handle dogs and people who pay dog walkers usually have well socialised and trained dogs. I would hate for these companies to suffer and these dogs be forced to stay at home all day due to cost increases due to reduced numbers of dogs to be walked at once.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1332	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People who are walking multiple digs are either professional dog walkers or breeders or some form of 'gog lovers' - they are generally responsible people and not a problem. limiting numbers will make affordability of dog walking harder for owners to afford to the detriments of dogs themselves. if you think there is a problem with irresponsible walkers - perhaps a solution is to require multiple dog walkers to be certified and registered and required to carry ID so that they are 1) trained and 2) public can make complaints to the registering body if they see any public offense.
1350	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walker are not a problem, they have great control of their packs and the dogs are having fun. It's unregistered roaming dogs that should be your top priority. And of course, animal welfare...
1353	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	At this point in time, my dog attends a pack walk with an experienced walker that she's been going on for at least 4 years. She is well integrated into the 'pack' and in fact I can tell when my dog meets another 'pack' dog on our other walks. While I appreciate the sentiment, there is a vast difference in people who walk dogs with care and consideration in a pack as opposed to people who walk a dog without social skills, training or recall. It can take only seconds for this to go wrong no matter the number of dogs. In fact, most often my dog has been charged at by smaller dogs who are off leash and aggressive when my dog has been off-leash and just cruises by. Regards dog walkers, I wonder if there is an exception that is similar to the responsible dog owner, where they are eligible based on proving competency or paying for a licence etc. As it happens, I'm mindful that if my current dog walker is restricted and needs to put up her fees to cover a lack of income, I may not be able to afford the service. My dog would then miss out on the social skills, as well as the activity that the dog walker provides (which is more high octane than I can provide).
1380	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It depends on the number of people walking. The dog. For one person, managing 4 dogs is a LOT. So for one person maximum is 4 dogs, all on leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1383	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because limiting the number is a stupid idea as it will prevent professional dog walkers from being able to walk packs. As it's unlikely that any general member of the public will ever walk more than say 2-3 multiple dogs, this rule change is completely unnecessary.
1387	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking businesses know how many they can control and working dog owners rely on affordable dog walkers for the wellbeing of their dogs when at work
1388	Support		Professional Dog walkers often have more than these numbers currently and is difficult for them to have full control, which can put other responsible dog owners at risk.
1395	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have two ladies who separately walk our dog. Both ladies have vet nurse qualifications along with a huge amount of experience in dog obedience and understand dogs well. If you have three dogs on leash and three dogs off leash within a pack they you are instantly creating a problem as opposed to all dogs being off leash and being controlled well. The dog walker knows what dogs are obedient and what dogs need more training and react accordingly. Stopping access to local areas where its great for dogs to experience off leash walks is ridiculous, you should have spoken to people involved with dogs and not consulted with engineers who have no idea whatsoever on what they recommend and why.
1399	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The walkers need to be registered and managed by Auckland Council. My daughter's dog walker is excellent from meeting a dog to having them on her walks. They are completely under her control however she experiences on numerous occasions other walkers who are only in it for the money and don't take any care with what breed they have, whether it's assessed before going on a walk, being on a lead for a period of time with an intent to having time of lead. Also some walkers walks their dogs in the heat of day, nowhere near water with tarseal that is hot enough to burn their feet on. There needs to be a managed process in place so it works for all. You can use a blanket rule approach that's totally unfair to those responsible dog walkers.
1400	Support		See many unqualified dog walkers that can't control numerous dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1523	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I disagree that there should be a restriction on professional dog walkers. My walker is professional and trained at handling dogs. I do not believe that the bylaw should affect pack my dog has gone with for 5 years 2-3 times a week. This will negatively affect her business and mine and other dogs. She provides a positive and peaceful walking environment.
1561	Support		Safety
1590	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes out with a professional dog walker multiple times a week. All dogs are fully under her control, have great recall and have had no incidents. If the proposed changes were to happen, my dog walker would not be able to operate, my dog would not be able to have an off leash experience while socialising with other dogs.
1602	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Some business's need to walk more than 6 dogs at a time to be viable I think. Good dog walkers can manage them well. 8 dogs seems like a reasonable number as long as its in the right place and with a good , experienced walker.
1654	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers provide a valuable service to dog owners, ensuring dogs receive the exercise, proper structured socialisation, and care they need. If professional dog walkers are unable to operate as they currently do, there will likely be an increase in barking complaints and roaming dogs. Overwhelmed shelters could also see more dogs as busy owners, unable to hire dog walkers, may struggle to provide appropriate care for their pets. Professional dog walkers also play a key role in training dogs and educating owners by sharing their knowledge and skills. If they can’t operate as they currently do, it will become more difficult to find dog trainers, inevitably leading to a rise in the cost of services. With dog attack and aggression complaints rising by 20% in 2023-24, the need for experienced and skilled dog trainers in Auckland is greater than ever. Current practices by professional walkers already include leash training, recall training, and improving dogs’ overall manners—all while providing safe group exercise. It will take resources away from other areas and be another rule that will not be effectively enforced (dog control resources are already stretched). This change will primarily impact those who are already following the current bylaw, while those who currently do not comply are unlikely to adhere to the new rules.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1679	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	no issues as dog walkers are always considerate and there when no one else is around
1709	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I support dog walkers who provide a service to dog owners of which I am one. My dog walker is very experienced and has total control of the pack that she walks, However, I also know there are dog walkers around with little experience who are giving the business a bad reputation. What about a licence or exemption for multi dog walking based on experience.
1793	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are a huge number of experienced dog walkers who have dedicated their efforts to improving the lives of dogs through pack walking. If a limit is enforced, this will drastically impact the health of the dog and the dog walkers who have poured all their resources into creating a safe way for families to ensure their dogs are properly exercised and socialised. I believe a better solution would be introducing a permit for dog walkers that can be applied for, audited and revoked, if necessary.
1812	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The restriction on the number of dogs which are able to be walked at any one time will negatively affect professional dog walkers who earn their living walking other people's dogs. The current proposal (no more than six dogs at a time) would make it unviable for professional dog walkers, leading to them closing their businesses and meaning that more dogs would not get a decent walk. I myself use a dog walker once a week for my dog as I am not able to get out every day because of work obligations. I fully support these professionals and I would encourage the council to work with these people to find a way forward. I also wonder whether it would be better to provide licences for professional dog walkers to provide a regulatory framework.
1879	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walker needs to be a professional, trained handler and have a licence to handle multiple dogs. For a non trained, non professional, non registered dog handler the limit needs be 4 dogs with two off-leash.
1901	I don’t know		Support for non-registered trained dog walkers, but registered and responsible professional walkers should be exempted
1999	Support		Some parks can be overrun with loose dogs and not just dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2013	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I feel like this would be a better alternative for professional dog walkers/care workers. They provide a good and healthy service for people who are serious about there dog's welfare. Also possibly a licensing system for professionals too, because the legitimate service providers will be able to continue working.
2049	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	That is to many dogs off leash. You can not control the off leash dogs if you also have other dogs with you
2055	Support		Agree - though even 3 off leash are hard to control
2061	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	While the proposed legislation addresses some important issues, they risks causing harm to professional dog walkers and pack walkers whose livelihoods depend on this work, and of course to those that rely on these services. The proposal restrictions will unfairly target professional dog walkers, who in my opinion are highly skilled in dog training techniques, without addressing the root issues. This approach overlooks alternative options, such as introducing licensing for professional dog walkers to ensure regulation and high standards within the industry, and focusing enforcement on solutions that Auckland Council survey identified, such as roaming dogs and out of control dogs. These changes would address public concerns without destroying an industry that provides a vital and professional service to dog owners in Auckland. As a result, I do not support this proposed legislative review by Auckland Council.
2066	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog enjoys her weekly walk with a group if other dogs, This provides much needed mental simulation on a day when we cannot provide that for her. Reducing the numbers of dogs allowed will not only reduce the stimulation but will also increase the cost and may make it unaffordable to dog owners.
2068	Support		seems like a reasonable maximum number of dogs for one person
2072	Support		It helps keep both public and dogs safe especially now that there's a surge in roaming dogs. The only cons would be the dog walking services will increase in cost.
2074	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would suggest that dog walking companies should have a bigger limit or a special license/registration that is at no cost to them to be able to walk more than what the limit proposes.
2081	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dogs are under control and pooh is being picked up , then I do not see any issue. There are companies who rely on dog walking to make a living, have you made any consideration if 6 dogs would be still viable for this type of business to run. Or are the dogs going to be couped up inside and not get any exercise.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2082	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking particularly pack is a fantastic way to socialize and exercise dogs, it keeps them moving and a better and often safer type of socialization than doggy daycare. Dog walk or pack adventures are pivotal for those with owners who office work, high energy breeds or have to live in the ridiculously small "homes" with little to no yard the council thinks is appropriate way to help the "housing crisis". There is already large wait lists to get into pack walks (over a year for some) the demand for this is there, this rule would diminish the spots available, push the costs past reasonable to do it, and also the walkers likelihood of continuing business deminishes. All of which are just a detriment to the dogs. They end up loosing out. There are some fantastic pack walkers around and they shouldn't be punished for the cowboys. I agree there should be some regulation or appro al process that enables dog walkers to demonstrate they are capable of such a task. Alternatively the council needs to have large fenced areas that can accommodate a pack walk with a variety of features from water. Forrest, pastures and beach where possible in multiple spots around auckland that can be either booked by pack walkers or exclusive to them during business hours
2086	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In my 10 years owning my dog, I have never encountered any issues whilst visiting parks or walking outside and my dog and I have met many other owners and dogs. This proposed change is to target a small amount of irresponsible dog owners, whilst punishing many more responsible dog owners. Plus Animal Control staff are already overwhelmed dealing with dogs who are roaming freely. I think new rules around Animal Controls process dealing with issues is far more important. I recently had a dog that was roaming my area. This dog jumped my high fence and was humping my male senior sick dog, stressimg him out and running through my home, which I have always secured safely on my property. Because they never got him, nothing came of this incident. However when this dog was out again few days later, whilst I was walking to the gym, this dog came at me. When I queried with Animal Control if both incidents would be brought to light if the owner was found and I was told no, only the recent one. Only the second incident was made into a statement. The fact that I had to live in fear in my own home, worrying about mine and my dogs safety is an absolute joke.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2092	Support		I have been at a local beach where pack walkers that seem to have no control or training walking dogs and their dogs are not under control and rush at your dog making it uncomfortable situation for your dog and puts them on edge. They don't have control over them as they run all over the place and you can't watch that many dogs at once
2097	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think the the professional Pack walkers all have qualifications and are trusted by the owners of the dogs, whom all have to be registered , neutered and dog friendly pets. This is a great way for dogs to be trained, socialised and out of dog parks. They are professionals.
2105	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree there should be a limit on the number of dogs under one person's care at any time in public places. I do not agree that some dogs should be held back while others are let off lead. The reasonable number of dogs that one person can walk is 6, and provided all dogs are well-behaved, and aren't classified as dangerous or menacing, then there should be no reason why all 6 cannot be let off at the same time. The people who pay dog walkers are the people who care, and should not have unreasonable restrictions and limitations placed upon them. Deal with the problem people and dogs, and leave the well behaved ones alone.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2126	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I can understand the need to manage the number of dogs a lay person can walk at any one time however I think you should discriminate the lay person from professional dog walkers. From my experience with professional dog walkers, the dogs are typically walked in the forest and only placed in packs after the dog walker has assessed the animal's behaviour and characteristics and matched them to an appropriate group. In these built-up areas, dogs do not get enough exercise and these pack walks are typically a dog's ONLY opportunity to get a good off leash run in. Dog walkers manage their dogs with some on and some off leash at all times dependent on the dogs, the situation and the environment. The walkers that we have used have excellent control over the dogs and there have been no incidents where the dogs or anyone else has been hurt. To limit the number of dogs a walker can walk AND limiting the number of off leash dogs would: 1. make it a lot more expensive to get a dog walking service (possibly cost prohibitive) 2. negatively affect my dogs mental and physical health and socialisation if she can no longer participate in a pack, or if she has less time off leash. 3. in cases when my dog has missed her pack walks she actually becomes more aggressive with people and other dogs walking past the gate and more reactive on leash when out walking.
2137	Support		I have come across dog walkers at areas where I take my dog. It has concerned me that they can keep firm control of all these dogs if they come across a members of the public walking their dog and the dogs don't get on. Also whilst walking my dog when I see so many dogs together it does make me feel uncomfortable, worried again of the control when they are all off leash. I personally feel no more than four dogs. It puts me off taking my dog to dog parks or any park where I know dog walkers use, which is unfair for the general public.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2157	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I am benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company: If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would affect me,
2199	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If you apply the limits you have suggested on groups of dogs, either on or off lead, this will mean an end to professional dog-walkers and all of us who use them for the dogs' benefit (and our own) will suffer. It will no longer be financially viable.
2213	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Responsible dog walkers will be penalised with this rule. We are punishing the capable good dog walkers because of the not so good. It would be a better policy to have dog walkers penalised if they are not in control of the dogs.
2246	I don’t know		i feel there are some very good qualified dog walkers out there that can control more than 6 dogs off leash however some can not control 4 off leash i think more focus needs to be on the walkers than the numbers
2373	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's difficult to find a good dog pack walker: limiting the pack they can walk will increase cost and decrease availability, meaning dogs have to stay home more frequently, and won't benefit from the socialising aspect that a pack walk gives dogs. Any inexperienced dog walkers will have problems even if they're walking two dogs. Experienced dog walkers are the alpha in the pack, and can maintain control however many are in the pack.
2377	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are some highly skilled and trained dog walks out there and feel the proposed change does not Take them into consideration .
2444	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum four dogs off-leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2451	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog attends pack works twice a week where there are 30+ dogs all well behaved and trained because of the responsibility the walkers take - rather than making the number smaller you should look at how the walkers are trained and know how to control dogs - prime example of how packs should walk go and have a look at www.dogsquad.co.nz
2452	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If the dog walkers are registered with PDWA then they can be checked for their credentials and there is no issue with walking up to 10 dogs at a time
2465	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Four dogs is hard enough as it is to walk by yourself even if they are well behaved its more of the safety of the walker/dogs if another dog comes up aggressively
2490	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There's a big difference between owners walking their dogs, general dog walkers walking dogs and pack walking businesses. I want to see pack walking businesses having insurance and a license/permit when conducting their business in public spaces. Separately, for owners walking their dog(s), there should be an easier way to report offending dogs when a situation flairs up and tensions/emotions are high. Irresponsible owners giving wrong details or just leaving the scene, meanwhile the other dog involved requires, sometimes serious, surgery. Limiting the number of dogs on a walk/off lead will only lead to more reactive dogs in the community, while making dog walking businesses unsustainable.
2509	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Passing these rules will not change the current issue
2525	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Licencing professionals to walk larger groups
2566	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have only had extremely positive experiences with the very professional dog / pack walking companies such as The Dog Squad with many dogs on and off leash. Changing their business would effect so many professional workers lives and is unnecessary
2570	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A licensing program where professional dog walkers need to have qualifications and certificates in pet first aid would be a better option

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2583	Support		Local dog walkers in my area are not able to manage more than 3 dogs, suggest the 6 dogs on leash be updated to 6 small or medium dogs or 3 large dogs. Doubt any handler can manage 6 large dogs.
2635	Support		I support this, as there are too many dog handlers who think they can control their dogs, but when put to the test, they cannot. And this often becomes at the expense of others members of the public and their dogs. However, as with any rules, unless it is enforced, those who think they can control their dogs will ignore it.
2641	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think for people who are walking packs of dogs greater than 6 there should be some licensing protocol, I feel all this has come about because of a few irresponsible people and it is now going to penalise a lot of us who are responsible dog owners
2680	Support		Too many dogs off leash can be hazardous. And also owners dog walkers don't clean after their dogs when they have these many in numbers.
2687	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Thr industry needs regulation, but not an outright ban! Licensing off-leash dog walkers with training is a safe and reasonable alternative.
2705	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dogs must be under control at all times whether on or off leash. One poorly controlled dog can cause way more havoc than 10-20 well controlled dogs. Having an arbitrary number of dogs permitted to be walked at one time will lead to less dogs being walked and socialised, likely causing more dog behavioral and roaming issues. The notion of 3 dogs on leash and 3 dogs off leash is ludicrous. Having dogs tethered while other dogs are allowed to run and play will just result in hyper frustrated dogs. Commercial dog walkers should be licensed with appropriate training and regulations. The current proposal will mean many professional dog walkers will no longer operate as it will be financially unsustainable or have to increase the fees so much that many people will no longer be able to afford their services. Please consider the benefits of licensing Commercial Dog Walkers. e.g. https://wellington.govt.nz/certificates-and-licences/trading-in-public-places/dog-walking-license

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2713	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs need to be walked and it will cost too much for a walker. Spend money on petrol rather ensuring rules are followed
2762	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not think that the number of dogs a dog walker walks is the issue. The issue is people who don't have their dog under control, let them roam, do not train them, do not exercise them. It's the dog owners who don't take care of their dog who are the problem not professional dog walkers. Auckland council should address the actual issue and not some made up "problem". I'm a dog owner myself and I am responsible and exercise my dog and train her and make sure she is not annoying to others. I myself am nervous if I meet a roaming dog or if I get attacked by a dog who's owners don't take care of it and at irresponsible. And it's always the same type of people. Council should have a think how to address the root problem by making people proof they are suitable for having a dog. Would also be better for the dogs as they're not chained up in the garden wasting away until they die. Also why is chaining up a dog not illegal in this country. It's ridiculous.
2779	Support		I have come across dog walkers with 10 dogs on and off leash and my one dog on a leash. Dogs have run at my dog and take over the area.
2791	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My dog walks with professional dog walkers whom I trust to do the right thing in public - how about the council require dog walkers to obtain a licence or permit to walk multiple dogs. General public wanting to walk more than two dogs requires a permit but walking one or two dogs only, requires only a responsible dog owner.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2811	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Council has more than enough bylaws in place already to control uncontrolled dogs whether in packs or not. Placing these unnecessary controls on dog-walkers, whether professional or not, can only mean that more dogs will be kept locked up and not given walks. That will lift poor behaviors and mean that council will get more calls to dog incidents, barking etc. The stated objective "ensures the welfare of dogs" will not be served by the introduction of this change. Further, council do not use the existing laws as it is - witness numerous reports of wandering and dangerous dogs which council seem unable or unwilling to do anything about. Further penalising "good" dogs and their owners while the unregistered/dangerous owners (and dogs)go unpunished is not the way forward. Sort out the current mess, with the bylaws that already exist, before considering any more rules.
2874	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting number of dogs I'm this way will only affect professional dog walkers, not the owners of the dogs that are dangerous.
2882	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support the proposed limits for individual dog owners, but it should not apply to dog walking businesses. There should be a regime where those companies can be registered so that they can be assessed and signed off as meeting appropriate requirements to be able to walk more than 6 dogs. Businesses that don't meet the required criteria should be limited to 6 dogs or less at a time. I am a dog owner, but don't use those services as I walk my own dog. I feel that the council finds it easier to harass responsible dog owners who do the right thing for their dogs whilst putting the feral scumbags whose feral unregistered dogs in the too hard basket.
2884	Support		At present commercial dog walkers use a local park very frequently. Some have a large number of dogs, over twelve at times. They don't always pick up the dog droppings, because they can't watch that many dogs. This number of animals is upsetting to some people especially with children. The dogs are also taken on poorly formed tracks and en masse cause a lot of damage when the ground is wet. It has made it difficult for other park users to use these tracks, they're narrow and rutted.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2909	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am a dog owner of 2 dogs. One of these happily goes on pack walks without trouble and the suppliers of pack walks will struggle to survive and put prices up if the restriction goes to 6 dogs. There must obviously be a limit but to registered dog walkers a limit of 10 would be good
2923	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This new proposed rule will negatively affect so many vital dog walking businesses and the owners who rely on these services for their dogs. Limiting the number of dogs that are allowed on/off leash isn't the issue that needs to be addressed - the issue is the lack of licensing and regulations around who is allowed and able to provide these dog walking services. For example, there is a large number of companies who offer dog walking services becasue is no regulations around who can or can't open a dog walking business, but so many of these people do not have the right level of education, knowledge of dog behaviour or general common sense to be able to safely and effectively operate and manage a business where you have to consistently manage dogs behaviour both on and off leash. An alternative solution would be to create a 'licensing' procedure to license professionals who clearly display the abilities, qualifications, physical fitness and mental alertness required to be able to manage a number of dogs both on and off leash so that the businesses who cannot show this, can be weeded out, which would ensure that dogs are managed effectively regardless of whether they are on and off leash, ensuring a lower number of incidents all around. There are a number of businesses who can handle 10-20 dogs on and off leash at one time and train their dogs for all sorts of scenarios to prevent incidents from occurring - by lowering the number of dogs allowed on and off leash, it would have a number of negative impacts on this industry and dogs welfare in general, for example, dog walkers would need to multiple walks a day rather than 1-2 large pack walks, meaning increased hours and
2939	Do not support	Maximum eight	The proposed max 6 dogs is uneconomic for commercial dog-
2940	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The point is dogs must be under control at all times no matter how many, on or off leash. It may be appropriate to have commercial dog walkers registered and require that they undergo relevant training.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2964	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a ridiculous rule that is not backed by evidence that the issue is packs of dogs being walked off lead are causing issue for the council dog officers. We, like many people pay for our dog to be walked by a professional company. They interview the dog (and owner) before you get accepted and they run a very tight operation and have our dogs under control. Council is right to have a discussion about stray dogs. But the over reach to professional dog walkers is unacceptable.
2971	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's not the dogs being walked by dog walkers that are causing problems,
2994	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I either support no change to the current rules or limiting numbers unless under licence. It makes sense that the industry may need some form of regulating BUT it should be a condition that the industry is involved in any regulation out in place. My dog currently walks with The Dog Squads in a pack of roughly a dozen dogs. Not o ly do they provide a great service of wzercising my dog but the training, energy, care and attention they have out in to him has helped his development in to a calm, gentle, loved part of my community has been invaluable. Your current proposal of 6 dogs with 3 off leash will change the dynamics of the service they offer and ultimately may make the service cost out of my reach - resulting in my dog receiving less training then he currently gets
2995	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Having some dogs off leash, whilst other dogs are on leash is a disaster waiting to happen. A dog walker is much more likely to be able to contain 6 dogs off leash than if 3 are off leash and 3 are on leash. I agree that dog walkers who walk more than 4 dogs at a time should require licensing. But essentially you are punishing well behaved dogs and competent dog owners because of idiot dog owners who do not respect others dogs or even there own dog. The behaviour of dogs who are "on leash" whilst the other dogs are off leash is going to end up worse and could make the problem worse. You need to consult professional dog walkers on this issue before you make radical and stupid decisions. They will give you the best feedback.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3007	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dear Auckland Council, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes to Auckland's dog-by-law regulations that would limit professional dog walkers to having only three dogs off-lead at a time. These changes would have a significant negative impact not only on professional dog walkers but also on the physical and mental well-being of the dogs in their care. Key Concerns: 1. Reduced Exercise and Socialisation: Dogs need off-lead time to properly exercise, play, and socialise with other dogs. Restricting this opportunity could lead to increased behavioral issues and decreased overall well-being. Social interaction in a pack environment is essential for dogs to develop and maintain healthy relationships with other dogs. 2. Increased Stress and Frustration for Dogs: Dogs restricted to leads for extended periods may become frustrated or stressed, as they are unable to explore and interact freely. This can lead to anxiety and other stress-induced behaviors. 3. Safety Concerns with Multiple Dogs on Lead: Handling multiple dogs on lead while managing off-lead dogs can create unsafe and chaotic situations for walkers and dogs alike. Such restrictions could inadvertently increase the risk of accidents. 4. Increased Costs for Dog Owners: Limiting the number of off-lead dogs would require professional dog walkers to either reduce the size of their packs or increase
3051	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have never had an issue with dog walkers, they are always considerate with their dogs, follow the rules and they are trying to make a living helping other responsible dog owners. If you are going to limit anything you should have stricter rules on people that can actually own a dog. So many people go out and buy dogs and don't train/look after them properly, they are the ones causing trouble in local areas.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3141	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is essential that dogs are given the opportunity for outside activity and socialisation with other dogs. Many dog owners who work during the day pay for professional dog walkers to take their dogs on 'pack walks' with other dogs. These dogs are vetted by the dog walking professionals. The dogs get to know each other and get to know their walkers. Limiting the number of dogs off lead will negatively impact dogs, dog owners AND the wider public. The cost to have a professional dog walk will increase and fewer dogs will get the exercise and socialisation they need as a result. This will result in greater numbers of agitated and poorly socialised dogs in Auckland's neighbourhoods. Already too many anxious agitated poorly socialised dogs sit trapped within fenced properties. This rule change will be negative for everyone. Rule changes should be made to encourage good dog owners socialising their dogs more often. Professional pack walkers are experienced in handling dogs and monitoring dog behaviour. Dogs bond with their walkers, and dogs bond with their pack. This rule change will not reduce the risk of lone dogs causing harm.
3146	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree there should be a limit on the total number of dogs walked - say 6 or 8 -but I do not understand why the council have chosen a rule whereby half the dogs must be on a leash. These dog walks are intended to be a 'pack' - where the dogs run together and play. My dog would be extremely distressed to be on a leash while half the pack where running and having fun together. Dogs on the leash would feel more confined and it could cause upsets within the pack. Please do not implement this rule as it would greatly impact my dog's life.
3147	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This proposal reveals a total ignorance of dog behaviour and socialisation needs, and flies in the face of evidence. For dogs and humans to flourish together, dogs need to be active and well socialised, with the ability to sniff, off lead. A busy, mentally stimulated dog who is getting adequate exercise is a safe and happy dog. Depriving dog owners of this option will be directly detrimental to the community, and of course to the dogs. Pack walkers provide an incredible service to the community. This proposal makes no evidential sense. Dog walkers are not the issue. Roaming dogs, owned by negligent, irresponsible owners are the actual issue. Any dog who has the services of a professional pack walker is owned by a loving owner, willing to pay for the expert walkers who know and love dogs. Hindering this option will negatively impact Auckland- more dogs will be trapped at home all day, getting anxious and hyper vigilant.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3221	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog has gone on an organised pack walk/adventure for the last 6 years with City Pets Canine Adventures. She is looked after by a well trained person who is very good at controlling multiple dogs under his care (whole day). Because of these adventures our dog is dog socialised, well exercised and well trained with recall etc. If this proposal goes through dogs will not be socialised, or exercised, people will lose jobs, businesses will close! Refutable companies/businesses as above run very well and should not have to change. what is working for them.
3265	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change would penalise dog owners who are trying to be responsible by giving their dogs enough exercise and socalisation, using a professional dog walking service. Being on lead would not exercise the dogs sufficiently and not allow them to learn good socialisation skills through play. It would be more difficult to manage multiple dogs on lead (getting tangled). Ultimately this will reduce the number of dogs that can be walked and increase the cost of this kind of service. If it becomes too expensive, then people will not use the service, resulting in dogs that are under-stimulated, anti-social, and could become nuisances. By far the majority of these walkers have excellent control of the dogs (usually better than the owners as they are professionals). I strongly oppose these changes, and would much prefer a license system be utilised for walking more than 8 /10 dogs. This license could be revoked if any instances of bad behaviour.
3283	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use these services and they are very professional and have better control than most owners who are walking their own dogs (often off lead with no recall). If these limits are put in place, the costs will go up drastically, and we would not be able to use this service. We rely on it to exercise and socialise our dog. Our circumstances changed as we got older and are no longer able to do it ourselves. These changes would penalise responsible dog owners like ourselves, trying to do the best by our dogs. You should instead penalise the specific walkers that cause the problems.
3286	Support		I support this for public places, however for parks that allow off leash, i feel like some flexibility could work,especially for dog walkers who check if dogs are reactive first before they go through the pack walks

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3308	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change would penalise dog owners who are trying to be responsible by giving their dogs enough exercise and socalisation, using a professional dog walking service. Being on lead would not exercise the dogs sufficiently and not allow them to learn good socialisation skills through play. It would be more difficult to manage multiple dogs on lead (getting tangled). Ultimately this will reduce the number of dogs that can be walked and increase the cost of this kind of service. If it becomes too expensive, then people will not use the service, resulting in dogs that are under-stimulated, anti-social, and could become nuisances. By far the majority of these walkers have excellent control of the dogs (usually better than the owners as they are professionals). I strongly oppose these changes, and would much prefer a license system be utilised for walking more than 8 /10 dogs. This license could be revoked if any instances of bad behaviour.
3426	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Needs to have exceptions for qualified dog handlers - these organisation's have undergone professional training and kmow how to handle dogs, as well as putting the dogs through proper vetting before taking them in public. Roaming dogs are the issue where owners who don't take adequate care of their dogs are letting them down.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3451	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change will have negative unintended consequences across numerous areas including: 1. economic impact to professional dog walkers - these are predominately highly trained and accredited small businesses who will likely go out of business due to having to reduce their clients and substantially increase their service costs. This will make their services unaffordable. 2. As a responsible dog owner - solo parent and employed full-time, my dog (a retired service dog) goes on a pack walk twice a week. This service has been a godsend for my wellbeing and for my dog. Without this service, I would be stressed trying to fit adequate exercise in for him around the short walks he receives by my family on other days. This would negatively impact my dog's wellbeing - as he not only receives quality exercise but also ongoing obedience training as well. For the highly experienced and well regarded professional dog walking services they provide more than exercise. They keep the dogs' minds enriched through natural parkour, socialising with other nonaggressive dogs, and provide obedience training. Reinforcing positive dog behaviour and acting as early interventions to mitigate boredom and anxiety within dogs that increase negative outcomes associated with dog related complaints. The proposed change and alternative options presented will not stop roaming dogs and poor dog ownership. Instead it will
3464	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because having less dogs on leash does not help the trained dog walkers and their business, untrained dogs and dog walkers will always be an issue regardless.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3480	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	(1) It will negatively impact the professional dog walkers (2) No evidence has been provided to justify such restrictions (3) Why would the Council deny someone's ability to run their business and make a living? Would they be better accessing the benefit support services? (4) it will negatively impact the services that I receive from them There are alternatives to be considered: (1) Licensing professional to walk larger groups (2) Enforcing the rules that are already in place (dogs must be under control) (3) Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how to access services & support.
3748	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	An experienced well trained owner or handler who has taken the time to build up their relationship with their dogs can easily handle more than 3 trained dogs off leash and the same with the 6 dog on leash limit.
3761	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I you oppose the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. We use a very professional, reliable and responsible dog walking service which enables us to work whilst knowing our dog is being cared for appropriately and safely. This new proposal will negatively affect professional dog walking businesses and the services provided to us as dog owners. I believe better solutions would be as follows: ○ Licensing professionals to walk larger groups ○ Having different limits for the public versus professionals ○ A license for anyone wanting to walk more than 2 dogs ○ Having different limits based on the density of the population in an area ○ Enforcing the rule ‘dogs must be under control’ no matter the number of dogs which is already in place ○ Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them.
3876	Support		Dogs should always be under control and too many together with only one handler can lead to pack mentality amongst otherwise good dogs if anything goes wrong.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3930	Support		Dogs can be destructive and it's a good idea to limit how many can be walked at any one time.
3935	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The issue is not the numbers of dogs/ walker but the competence of the walker in handling the dogs they have. A professional good walker can have control over 8 eight dogs while a family member with one dog can be a menace. It also depends on the place where the walk is taking place. A large pack of dogs on a narrow bush track or small beach is unsafe whereas in a space with ample room is much safer.
3969	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are professional dedicated dog pack walkers who train the dogs they walk and they are always under "control" -either on lead or voice command . The dogs benefit from the free range exercise and interaction with other dogs . Responsible owners who cannot give their dogs adequate exercise and socialisation rely on these pack walkers to provide this . These pack walkers need to be "tested " for competence and compliance annually and have a licence issued . If they dont comply they lose their licence and pay a fine .
3972	Do not support		1. Opposition to the Proposed Limit of "6 Dogs on Lead and 3 Off-Leash"I oppose the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. This change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and the services they provide. Professional dog walkers often manage larger groups of dogs efficiently and safely, and this limit would restrict their ability to operate effectively. Basis for the Six Dogs Per Handler Limit The proposal from the council does not provide a clear basis for the arrival at the decision on the limit of six dogs per handler. Neither does the proposal guarantee public safety or wildlife protection, as it allows anyone, experienced or not, to manage dogs. To understand the proposed changes, there needs to be transparency from the Council around: •How the limit on the number of dogs was determined? •Who was consulted in the decision-making process? •How many incidents have been reported to the council over the past 2 years that led tothis proposed change? •Have any industry bodies consulted as part of the proposed changes? Without this information, it is difficult to assess the effectiveness and fairness of the proposed limit. 2.Impact on Professional Dog Walkers and the Community This proposed limit will have several negative impacts: • Professional Dog Walkers: The restriction will reduce the number of dogs they can walk at one time, affecting their income and business viability. • Services Provided: Clients may face increased costs or reduced availability of professional dog walking services. • Community and Industry: The limit does not account for the

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4006	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I dont believe anyone is able to control 3 dogs off leash. I think it should be 2 maximum. I also dont think there should be more than 4 dogs on leash - it is confronting meeting a large group of dogs being walked especially for older/frail people and for young children.
4031	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose the proposed limit of 6 dogs walked at any one time with a maximum of 3 off-leash. I truly believe that rather than implementing a limit on the number of dogs that a person may walk in a council-controlled public place at one time, a licensing agreement for professionals should be developed with the Professional Dog Walkers Association in order to set standards and enforce best practice. It really surprises me that they weren't asked for their expertise when coming up with the policy and bylaw updates. They are experts in canine behaviour after all and could surely support the council in developing practical solutions to the issues that are currently occurring. Professional dog walkers not only walk dogs, they also train and educate dog owners. The support, guidance and training I have received from our pack walker has made me a much better dog owner. Our dog adores his twice weekly pack walks - he has structured socialisation with other dogs, receives behaviour training and exercise. This is vital in ensuring he is healthy, happy and well-behaved. Numerous dog walkers will be put out of business if these new rules are implemented - this will increase stress on families who may not be able to always meet their dogs' daily needs due to work, family, health, or other commitments. A well exercised dog is less likely to exhibit problem behaviours that could impact neighbours or public spaces. I'm sure you would likely see an increase in reactive dogs and aggressive barking if limitations

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4167	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the maximum number is slightly too low. I'd be happy with the maximum pack group size to be 8-10. I absolutely do not support having some off lead and some on. This is dangerous. I've witnessed first hand someone struggle with an on lead dog while trying to get their off lead dog out of a fight. Would have been easier to manage if both were off lead. If the council are providing off lead spaces for dogs they shouldn't dictate how many dogs in a single pack can be off lead. You can't know when you turn up if you'll be the only person there or with 10 other random off lead dogs. Unfair to say that someone turning up with a pack can't have the same rights as all the individuals. And would be awful for the on lead dogs to manage watching all the off lead dogs. This is just going to cause more problems.
4177	Support		I am supportive as I feel it is difficult for one person to control more than 3 off leash dogs and be able to pick up after them etc.
4255	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The majority of dog walkers at Kauri pt domain have their dogs under control and there are no problems. There is a small group of dog walkers who do not have proper control and are causing problems. These problems would not be solved by these new laws because these walkers need better training I feel the new laws would greatly harm some very good dog walking businessess and do nothing to control the problem group. A dog walking liscence requiring specific pack walking training would be more benificial.
4315	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It should be maximum one dog per person on leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4430	Do not support		This is not addressing the problem . There are responsible dog walkers who have control (voice commands) of their dogs off lead regardless of the number of. '. There are professional dedicated dog pack walkers who train the dogs they walk and they are always under “control” -either on lead or voice command . The dogs benefit from the free range exercise and interaction with other dogs . Responsible owners who cannot give their dogs adequate exercise and socialisation rely on these pack walkers to provide this . These pack walkers need to be “tested “ for competence and compliance annually and have a licence issued . If they dont comply they lose their licence and pay a fine . 'I oppose the proposed limit on professional dog walkers. These regulations address only 0.7% of dog-related complaints received by Auckland Council—complaints that include everyday pet owners, not just professional dog walkers. More significantly, they fail to tackle the real issues, which, according to the Council’s own data, are excessive barking and roaming dogs. A free desexing program or even mandatory desexing for non-registered breeders would be a far more effective way to address these problems at their root. Professional dog walkers play a crucial role in preventing these very issues by providing dogs with mental, physical, and social stimulation. Limiting access to these services will only increase
4523	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No maximum set but maybe a register of dog walkers and a visible ID for people to call in if they are not handling dogs correctly. There are some amazing dog walkers and some that think they are. Having a register of dog walkers will very quickly weed this out, with a small fee and a submission of their rules to council it would cover the small associated beacrucy increase in association with the same area of dog registration
4592	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	while a licence sounds like a good idea, there is no current authority to prove suitability of an individual, and so it would just be a revenue gathering tick in the box. I do not support stifling the businesses of those who work tirelessly in the canine industry, which is what this bylaw is attempting to achieve- destruction of small businesses.
4616	Support		The proposal should be stricter to a maximum of 3 dogs per person

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4659	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	By limiting pack walking, the council isn't protecting public safety—it's creating a future where more dogs are poorly trained, reactive, and likely to escape or become a nuisance. If the goal is responsible dog ownership, why target those who are actually contributing to it? The importance of pack walking goes beyond just the dogs—it's a vital service that greatly impacts both the community and the business of professional dog walkers. For many busy dog owners, pack walking is more than a convenience; it's an essential part of their dog's daily routine. Dogs require socialization, exercise, and training to live happy, healthy lives. For owners who lack the time, knowledge, or physical capacity to provide this, pack walkers are a lifeline. Removing or restricting this service would not only affect dogs' well-being but also leave owners without a reliable option for addressing their pets' needs. The ripple effect could be significant: less well-socialized dogs could result in increased behaviour issues, leading to more complaints, higher rates of abandonment, or increased demand for other, less effective services.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4724	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. The reasons for this are: •Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walker. This proposal penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules •Because Auckland has a roaming dog, problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers •It will not address any issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs walkers •It will stop professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care for their dogs •By limiting the number of dogs that can be walked by professional dog walkers, this will increase the cost of these services substantially, making it unaffordable for many dog owners who rely on this service, or this service will become financially unviable for businesses and will no longer be something that owners will be able to access. If this service becomes unavailable this will negatively affect owners that need their dogs to be taken out while they are at work, and not all other services such as daycares are suitable for every dog, this will lead to an increase in barking dog reports. Alternative suggestions: •Licencing professionals to walk larger groups •Having different limits for the public versus professionals •Enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control' no matter the
4751	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be a maximum of two dogs on or off leash.
4782	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	professional dog walkers will be negatively affected

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4787	I don't know		The proposed policy reducing the number of dogs walked at once down to 6 we have little comment on. For environmental protection the need is mostly around the restriction of off leash dogs in certain key ecological sites that is the key issue – which is partly addressed by the access rule changes, and also our requested improvements around stream habitat protection. Technically reducing the numbers will consequently to a degree also reduce the negative environmental impact. We are also in favour of the implementation of some sort of professional dog walker registry or licensing, as this would reduce the impacts of uncontrolled dogs from certain pack walkers. We would like to see this involve a measure of environmental knowledge or competency to reduce environmental damage.
4806	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be certification for dog walkers to make sure that they what they are doing, that they can indeed control a pack of dogs and know which dogs can be on or off leash. Max 8 dogs with a dogs, no leash restriction.
4993	Support		As a certified dog trainer and lifetime dog owner I believe it is in the best interests of safety for the dogs, other dogs and users of parks to restrict numbers to a more manageable number
5138	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	For pack walkers who are regularly at Muriwai and also at Riverhead , four off leash plus four on leash would seem a reasonable compromise. Even if licensed
5160	Support		Dog owners always think their dogs are better behaved than they are.
5213	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think We should focus on regulations for professional dog walkers. We should allow qualified and certified dog walkers to operate.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5230	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed changes come from an extremely naive point of view, and is trying to make changes in Auckland without any prior consultation with relevant stakeholders. There is also no 'data' affirming that these changes would even result in positive outcomes - it's just one councillors misinformed opinion on the matter. The regulation update also does not have dogs best interest at heart. My current situation is that I have a German Shepherd dog who goes on pack walks twice a week when I'm in the office. She is in a controlled environment with a dog walker who has multiple qualifications (Certificate in Canine Behaviour and Training through NDTF, and a Bachelor of Applied Science Majoring in Animal Management and Welfare.) We have used doggy daycares in the past, however pack walks are the only effective way to ensure that our dog gets exercise, socialisation, and proper training in a controlled environment. Without having this outlet, my dog would become more dangerous out in public as she would not have the skills to behave properly around other dogs. Limiting the number of dogs would make pack walks unaffordable, and it would no longer be profitable for dog walkers - completely getting rid of an entire occupation in Auckland, and leaving many people unemployed. Given Auckland council/ spca won't even adopt dogs out if they're

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5233	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The problems surrounding dogs and 'pack' dog walking has no correlation to the number of dogs being walked. This suggestion is implying the causation of negative dog behaviour is poitively correlated to the number of dogs being pack walked together. In fact, many animal behaviour studies suggest the exact opposite (inadequate socialisation) is a root cause of agression, which leaves me highly concerned by the suggested approach by council. The most recent study by the Vetinary Ireland Journal on Canine Agression is here (https://openurl.ebsco.com/EPDB%3Agcd%3A7%3A5620551/detailv2?sid=ebsco%3Aplink%3Ascholar&id=ebsco%3Agcd%3A176643759&crl=c&link_origin=scholar.google.com) - and strongly supports the conclusion that pack walking of canines has a correlation to positive social behaviour Every day our community pages are filled with the many issues surrounding individual pets and their interactions with the public ranging from agressive to nuisance behaviour, from dogs on the road, to cats attacking native birds. A far more reasonable step to implement would be better guidance and support to ensure all pet owners are competent in the skills required to care for and train these highly intellectual animals. The dog walking community are (generally) some of the most highly trained animal behaviourists and are being unfairly targeted, when a far greater issue of animal welfare exists across the wider region. I would strongly disagree to any further limitations on the number
5241	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walker I use walks multiple dogs at any one time. She is a responsible dog walker. She has built up a very successful business based in her skill and sheer hard work. I have so admitted her skill and determination and any limitations will sabotage a successful business. This is inherently wrong.
5276	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there should be a limit of 10 dogs walked at a time and no limit to the amount off leash of those 10 dogs. However I would suggest a regulation on who can walk large numbers of dogs. There should be a license for professional dog walkers, they should be tested just the same as someone has to sit a test for their drivers license, so they have to prove their competence when handling large numbers of dogs. No one should be allowed to operate as a professional dog walkers, handling large numbers of dogs unless they have proven competence and can safely handle that many dogs and maintain control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5313	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most companies that have a large volume of animals do so in a controlled enviroment. These pets are well trained. It hinders many local businesses who are walking pets for people and also hinders pet enjoyment from these services.
5316	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No change to the number but set some rules as to who can take that amount of dogs and register the walkers - they should have a license.
5317	Support		Concern over inexperienced dog walkers control over multiple animals.
5326	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Most dog walkers/trainers have full control over their dogs. Once tragic incedent does not mean the whole system has to change!
5328	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walking industry needs regulation and standards - anyone can start a dog walking business but that doesn't make them professional. Right now, the highly trained and skilled handlers are being lumped in with the untrained... the focus should be on being up to a given standard and making it licensed to show you've achieved the necessary skill set rather than putting a random limit on the number of dogs being walked.
5334	Support		It's hard to control a large number of dogs which then risks harm
5338	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Very few people can manage that many dogs. It's just not practical. I'd say 4 dogs with a licence. (Nothing to do with off leash, that's too hard to police anyway and an unfair restriction e.g. if you have pups that are small they want to play together. But 4 should be a hard limit.
5357	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	People can have 2-3 dogs but still have zero control eg: members of public with own dogs not just prod dog walkers. If I have 6 dogs 3 on lead 3 off this can cause bigger issues eg: when playing fetch & all dogs can not engage in the play therefor getting frustrated which could cause worse problems. As long as all 6 dog have great recall manners etc they should all be allowed off lead. Often it's members of the public's 1 dog that rushs my pack that causes issues. What about those people who have zero control over their personal dog? This is not fixing a much bigger problem, of dogs being under control off lead at all times.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5362	Support		As long as this is per person I.E. a couple could walk 6 dog. This should not be 3 dog in an area There needs to be an exception for dog walkers
5363	Support		I think one person is not enough to have proper oversight and control of more than 3-4 dogs at a time and support lower maxima.
5393	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For those responsible, well trained dog walkers this would be a massive change to the way they walk our dogs. My dog goes on a pack walk weekly with an experienced dog walker & the benefits are awesome, he is well socialized with her and totally trust her to manage more dogs than what you are proposing under new rules. Would rather see 'rules' around dog walkers ongoing training
5402	Support		6 dogs is a manageable number for professional walkers to keep control of. It also makes it a lot easier for them to keep track of their charges toileting in public parks. Too many of them are either not noticing, don't care or are too busy controlling the pack to pick up after the dogs in their care.
5450	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe there should be more focus on ensuring that dog walkers are registered and required to have a certain skill level to walk dogs. Not all dog walkers are irresponsible and this will have a huge impact on their businesses. We use a dog walker and she takes great care to ensure that the dogs are safe and under control at all times
5451	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers have control of their packs and have expertise in training dogs with recall. This proposed change will see dog walkers become redundant and working professionals will no longer be able to have their dogs walked while working full time
5457	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 10 dogs but dog walkers must obtain a liscence in which they are finally trained and recognised as pack dog walkers. There is no harm in having multiple dogs walked at once, but having some official training and liscencing is a better way to police this
5462	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers seem to have full control of their dogs. There are much more important things we should be trying to change, this is ridiculous

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5484	Support		far too many so called dog walkers without the slightest clue of how to cope in a dog fight situation. Reduced numbers or a legislation around certification would help
5509	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think experienced dog handlers should have a different set of rules to dog owners/amateur walkers. Experienced dog handlers can recall and or have dogs on a leash where people who don't know dogs should be limited. Perhaps introducing a license to note the difference and those who do r get it are fined.
5519	Support		It means the dog walker will have more control ove the figs they are walking
5559	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use a pack walker to exercise our dog on a weekly basis. She is a qualified dog trainer and has qualifications in animal management and does a structured pack walk, with all dogs off leash and under control at all times. This provides valuable socialisation skills for the dogs in her pack and is an important part of my dog maintaining social etiquette and skills. I believe dog walkers should be able to maintain a no limit on the number of dogs they walk PROVIDED they are registered dog walkers with the relevant qualifications in animal management and behaviour.
5585	Support		Keeping the number manageable is good for both the public and the dogs on the walk.
5607	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	One of my dogs was lucky enough to have twice-weekly pack walks with an experienced dog handler. At times I joined the group and was impressed by his control of the group, perhaps 6 in total and all off-lead. The dogs, too, responded to this group dynamic and were relaxed and happy.
5616	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think it would be difficult for a person to have adequate control of free-roaming dogs while having their other dogs on a leash. Also, don't think that the leashed dogs would be terribly happy with the situation. I don't consider the number of dogs is actually a problem. It is the lack of control exercised by the dog owner/walker that is. Some owners walking a single dog have little or no control. I think that anyone walking more than a certain number of dogs [maybe 2 or 3?], for example a professional dog-walker, should have to obtain a licence granted after appropriate training and that this is renewed annually. If these people are readily identifiable then members of the public have the means of reporting out-of-control behaviour.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5651	Support		Increasing number of unexperienced or unqualified people walking large packs of dogs at a time who do not have them under control. Dogs in packs tend to act aggressively towards dogs outside of their pack, which when off leash can be harmful to other dogs.
5684	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If dogs are under control then what's the issue?
5687	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog goes on pack walks once a week, her walker is a trained professional with her own business. Her having to reduce the number of dogs in her pack walks would negatively effect her income which would mean either her rates go up to compensate or she ceases it all together which would be very dissapointing for all involved.
5690	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walkers provide a service to responsive dog owners who do not want to leave their dogs tied up or kept in kennels several hours a day (which is cruel) while they work etc
5700	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Work with pwda to come up with a reasonable limit and certifications for those taking dogs on group walks
5708	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use a pack walker to exercise our dog on a weekly basis. She is a qualified dog trainer and has qualifications in animal management and does a structured pack walk, with all dogs off leash and under control at all times. This provides valuable socialisation skills for the dogs in her pack and is an important part of my dog maintaining social etiquette and skills. I believe dog walkers should be able to maintain a no limit on the number of dogs they walk PROVIDED they are registered dog walkers with the relevant qualifications in animal management and behaviour.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5841	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This does not help solve the problem of dogs under control. Instead dog walkers should be licensed as the Auckland dog walkers association want to put in place. We use two highly qualified and able dog pack walkers who walk 5+ dogs and where appropriate have them off lead and in control. They have more control of our dog than we do. Setting this blanket rule would impact their business and service when they are able to manage their dogs. I don't care if dog owners have limits set but professional dog walkers should not be impacted. This also does not solve the issue of dogs not being under control as for most individuals even three dogs off lead is a lot to manage.. If this blanket rule is put in place it will potentially make dog walking costs rice by a large amount and make them unaffordable and then only rookie dog walkers will be in place with three out of control dogs off leash. You will then have dogs no longer having pack walks and then have more behavioural issues as they are not getting their needs met. We are a family with a toddler and the pack walks are so invaluable to us and juggling toddler and dog owner life. With a toddler we don't have lots of spare money so fees going up for dog walking will make it difficult for us and many others who use our brilliant dog walkers.
5851	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dog walkers should be licensed. No one should just be able to walk dogs, especially multiple dogs and call themselves a dog walker if they are not licensed. To be licensed, they need to be trained properly and be able to handle and walk multiple dogs at a time. There are instances where adverse events have happened where non-licensed dog walkers walk multiple dogs. Such a blanket rule will affect those that are professional dog walkers that take their profession very seriously. So instead of proposing a limit to how many dog walkers can walk, please consider proposing a mandate to all dog walkers to have a license. That way, they are trained on how to dog walk, and if things go out of hand, it would be that specific dog walker that faces the penalties and not those that are innocent.
5897	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A Maximum number for off-leash dogs only
6032	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs being walked by dog walkers are not the problem

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6179	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think there should be a limit on numbers. I think a licensing system is a good idea if your wanting to walk more than 6 dogs. To have this license you need to have had training and complete a test each year to gain your license for following year. If someone has 7-8-10 dogs and have control of them they should be able to walk them in a public space if they pick up after their dog and there dog/s do not cause nuisance. It is far too easy to adopt/purchase a dog without knowing how dogs function.
6255	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Kia ora - as a responsible dog owner we make sure our dog is provided for when we must be out of the house for work etc by utilizing a professional dog walker. This means the dog is happy & exercised & our nieghbours are not having to put up with bored at home dogs that may, left to their own devices, become barkers or develop other bad habits. It's important that the dog walkers are able to walk enough dogs, without endangering the dogs & public, to make a living. Our dog walker makes any new dogs pass a test prior to being included in pack walks. They take this job seriously. They are responsible for my dog. I would not send her out with them if they were Cowboys. I have no problem if professional dog walkers had to be licensed & I believe any existing professional would also be ok with this. Don't make things harder for responsible dog owners that are trying to do the right thing for all our neighbours & or dogs. Thank you.
6272	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I as a dog owner I use a professional dog walking company. I have never had any issues or reports about this company having had issues with walking multiple amounts of dogs. All of the staff are screened and trained by the business owner to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the staff, dogs and people around them. Having the companies or staff licensed or trained would be better than limiting the numbers they can walk. These companies would be forced to limit their incomes by reducing their numbers or forced to close or raise their prices to employ more staff. This in turn could force some of their customers who couldn't afford their services to leave their dogs at home. This in turn would lead to more complaints from neighbours about noisey dogs during the day. Most people use these walking services for lots of different reasons but also for the health and wellbeing of their dogs as responsible dog owners.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6287	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There does not appear to be any evidence-based justification or reasoning for the proposed rule change. It is not clear how the proposed change will meaningfully address Aucklander's concerns about dogs, or improve the wellbeing outcomes for our cities' dogs, their families, or other members of the public. My own experience meeting pack walkers and large groups of dogs has consistently been positive. They have always taken care to keep their dogs under control and out of anyone's way. Unlike the 6+ individual off- and on-leash dogs I saw at Point Chevalier beach today, during hours where dogs shouldn't be on the beach at all. The proposed change will certainly have far-reaching negative impacts for many dogs, dog-owning families, and members of the public. The proposed change will do nothing to deter people who already flout the rules. Instead it will have a greatly unfair and disproportionate impact for professional dog walkers and dog owners who depend on their services and support. Professional dog walkers (such as Cassie and Hayden of Travelling Trainers and The Dog Squad) provide invaluable socialisation and exercise opportunities to hundreds, if not thousands of dogs whose owners would otherwise struggle to meet their dogs' needs. The proposed change would not only make their careers no longer feasible and destroy livelihoods overnight, but Aucklanders would all suffer from the loss of pack walking services. The proposed change will most likely result in [illegible]
6290	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This proposed new rule unfairly disadvantages responsible trained professional dog-walkers. I've seen a lot of them providing great services for our city-dwelling dogs & their owners. To assume that 1 professional walker can't handle more than 6 dogs is going to make the service prohibitively expensive. Please change the proposal to allow well regulated walking services to still operate, & focus your attention on the genuinely uncontrolled dogs that are not responsibly taken care of!
6327	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are existing walkers and companies that regularly walk groups of dogs off leash under control without issues. In general there have been very few issues were the dogs are properly managed and the people walking the dogs are knowledgeable/well trained. It would be better to have some sort of licensing system in place so that existing business can continue to operate as they are but people who do not meet the required standards can have their license revoked

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6400	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I support a limit on the number of dogs being walked at a time, but feel a total of six is too low.
6443	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	1. One-Size-Fits-All Limits Ignore Handler Skill Highly skilled professionals can safely manage more than six dogs. A blanket restriction fails to recognize individual expertise and penalizes those who have spent years developing their craft. 2. Forcing Leashes in a Pack Disrupts Control Requiring three dogs to be leashed while three remain off creates an unpredictable dynamic, increasing the risk of tension, entanglement, and loss of control—especially if an off-leash public dog approaches. 3. Pack Walks Provide Stability and Socialization Dogs thrive in structured pack walks led by experienced handlers. Arbitrary limits could reduce availability, leaving dogs without essential exercise, training, and social interaction. 4. Evidence Doesn't Support the Restriction Only 0.7% of complaints to animal control last year were about professional pack walkers, while over 52% were about roaming dogs. The real issue isn't trained handlers—it's irresponsible ownership. 5. Regulation Should Focus on Quality, Not Arbitrary Numbers Instead of blanket restrictions, the council should implement a licensing system based on individual assessment, ensuring only qualified handlers manage larger packs. This approach enhances safety without punishing skilled professionals.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6453	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	1. One-Size-Fits-All Limits Ignore Handler Skill Highly skilled professionals can safely manage more than six dogs. A blanket restriction fails to recognize individual expertise and penalizes those who have spent years developing their craft. 2. Forcing Leashes in a Pack Disrupts Control Requiring three dogs to be leashed while three remain off creates an unpredictable dynamic, increasing the risk of tension, entanglement, and loss of control—especially if an off-leash public dog approaches. 3. Pack Walks Provide Stability and Socialization Dogs thrive in structured pack walks led by experienced handlers. Arbitrary limits could reduce availability, leaving dogs without essential exercise, training, and social interaction. 4. Evidence Doesn't Support the Restriction Only 0.7% of complaints to animal control last year were about professional pack walkers, while over 52% were about roaming dogs. The real issue isn't trained handlers—it's irresponsible ownership. 5. Regulation Should Focus on Quality, Not Arbitrary Numbers Instead of blanket restrictions, the council should implement a licensing system based on individual assessment, ensuring only qualified handlers manage larger packs. This approach enhances safety without punishing skilled professionals.
6467	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The people walking as many as four or more dogs are primarily professional dog walkers. Barring on unfortunate incident that made the news, limiting the number of dogs one walker may have on or off leash is unfairly targeting individuals who 1.) are less likely to cause dog related incidents and 2.) contributing positively by teaching dogs of all breeds how to socialise in a sensible and positive way.
6468	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	many people can't control more than even one dog. How can one person can see more than 2 dogs??????
6560	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have been paying for dog walking for our dog for 3 years with a dog walker. Have never once felt they don't have control and it's good socialization for our dog.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6584	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I suggest a maximum of eight dogs with no on leash/off leash restrictions. Having a set number of dogs on a leash and the rest off leash will not help with control. In fact having ALL dogs off leash is better. New dogs in a group will follow those under voice control and will learn recall by example. Having two dogs, for example, on a leash while the other dogs free range will mean the leashed dogs strain and pull to join the other dogs. That's more distracting to a dog walker. Having all dogs doing the same thing is safer and better.
6585	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It just doesn't make much sense to me why the limit of 6. In the data provided, multi-dog issues were a small number of a much bigger problems. Data wasn't granular enough to specify if professional dog walkers were a problem, or the size of packs that were a problem (if at all). Feels like a rushed change, would prefer more due dilligence was done to understand the issue and the alternative solutions (like licensing).
6709	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are so many responsible owners and dog walkers out there that will pay the price for a few people's negligence. One dog with one owner can do just as much damage. My dog has been attacked, chased and bailed up multiple times by a one-owner-with-one-dog. The current law is that all dogs must be under control at all times. If this was enforced, then we wouldn't need to be creating more laws. These new laws aren't going to fix the problem of negligent dog owners that already aren't following the laws regarding having their dog under control, following leash laws and all the rest. I know many people with reactive dogs that can hardly leave the house because of all the people who have their dogs off lead in areas strictly on lead.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6793	Support		I support: - Limiting the number of dogs per handler for public safety, perception, and accessibility. Many people avoid or backtrack to stay away from large groups of dogs and walkers. Preferred approach: - maximum of four dogs per handler - All four dogs allowed off-leash in designated off-leash areas. Mixing on and off leash dogs within a group increases frustration and the risk of negative interactions, especially as many owners allow their off-leash dogs to approach leashed dogs Licensing system (Option 2D) – Supported with conditions: - available for handlers wanting to walk more than four dogs - includes appropriate theory, practical, and character assessments that follow modern practices (positive engagement and reinforcing desirable behaviour) - aligns with the Code of Welfare (no use of shock/e-collars is appropriate for dogs walked in a public group) - Numbers should still be restricted (6–8 dogs) and subject to location and time restrictions for the same reasons mentioned above, and to prevent degradation of bush tracks due to overuse. Additional comments on licensing: - Do not support breed restrictions (BSL). - Restrictions on specific dogs, should be based on behaviour and management. Aggressive or reactive dogs are not suitable for large groups and should not be permitted (a clear and fair definition of these terms would be required).

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6796	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree with the fact that there are many “cowboy” and random pack dog walkers in communities who are untrained and not professionals. The amount of people I see online and on local online community pages advertising their dog walking/adventure services to local dog owners is many, who claim to have ‘experience” with dogs by just being a dog owner. I don’t trust these. However, for our two dogs, we pay (a lot) for them to attend highly professional, professionally/qualified trained and industry respected dog adventures run by established companies whose staff are qualified dog trainers or handlers. They take them out with with other dogs as part of a pack with multiple handlers where they thoroughly enjoy spending time with other dogs and adventuring off lead for a few hours in forests/bushes, private land, dog parks, beaches etc in a highly controlled manner and undertake training with the dogs too while in their care. This is INCREDIBLY invaluable for our dogs and for ourselves as a means of doggie daycare, mental stimulation and physical activity for the dogs but most importantly the constant and consistent training they do with the pups each adventure/outing. I can’t speak more highly of this type of service for dog owners and pets alike and it would be devastating to see these professional and dedicated companies be affected for no reason. Limit/restrict the cowboy companies or better still develop and introduce a registry/license for professional and qualified dog walking companies whi meet certain set standards who are able to continue to practice to very high standards through the service they provide. This would make more sense rather than a blanket rule for all dog group dog walkers, ruining an extremely good and useful thing.
6807	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community.
MANGERE-OTATHUHU LOCAL BOARD			
178	Support		It enables the walker to have control of the dogs i their care

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
233	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes on a weekly pack walk with a provider who has control over multiple dogs at all times. She trains the dogs well and it's really important for their socialisation. I don't believe dogs walked in this environment are the issue.
590	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Walking multiple dogs seems to be done by commercial businesses. I don't think our public areas should be used by profit driven operators. I don't know anyone who owns 6 dogs so I don't see why I should have to manage or restrict my dog around someone's business, I don't think it should be allowed to walk more than 3 dogs at a time.
766	Support		I think this number reflects a safe number for people to manage.
789	Support		Walker will be able to better control dogs.
825	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Having a maximum amount of Dogs per Walker is not going to make any difference to those cowboy dog walkers out there that have no idea about dog behaviour or training. We need regulation in the industry with some form of license to prove you are responsible and can have control over your dogs and any situation. Dog walkers need to have some kind of minimum training to be able to offer the service
829	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Having a maximum amount of Dogs per Walker is not going to make any difference to those cowboy dog walkers out there that have no idea about dog behaviour or training. We need regulation in the industry with some form of license to prove you are responsible and can have control over your dogs and any situation. Dog walkers need to have some kind of minimum training to be able to offer the service
1071	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe trained dog walkers are capable of having 15 dogs maximum with all dogs off leash if they've trained them. I have first hand seen my unruly dog get trained by a professional walker. What I propose is that the walkers have to get a license so not everyone can do it. But restricting how many when trained is excessive
1080	Support		The numbers are a bit simplistic. Dogs vary considerably, with some more well behaved than others.
1081	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of six dogs, with no more than three off-leash unless licence obtained. This provides space for professional dog walkers to continue operating as long as they meet standards of care.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1095	Support		I have witnessed people who run dig walking businesses with large numbers of dogs struggling to control them. Also witnessed a group of unleashed dogs at a dog park with a dog walker rush at a person walking one dog on a leash. It was chaos.
1260	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers who are diligent and have the dogs under control are a great service to the community.
1284	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People walking dogs are not a problem. It is the irresponsible owners who let dogs roam off their property, and dangerous breeds that are an issue.
1299	Support		Lots of dogs are a nuisance. Many dog owners can't control that many.
1301	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog handlers are specialized to handle the number of dogs they take out for walks.
1365	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We support dog walkers that entertain our dogs while we work, also we have a dog walking group with more than 6 dogs usually we are responsible dog owners and we all know each other
1479	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I'm all for protecting dogs, owners and the public, but there should be licensing or something similar for qualified dog handlers. Not a blanket ban on a number of dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1762	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposal to set a limit on the number of dogs that a person may walk in a council-controlled public place at one time. The proposed limits of 6 leashed, 6 mixed, and 3 off leash dogs are unreasonable for several reasons: Unreasonable Restrictions on Trained Dog Walkers: This proposal unfairly restricts professional dog walkers who are trained to handle multiple dogs safely and effectively. Overlooks Benefits of Off-Leash Pack Walking: The proposal does not consider the benefits of off-leash pack walking, which can be highly beneficial for the dogs' socialization and exercise. Too Broad in Scope: The proposed limits apply to all council-controlled public places, including rural and remote areas where such restrictions may be unnecessary and impractical. Lack of Evidence-Based Justification: There is no clear evidence provided to support the need for these specific limits, making the proposal seem arbitrary and not grounded in research. For these reasons, I believe the proposal should not go ahead as the current law already promotes safety as dogs must be under control at all times. Policy should focus on enforcing that rather than prohibiting thoes that abide
1854	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	PROFESSION dog walkers who have the expertise and are equipped to run a walking business for packs should have regulated licences to do so.
1902	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dog walker is a professional and well organised entity there is no issue with the number of dogs. It is the strays and the out of control dogs that need controlling - why affect the people who love their dogs enough to pay to have them walked
1992	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I believe that pack walks can be very enriching to a dogs life and 6 is too few total dogs for specialised dog walkers. 8 with max of 4 off leash would be more reasonable, but even up to 12 total (while still keeping max of 4 off leash at any one time) would be ideal in my opinion. Otherwise you can also be impacting the livelihood of dog walkers if you cut down their total numbers that they can walk.
2059	Support		Support for private persons. You might want to think about a different approach for professional dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2104	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why does there need to be an arbitrary maximum number of dogs that someone can have under control? This adversely affects small dog walking businesses run by Aucklanders. Please spend our money on addressing the rampant issue of roaming dangerous dogs rather than hamstringing local businesses.
2150	Support		If you are walking 6 dogs how do you control them if something frightens them or another dog approaches!
2221	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The number of dogs on or off leash or in a pack won't directly result in improved quality of care of dogs receive, expertise in dog handling, safety and security assurances for dog owners, or improved safety to the public. Stricter rules for compliance shouldn't be placed on those whose reputation and livelihoods rely upon their ability to maintain professional standards and high quality care. They're already motivated. Stricter rules for compliance should be on dog owners who have proven repeatedly that they are not providing adequate care for their dogs or keeping them secure on their properties. I agree with and have signed the petition by the Auckland Professional Dog Walkers association to adopt a regulatory approach through a licensing regime that recognises the expertise of professional dog walkers. I work for a conduct regulator. Licensing establishes standards and expectations and allows for their monitoring and enforcement. Through a licensing regime that allows for dogs to be run off leash in packs but with professional supervision, the council would also be contributing to the ensured wellbeing of dogs - something that simply ownership doesn't do. A hard stick approach of numbers won't achieve what the Council aims to achieve.
2348	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am a dog owner and visit off lead park daily. I have nothing but respect for the professional dog walkers I encounter. Dogs always under control. Don't believe their livelihood should be threatened.
2721	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Introduce licensing so reputable dog walkers can walk larger groups of dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2751	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The problem is not the number of dogs, the problem is incompetence or irresponsible management of dogs. Strict rules on this many off leash and this many on leash is bizarre and has no application to pack mentality or how canine interact or a successful dog walker operates, all you aim to punish with this regulation are the responsible, the irresponsible won't change. The troublesome and prone to aggressive dogs stay on leash no matter how many you have in your care.
3048	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dogs should be able to run free (controllably of course) as it's part of their everyday health + exercise. It allows them to socialise freely amongst other dogs also. Keeping them on leash just adds stress and frustration to them.
3064	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our Nalah needs lots and lots of exercise, and her weekly outings with her pack provide the physical & social interactions that help with her wellbeing. Changing the rules will only add to her stress when we take her out - that's if we manage to take her out during the week (due to work comittments). And I can only imagine the cost of paying someone to walk her will increase like everything else at the moment. Boo!!!
3110	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This would be hugely detrimental to the number of licensed dog walkers who do a great job walking a pack of dogs off leash. They are well under control and trains them to be better at socialising and getting on with other dogs. Roaming dogs are more of a problem. The dogs out with reputable dog walking companies are excellent at controlling the dogs. For dog owners these companies provide amazing opportunities for dogs and stops them being nuisance dogs in the neighbourhoodl
3126	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Dog walkers who want their dogs off-leash should have to obtain a licence to prove they are responsible and know how to control their dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3157	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The proposed rule is a blanket rule applied to everyone and history has always told us that one size NEVER fits all. The purpose of this change in your own statement of proposal even says that it's targeted at simply owners - there hasn't been any consultation or consideration of profession and qualified dog walkers I understand there are people who cannot control multiple dogs off leash and that's where we run into issues, however there are legitimate professional services who run off leash socialisation and training walks to improve dog behaviour overall. Without being able to run as they do, the dogs who need the service will miss out and behave worse in public. My dog is an absolute example; we got her from the Council animal shelter years ago, and she has always been difficult to manage in public. After seeking the professional help of these professional dog walkers, she is a dream to manage in public with me. Surely that's the kind of behaviour the council wants to support. There are absolutely some walkers who shouldn't be allowed to walk multiple dogs off lead - I can even pass on their "business" name if you really wanted! But their bad management shouldn't directly affect the business and livelihood of qualified walkers.
3427	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It’s ridiculous & will stress our poor dogs.
3484	Support		To many dogs become hard to handle especially when excited or encountering another dog.
3494	Support		I believe that dog walkers especially should not have over 5 dogs, especially on public and council controlled lands. They are waking the dogs for profit, and very rarely pick up after their dogs
3561	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Professional and qualified dog walkers are integral to the lives of some families to provide socialisation and care for their dogs. Responsible and caring dog owners will be punished further if dog walking is financially not profitable and therefore disestablished. Instead of making this rules there should just be harsher punishments for unqualified dog walkers
3676	Support		There have been a number of times I have been to a local park and there are 3 people there with about 30 dogs. No way that they can keep them all under control and very intimidating for my dog as well.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3967	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because it's not a problem already. How about sorting all the roaming dogs and irresponsible dog owners first?
4270	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because of other bylaws which limit individual ownership to 2 dogs, I'm assuming the ones walking multiple dogs are professional walkers ... who are providing a community service and helping wellbeing of dogs. As professional dogwalkers they can easily be 'registered' and monitored ... the proposed policy is heavy handed and misses the issues ... Mangaed dog walking are not causeing the roaming dog risk
4302	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Rather than imposing arbitrary limits on the number of dogs a person can walk, Auckland Council should implement a licensing system for professional dog walkers. This would ensure that only trained, experienced individuals manage multiple dogs while maintaining public safety and responsible dog handling. A licensing system would: - Ensure safety and accountability by requiring dog walkers to demonstrate competency in handling multiple dogs, reducing risks to the public. - Provide better regulation by allowing trained professionals to continue working without unnecessary restrictions while ensuring high standards of safety and management. - Support the industry by protecting the livelihoods of professional dog walkers, who play a crucial role in helping busy dog owners. Many owners rely on these services, as they cannot take their dogs to work or provide sufficient daily exercise themselves. Professional walkers help maintain dogs' health, well-being, and socialisation, benefiting both the animals and the broader community. Number of dogs walked: - The proposed change—limiting the maximum number of dogs (both on-leash and off-leash) to six, with only three allowed off-leash at any time—could have significant negative consequences for both professional dog walkers and everyday dog owners. - While the intention behind these changes may be to improve safety and reduce incidents, it's important to note that group dog

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4321	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have never had and issue, it is a valuable service and arbitrary limits do not take into account different environments.
4425	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Safety for people who used the public place
4759	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walking is not the problem. It is good for the dogs and having some one and some off leash will increase risks for those dogs on leash - as is basic dog psychiatry. Untrained dogs being walked by their owners are a much bigger problem. Owners paying for a pack walk tend to have their dogs best interest at heart and the dogs are better trained and less agressive
4772	Support		The industry needs regulation to avoid people who are not experienced with dogs starting businesses in this field. Further, whilst it will increase the cost of the service, it would enable professional walkers to have more time with each of the dogs in their care.
4807	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 2 dogs on/off lead as appropriate. As an owner of 2 dogs i never want to be confronted by more than 2 dogs with 1 person when I am out walking. Dogs are only friendly until they're not and if I do not recognise the person or dogs approaching, I always assume that the dogs are not friendly and give them a wide berth. I do not think anyone is skilled enough or strong enough to manage numerous dogs in every possible scenario that may eventuate and other people and dogs will be put at risk.
4871	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because dangerous dog should be put in a different category and vote a new law to wear muzzle when out of their house
4918	Support		1 person cannot control more than 6 10kg + dogs at one time. Some dog walkers are only 60 - 100kg themselves are are walking the equivalent of 100 - 300kg worth of dogs. if the dos decided to go there is no way they can possibly hold or restrain them. 3 dogs off leash are more than enough to try to keep control off unless they are highly trained working dogs. Large groups of dogs are intimidating and cause aggressive behaviour (through fear) when other dogs come across them.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5081	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe each professional dog walker should require a license that ensures they meet high standards of experience, competency, and proven ability to control any packs they walk. Creating robust licensing metrics helps regulate an industry that does have professionals able to manage more vs Randoms who do whatever without concern for the dogs or public safety. I believe a maximum of 10 on leash & 8 off leash for licensed professional dog walkers and anyone unlicensed 4 on leash & 2 off leash.
5390	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The change is stupid! There are a lot of well controlled dog walkers.
5408	Support		I think one person can control the most 3 dogs at one time
5626	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have a wondeful dog walker who has been instrumental in helping our dog socialise and their behaviour has significantly improved. Professional dog walking services provide an incredibly valuable service to us and our community.
5680	Support		Most people own at least 2-3 dogs, if they were to go on to pack walk one or two other dog (groups) can join them. Having a dog that will be going to daycare soon 6 is a good and safe number with usually 2 or more handlers.
5868	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not see reports of dog walking packs attacking people or causing harm I as a dog owner would rather the professional who do this kind of service do not have their business destroyed I would rather dogs are walked that tied up all day
6019	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dogs should be controlled. Off the leash should be limited to 1 dog per person. That way if a dog runs away, the owner can catch them and bring them back. On the leash is different as they can be controlled more easily. 4 max should be the norm with only one off the leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6024	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs are social and the greater majority of people who have dogs are responsible. Parks are for All people including our dogs not just sports,
6050	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum eight dogs, no limit on off-leash unless license obtained
6154	Support		I have a shy and gentle natured dog, we are always on lead. If we were approached by more than 3 dogs off lead, this would be overwhelming for her and myself, especially if I was put in to the position to protect my girl as well as myself. Also, not everyone who walks with their dogs off lead has proper control. Additionally, more than 6 dogs on lead is in my opinion excessive.
6685	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The people you need to focus on are the ones not responsible dog owners. Not punished the responsible dog owners and walking dogs businesses who clearly making sure these rules are met.
MANUREWA LOCAL BOARD			
45	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Apologies first, I haven't read the policy yet but wish to give general advise as a dog owner who fequently walks our dog in parks and other public places: 2 at a maximum - excluding restricted breeds or nuisance animals. If restricted breeds, they must only be one at any time. A pack of dogs are easily triggered by one, even if they are well behaved dogs. If you have 6 x 6 x 6 dogs in a situation with only 3 people to control - this isn't an ideal situation for anyone One dog if restricted breed muzzzled per person. And max of 2 for companion animals per owner
121	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't feel safe walking my dog anywhere with the amount of roaming dogs so pay a dog walker to do it for me . He does however go to empty subdivisions or open spaces where there is nobody around. All the dog's are under control at all times
144	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly believe a license for people working as a dog walker should be compulsory. Regardless of if they are walking one or ten. A license would allow accountability if poor handling or management results in an issue with a member of public.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
215	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	ALL DOGS should be UNDER CONTROL AT ALL TIME in public spaces. You may know your dog very well and yes it is friendly enough to let go off-leash but when it approached someone else's dogs who is on leash and ain't too keen around other dogs??? It's common sense, just like human, not everybody is friendly and approachable, same goes to dogs.
446	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	a limit of 12 dogs on lead and 5 max off lead in public areas. As I do believe people shouldn't be allowed 10+ off lead dogs off in public places, something is bound to happen
628	Support		I PARTIALLY support this rule change. I agree with limiting one dog walker to a maximum of 6 dogs, but I'm not entirely convinced about only having 3 off leash at any one time. I'm not sure this will address the issue of dogs not under control. I think this requires more input from those in the industry.
938	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Limiting numbers isn't going to stop the number of dog attacks, the data recorded by your own doesn't even display the attacks being that they were professionals or a person with just a group of dogs. I absolutely believe that there needs to be a license in place, this would also need to be reviewed at least annually, and of course if a business was to acquire a new staff member. Businesses need to demonstrate their capability individually. Everybody offers their skills at different levels. Please look and target the businesses that have had things happen in their history of operation, ask them how they've improved or what processes they have in place, health and safety etc.
1053	Support		I believe this is a reasonable number, anymore and I feel it would be very difficult to control in a pack situation. It can be very intimidating when you encounter a single walker with a larger number of dogs. I believe it is a safety concern for the public and other dogs for a single person to manage any more than 6 dogs at a time.
1223	Support		Private dog walkers in my experience cannot control this number of dogs they are trying to control not do they pick up after them. Six is pretty generous in my opinion.
1342	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog loves his weekly pack walks - his pack is soo well behaved and respectful when they approach other distractions such as people riding horses or other animals.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1424	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a joke! The focus should be on roaming dogs and people who are owning dogs without being registered. I'm a parent of a child who was bitten by a dog. And not one at a park or off leash area ... an unregistered dog.
1446	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes with a Walking Pack of Dogs. Every Wednesday. He has been with this group for two years and he has learnt great mannerism and patience. I would love this walk pack to continue with the x amount of dogs everyday!
1579	Support		There are too many "pack dog walkers" out there and they cannot control 10 plus dogs at once. This is dangerous and leads to not only conflict between dogs but also people. Limit should be more like 4. I couldn't imagine having full control of 4 big dogs, even on a leash.
1755	Support		Botanical gardens and Totara park (which flows in from the gardens) has a large number of walkers and runners. Dogs are not controlled, a friend was bitten and I've been scared by dogs who are not in eyesight of owner and owners have no recall. This will clarify expectations and help keep dog owners responsible and also provide greater trust and confidence for all users that council is listening to concerns.
1788	Support		This seems safer for other dogs and owners alike, plus it makes management of dogs easier for walkers
1802	Support		Dogs like to go in a pack, having some on leashes and close will mean the others not on a leash will remain close to the pack and thus also close to the dog walker.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1964	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I use the services of Wild Kuri, a dog walking service and they do an excellent job. My recommendation is that a registration system is created for dog walkers, so they don't have a restrictive number of 6 dogs, but may be limited to specific locations - parks etc but not beaches. The registered dog walkers would have to comply with certain regulation set down by the Auckland Council, and registration is annually. They must have proof of license available for anyone who requests it - incl the public. That way public are protected as dog walkers are limited to specific parks during certain times, And the public know when dog walkers will be at those locations. Anyone else who is not registered is subject to 4 dogs or six dogs proposed rules. Most dog walkers are small businesses, and we want to encourage them, not make things no longer commercially viable.
2011	I don’t know		While the proposal to limit the number of dogs a person can walk in a council-controlled public place aims to enhance safety and control, it risks disproportionately impacting responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers. Additionally, this proposal does not directly address the issue of roaming dogs, which stems from inadequate containment, negligence, or lack of accountability among owners rather than the act of walking multiple dogs. Concerns with the Proposal Impact on Responsible Dog Owners: Many responsible owners walk multiple well-behaved dogs without incident. Imposing limits may unfairly penalize them and restrict their ability to exercise their pets. Professional dog walkers, who provide valuable services, may face significant challenges in adhering to these limits, particularly if they already have systems in place to manage larger groups of dogs safely. Disconnect from the Root Issue: Roaming dogs are typically the result of owners failing to contain or supervise their pets at home, not from a lack of control during public walks. Addressing roaming requires stricter penalties and enforcement targeting owners who neglect their responsibilities. Alternative Measures to Address Roaming Dogs To ensure that the actual issue of roaming dogs is effectively targeted, I propose the following measures:

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2063	Support		Nobody can properly control more than three free-running dogs at the same time. Even six on-leash can be difficult to handle in some situations.
2076	Support		I feel that the number of dogs walked by one person should be limited regardless if they are or not. Menacing dog . That many off lead even 3 is intimidating for any dog and their owner. I feel all.6 dogs should be on lead.
2153	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think in general owners and walkers should be mindful of each other's dogs and packs. If your dog is an aggressive dog which is being out in a area with other dogs around. That's definitely not mindfulness. As well as a walker being able to maintain a pack under control at all times.
2166	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our group walkers are well trained and no issues in many years. Just arseholes with a tiny dog that freak out complaining. They have spent time getting the dogs to understand who, why & what etc will there dogs. Excellent team & I trust there competency
2225	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The number of incidents that occurred due to a walker with many dogs is very very low.
2295	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	One person walking multiple dogs with a couple off leash is just dumb and unsafe. Nz has very little to none on properly trained dog walk framework. You can't release dogs that are not trained with no way to verify any form of basic training and recall along with the socialisation. And then somehow think the dog walker is a qualified and responsible person to be able to control the unleashed mutts when things go pear shaped. I've seen it so many times in the street and even at Auckland botanical gardens. Personal review. If a person is walking multiple dogs. That's fine. As long as all how ttetehered to each other for the duration of the walk. NO off leash they must be under control. We have enough unwanted pack behaviour issues in nz please.
2332	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think 6 dogs are far too many to be controlled adequately by one person, I think 3 in total would be better

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2354	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I support the proposed change in principle however I would like to see maximum number of dogs limited to 4. It is way too hard for an average single person to be able to safely handle more dogs.
2393	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe the dog walking industry should be licenced with set standards and enforced practices. My dog is currently walked with a pack on leash. They don't just allow any dog to join them. They train the dogs to walk as part of a pack. My dog is better behaved for them on a walk than he is for me. There are some dog walkers out there spoiling it for others. So reglulate the industry.
2560	Support		It is not safe to have numerous dogs that is not under control. Even trained dogs can get startled or triggered and the owner must be able to control them when things go wrong.
2632	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	only one dog per person on leash should be allowed because people have aggressive dogs. Off leash dog can attack anyone or if anyone walking on leash, off leash dog can attack him. Animal management doesn't do anything about it. I don't know why do we have animal management in Auckland.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2877	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposal to limit the number of dogs walked at one time could have significant negative effects on both dog owners and professional dog walkers. Many dog walking businesses rely on walking multiple dogs simultaneously to maximize efficiency and profitability. By reducing the permissible group size, the regulation would likely increase costs for dog owners, and reduce the number of clients walkers can serve in a given time frame. This could limit the accessibility of affordable dog walking services, particularly in urban areas with high demand. Moreover, group walks provide important socialization opportunities for dogs, which can help improve behavior and reduce anxiety. Limiting the number of dogs per walk could reduce these opportunities, especially for dogs that benefit from interacting with others. Experienced dog walkers are generally well-equipped to handle larger groups, and restricting group size could lead to inefficiencies, and reduced service availability. From an environmental perspective, limiting the group size would also likely increase the number of trips walkers need to make to serve the same number of dogs, resulting in higher carbon emissions and greater congestion in urban areas. Additionally, the regulation could lead to increased foot traffic in local parks and public spaces, as walkers are forced to take multiple trips throughout the day rather than completing one efficient walk. This could result in more congestion in these spaces, which may also impact the experience for other park-goers and the general public. Dog walkers would have to navigate
2922	I don’t know		Still seems alot of dogs especially if they are big. Maybe 4
2981	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The reasoning behind this proposal is unclear. 1) Are there lots of people walking heaps of dogs? 2) Are these dogs causing problems? 3) Is there an evidence from other cities/regions that it's a growing/possible problem? Without concrete evidence this proposal looks like 'moral panic' and could even take attention away from other urgent issues.
3329	Support		Strongly support this as usually walk my dog on leash and she is harassed by groups of off leash dogs supposedly under control of a dog walker. I live in south Auckland and use regional/local parks frequently.
3341	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 4 dogs on leash and 1 off leash. Most owners are unable to control one dog effectively two off leash dogs means there is no way they are going to control it, and worse yet if both decide to attack another dog there is no way the owner will be able to intervene effectively.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3449	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Would prefer no limit as there are businesses and individuals whom own or support more than 6 dogs. Would an option be that if there are more than 8 dogs on or off lead it is recommended but not manadatory for a secondary support person.
3701	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Issues arise as a result of dogs that are raised poorly. This is not a solution to the problem, but a solution for issues that come as a result of a bigger problem. It is far too easy for people to own dogs in NZ/Auckland. We need a license system so we know a household is a suitable environment for a dog. As a result, people will raise better dogs. Don't punish the good dogs and their owners who love to socialise with other dogs because a select few can't control theirs.
3719	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will have a big run on effect for family's who need animal care during the work day. At least in my area of Manurewa, dogs with minders or owners are NEVER the problem. It's poor fencing and dogs that escape that cause the issues. This bill feels like someone wrote it who has no genuine grasp of the current situation
3859	Support		I have dogs, but agree more than 6 is too many.
3865	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would like to suggest a maximum of 2 dogs and on leash most times. I regularly take a stroll through the botanical trails and I have come across several occasions of off-leash dogs running up and trying to get my kids. My kids are under 3. I also had a very scary encounter with 4 off-,leash pitbull dogs that approached us. The family was casually walking from the very back, they could hardly see where their dogs were and if it could've attacked someone. I think in order for us to be safe and also other animals, we need to ensure off-leash dog areas are limited or confined to a space where they are easily watched and taken care of, not just roaming a big space because most times I blame careless owners who want to catch a break by letting their dogs roam but what if the unthinkable happens? so its better safe than sorry.
3872	Support		I regularly use Totara park and the botanic gardens. There are often dog walkers with multiple dogs off leash that use paddocks and tracks that are not under control. It feels very unsafe with children waking and also on mountain bike tracks with a bike.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3894	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Responsible owners would have a licence to walk more than multiple dogs
3896	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Most people struggle with two especially when off leash. You cannot have control and keep an eye on 4 dogs even as a professional.
3940	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	None off leash as control of off leash dogs here seems nonexistent
3982	Support		I would say they are the upper limit of any one person's ability to maintain control.
4063	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Apart from designated dog reserves like at Auckland Botanic Gardens, all dogs to be walked on leash. Maximum of 4 dogs. All dog walkers in business to be registered, pay a small fee to cover registration costs. Animal Management to receive more funding so can be more responsive and more educational
4166	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's absurd to think that the council is trying to put a limit on this. The council has no right to try and impose such strict measures on the people of Auckland. There is no need to bring in restrictions on the number of dogs that a person can walk, this will only negatively impact people directly affected and provide no positive effects whatsoever. This level of control suggested by the council is unnecessary, and quite simply wrong. I strongly hope that the council will come to their senses, stop trying to control every single aspect of our lives, stop wasting money on such ridiculous ideas, and scrap this proposal before it goes any further.
4213	Support		There should be limits on the number of dogs people can walk - both professionally and personally. I believe the new proposal doesn't go far enough and I'd like to see it reduced to 2 at most. People cannot control more than this in a safe way - for example if a dog was attacking something or someone how would they handle the remaining 5 dogs while dealing with that emergency?
4505	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's mostly professional dog walkers who have more than 4 dogs and they usually have then in areas where dogs can run free and are in control. This will just push the price up if they are restricted to taking less dogs at any one time. Dogs need to run and chase not just be 'walked'.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4843	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe the change is not strict enough. The maximum number of off-leash dogs should be ONE dog in all cases, whether in combination with on-leash dogs or alone. Please think how the owner/dog walker will be able to control more than one off-leash dog?
5448	Support		Dogs are out of control
5620	Support		The Beautification Trust supports the proposal to set a limit on the number of dogs a person can walk at one time in council-controlled public places. Stronger enforcement of responsible dog management is urgently needed to address safety risks and environmental damage in Auckland's parks and open spaces. Recent reports indicate that: •826 bylaw breaches of dog access rules have occurred, •200 reports of dogs in regional parks were filed, •12,737 complaints of dogs roaming have been received, and •multiple dog walkers have been disproportionately involved in conflicts. These figures highlight a significant and growing issue. Without clear limits, individuals handling multiple dogs at once often struggle to maintain control, leading to increased incidents of dog aggression, interference with other park users, and damage to natural environments. Auckland Council must set a reasonable limit to ensure public safety while enabling responsible dog ownership. This will allow enforcement teams to better manage compliance and reduce the negative impact of uncontrolled dogs in shared spaces.
5668	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes for walks with a fantastic dog walking company and this would negatively impact their business. I feel it would be better to do more to regulate who can dog walking as a business instead.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6215	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I strongly oppose the proposed changes to dog access laws and urge the council to keep the current policy in place. These changes are unnecessary, unfair, and target the wrong audience. The existing Dog Policy 2019 already provides a balanced approach that considers public safety, responsible dog ownership, and the well-being of dogs. The proposed restrictions will significantly reduce access to off-leash areas, despite no substantial evidence of increased risk or public concern that justifies such drastic measures. Rather than punishing responsible dog owners and well-behaved dogs, the council should focus on better enforcement and education for the minority who do not follow the rules. Blanket bans and excessive restrictions penalize the majority of responsible pet owners while doing little to address genuine issues. Additionally, changing the language of the policy to frame dogs as a “nuisance” rather than a valued part of the community is deeply concerning. Dogs provide companionship, improve mental and physical health, and contribute to vibrant local communities. Limiting their access to public spaces goes against the very principles the council should uphold Please listen to the thousands of Auckland dog owners who want fair and sensible policies. I do not support these proposed changes, and I ask the council to reconsider.
6286	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Six dog with three off leash is too many for one person to control. The incident of Barbara Wright dog been mauled on the Whitford track early 2024 could still have happened if the dog walker of "Stimulated K9" was walking six large dogs. The ability of one person to stop three off leash dogs from attacking another person or animal whilst trying to control three on leash dogs is limited.
6319	Support		People are walking dogs when they cannot control or recall them properly.
6340	Support		Control
6351	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I'm an experienced dog handler, very few have the ability to control more than 2 dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6360	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I feel there needs to be regulations on who can do pack walks. There are a number of reputable dog walkers who are experienced. Our dog goes out twice a week on pack walks and I trust those that walk her. They take her to areas that are safe and don't have lots of other dogs walking at the same time. We have been using the same company for 4 years now and have never had an issue. They trial dogs before they take them on board, they always walk them on leash until they know their personalities and their recall abilities. Once again you are looking at penalizing the wrong people.
6418	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Safety for all animals and people without dogs.
6513	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Four dogs, especially large or powerful dogs is the safest number a single person can reasonably control on leash. Two off leash allows families with a couple of dogs to let them play around their owners or children.
6519	Support		Pack dogs are dangerous
6546	Support		Its impossible to control 6 dogs on leash (unless small dogs) and same rationale for 3 dogs off leash.
6548	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog gets walked by a dog walker weekly. He goes with more than 6 dogs and most of them are off leash as the dog walker takes them to a fenced in area. If the rules are changed my dog walker will not be able to take the dogs together. The dogs would miss out or the prices would increase.
6573	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I think six dogs is too many to handle especially if you are taking them into an off-leash area. They can display pack behaviour and are therefore a danger to other dogs and their owners in the area. 1 person looking after 4 dogs is still high but much more doable than 6 dogs. Two offleash is a good maximum.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6580	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Auckland faces serious dog control issues, particularly in South Auckland, where aggressive and roaming dogs create significant problems for public safety. However, the proposed changes fail to address these key issues and instead these blanket regulations are harsh, impractical, and fail to address the real dog-related issues Aucklanders face. Furthermore, the Council has not adequately consulted with the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA) and other key stakeholders, whose expertise is crucial in shaping practical and effective policies. The Real Issues Are Being Ignored with the proposed changes! The biggest challenges Auckland faces in dog management are: 1. Roaming and unregistered dogs, especially in South Auckland of which I am a 25 year resident and I have witnessed the sharp increase in roaming dogs particularly over the last 4 years. 2. Aggressive dog incidents, which make up the majority of complaints. 3. Excessive barking complaints, which disrupt neighbourhoods. 4. A lack of education and enforcement for irresponsible dog owners. 'Dear Auckland Council. I am writing to formally oppose the proposed changes to Auckland's Policy on Dogs and Dog Management Bylaw, particularly the restrictions on the number of dogs a person can
6659	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Personally I think it should be a maximum of three dogs, none off leash! No dog can be fully trusted and there is a scourge of dogs in the neighbourhood at the moment.
6686	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This restriction appears to be targeted towards professional dog walkers who are not the most prevalent problem concerning dogs and dog owners. The limit will not address the issue, which is that there are huge numbers of dogs who roam and who have irresponsible owners who do not care for them. The impact this will have on small business owners around Auckland, who do follow the rules set by Council already will be massive and it will not resolve any of the issues which dog owners face. If you genuinely were concerned about the issue of the number of dogs which can be walked at one time, you would input some sort of licensing for dog walkers to ensure they have been vetted and are safe. This proposed change is not backed by complaints and feels reactionary to a singular incident

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6735	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Work needs to be done educating dog owners. Pack walkers should operate with a licence of some sort to allow then to walk x number of dogs both on and off leash
6740	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	pack walkers are critical for owners who can not get out to exercise their dogs so putting limits rather than a method to weed out bad operators could see them shut down as the cost per walk would have to go up to something most could not pay. Licencing is a good idea but should be cheap and affordable to maintain as again most pack walkers we have checked out can not be highly profitable with their reasonable pricing We are lucky that we can mostly walk our dog but know much of his early foster time was spent in an amazing pack walking group that has helped him become a super friendly, confident and well-behaved dog.
6850	Support		Any number of dogs greater than the proposed number may prove difficult to control, especially if there is a particularly rowdy dog in the group.
MAUNGAKIEKIE-TĀMAKI LOCAL BOARD			
14	Support		I support this idea because it ensures a manageable number of dogs per handler. Currently, some dog walkers bring too many dogs to the park and let them all off-leash at once. As a result, there's often little control, which can cause disturbances for other park users.
18	Support		I am a dog owner, and the owner of a commercial dog walking business, Sticks & Bones. I support a fixed number of dogs that any person can walk at any time. This is for risk management & safety reasons and to give balance to the fact that we often share public spaces when walking dogs (whether in a park or on the street) and consideration to equity of space for all people of all walks of life must be taken into account. In fact I think the number of 6 dogs is still more than most people can handle and control, regardless of the breakdown of leashed or unleashed dogs. My business policy is no more than 4 dogs in a group walk, and often one dog is leashed and the dog which is leashed is rotated throughout the walk duration i.e. each dog spends some of the walk leashed.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
75	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In order to have an affordable option as a full time worker for having my dog exercised while I am at work any limits on the number of dogs and it would become unaffordable so the dog would end up not being exercised during the day. This adds pressure to an already stressful life and may result in dogs being rehomed.
88	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the proposed law changes fail to mitigate uncontrolled dogs in smaller groups, yet are specifically punishing professional dog walkers, who often have larger groups of dogs under control. I think professional dog walkers provide Aucklanders and their dogs with a useful service. While I appreciate not all companies are equal in their practices, skilled professional handlers and their many dogs pose less threat to the public, than unskilled individuals walking even one uncontrolled or dangerous dog. In my experience, I am often more concerned by private dog owners walking two or three dogs on or off leash that cannot maintain control over their dogs. This law change would fail to change this and I think the proposed change to focus on the number of dogs being walked ignores the heart of the issue. Therefore rather than a complete ban, a license or permit should have to be earned by individuals both professional and private who want to walk more than 6 dogs at a time. Furthermore, I think a new law is unlikely to be followed by those who currently walk 6 plus poorly managed dogs while punishing responsible handlers.
92	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	There's no regulation of the dog walking industry so a lot are inexperienced and irresponsible
96	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe a limit of 10 would be satisfactory.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
119	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think you should further explore the option of having a license for specific dog-walkers in Auckland to have more than 3 dogs off leash. I agree that for the general person, who can not legally own more than 3 dogs, having a limit of 6 on-leash/3 off-leash makes sense - but for people who are qualified, using dog-walking to run businesses, and are generally responsible, I think they should have the option of obtaining a license for their businesses. Most respected dog-walking companies have more intense training when welcoming dogs into their packs, requiring extra time and training before going on walks so there is an element of responsibility there, and I would say a license would be easy to obtain and prove. For other companies which pick up 12 dogs, release them and have no control, they will obviously not obtain the license.
166	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There needs to be better regulations on the sill and qualifications of the dog walker, not the number of dogs they walk. Decreasing the number of dogs allowed will only increase the number of unskilled and unqualified walkers. A bad dog walker can still cause issues with 1 dog - the number isn't the problem.
180	Support		Too many dogs being walked by one person increase the chance of things going wrong as you can't attend to each dog safely.
193	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree with less dogs per each dog handler but all the dogs should be off leash under the control. It's not fair for some dogs off leash but the other half on leash as the dogs will feel confused for what they did wrong.
235	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The issue with off lead dogs is not the professional walkers. It's all the people who own dogs and don't train or respect other people when walking. As an owner, I have never had issues with any pack walks. My dog has only ever been attacked by solo dogs with their owners.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
265	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our mission statement is, "we want to...establish a maximum number of dogs a person may walk at one time in council-controlled public places." I cannot see any explanation why we feel that this change is necessary...leaving readers to make assumptions as to our intentions. Can we please provide clarification around the goal here? Are the parties we are aiming to control professional dog walkers/trainers? Individual dog owners who are incapable of controlling their dogs? Some other party? I have never seen an individual dog owner walking more than 3 dogs concurrently (speaking as a dog owner 5+ years in Auckland). The only individuals I have encountered who walk >3 dogs concurrently are professional dog walkers/trainers, who I presume have specific rules and animal management standards applied to them to ensure they are capable of doing their job safely. Such a person should be expected to control a large group of dogs better than the average individual, so applying a global rule which would presumably restrict them makes no sense.
303	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog currently walks with a dog walker who has at least 8 dogs and at times all dogs off leash (as long as they have proven recall). In the 6 years Shaggy has been with our dog walker and others previously never once had there been an instance so I don't see why this limit has to be put into place for all dog walkers. Is there another way to regulate this industry. I also feel it is unfair for people who's job this is how are they meant to make a living now with only a maximum of 6 dogs most time they're out with dogs upwards of 3/4 hours so they couldn't walk as many dogs in a day which is then directly impacting their income.
524	Support		Because so called dog walking companies are out of control in our parks.However this new bylaw is no use when it's so complicated to get help when you want to report these companies. When you finally get all the information e.g images,registration of vehicle etc. If your lucky they might give them a fine $60. It seems busy people have to become private investigators to provide the council with all this information. This is why many people can't be bothered. Please make it easier to get action.
639	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In reality the new proposals are unenforceable and are just rules-for-rules sake. It won't change the behaviour of the problem makers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
670	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Two on leash dogs is more than enough for one person to handle with correct supervision and training. No more than one off leash dog.
694	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	On the whole walkers are responsible and only accept well trained dogs . Unruly dogs are always on lead.
699	Support		This makes sense - there's many dog walking businesses that don't have full control of all the dogs they're walking because you simply cannot control that many dogs. A max of 6 dogs with max of 3 off-leash is sensible, and means other dog walkers in the park are safe too.
739	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If a dog is well integrated and behaves off lead then this is an unnecessary implementation. It impacts businesses who take dogs on pack adventures under the current guidelines of unlimited (most credible ones actually do 8)off leash and unnecessarily causes distress for animals who are used to being off leash. Suggest the person who is recommending this change to go and walk six dogs and keep three dogs on a leash and see the distress and impact it causes to those who are socially integrated and used to this kind of pack adventure. Recommend Auckland council actually focus on the issue at hand, which is not from pack adventures for integrated dogs and look to those who haven't trained their larger breeds into these environments. That is where the issue lies!
783	Support		I would like it to be more restrictive. Multiple dogs are a major disturbance to wildlife and reduce amenity value of public parks. People walking multiple dogs are often commercial businesses that should be limited to dog parks.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
833	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe it isn't necessarily the number of dogs on or off leash at any one time that is the major issue here. It's the ability of the dog walker to control their pack so that members of the public are not adversely affected. The Council should look at issuing licenses for professional dog/pack walkers which would have a two-pronged effect. This would discourage those walkers who have no real dog behavioral training and are likely the reason for off leash dogs posing a problem to the public. It would also add credibility to those professionals out there (and there are many) who are trained and take their roles very seriously. These are passionate dog lovers who we (clients) entrust our loved animals with on a daily basis. They provide a vital service for those of us who work and choose not to or can't leave their animals on their own whilst at work. Pack walks when run properly, are a much healthier environment and activity for dogs as opposed to doggy day cares. Professional dog walkers have been asking for regulation of their industry for some time, but this proposal is not the right way to approach it. Thanks
856	Support		The dogs need to be under control at all times and monitoring even 6 dogs, with three off leash, can be a tall order.
899	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The percentage of dog attacks by owners / carers - particularly professionals who walk multiple dogs - is so low it doesn't make any sense to penalize them. The safety of the public should always be a consideration but those efforts should be focused on roaming dogs, unfit dog owners and better education around dog ownership. To penalize the professionals who do this for a job when the statistics state less than 0.7% of dog attacks occur under the watch of owners who are walking multiple dogs is just absurd.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
943	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Yesterday I submitted my feedback for the proposed changes to the council's dog policy and bylaw. I am making a correction. I am against all the proposed changes to the current rules. I do not accept any of the alternative options offered. I also do not see how my age, gender and ethnicity are relevant to these views in any way whatsoever, and I would appreciate an explanation why these questions are included, and how they relate to the matter at hand. The proposed rules are not good for dog owners and seem to serve a vocal minority who either simply don't like dogs, or who have had bad experiences with dangerous dogs. Dangerous dogs and their owners should be held responsible as appropriate, and we should not punish the majority who are responsible.
993	Support		I don’t believe you can walk and control multiple dogs
1004	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose the current proposed change to the bylaws to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company I use ensures all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I am benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company: If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would affect adversely affect me:
1014	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not the number of dogs that cause issue, it is the irresponsibility of some of those walkers that do.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1021	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am very strongly opposed to proposed limit on walking multiple dogs, but I also don't think no change is the right course of action. The professional dog walking industry should be regulated with appropriate licensing and training, and the council should work directly with the industry to develop and implement this. The council should also focus efforts on addressing the issue with wandering dogs which are by far a much more serious issue than profession dog walkers with dogs under control. The stated reason for proposing a limit on walking multiple dogs is 'to minimise nuisance and distress to public, while still providing for the needs of dogs and their owners.' However, the council's own data shows that just 0.7% of dog-related complaints involve multiple dogs being handled. Of this number, Auckland Council can't distinguish between professional dog walkers and regular multi-dog owners. Walking multiple dogs is very clearly not causing a nuisance to the public. This appears to be a knee jerk reaction to a small amount of negative media and not based on data and evidence. For many dog owners in Auckland, professional pack walkers and trainers offer an excellent and caring service to give dogs structured socialisation, exercise and stimulation while also providing training for improved impulse control and recall making for more polite and well behaved dogs. This service is invaluable and without it, these dogs would be left home alone where they might bark resulting in noise complaints, escape resulting in complaints for wandering dogs, badly behaved dogs with poor impulse control or worst of all could be mal-socialised leading to
1040	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It would be better if this was the law, but if professional dog walkers could have a licence so they can walk as many as they need or have.
1082	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think registered or professional dog walkers should be able to walk dogs ina. Group.
1193	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think it depends on the handler / if it I was truly a skilled, qualified handler then they have the ability to control the dogs on/off leash appropriately
1228	Support		So all dogs can be responsibly supervised during walks

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1289	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I dont believe that this is actually going to address any perceived issues around dog walking groups. Legitimate, well managed dog walking groups seek out areas where they can operate safely. Problems only occur when untrained individuals are taking dogs to local parks that are heavily populated by the public. Any issues could be resolved by licensing professional dog walkers and having an annual review of their activities and policies. I suggest no changes or dog walking licences.
1437	Support		Big bands of dogs walked by a single person are intimidating to me and my small dog. It is also just a money making exercise and the dog's welfare is not the primary consideration in this type of situation.
1547	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	At the moment there are roaming dogs due to no care and responsible ownership especially in some parts of Auckland .The dog walkers I use are professional and take ownership of their charges while out. They bring bring joy and companionship to dogs who otherwise would be alone in the house all day. This new rule if put into effect will destroy this group and possibly result in more roaming dogs -certainly unhappy owners and their pets
1674	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No dogs should be allowed off leash in public spaces, but if there has to be a choice, then only one or two off leash and maximum 4 to one person. I believe restrictions on specific aggressive/larger breeds should be taken into account as well.
1707	Support		I agree to these limits. It seems reasonable, and any more would be too much even for a competent dog handler.
1743	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Having been back in NZ and having my dog here from Australia. It has been nice to enjoy the parks and taking her for walks. I take her everywhere with me. I have not have any incidents or aggressive dogs.Auckland is a loved dog community. Having this limit, will restrict going out for walks at certain areas.The dogs greet each other as they walk past each.
1768	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Giving dogs the opportunity to socialise and be social able in a controlled and supervised manner enhances their wellbeing and their ability to cope and thrive in other life situations
1953	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Ideally, there should be some requirements on who can do so (e.g. a professional certified walker would be able to deal with 10 dogs, whilst an individual with any training may struggle with only 2)

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1988	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I utilise professional dog walking services like City Pets who walk multiple dogs in off leash areas. This proposed change would limit the ability of these services to cater to the demand for pet owners and many people would lose jobs. The council also have not included this large group as a stake holder for any discussions and have just decided to implement these changes without any thought for the industry. I am not associated with the dog walking industry, I just utilise them so that my dog can enjoy off leash walks and maintain health and wellbeing. These proposed rules are unlikely to have a meaningful impact on the real issues affecting the dog community. Instead, they would place unnecessary restrictions on professional dog walkers and others who care for multiple dogs responsibly and divert resources from the major problems. Please consider another option, for example, a license that would allow these services to still continue and regulating the industry rather than a blanket rule that limits the number of dogs allowed. I can't see this solving any problems and just disadvantages many more people who do not contribute any harm to the community.
2023	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Have higher number of dogs on/off leash but have ability to get licence. Many highly skilled and qualified PACK walkers are amazing at what they do, have skills and high knowledge, we need more of those professional walkers, if we can create a process to get certified/receive licence it would be a much better alternative while keeping public safe
2040	Support		Pack walks are a problem. With multiple dogs off-lead, there is regularly a problem with dog recall. This is not good for people walking their dog and especially hard for families with young kids . . . these pack walk dogs who are off lead are regularly coming up to children and scaring them. They do not have good recall and when the walker has many dogs off lead, they struggle to control them all. I hate when pack walks are in my local park. I have stopped walking my own dog during the day when pack walks are out.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2047	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	6 dogs isn't actually that many for a professional dog walker to be in charge of. I think the problem with walking many dogs at once may be that dog walking as an industry/service is unregulated, so there's irresponsible people out there who don't have full control of their charges. The vast majority are great, and want to keep both the dogs in their care and the public safe and comfortable. Restricting them to only 6 per walk would dramatically impact business. Also as an owner of two dogs and with my sister also owning 2 - it means when one family has the others' dogs (which happens often), we can't walk them all off-leash! Which would be crazy! Walking some dogs off-leash and some on from the same pack can cause aggression and tension between the dogs. So potentially this change would also lead to more stressed - therefore more aggressive - dogs out in these public spaces. I do agree some limits should apply, but this proposed limit is too restrictive.
2200	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a bad idea and I do not support it. I can't see what problem this is going to solve. Bad dog owners and dog walkers will not care that the rules have changed and it will olly affect the good ones. This is a bad idea and I oppose it.
2202	Support		I see too many dogs out of control and one person cannot control a large number
2269	Support		Six dogs either on or off leash is more than enough to handle for anybody in an urban environment
2273	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum ten dogs, on or off leash
2335	Support		I support this, but would say that the Maximum number of dogs in highly visited areas should be reduced to 4 per person
2371	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	These changes will severely damage the professional dog walkers in Auckland. Most of them are well trained and capable of walking up to 12 dogs at a time. Maybe consider more regulation for this industry by way of a licensing process.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2408	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Arbitrary limits on numbers being walked and allowed off leash will not solve the issue of some walkers having out of control dogs which have the potential to cause harm to each other, stock, or the public. Many times professional walkers only have 4 or 6 completely out of control dogs, who are harassing and nipping livestock, rushing other dogs etc. Arbitrary limits on numbers will not affect them and will allow them continue their bad practices. The issue is commonly that the walker cannot be identified, and they have dogs which are not under control whether they be on or off leash. Obviously the potential for harm increases when the dogs are off leash, but the harm is not eradicated because the dogs are on leash or because there are less of them. The councils own data reflects just 0.57% of complaints are about multiple dogs. To effectively address the core issue of some rotten eggs operating carelessly or ignorantly, individual assessments carried out by the PDWA under the authority of the Auckland council would be much more effective. These licences would cover whether that person can have a licence and if so, how many dogs that walker can walk, how many can be off leash at a time, and establish the walkers agreement with the PDWA code of conduct and complaints procedure. Those licences could be in the form of a badge ID - similar to a security guards ‘certificate of approval’ - these must be worn and visible at all times while walking and will have the walkers
2410	I don’t know		In theory I support this, but I am not sure that a blanket rule works for all situations. Some parks are only really used for dog walking and so could have a higher limit in these parks. The focus perhaps shouldn't be on the number of dogs, but rather ensuring the people walking the dogs are capable and qualified to do so. Trainings on how to manage larger dogs, and a better vetting process for dogs attending these walking groups could resolve the problem. Making sure the walkers are always aware of the dogs in their care and identifying early signs to make sure dogs do not develop a pack mentality. This week a number of dog attacks have happened that are fewer than the number proposed. I think there needs to be better management of dog owners in general. I have complained multiple times about dogs in poor living conditions in my area (left outside for 12+ hours in a tiny space with no access to shade, distressed dogs left out during thunder storms, poorly socialised dogs etc.) and nothing is ever done about it. It feels like the council only steps in after an incident has occured, when they should be front footing potential issues

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2430	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It shouldn't matter how many dogs if they are all under control as stated. My dog goes on pack walks and the walker has control over the pack. The dogs have a great time being able to explore together large areas which there are not many of.
2434	Support		I have watched ' carers' with 6/ 8 dos large and small and while most appear under control , there is a sense of unease, only one breakaway can upset the balance
2492	Support		This ratio is feasible for dog and public safety.
2545	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No problem with current limit. The problem is with the people proposing this change.
2552	Support		Probably 6 is too many, I would reduce 2 on a leash and 1 off leash
2636	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dogs that are being walked by professional dog walkers are not the problem, they are under control usually. You just make it harder yet again for RESPONSIBLE dog owners who do register their dogs, who make sure the dogs get exercise and are trained. This is NOT going to deal with the problem. It is the thousands of unregistered dogs, that roam, get mistreated, not spayed, not vaccinated, not trained that are the problem here. Try and crack down on those not people who take care of their pooches and put time and effort/money into training, getting them walked and so on.
2646	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Handlers should be regulated and trained rather than the number of dogs being impacted.
2655	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The main issue is negligent owners with untrained / intact dogs running wild. These proposed rules are only impacting law abiding citizens and will greatly affect the dog walking community. There are two, full time working adults in our household and pack walks allow our dog to leave the house and play with other dogs each day. The alternative would be that our dog sits at home all day, alone - cruel! These proposed rules appear to be written by dog haters and will make access to dog walkers near impossible for the middle-lower class. Those that would break the law, will continue to do so anyway.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2670	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This directly impacts sensible dog owners who utilise professional dog walking companies to ensure their animals are properly trained and exercised when they are unable to do so (ie at work). It will not prevent negligent dog owners from letting their animals run wild because they will just do that anyway. This will actually harm the wellbeing of dogs because owners will now be unable to afford professional dog walking services and the problem still won't be solved.
2767	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There needs to be some consideration of size and weight of dogs. Three Rottweilers on lead would be hard to manage, 6 daschunds would be easy. Some form of licence sounds a good idea.
2809	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Because it's a dog walkers livelihood at stake and they are running a business and very professional and responsible. I can't think who else apart from that group would walk more than 6 dogs so it feels very targeted to a group who are not contributing to any issues.
2917	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog has the best days out with our dog walker as is. They are always happy and safe and so is the public. Not fair to the dogs having some on leash and some off leash, some dogs get more aggressive when dogs are on leash and contained vs in the free.
2958	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For all dog owners who send their dogs on adventure walks with more than 3 dogs at a time, this is simply unfair to any dog that ends up on a lead while the others can roam free, this can also cause leash agression due to jealously. With prices currently already high for this kind of care it would be nigh on impossible for those of us with middling incomes to afford something like this when costs go up due to a policy change. Please think of all of us who have to work 9-5 in an office, where we're not allowed dogs and need to send them out to socialise rather than being at home alone. This change impacts a lot of people negatively to what aim?
2963	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We currently have both of our dogs enrolled with a dog walker which has been extremely beneficial to their socialisation skills and happiness. To bring in this rule would negatively impact our dogs and bring greater costs to us, the customer and ratepayer for Auckland Council. We do not support this change at all due to the negative impact it would have on our dogs and also ourselves.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2993	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Would severely limit existing dog walking services - with no added benefit. Some dogs are reactive to being on leash while others are on leash. There is an increase in the number of dog owners I imagine post covid, and dog walking services are critical, under the changes the costs would become way to high for owners, resulting in under exercised dogs (which I would think would lead to higher dog health issues and noise complaints), and challenges with dogs being on leash and off by same walker.
3014	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Council needs to set policies that are suitable for the majority of law-abiding hard working Aucklanders not the minority.
3016	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Legitimate dog pack walkers have never caused a concern for me or my dog. It's off leash roaming dogs with no person in control of them that are the issue and are unsafe to people and other animals
3052	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Every week we send our Labrador Retriever, Walt, on a pack walk with City Pets Adventures, an off leash pack walk company. Walt absolutely loves his walks, he always comes back so happy. Citypets are a fantastic company and all their walkers are professionally trained and take great care to ensure that they are respectful of others and the environment in which they are walking. The changes to the bylaws will not only impact us (in terms of increased costs, or not even being able to use their services) but will also unduly impact Citypets and other companies around Auckland who provide an excellent service. I strongly oppose the proposed changes.
3098	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This proposal will limit the exercise opportunities for Auckland dogs resulting in poor health outcomes for the dogs and increased irritation for the public who then has to put up with agitated and under exercised dogs barking. The proposal to limit the number of dogs off lead will make paid dog walking unaffordable for most dog owners as it is not safe to only have some dogs off lead while others are restrained.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3167	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	- Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. - Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. - Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe.. This hinders many dogs ability to be trained and given the opportunity to be trusted. There are vast amounts of good honest dog owners who spend time training their beloved friend well so that they may have the freedom to enjoy running around parks, walk off lead or playing. The only thing that should be added is severe consequences for owners who are bad, those who have no control over their aggressive dogs. They need to have the dog removed and either fined or if they are repeat offenders, jail time.
3232	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change to the rules means that my dog won't have enough exercise during the week buy dog walkers, this greatly impacts our dog, as we cannot afford for her to be walked more when at work during the day. Buy changing this rule it means she won't be off the lead and free having a good time which is what we want and what we pay for! This change is a crucial inconvenience to all dog owners, and dog walkers.
3240	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	On the whole, people walking multiple dogs do have control of thengogs, the walker has a relationship with the dogs and the dogs know their place within the pack and at times are placed on a lead if the handler thinks the dog is displaying any behaviours or not listening. Being in a group of dogs running together back and forth, jumping over things or swimming together and stopping to sniff as feels has been beneficial in the overall behavior and socialisation of my dog. Linda
3257	Support		I think expecting a walker to have control of more than 6 dogs at any one time is unrealistic. I don't feel strongly about the maximum number that can be off-leash, as that depends on the personalities/bond of the dogs and the walker.
3320	Support		Safety for others around them if something goes wrong

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3408	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed changes. This is because my dog currently attends a dog walker and goes on pack walks and this change will negatively impact her activity as a dog during these walks, that's if her dog walker can remain in business. The impacts of these restrictions will mean that my dog walker (who is incredible and in the 4 years we have used her, we have had no issues. Might I add this is in stark contrast to the 3 months my dog spent at a doggy day care centre where she was ill treated and was involved in several scuffles and fights - but I notice the council are doing nothing to monitor or police these types of dog centres) may need to close her doors due these restrictions. This will have a knock on effect as we will no longer have access to a professional dog walker, which is going to massively affect our ability to provide our dog with the enrichment she needs and deserve (as you have clearly stated you want to) whilst we are at work. The limitations appear to be a knee jerk reaction to some absolutely awful stories recently in the media, however they also appear to be a solution in search of a problem. I am wholly in support of the council making professional dog walkers be licenced, and having such a licence would then allow certain people who are well trained and responsible to be able to have unlimited amount of dogs (or similar to car licences the better trained you are the more dogs you can have). Empowering such responsible dog walkers would give the public the confidence that any loose dogs they encounter are only those who are licensed. This would also provide an loption that should you be out with loose dogs/too many dogs and you are not licenced, you can be fined/punished by the law/ have licences taken off you. A

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3555	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have had experience sending my dog on two experienced, fully professional dog walking and adventure groups. Both groups were explemplary in their training, guidelines and safety measures in place for walking/adventuring with groups of dogs. I don't think the number of dogs allowed with solve any issues with the odd dog fight as whether there are two or ten dogs a fight or disagreement can still break out. The dogs we walked with were all temperament tested and grouped accordingly. I had total faith in the organisstions I was with that they were doing everything in their power to be as safe as possible. When you go to a dog park - regardless of dog walking packs or professional groups, there will be more than 4, 6, 8 dogs off leash - so the rule makes no real sense. Also, you will put a lot of people out of business. I think it would be better to tighten the rules on buying dogs, owning dogs to eliminate the bad eggs who do not train or treat dogs well, don't care about pets - only want a bully dog etc. With the above proposal you are penalising the large majority of the population of pet owners and businesses who are doing a responsible and as best job they can to look after, care for and stimulate their pets properly. There are some rogue groups and rogue owners and there should be more energy and money put in to catching and restricting them or policing areas where they are known to frequent.
3633	Do not support		No dogs should be off leash.
3704	Support		Still quite high, but not sure what the current limit is.
3726	Support		A walker with a large amount of dogs is a risk to others. I don’t feel safe walking my dog near a large group of dogs as they would be unable to maintain control if something went wrong. They also let large groups off leash at once and have no control over them rushing up to other dog walkers. Dog owners should also not want their dogs to be in such an uncontrolled environment for their own dog’s safety too.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3760	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	1) where is the consultation document with Industry? I have a dog that walks with CITY Pets. Their staff have not been consulted with. Theses are professional dog walkers that absolutely understand how to walk dog packs. 2) These dog walkers actively train dogs and their owners. Therefore you are talking to people that are most likely responsible , are compliant and are spending a lot of money on a dog walking service that is more than just dog walking to create well balanced and socialized dogs 3) concerns around health and safety of dogs on leash and offleash at the same time. This scenario places dogs into a power imbalance and puts handlers at risk of dog reactivity and being put into situations that are manageable when all dogs are either all on or off leash. Please consult with dog psychologists and professionals , before placing the dog handlers into this situation. Talk to the industry. 4) the number of dogs in a pack is almost irrelevant whether it is 6, 10 or 15. It is how the packs are managed and rotated and what dogs are on boarded and how they are on boarded. How did even come up with the number 3 onleash and 3 off leash .? What is the evidence and rationale for this. 5) Increases to costs to pet owners that are Very responsible and probably extremely compliant in other ways as well . City pets walks around 800 dogs a week. Successfully without issues. Forcing lesser dogs in packs will drive costs up and put dogs into a situation where the service is no longer affordable. You have now created stress on the owner and impacted animal welfare. 6) I honestly think you need to talk to the dog walking industry first. At least a lot of them have very high standards and that should be acknowledged and this best practice standardized across the industry. That way we can regs the services. Let them come up
3895	Support		Walking large numbers compromise the dogs welfare as many "pack walkers" are using aversive methods such as shock collars and slip leads to keep the dogs "under control". This is especially common when they are walking more than 6 dogs at a time. These methods cause pain and fear which is well known to lead to an increased risk of aggression towards both dogs and people. Dogs also naturally prefer smaller groups so 6 is a good upper limit to ensure the dogs mental well being is looked after, lowering the risk of an incident occurring between the dogs, members of the public and their dogs.
3959	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are professionals whi know hiw to handle the dogs Limits on numbers will increase costs of the service

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3960	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support limiting the number of dogs that a person may walk at one time to 6 , and all these dogs must be under control at all times (note: this does not necessarily mean on-leash. See below.) Larger groups can be dangerous and disruptive. However, I oppose: Mandating that only 3 dogs can be off leash at a time. This proposal does not take dog psychology into account and doesn't consider the pack environment and moving together as a unit. While our instincts might say that "fewer dogs off-leash" means less risk, this is not the case. Group walking is about working with dogs' natural instincts to move as a pack. The ability to have control of dogs off-leash is reduced if you are also managing dogs on-leash. Dogs will not respect the difference between these two states. Six dogs moving as a pack, following the pack leader (the walker) are much more easily led and controlled than having three off leash and three on. In that situation, the walker will be less able to respond to any interactions or possible incidents, and will have to manage two groups of dogs in two different ways. We expect this change to be difficult to comply with, and if enforced, we expect that it will have a detrimental effect on dogs and their owners/walkers and the experience of other park users. I encourage the Council to reject this proposed change.
4049	Support		Too many dogs makes it very hard for the walker to safely control
4152	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Deal with individuals if non compliant. No need to change what in the most part is working.
4211	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Owners must be able to see their dogs at all times, 2 seems a reasonable number to be able to keep an eye on off leash. Plus 2 onleash, one in each hand.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4409	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You are not differing between a business dog walker and a personal dog walker. A company that provides dog walking as a business and takes dogs for a good run of over 2 hours should be allowed to have greater numbers off leash. Dog walkers that have had no training should be limited to 8 dogs or less with 3 off leash. Dogs love to exercise and it would be hard for a business dog walker to keep some on leash while others are off leash.
4470	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This number has been pulled out of a hat. Dog walkers are professionals. These numbers are cherry picking and force them to adhere to a rule that does not negatively impact anyone. How many complaints are about dog walkers and number of dogs. This is all just heresay.
4581	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You haven't presented any evidence showing that the number of dogs being walked is strongly related to undesirable outcomes. Essentially, what this could be is a restriction placed on dog walkers with insufficient justification. If there's a genuine, statistical relationship between these things then at what point does the risk of an undesirable outcome decrease to a tolerable level? It seems like the limits have been derived from your vibes rather than any evidence.
4655	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For professional dog walkers, this unfairly targets professionals. Licensing of some kind, rather than a total ban or arbitrary limit, would work better to address any issues with professional dog walkers.
4672	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own a dog that goes on pack walks twice a week. I do not agree with the council wanting a limit how many dogs should be walked at one time, as that then puts my dog at risk of loosing her spot for runs with the professional dogs walkers who also have their dogs under control at all times!. We do not have time to do these with her or go where they go each week, having a family and a full time job but our dog needs this for her breed and she loves it♡ (unregistered dog walkers or people not trained are a different thing, so it needs to be worded very carefully to aim it at limit for those walkers as that is not a business already established.
4713	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don’t believe that limiting the number of dogs will stop bad Actors in the current climate to be addressed. If anything, it negatively impacts great dog walking groups, and creates more opportunities for bad dog walkers to continue with smaller groups

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4812	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My good friend is a professional dog-walker, her livelihood relies on being able to walk multiple dogs (in a professional and safe manner) all in one go. She is trained and very adequate in managing a large number of dogs during her pack walks - up to 13 dogs at a time. She has undergone extensive training and development on dog behaviour to allow her to always have control over the dogs she walks, she also vets and qualifiies all new dogs before they join pack walks. If the number of dogs she was able to walk in one go was reduced, it would heavily reduce her earning capability per walk, meaning she'd have to do shorter walks and more walks per day to survive. It's simply unfair to propose a change like this based on the small minority of people, without considering how it impacts people who are responsible and careful. At the very least, if this were implemented, I would want to see professional dog walkers able to apply for licenses / permits to allow for a large volume of dogs to be walked - be it on leash or off leash.
5167	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think there are some very sensible dog owners, dog walkers, pack walkers who take amazing care and committment to walking their dog/dogs in a controlled manner. I think if you are a pack dog walker - you should have a licence as such that shows you have completed an online course on dog behaviour/temperament and have been approved to walk dogs under your care.
5169	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	All dogs should always be on leash. And no more than 3 dogs unless Walker is a registered dog walker with no previous animal control notifications

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5265	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I am the owner of a professional dog walking business, Sticks & Bones, I am also a DogsNZ registered breeder & show handler - I am committed to my involvement with dogs, n many levels. I have been involved in commercial dog walking for almost 15 years, and operating my business for almost 10 years. I have been mentored by one f the most well recognised Canine Educators through out my career with dogs. I have personally conducted in excess of 9560 walks with clients dogs over the last 10 years, all of these walks have been conducted in off leash parks or on leash in public spaces in Auckland city. It is my professional and personal view that no person can safely control more than 4 dogs, this is for multiple reasons, which are set out in the following guidelines which form part of the Sticks & Bones - Dog Walking operating protocol. 1. Welfare. The dog's physical health and mental wellbeing should be the priority at all times, especially if you are a professional handler / being paid to walk a dog. Many dogs have individual conditions that will affect their ability to go for walks, as will their age; and all dogs have their own individual personalities and characteristics which will affect how they are walked, who they can be walked with and where they can be walked. This is of particular importance if dogs do not interact well with other dogs, people or other species
5268	Support		It is uncommon that people are able to safely control more than 6 dogs
5293	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 4 dogs, with no more than 4 dogs off leash unless licence obtained. 4 dogs off leach are manageable. Most dog owners and walkers are responsible and we shouldn't over regulate, as we know the small percentage of irresponsible people will continue to behave irresponsibly.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5360	Support		I have owned a dog in Auckland for 12 years. I have on multiple occasions been concerned about the safety of the off-leash professional dog walkers. They just have too many dogs. It's impossible to supervise the safety of individual dogs in such a large group. Many of our off leash dog parks are not well fenced and you are expected to keep control of your own dog. If an excited dog runs off after another dog/cat/bird/rabbit/person/bike/car, there is literally nothing the dog walker can do until they have caught and leashed all their other dogs (15-20 mins minimum)- by then the dog will be long gone or hit by a car or whatever. Often they arrive at the dog park and all dogs poo on arrival, and the dog walker has too many dogs to keep track of picking up all the poos. I have on multiple occasions been yelled at by a "professional" dog walker to keep my small, well-behaved off-leash dog away from her group of 10+ dogs - and she is probably one of the smarter ones realising that I have an unknown dog (and she might have some she doesn't trust well either) and if a fight starts there is little she can do. However I don't appreciate basically being told to leave the off-leash public area while she makes money from it. A good friend of mine has a dog who was lost near muriwai when walked by a professional pick-up dog-walking service - they didn't notice the dog was missing until they counted all the dogs back in the van again. The dog was missing for six nights in the middle of winter and found 7km from where he was lost. Dog walkers should have a limit of three off leash dogs unless they have TWO walkers for safety. Even then, as mentioned, I find the large groups of dogs quite antisocial as the dog walkers don't want your dog mixing with them and so they effectively border off an area of the public
5382	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly support a max of 8 dogs, but in any area where dogs are allowed off-lead, there should be no limit to how many. All dogs off-lead should be under control. In off-lead areas, dog walkers should not be limited by how many in their pack of 8 can be off-lead as long as they are under control. Also where safe and sensible dogs should be aloud off lead.
5472	Support		Agree. Difficult for someone to control that many dogs at one time, particularly off leash.
5500	Support		I think 6 dogs is a fair size for dog groups however all should be allowed off leash in appropriate off leash areas
5522	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	8 believe that a maximum of 8 dogs including being off leash with an experienced pack walker is totally fine. Any more than that is too hectic
5572	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It is up to the dog walker how many dogs they control when excercising. They can use common sense as they should know how each dog behaves

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5642	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe the limit of six dogs/three off-lead should have allowances, provided the handler has demonstrated sufficient training, experience, and judgment in managing dogs. This could be regulated through a licensing system which they could be able to present if requested. Additionally, the weight and size of the dogs should be considered when setting this limit rather than a catch-all.
5801	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Specialist pack walkers are highly skilled and can manage a large number of dogs. They are a fantastic option for working parents to enable their dogs enrichment, exercise and socialisation in a safe environment. I think the issue is with control, which may happen with random dog walkers, but this bylaw would impact many businesses with highly skilled and trained professionals. These trainers are not the issue as dogs with them are under control at all times. Through my fostering work with Chained Dog Rehabilitation and Rehoming I've worked with many pack walkers and their expertise is unmatched.
5947	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think there needs to be a maximum set on the number of dogs and would support eight. However, I think all dogs within a group should be allowed off-leash if under control, not only some. I don't think it is realistic to have some dogs on-leash and some off-leash. My dog attends group walks twice a week and the walker has excellent control over all the dogs (groups range from 5 to 8 maximum). It would be very difficult for a dog walker, or anyone else with multiple dogs, to manage a group of dogs in which some are off leash and playing, and others are on lead. I think it would be chaotic for the dog walker, and they would be pulled by the dogs on lead reacting to the ones that are off-leash. It's likely that the number of dogs being walked would need to be reduced to the number that are allowed off-lead for it to remain manageable. This would result in shorter and more expensive dog walks. As someone who is a responsible owner who pays for my dog to be walked when I am at work, this would disadvantage me financially and mean that my dog will have to spend longer at home alone (currently she is away for 4 hours at a time). These rules seem aimed at dog walkers and yet I do not believe they are the main problem. I frequently walk in off-lead areas and are yet to have an issue with a dog walker with a group of dogs. The dogs tend to be very well controlled and are well socialised due to group walking with other dogs. I do however think there should be some rules / licence for dog walkers although this is not currently being proposed. My actual concern is with the owners who often only have one dog that is not well socialised with other dogs. Most of the dog attacks in my local area (including the streets near where I live in Ellerslie, on Mount Wellington, in Stonefields and in Waitemata)

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6080	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	- at the parks/beaches I frequent there is never a problem with many dogs being present - it is massively impractical to find out how many dogs are in a public space to understand if I can walk there
6103	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not agree limiting dogs off leash the bylaw rule should not come into action leave the rules as they are now as long all dogs are watched vigilantly by owners or walkers There should be no limit as to how many dogs are off leash as long as they are under control and supervised vigilantly there should be no restrictions all the dogs should be able to enjoy themselves off lead . My two dogs attend a dog walking organisation and they have never had any issues whatsoever. I don't condone this new law it should be left as is . Let professional walkers continue to provide an awesome of leash experience for our fur babies. Can the new law and leave the existing one .
6107	Support		Overall I feel that the number of dogs being walked on leash at once is not such an issue as it is often a job and those people take care. I feel strongly about the number of off -leash dogs as most owners do not do this well and it would be difficult to keep an eye on what three dogs are doing at a time, especially if they are off pooing where the dog walkers do not see. And if they still had another three dogs on leash this becomes a lot of living creatures to manage.
6124	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Create a license and testing for walking multiple dogs. Specialists have the ability to control multiple dogs while some people may not even be able to fully control 2 dogs. The number of dogs doesn't matter. It's the capability of the walker.
6444	Support		I generally support this, but I also believe dog walking businesses should have proper licensing.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6518	Support		It concerns me when I see one dog pack walker with many dogs off their leashes. How can they manage all the dogs at once on their own when the dogs are going in different directions? What if they loose one dog and don't notice it? What if there is a fight amongst the dogs but they are also trying to control the others? By limiting the number of dogs on a pack walk, they will be better able to manage any situation that may arise for not only their own safety but the safety of the dogs they are with and other people/dogs in the area. Will there be a limit to the number of dog walkers that can walk together? For example, if three dog walkers are walking together at Big King with six dogs each, that's 18 dogs with potentially 9 of them off their leashes. I'd like to recommend that the maximum number of dog walkers together is two so that the total number of dogs off-leash doesn't exceed 6. This would be easier to manage and would minimise disruption to others in the area.
6581	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	maximum 6 dogs under control of one person. the split number on and off leash is not logical
6593	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Safety.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6607	Support		I strongly endorse and applaud the Auckland Councils' proposed changes to limit the number of dogs a person can walk at one time. I would also like to see the implementation of mandatory training to ensure commercial dog walkers understand canine behaviour and pack dynamics. These are much overdue first steps to regulate the commercial dog services industry. Auckland's potential changes would align with recent changes in dog walking regulations worldwide, and with Wellington councils regulations that reflect a growing emphasis on public safety, animal welfare, and environmental protection. Several factors (outlined below) prompted me to feedback to Auckland Council on this matter- not the least of which, is that dogs cannot advocate for themselves but rely entirely on good and knowledgeable human stewardship for all aspects of their welfare. Having owned and looked after dogs, I have firsthand evidence of the negative side of the current commercial dog walking industry, and of many incidents that could have been prevented by appropriate regulations and training requirements for commercial dog walkers. I also have recent first hand evidence that the proposed changes would permit dog walking as a viable commercial enterprise. Specifically, recently I looked after two dogs (long stay)for a family member and a friend. The two dogwalkers used by the owners take only up to six dogs at a time and assess dogs they walk for compatibility prior to taking them on. One of the walkers does two dog walking shifts in a day with a
6614	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will adversely impact responsible dog owners who engage professionals to train and walk their dogs in packs. This is important for controlled socialisation and training of the dogs who in turn have a positive impact on our city's residents.
6646	Support		Dogs being walked off leash need to be able to be recalled for safety of people and other dogs, and it's much safer to reduce this number, especially for public spaces like parks

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6729	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe a limit of 10 dogs is reasonable but think that certification and registration of dog walkers is a much better solution. What we have noticed is that there are 'good' walkers and 'bad' walkers. The proposed restrictions do nothing to stop the 'bad' walkers. Rather it will lead to 'good' walkers leaving the industry as it is not economical for them to operate. By requiring registration (and assessing providers) it will mean that capable / trained professionals can continue to operate while 'bad' walkers will be immediately penalised if they are not registered. Pack walkers have proven to be incredibly valuable to us. We trust our dog walker to manage our dog, the other dogs and to keep them safe. She is typically in a pack of 6-10 dogs and is kept well under control through the use of training, long-lines and e-collars. Our dog walker required an assessment of our dog before being allowed to start walks and had a number of controlled assessments before being allowed to be off leash. We have noticed positive changes in her behaviour since using our current walker. What the proposed restrictions will do is make it uneconomical for the existing providers and will only lead to increased costs and 'good' providers closing down. Which in my view will lead to more incidents as there will only be 'bad' providers left and more going to closer (and already busy) parks and beaches. If dogs aren't able to be properly walked during the day it will only lead to more behavioural issues and incidents. Given the number of people living in smaller apartments and
ŌRĀKEI LOCAL BOARD			
11	Support		We live next to a dog off leash park and have witnessed growing numbers of commercial dog walkers who have many dogs off lead and clearly have no control over them - dangerous for the other single dogs, children and people walking in the park. 6 dogs where 3 are off lead is possibly too many in some cases.
60	Support		Dog walkers must be in control. 6 is still a lot of dogs for one person to control. Members of the public should feel like owners/walkers are in control. We all have a right to feel safe
167	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	For educated and well versed dog walker this should not have been an issue, especially when in deciding which dog to go on- or off-lead. I think we need to look at registering/licensing walkers/ trainers to hold them accountable.
209	Support		Less dogs in parks around kids increases safety. Parks are for people not dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
244	I don’t know		I believe this is a good general rule, but wonder if there is scope for a dogwalking "license" to be created that allows for responsible professional walkers to have a greater number.
266	Support		There are some incredible pack walkers who can handle many dogs off lead at a time, BUT there are too many stories of some dog walkers that just cannot... maybe more regulations for dog walkers would help.
286	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I've walked 10 dogs daily for more than 4 years and the only incidents we've encountered came from unregistered roaming dogs (should be the real focus here). Limiting the number of dogs would completely change the structure of our services, negatively impacting all of my clients. My clients have been messaging me concerned about what this might mean, they pay to have their dog out of the house for the majority of the day, making it a healthy outdoor alternative to daycare. This simply wont be possible if I have to split them into groups across multiple walks, leaving many of my cleints dogs stuck inside their apartments most of the day while the owners are at work. Either that or you'll force walkers to grossly raise their prices in an already expensive industry. Particularly poor timing to jeopardise our income of 'proper' walkers at a time when inflation and redundancies seem to be at an all time high too.... I'm self employed, this would greatly affect my income and work hours so I'm not sure how you'd expect the larger companies to continue to employ staff. These changes will only drive the hard working, law abiding walkers away... how will that be any good for the industry? The dogs absolutely love their 2 hours of highly supervised "freedom", 3 dogs maximum off leash would totally change the dynamic of our walks for the worse. I understand the idea behind it but this is not the solution
322	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I think four dogs to control is plenty - for the person in control of them and for the members of public with children around them.
363	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not accept the proposition that walking multiple dogs under leash is a safety problem. That notion is woke and unnecessary.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
365	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If people can keep thier dogs under control, why should there be a limit on them? Dogs which are not keep under control ruin it for everyone else.
379	Support		good to keep dogs under control
388	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do understand the need to limit dogs per walker (the case of dog walkers being attacked in the UK are cases to consider). I don't see the logic behind having a limit of some on and some off lead as this combination is more likely to be an issue. I would say a reasonable limit of no more than 8 dogs per walker with an expectation that those dogs are under control and in an off leash are if off leash. As with any business you hold them to account. If a walker is repeatedly reported to have dogs off leash and out of control then they should be restricted or limited. Perhaps licensing dog walkers? My suggestion would just be to limit to 8 dogs maximum and allow the walker to choose how to manage those dogs (in terms of all, some or none off leash)
390	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 8 dogs with 8 being off leash. This is to allow responsible pack walkers to walk dogs with freedom without leashes. The whole point of these pack walks is for the dogs to run around and constricting to be on leash defeats the point of the service. Pack walkers should be licensed so them are deemed responsible and if not their license revoked.
403	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why is this an issue?
406	Support		As a dog owner, establishing a maximum makes a lot of sense and ensures the dogs can be kept under control. I'm happy to set the maximum's as outlined but suggest they are potentially reviewed and reduced if necessary. It's hard for any dog owner to have 3 dogs under their control off leash.
412	Support		Safety

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
417	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	While I understand why the proposed change could make sense in certain situations, a number of professional dog walkers use council off-leash areas to walk multiple dogs at once. This change would make dog walking and dog ownership more expensive. The dogs who are walked regularly by professional walkers while owners work are not the problem that this change seeks to remedy, but they are the ones who it will cost if it goes ahead
422	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs are great
444	Support		I think 4 dogs is ok to walk off leash but not more to prevent ‘packs’
447	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would support 6 dogs on or off leash, in off leash approved areas
473	I don’t know		I do not know what the right number is when it comes to "pack walking" as I have seen pack walkers have no control of their dogs, dogs being all squashed together while walking on lead with all the dogs/pack walker. I have also seen pack walkers who are trained, who do small groups and have great control over their dogs. I do believe daycares need to be looked at as there are no regulations for the numbers. I do know of daycares that have workers who are not qualified in dog behaviours, as well as not many workers are there to look after the dogs and the day cares are over crowded with dogs. I do think there are some dog daycares and pack walkers are just in it to get as much money as possible. Dog owners also believe "dogs need pack walking" and "daycares" without doing research, and thinking that's what their dog needs/the easier option. Overall limiting the amount of dogs being does not solve anything. Even just walking two dogs at the same time can go wrong. The focus needs to be skills and capability as well as educating dog owners. As well as help reduce the risk of roaming dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
495	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I do not believe that it is possible to have control of that many dogs when they are off leash, attention must be divided between dogs and it is so easy to miss what a dog is doing because the focus is on another dog in their care
505	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are dog walkers who need public spaces to walk did for the owners that are unable to. It's a responsible dog owner who organises this additional expense as part of their overall family dynamic to have a dog in their home. All dogs need to be socialised and they need space to do that, not just a small controlled area but places to run, roll, swim, and be free. I see professional dog walkers as a cumulative. It's a necessary requirement when both owners need to work. I'm only NOT supporting the change for the professional walkers.
515	Support		6 is a lot of dogs to control at once. I'd suggest less than that
535	Support		I think controlling any more dogs would be very difficult to do properly.if you are walking more than 6 dogs, it is like a pack walk and should probably be done sonewhere else e.g in the countryside not a public park. 6 is still a generous number.
542	Support		I think 6 dogs are enough to control 3 off lead 3 on makes sense
570	Support		One person cannot control more than six dogs at any one time with or without a leash.
600	Support		It is terrifying having to pass large packs of off lease dogs.
604	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Because the people walking multiple dogs I have consistently witnessed, are expert dog handlers or professional dog walkers, and have very well trained and controlled dogs.
610	Support		Wording here needs to be clarified that the limits apply per person. Assuming this is PER PERSON I support this because it can be hard to keep track of a large number of dogs. Making sure they’re all walking nicely, still have enough energy to continue walking, cleaning up after them etc. I don’t believe large pack walks really ensure each dog gets the amount of attention they deserve. I think larger pack walks can lead to dogs having their necks pulled by leads, not being supervised enough to make sure they’re not eating things they shouldn’t etc.
637	Support		The trend to use dog walkers has grown. We have ourselves used such a service in the past. It can be intimidating to other park users if a walker has a large number of dogs. In particular, if those dogs are not properly controlled. I agree with this policy change.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
643	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because I think that if dogs are under control there wouldn't be a problem. Its the CONTROL that is up for discussion in my opinion and maybe the methods of control that need to be revised. I do think that there should be categories of a) people who walk their own dogs and b) people who walk other peoples dogs, whether this is paid or unpaid.
654	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is stupid
662	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 6 dogs with up to 4 off-leash. My two border collies go on pack walks every week and on average, 4 will play well together and 2 need to be on leash.
717	Support		More than 6 dogs takes up all the pathway and can be a trip hazard
718	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum one dog, only ON LEASH at all times.
794	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I disagree with the current proposed changes to limit people to walking 6 max dogs. This change will negatively impact my professional dog trainer who walks my dog once a week, by reducing the number of dogs she can walk, meaning less exercise for my dog. This could result in boredom barking at home, annoying my neighbours. This will also impact my dog trainer's business, she'll no longer be able to afford to provide the services she does. Professional pack walkers should not have their livelihood affected, so this change is not welcomed.
806	I don’t know		I support the proposal to limit the maximum number of dogs to 6 but I think 'good' professional dog walkers might be able to handle 6 dogs off leash rather than the proposal of 3 off leash and 3 on leash. I would prefer to see some sort of licensing system for professional dog walkers so that licensed dog walkers can walk more dogs off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
809	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Consult with industry so they and their customers are not affected by this. Most commercial dog walkers are responsible and can manage current pack sizes such as 8 and 8 off lead. Most walkers do not let dogs off lead unless they can be controlled and dogs must earn this right. This is an important service for many owners and changing law will make it unaffordable to owners and decrease the viability of dog walking services. Instead you should look at having harsh fines for dog walkers that have uncontrolled packs. Maybe walkers should be certified to get an exemption to walk more dogs if they have a proven record of no incidents. There are always cowboys out there which are a minority, you need to target these people not the walkers that are trained and know how to walk their pack.
818	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What a silly restriction. Rarely comes up on the ground. but when it does, as in the case of dog walking individuals or businesses, the walkers are invariably experienced and careful else their businesses would fail. Leave this non-problem alone.
819	Support		I think this benefits the public when walking their own dogs that they aren't bombared with mass groups of off-leash dogs. So many local parks in Auckland have been taken over by pack walkers and my solo dog might get swarmed by a pack of 10-20 off leash dogs, it feels very unsafe

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
843	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. Any dog that does not follow the commands of the pack walker or is too boisterous is put back on leash immediately. My dog has benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company by building her confidence. She is an anxious dog and her pack has taught her how to be a dog, along with the extra off lead training she receives from her walker. She gets the exercise required for a big dog, so she doesn't get bored once at home and cause issues disturbing the neighbours. Her pack walker has great control over her pack and in the past 2.5 years we have been using this company there has never been a single issue. If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would probably put the cost up to the point that we could no longer afford to send her on the walks. The point of the walks is for the dogs to explore in areas most of us can't take then during the week. The company may not be able to offer the same great service or well trained walkers if they needed to change the structure of the business.
867	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I'd like to think that most dog walkers are responsible and providing a valuable service of socialising dogs. Our dog goes on a pack walk once a week and it is the highlight of her week. The walker is a train dog trainer and provides excellent training for our dog. It is invaluable.
879	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Unnecessary rules and regulations should be avoided.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
883	Support		I wholeheartedly support this change as it's been my observation when out walking my dog that few of these dog-walking businesses have adequate control over the multiple numbers of dogs they are exercising; if there was a fight, an attack or the dogs off-leash take flight the situation would quickly spiral out of control.
890	Support		I'm a dog owner and there is no way people can control more dogs than that at once.
902	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	for public safety
904	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dogs got out with a pack of 7 or 8 and they have the best time and are way out where no one else is around on the western to southern beaches so this is ridiculous. Do mNOT support Thi at all
917	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a dog owner, I know lots of dog walkers and this would seriously impact their businesses. They are often talking more than 3 dogs for a swim or forest walk and have excellent control of their 'packs'. Instead you should fine dog walkers who can't control the dogs they're walking or are allowing those dogs to be a nuisance
947	Support		Even 6 dogs can be too many at times. I would be more inclined to allow 4
953	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People with a number of dogs are responsible and reliable
962	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have a dog myself and feel no one person should be walking more than 2 dogs and only 2 off leash in off leash areas if the dogs can be controlled. Dogs should not be used as a money making business.
977	Support		Any more and it becomes a health & safety issue for others using the pathways. I belive that managing more than 6 dogs is not achievable. Not all dogs will be obedient and in the event that some are not behaving, it would be difficult for the person to manage all the dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1023	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If they are under control, what does it change? I have not seen a professional dog walker out of control. They are a pack animal and behave better in numbers with hierarchy. Plus a person could still not walk on the path with 6 dogs so what does it change??
1024	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think the proposal will result in viable and trustworthy dog-walking businesses losing custom or even going under. This feels punitive and will harm these businesses that provide safety and care for dogs.
1028	Support		I'd like to see the numbers reduced further than what is proposed but any reduction is better than nothing
1033	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would support 6 dogs, without a restriction of whether there in lash or not. My 2 dogs are exercised 3 times a week by a fantastic dog-walker who walks them off leash with up to 3 other dogs. This is an important and enriching part of their lives. They love their doggy friends and their dog walker, and we rely on the enrichment this exercise provides. If our dog walker is forced to only walk 3 dogs off leash, then she might go out of business, which would be deviating for us and our dogs.
1060	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Please consider the unintended consequences of your proposed rule.Dog walking will be much more expensive and many dogs will not be walked as a result.I understand that you have reacted to complaints but should the vast majority be affected by the some irresponsible walkers?Surely you have sufficient powers already to deal with these people.Is it really necessary to punish the responsible for the actions of a few?Think about dog owners who must work to pay the bills who will now be faced with the decision to pay more or just leave the poor dog at home all day.
1107	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I use a dog walker who carefully manage only 4/off leash dogs at a time and I think that is the optimum number. I object to dog walkers who try to walk more than 4 dogs
1128	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be different limits for licenced and non licenced people. Non licenced should have no more than 4 dogs. Might need to put a weight criteria on the dogs as 5 pugs will be much easier to control than 2 pitbulls. Licenced dog handlers should be able to look after 8-10 dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1135	Support		It needs to take into account dog walkers as they are a necessary support especially for working mothers and working families. It's better to encourage dog walkers with rules than have dogs left at home
1144	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Focus on unregistered and roaming dogs. Dogs with dog walkers have responsible owners.
1167	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Professional dog walkers have larger packs. This impedes on NZ small businesses and does not make this service viable for the business owner and the customer (dog owners)
1210	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Regulations on complaints about individual people who are responsible for the dogs they are walking. A blanket rule shouldn't be made for everyone. One person could have two dogs and have no control at all, and another person could walk 8 dogs with full understanding of behaviour and have complete control. Regulations need to be made to individuals. A great idea would be to issue a license to walk more then X amount of dogs. And harsher consequences for breaking rules/not having control over dogs or having more than one or two complaints.
1224	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	maximum 4 dogs and all 4 able to be off lead if under control- in a dog appropriate area or else all dogs on leads if not dog safe
1226	Support		Safety of others and their on leash pets from dogs chasing, attacking etc. Despite the best efforts of well trained dogs with good dog handlers. A dog can still have a good walk on a leash.
1248	Support		The large packs are scary walkers often cannot keep an eye on all of the boys at once and do not pick up mess
1263	Support		Need to be able to control dogs and pick up any droppings, 6 dogs enough
1264	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	for private dog owners I think this is fine. however, when we're referring to qualified dog trainers who are pack walking, I don't see the issue here. We use one of these services, twice a week to break up our (rescue) dog's day at home, and they are fantastic and have been instrumental in her ongoing training. Could not support them more. There seems to be no explanation why this change is being made or how the number of dogs were arrived at, however, we do know that if the price per pack walk increased, this would limit our ability to use the service - and the only victim would be our dog who is benefitting from the ongoing training and socialisation.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1265	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	There are more and more dog walking businesses and they are not trained one person just simply cannot control the amount of dogs they walk at once.. The dogs are in a pack, it one dog kicks off the rest could potentially get involved.
1278	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	At Madills farm I do not support the removal of the dog-friendly family amenity provided by the large open run-free space currently available. The proposal covers a very large portion of the open part of the park with a no-access area and will significantly affect the ability of families with dogs to play and run together. There does not appear to be a replacement open-space area that is dog friendly in the immediate vicinity. The loss of amenity in this area is unacceptable given how many dog-loving families would have moved into the area relying on the dog-friendly play area. It is unrealistic to keep dogs off grass areas unless they are fenced off from immediately adjacent dog-friendly grass areas. This will effectively reduce the ability of dogs to visit a higher proportion of the park than intended when off leash.
1279	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Rather than make laws which affect all dog owners who control their dogs. Police the laws that exist. Just because you have bad dog owners or people walking dogs. Don't take away the rights of good owners because there are bad owners. At the park I walk our dogs , I have not seen a dog warden. Does that mean there is not a problem.
1302	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If a professional handler has a specific training regime allowing multiple dogs under control, then this should be allowed. My dogs walker is trained and controls multiple dogs with months of individual training and integration into a pack. Dog walking should have a license much like doctors etc. Showing their training and skills allowing them to practice.
1323	Support		There are too many dog walkers that have little to no control over the dogs in their care. This is unsafe for both the public, and the dogs.
1416	Support		Supports dog exercise and responsible control of walker. Dogs off lease are a problem at times. Needs accountability of enforcement if off lease dogs are badly behaved.
1421	Support		I think I generally support this - however there could be a licence for dog walking/pet care companies that may be able to manage a higher amount at a time.
1616	Support		A large number of dogs can be hard to control, no matter how well trained they are. 6 is a good number for professional dog walkers as it still allows them to make money without bein so many they can't control them. 3 on leash, 3 off leash is a fair number.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1655	Support		We are dog owners and believe dogs walked in packs need to be manageable - too many dogs means less care and less supervision of their well being. Also need to ensure dog walkers are able to pick up each dog's bowel movements.
1734	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Ridiculous rule
1781	Support		Too many off leash dogs causing fights and poo not being picked up
1789	Support		I don't feel dog walkers can comfortably walk more than this while maintaining reduced stress and anxiety in the dogs. It is overwhelming being in a public place with huge numbers of dogs walking towards you all tied up together, or running in all directions. I have to take my dog and leave. These walkers are not required to have any education in dog behaviour or body language/communication.
1790	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Ridiculous idea to limit the number of dogs walking together at 6. This would limit the activities of professional dog walkers. You should spend the money targeting other areas that need it more such as responsible dog ownership, education and work on improving the odds of a dog coming out of a council owned dog shelter alive! You are targeting the wrong people.This idea will only hurt those who show responsibility in the dog community.
1845	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dogs must be under control at all times says it all. It’s not about the number.
1861	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Making sure dogs are well behaved is much more important than limiting numbers.
1863	Support		I think this is a fair number for someone to control, clean up any dog poos done etc

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1886	Support		I can see the potential issues, having witnessed people struggling to keep an eye on just 2 or 3 dogs. Inevitably this increases risk of dog litter being missed and dogs interfering with people that may not appreciate dogs. Reducing the number of dogs that can be walked by a single person is a sensible mitigation to this.
1898	Support		Makes sense and also allows for free play and control of them
1905	Support		I support this for any general dog walker, because I don't believe that that many dogs can adequately be looked after, and see when they are pooing etc. HOWEVER, I think that a license or permission to walk more if someone is a professional, the dogs are trained and they dog walk for a living, that they can have more dogs.
1948	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think there should be some regulation here, and there should be some control on the ratio of dogs to handlers. But there are very good dog walkers and there are poor dog walkers. Rather than applying some blanket rules, I think you should work with the dog walking/trainers to find a better solution. Dog walkers who have actual qualifications such as being a certified trainer, are more likely to be able to handle larger groups of dogs than people with no training.
1949	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There have not been any issues caused by too many dogs walked at one time. There is no need for this to be regulated.
1970	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	increased costs to dog owners and reduced pack walking availlabilty.
1984	Support		Gives better control of dogs but more importantly gives the dogs a better experience when being walked.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1994	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I've had my dog on pack walks for years with amazingly skilled walkers, and no issues. Punishing the good operators due to the actions of a few bad operators is not fair. The woman that had the incident refused training when offered and was extremely arrogant, was known for this in the industry, they all thought she was a ticking time bomb. Reducing the dog numbers would not have avoided this as she was simply not in control of her pack, could have happened with 2 dogs under her control. You need to talk to some experts in the industry not make your own decisions on this.
2014	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I disagree with a numerical limit on the number of dogs as unruly/ unwanted dog behaviour is more attributed to the owner/ dog handler not the number of dogs. We currently use a professional dog trainer and wholly trust them and have seen evidence of the dogs (where more tan 3 will be off lead) are under control. This is in contrast to having encountered dogs who are on lead and or off lead, a single dog with one person who lacks dog training and control over their dog and witness unwanted an very risky behaviours. The number limit does nothing to target the real issues around training and control. A better alternative to target the "cowboy" dog walkers would be to introduce legislation around licensing of dog walking with help from an appropriate group to determine what criteria should be met. As it stands, this current proposal does not appropriately nor adequately address the issues.
2017	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You will only negatively affect the good dog responsible dog owners The bad dog will only continune to be bad
2020	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Honestly I think professional dog walkers should be able to acquire a license to walk multiple dogs. They should prove they have some kind of training in dog behaviour/ physiology. I agree not every Tom dick and Harry should be able to walk multiple dogs but those who are educated and walk dogs as their profession should be allowed
2029	Support		Fear of control of walker of too many dogs
2032	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think that dog walkers should be able to walk as many dogs as they like provided they have them under control. Also, I have never encountered a dog walker with more than 6 dogs anyway. If a dog owner / dog walker had more than three dogs who were obedient I would not have an issue with them being off lead. I don't think a change is needed.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2048	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This seems ridiculous. Dog walkers shouldn't have their businesses capped. I don't understand why dog numbers are being restricted - what are these proposed dog restrictions based on? What data? People should be allowed to walk as many dogs as they please.
2057	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In general, I am happy with a cap for the general public. 6 & 3 seems ok. However, there are responsible dog walking businesses that use some local parks to walk multiple dogs off-leash at once. This would ruin there business.
2091	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I'm a lawyer and I used to be Head of Legal and Regulatory at Queenstown Lakes District Council. I low live on Auckland's biggest offense dog park. When we drafted our dog bylaws we carefully reviewed Auckland's for guidance. The whole core of the dog bylaws is that whether your dog is on lead or not, that you must have "control" over your dog. It is not possible to have control over 6 dogs especially of three are off lead. I walk my dog every day I the park and none of the dog walkers have "control" over their dogs. Therefore, all these dog walkers are currently in breach of the existing bylaws. There is no way with 6 dogs they can "control" one of the dogs if it runs off, gets into fight or otherwise. If Auckland Council approves the walking of 6 dogs they might as well scrap the dog bylaws altogether as obviously a person walking six dogs has at most a sixth of the control of a person walking a single dog. It would also be inconsistent to require a license to keep more than two dogs but allow any untrained person to walk 6 in public places
2122	Support		Safer on the footpaths with max 6. More enjoyable for dogs as well. The large packs don't seem as happy.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2138	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walking multiple dogs is dangerous, especially in off-leash situations. As you will appreciate dogs are pack and predator animals who react with fight or flight. It is not their fault when things go wrong. A highly trained dog may not recall when feeling under threat or in a dominant situation, A maximum of two dogs may still be and have been seen to be uncontrollable. Prevention first is a better solution than a dangerous situation arising. If multiple dogs are to be, a law should be based around a lower number of dogs and NO OFF-LEASH walking. There is simply NO way a dog walker can control an unsuspected situation arising if they have multiple dogs on and off-leash. Consideration also should be given to being on narrow walking tracks as there is absolutely NO WAY that a member of the public walking or walking their own dog can get passed and this is a heightened danger zone to the public. Multiple dog walkers should stick to open-spaced reserves, a maximum of four dogs, and ABSOLUTELY ON LEASH 100% of the time to avoid any situation arising. by-laws should be considered around training and annually registering dog walkers and providing guidance if a dog attack occurs, what is the progress, and who is responsible for vet or medical bills. Consideration to be given to enforcing dog walkers should carry their license and present it on demand to a council worker, Dog Control Officer, or police. And these rules are to be advertised and publically known so that victims are not just verbally abused or requested to sort out the issue themselves. A license should be obtained for simply being a multiple-dog walker so there is a record that makes people more accountable for their actions. After all, you need a license to [illegible]
2139	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as dogs are under control there is no point to limit the amount of dogs per person,
2160	Support		Because over that amount is a commercial activity and more likely to result in challenging or damaging situations

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2174	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 8 dogs is understandable, however I think it would be fair for professional dog walkers to be able to apply for a license to walk all 8 off leash as they are providing a service and if they have the proper experience and training can have all dogs under control. I send my dog out with a professional pack walking company and have done for a year now. He is a 2yo border collie cross not neutered and has had a great experience every walk, comes home happy and well socialised. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. It would be a real shame if rules were to change that I would not be able to send my dog out with this company due to laws changing. Prices will go up and there will be less availability, we rely on this one walk a week to free us up for work meetings and other work related things. I understand the need for controlling dogs in AKL, as I was bitten in October last year, however there are certain owners who do not take responsibility for their pets. It is unfair to punish us responsible owners due to poorly trained and educated dogs and owners.
2177	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be as much dogs allowed to be on and off leash, it is not fair for some people who have more than 3 dogs and they need to take them off leash.
2192	I don't know		Large dog walking can work if they are well trained but it is disaster if they're not
2204	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No change to the maximum number of dogs but a requirement for pack dog walkers (over 3 dogs) to have a dog walking and control qualification. Changing the law to a 6 dog limit makes it unviable business which will impact the health and wellbeing a thousands of currently happy dogs who get walked while their owners are at work.
2209	Support		This is a lot of dogs for one person to effectively control.
2277	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	there has been no problem with my dogs being taken for a pack walk with responsible dog walkers , it is unfair that these responsible people are being penalised. They are very responsible and considerate and ensure the safety of of the public's c. My dog has a very good outing and as such i don't have to take them myself to a public park. This absurd rule is going to impact sll dog owners and dog walkers in a negative way way! please do not change this regulation,

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2281	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog participates in pack walks and we believe this is hugely beneficial. If there are reduced numbers of dogs able to participate then professional dog walking may be unsustainable or cost prohibitive.
2307	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dog walker is responsible they will know the dogs and they will be able to keep them under control
2345	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Do walkers, dogs are socialised and very used to other dogs. the handlers are USUALY well in control of these dogs. (More then the the dogs owner). by dropping the number to 6 you are effecting a persons lively hood
2349	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	8 dogs max on leash, 4 max unleaded unless license obtained. I am unconvinced that someone is able to maintain control of more than this number of dogs at one time. However I understand families with multiple dogs want to take their dogs out and so I think 4 could be reasonable off-leash. I do however think that if a person is licensed e.g. a business, they should be able to take more dogs out as long as they have been screened for competence, as I don't think it would be right to impact small businesses.
2387	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This proposed change penalises the professional dog walkers that do a great job...that is not fair. What is needed is control of the rogue operators. Harming good dog walkers is counter productive.

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2415	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes on pack walks with over 6 dogs with a very experienced dog trainer. Since he has been going, his behaviour has improved, his well-being and overall health is great, and he is a much happier dog. It also allows me to go into work (in public service) and know that he is well cared for and is learning. I also get to support a small business that is run by two very dedicated and professional dog trainers who care for all the dogs as if they are their own. It makes me so happy to be able to give my dog a life that is rich and fulfilling for him while I have to spend some days in the office. I trust that he is safe in their hands wholeheartedly and would be devastated to see their business, that they have grown over many years, destroyed by this. Happier dogs = better behaved dogs. We have far greater issues to worry about with dogs in this city than those that go on pack walks - namely the many unregistered stray dogs that wander the streets in need of homes and care. This is a total misdirection of our councils resources. Please focus on the animals that actually need our help.
2424	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Animals pack, easier to stop 2 off leash than 3-6
2453	Support		Too many dog walkers with multiple dogs who are not under control. If you have more than three off the leash how can you pick up after them?
2458	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Limiting the amount of dogs won't change anything. There should be a restriction on licensed people/ groups. Our incredible dog walker has never had an incident in the 6 years our dog has been with her. It is people who are out there with no experience ruining it for everyone
2541	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have never had any issues walking my 4 dogs with someone who is working more than 6. One of the parties reins in their pack and lets the other go by.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2557	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Instead, it penalizes professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions.
2603	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	None off leash..maximum of 2 being walked...how can more be guaranteed to be controlled 100% of time
2657	Support		Safety
2660	Support		As a dog owner I don't know how professional dog walkers can keep eyes on all dogs at anyone time. Dog toileting is not always noticed and therefore not picked up. These changes will help but it won't solve the problem. Dog walkers need to take more care.
2663	Support		People with dogs need to be in control of them and I don't agree that one person can control multiple dogs simultaneously. Most people people have difficulty controlling even one off leash.
2683	Support		When people walk huge numbers of dogs they often take up the whole footpath. Forcing me and my kids to walk in the road or have to be surrounded by dogs. One of my children had a bad experience with a dog when he was a toddler and huge packs of dogs can be paralysing for him
2712	Support		A dog walker is not able to supervise well too many dogs. I think 6 is a reasonable number.
2734	Support		As a dog owner I find it absurd that Professional dog walkers think to walk more than 6 dogs at a time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2752	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	6 Dogs Maximum. All off leash in allowed areas. I walk Dogs and I this is my own rule. I can not reasonably manage more than 6 . For safety reasons it is important to control the PACK ,due to them mostly following 1 or 2 of the more confident or dominant dog/dogs. If a dog doesn't listen 2 Minor times I will leash them then unleash after a time or when distraction has gone. In regard to some off and some on. I don't see it as enjoyable ,for each dog has a pace and sniffing/is a huge part of dogs sensory information. Also for any aggressive circumstances it is impossible to catch and rein in a dog being either the offender or offender if you are holding and leashed to any near enough 3 other dogs. I was in the position of walking a dog yesterday and one was attacked. It took all my speed and energy to catch the aggressive one. All the while mine was being dragged about. My comments are ,as a dog walker is: 6 max Ability to have maturity and experience with them. Especially arge dog walking businesses should be accountable in training ,having certificates and knowing the actual rules of the place you are working in.(Fetch) Are shocking for having young inexperienced, walking all dogs off leash through Waitataruia back lanes not abiding by the parks rules. It also astoundeds me howany people (adults) parents are terrified of dogs and thus transfers this information to their children. The asian community are by the far worse for fear. I suggest in schools you have a professional trainier go and teach children how to approach (the correct way) not the parents uneducated idea, and help to manage and inform our communitys to accept and appreciate how dogs are an intrigite
2754	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Well behaved dogs should be allowed off the lead with dog walkers in pack walks. My dogs go on pack walks and there are no issues. There is no need to change the rules.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2757	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The new rules do not address the real issue. The issue is that there are no regulations to entering the industry as a dog walker. There is no oversight or education necessary to call yourself a dog walker. Putting a blanket limit on walkers will not fix the current problems. The professionals who know what they are doing and do it safely are not the issue whether they walk 15 dogs or 6. It's those who get into it without enough knowledge or support to ensure safety standards are upheld. This could even mean people walking just 1 dog. This new rule will create a situation where there are not enough dog walkers as they can no longer make a living doing it turning it into a rich man’s game for clients or having less dogs properly exercised. This could lead to less adoptions or more pent up dogs releasing energy in a negative way which could in turn lead to more dog fights and less public safety.
2817	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Stop penalising people who are trying to make life better for many who cant physically walk their dogs and would otherwise have to give them up
2831	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The policy shouldn't be about the number of dogs that are being walked at one time. That totally depends on the temperate of the dog, how well it responds to commands and how under control the dog walker is. I am much more supportive of people walking over 6 dogs having a minimum standard of qualitification, much like how you take a test to get a cheaper dog license. You are also cutting off an industry for dog walkers, which is much needed for dogs helath and wellbeing when the parents are working or unable to.
2834	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	These proposed changes are not addressing the real issue. There should be regulations in place to enter the industry and continuous education and oversight to maintain safety standards. However, putting a blanket limit is not the answer. The professionals who know what they are doing are not the issue whether they have 6 dogs or 20. It's those who get into it without enough knowledge or support to make sure safety standards are upheld. Their is a lack of information and evidence that there is an issue with pack walkers in Auckland. The vast majority of the complaints were related to roaming dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2838	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Madills farm should be a off-leash dog park but it could also be an soccer field
2849	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Madills farm should be a off leash dog park and soccer field, not supporting council of banning dog there
2863	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Madills farm should also be a off- leash dog park
2864	Support		There should be a limit of how many dogs a person has control of at one time. That said, I think these numbers are too high. I think it should be no more than 4 on leash and 2 off leash, with a maximum of 4 at any time. The above should be for the general public, with the current numbers for someone who owns a dog walking company.
2956	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	These changes will negatively impact the well-being of dogs and limit the effectiveness of pack walking services which is unnecessary and punishes responsible dog owners who understand the importance of having their dog pack walked and socialised
2970	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Important to socialise dogs off lead for pack walks. Punishes responsible dog walkers. Difficult to manage multiple leads.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2972	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is not the issue - focus on what the real issue st hand is unregistered non cared for aggressive roaming dogs. Sort out the owners who don't care don't punish the ones that do. We pay our registering fees we look after socialise and teach our dogs how to behave - do NOT punish us
2976	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking operators that have good practices (e.g. trained walkers) should not have limits placed on them.
2982	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Letting handlers have multiple dogs off-leash helps dogs socialize, exercise, and act naturally, which is great for their overall well-being. Limiting the number of off-leash dogs can stop them from playing and interacting freely. On-leash, dogs can get frustrated, tangled, or stressed because they can't move naturally which may lead to negative interaction. Giving dogs more freedom, as long as the handler stays in control, keeps them happier and healthier.
2983	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog has been walking with a dog walking company for over 6 years. She can be out with up to 10 dogs at any one time and there has never been an issue. The handlers are exceptionally well trained and they put extensive effort into making sure the dogs are well controlled, safe and have an awesome time. I think council would make better use of their time implementing regulations on the training of dog handlers so not just anyone can start a walking business, as the untrained/under-trained walkers are the issue, not the quantity of dogs.
2996	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My wee cavoodle goes walking with a registered dog walking company FETCH. THEY ARE COMPLETELY COMPETENT and they care about their dogs. I understand off leash dogs roaming cause terrible behavior. I am afraid when on my own with her sometimes. Hence I send her weekly to join a supervised pack. She loves it. Please don't penalise responsible companies
3009	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Current rules are working well. Changes would severly impact the ability of professional dog walkers to continue providing a very valuable service. Dogs off leads get more exercise and socialize better with other dogs. Personally our dog has benefited hugely from this service. Controlling numbers would increase costs, another financial burden at this time of financial difficulty.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3021	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walking provides responsible dog owners with the appropriate needs for their dogs. To restrict the number of off-leash dogs being walked would severely limit the ability of professional dog walkers to do their job. The current system works very well and requires no change. If you believe it is not working properly in all cases perhaps you should consider licensing the professional dog walking businesses so that you can enforce quality control.
3030	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not this that needs to be changed.
3032	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog handlers are mainly professionals and are well capable of controlling the dogs they care for, regardless of the number they manage. Albeit typically no more than 10. There are many thousands of dogs being walked every day and it is exceptionally rare that there are issues. Whatever issues there are will not go away just because you limit the quantity to 3 or similar. If people are sending their dogs out on walks with dog handlers, it will be because, for whatever reason, they cannot do it themselves. A reduction to 3 dogs or 6 in total will drive up the cost of these walks and make it unaffordable for dog owners in many cases, and cause owners cease sending their dogs out for managed walks. Dogs then become unfamiliar with the ettiquette of dog walking and this will lead to an increase in the very issue you are trying to solve. Furthermore it is likely many of the dog walking companies will go out of business and dogs will remain at home, not walked, very frustrated and angry, leading to a different type of dog issue. That is, people being attacked by dogs when entering a property. My recommendation would be to regulate the industry by setting guidelines and standards for the dog handlers. ITO's have been doing similar for apprentices and industry for many years and I strongly believe this will be a much better solution for what you are trying to achieve. Dogs that are well walked typically are happy dogs and sit well alongside humans in everyday life, where people and dogs can enjoy each others company.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3035	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For many dog owners - professional dow walking services provide an important option for the well being of the dog and for their owners. Reducing the number of dogs that can we walked either on or off leash will make these services uneconomic for the provider and/or the customer. The reality of modern family life is a busy and high pressure existence. Putting professional dog walkers out of business will remove one valuable option for balancing quality of life for dogs and their familites. Please leave the current regulations in place!
3037	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the changes, as a person who uses professional dog walking services: One who uses the services (off leash) - this will limit the exercise and socialization and the opportunity to interact with others that my dog requires and had excelled in. - it will increase problems for walkers to have some dog on leases and some off. - it will be more prudent to have a set amount of dogs per handler ratio - i fully abide to rules and regulations of places when out with my own dog The main issues that i see are with individuals who let dogs walk in public areas without a lease and run out into the road!! I see many posts within the fb community pages of 'dog found' wandering on its own, instead of these posts finding owners they should be taken directly to the pound and owners fined when picked up. Personally i have no issues to paying more to register my dog etc if it supports the animal control sector. Professional walkers will abide to any rules whether in agreement or not for the sake of their business but its those who are currently irresponsible are the ones who will just carry own regardless. As usual it seems to be the good owners are the ones being punished due to the bad few.
3040	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Reduced exercise and socialisation: Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interactions. We have two boarder terriors and we seen wonderful benefits as a result of their well managed off lead adventures with City Pets. Their behaviour is better even when we are walking them on lead and previous challenges with aggression to other dogs has disappeared.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3043	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Reduced exercise and socialisation; increased stress and frustration for dogs if not allowed to run and have a good time. Obviously my comments do not apply to dangerous dogs who should be on a leash at all times.
3065	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The new rules will minimise the ability of the dogs to socialise and explore their environment as long as the walkers carry out the walk in a designated off leash area. Socialized dogs are an important aspect of urban life and we rely on dog walkers to provide our dogs with exercise as well as giving them this socilaisation. Mixing dogs on and off leash also creates a practical issue for the walkers and increases costs to the owners
3070	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog is part of an organisation (CityPet Canine Adventures) that takes dogs on a controlled pack walk, which includes the dogs being off-lead for the duration of the walk. The proposed new policy would impact the exercise and socialisation for our dog, as the pack is usually around 8-10 dogs, and having some dogs off-lead and some on-lead will be dangerous and unsafe to manage. Dogs that are on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. The organisation we choose for our dog to be involved with take good care of the dogs and follow processes to keep them safe. They are professional in their work and the dogs love the adventures.
3073	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Responsible and professional dog walkers provide a service for dog owners who cannot walk and socialise their own dog. This can be due to health reasons and smaller living environments. One off leash dog can cause more harm than a pack who is being lead by highly trained professional dog walkers who provide a service for Aucklanders limiting the number of off leash dogs will increase cost.
3074	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Greater responsibility and legislation around dog walkers in general. It doesn't matter the number of dogs if the walker knows what they are doing and are regulated.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3078	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You are going to make life for dogs and responsible dog owners who work impossible . There are a number of incredible dog walking companies in Auckland - I use Fetch. I could not work without them exercising my dog off leash . This proposal does NOT benefit dogs in any way . In an economic climate that is hard enough you will force people to lose work , you will make it unaffordable to use a dog walking service and force some people to give up their dogs . Dogs are family . And for those of us that spend our hard earned money to have our dogs walked so they are happy and healthy - you're punishing the good owners - not the ones that don't care about their animals behaviour - this will have no impact on them at all. This is a very disturbing proposal and I'm ashamed to think Auckland would do this
3088	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is important for dogs to have a pack outing for socialisation and exercise. Our dog has the best time with her group pack off lead and we are reassured knowing she is with experienced handlers.
3090	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We have an experienced Walker who has been walking 8-12 dogs off and on leash for 6 years. She is brilliant, never an incident. She should not have to suffer for those inexperienced walkers who abuse the freedom.
3091	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Please keep it as is. Keep it up to the responsible walker to decide how many dogs can be off leash or not. There are so many dog walking organisations that have very capable and competent staff that can walk multiple dogs off leash and there are no issues or safety concerns. Dogs need the exercise and socialisation. Reducing off leash numbers will make dog walking services too expensive and cause so many more stressed dogs in Auckland, and consequently owners too. Please leave it as is.
3093	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current service being offered meets the needs of customers while allowing operators to build a viable business model. Restrictions being proposed would mean a necessary service could not continue . The pu b license do not need more unnecessary interference to react to a vocal majority

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3100	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Socialisation, increased exercise and play, no benefit to dogs restrained on leash while others off leash. Increased cost to dog owners who have their dogs on off leash adventure programmes
3102	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You are penalising responsible dog owners. My dog goes to doggie day care where she gets to go to dog parks to runaround and interact with other dogs. She gets to run freely and is supervised by a responsible dog handler. This is her favourite day of the week. She has been doing for this for four years and never has there been any incidents with her or the other dogs being off leash. Worry about all the unregistered dogs roaming the streets or the irresponsible owners who breed dogs who are not registered and then are treated badly.
3114	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Only having 3 dogs off leash limits the socialisation and positive experience for the dogs. Having a number of dogs on leashes increases the frustration for dogs and can have safety implications
3131	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is extremely important to allow dogs to be off lead in a controlled setting. It provides dogs with more freedom to exercise (proven to improve physical and mental health), socialise with other doges (relives boredom and makes them happy). If the dogs are under control off lead time enhances both their well-being and saves them from being locked up all day when their owners are at work.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3139	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I cannot believe AC is focusing on this when we have greater issues to worry about. Dog walking groups on leash and off leash are paid for by responsible pet owners, who pay their council fees (for what?), desex our animals, vaccinate them and care for them. Auckland Councils intense housing policy has increased the need for these services, which do wonders for our pets, giving them exercise, social activity With intensification there should be more off leash areas. People that dog like dogs can choose to not go there! The money spent on trying to comply and monitor this change would be better spent on dealing with the owners of dogs who allow them to water the streets, that are not registered, that are abused, not desexed. Please focus on what ratepayers really need, services, not idealistic wish wash
3152	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change appears to impact CDW's disproportionately with only 0.44% of dog owners owning more than 3 dogs. Greater adherence to the current rules in place requiring dogs to be under control and be picked up after should be the focus.
3163	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Depends on the walker. Key wording being in control at all times. A competent person walking 6 dogs is better than an incompetent person walking one.
3164	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If all dogs are under control there should be no need to limit the number.
3166	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I doubt there have been a majority asking for this, I think it's a knee jerk response. It's like saying we're allowed to own a dog in the city, and the Council will collect taxes for them to be registered, but you're also unnecessarily restricting how responsible dog owners can get their dogs exercised when necessary. This will simply push up costs. It creates more of a problem than it solves. Managing a group of dogs is easier when the handler can make decisions about which are on and which are off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3169	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe controlled pack walks are fundamental to a dogs socialization and happiness. We had a very stressed and anxious dog but once he joined the pack walks off lead he has developed into a very well socilaized young boy that has great manners with other dogs, can be trusted and is very happy and content.We work full time and it is extremely important that your dog does not stay home alone all day.
3212	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dear AC team, I am writing in two capacities, 1) as a paediatric trauma specialist who has seen many dog bite injuries in children, and 2) as a dog owner. 1) As an advocate for child safety I strongly support better dog control measures; however, these need to be evidence based. The evidence is well presented in two recent papers by Natasha Duncan-Sutherland and her colleagues in Auckland (Duncan-Sutherland, N., Lissaman, A. C., Shepherd, M., & Kool, B. (2022). Systematic review of dog bite prevention strategies. Injury prevention, 28(3), 288-297; Duncan-Sutherland, N., Hunt, M., Shepherd, M., & Kool, B. (2025). Caregiver perspectives on the value of dogs and their effects on children in private and public spaces. Journal of Veterinary Behavior). According to Duncan-Sutherland (2025), "modifications to the physical environment to protect young children are thought to be the most effective measure for prevention of child injuries. This is further supported by studies where severe or fatal dog attacks have occurred in children despite adults being nearby. Legislated engineering barriers for all dogs such as leash and muzzle use; requirements for adequate fencing of properties, schools and dog-parks; may be effective strategies to prevent injuries in many contexts." Therefore, it would make sense to have areas where all dogs are required to be on a leash, and other off-leash dog areas which are properly fenced to prevent the off-leash dogs interacting with children. A requirement to have say two dogs on a leash and two off a leash does not seem to achieve any goal, and I cannot find any evidence for this particular strategy. 2) Speaking as a dog owner, today my dog is off with the dog
3215	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes on a dog pack walk every week. This company is well organized and the dogs are cared for well and controlled well. Our family feels this service provides our dog with great exercise, but also socialization in a safe environment with an experienced handler. This rule change would either make it very difficult for them to continue or make the cost out of our range. The access to this company has help with our dogs training and obedience and also lower stress on a day we are all at work.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3220	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use a dog walking business as my husband and I don't always have time to consistently walk our dog throughout the week. Our dog benefits massively from walking in a pack off leash with other dogs, she benefits from the socialisation with other dogs and being able to run free, she is always so well behaved running off leash, better than on leash as this tends to frustrate her and make her feel restricted. Since running in a pack off leash regularly we have noticed significant improvements in her nature and behaviour around other dogs. The walkers are incredible with the dogs and we think it's such a great business offering, it was a real shock to hear that the council is proposing to make changes to this policy and we are very much against it.
3237	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers do an great job of exercising dogs, socialising and helping them get along with other dogs when they are walked off leash. Dogs walking ON leash are actually more prone to getting defensive when other dogs get into their space. The dog walkers are extremely capable when managing and walking larger packs of dogs and do it in areas where it is appropriate to safely do so. eem
3271	Support		As someone who owns and walks a small dog I do find someone with a large number of dogs it is more difficult for them to keep control and can be intimidating for a small dog (particularly if they are all large dogs). I think six is a generous limit.
3273	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 10 dogs with 5 off-leash. I am a responsible, devoted dog owner. Like many dog owners I do not have human children, therefore my dog is my child. Twice per week, my dog joins a pack with a walker she adores. This walker is qualified, experienced, trustworthy and very capable of walking 10 dogs. The assessment process was thorough and the pack is managed carefully. If she is limited in the number she can walk, it's likely her business will no longer be financially viable. I believe there are more risks associated with doggy daycares, inexperienced staff, and hundreds of dogs jammed into a small building barking and overstimulated for hours on end. Most dog walkers are dedicated to their profession, and very capable of managing risk. Most walkers take necessary precautions to not endanger their pack, or themselves or the public. The ones lacking training or experience will not survive in a highly competitive market, nor would they be recommended in the dog community. Of which we are a community, let's not forget that!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3287	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are an essential service for pet owners who have to work. These dog walkers should be licensed (maybe they are already) and, they are a responsible business group. To restrict tier activity to a small number of dogs would result in a far more expensive dog walking cost
3301	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not believe that the reasons set out by yourselves supporting a change to the policy are adequate. I do not see that you have gathered enough if any evidence to back a change in the rules. I believe that your proposed changes will negatively affect the well being of dogs and limit the effectiveness of all pack walking services. There is likely to be a negative impact on dog exercise and socialisation and potentially increased stress and frustration for some dogs. It will be increasingly difficult to handle multiple dogs on leash. Dog owners will also bear the financial brunt too, as there will consequently be a limitation on dog walking services available. Dogs are part of the family and should be treated as such, they provide unquestionable enjoyment and support to an insurmountable number of individuals and families. Please do not place unwarranted restrictions upon the enjoyment of their lives.
3310	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I strongly oppose the proposed changes to Auckland's dog bylaws that would limit the number of off-lead dogs to just three. Allowing my dog to run freely is one of the greatest joys in our daily lives—it's when they are at their happiest, tail wagging, full of energy, and truly thriving. Off-lead time is essential not just for their physical exercise but also for their mental well-being and socialization. Playing and interacting with other dogs teaches them important social skills, builds confidence, and prevents behavioral issues that often arise from isolation or frustration. This proposed restriction would take away a fundamental part of their happiness and ours—we love watching them explore, play, and enjoy their freedom. Additionally, this change would have devastating consequences for professional dog walkers, many of whom rely on being able to exercise multiple dogs at once. Limiting off-lead numbers would force them to take on fewer clients or raise prices, making it harder for dog owners to afford quality care. Instead of restricting responsible dog owners, the council should focus on supporting a system that benefits both dogs and the community.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3317	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The reasons previously provided in support for this change are not sufficient or urgent matters in the community. You will be putting people out of business and in doing so, compromising the wellbeing of many dogs by reducing capacity for exercise and socialisation opportunities. This could lead to increased stress and frustration for both dogs and dog owners.
3351	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We are an elderly couple who have been responsible dog owners for over forty years. We have a dog that provides us with many positive benefits but because of advancing years our walking ability has decreased. Our very socialised small labradoodle goes out with a very efficiently run dog exercise service, who only accept well socialised neutered and speyed animals. This is only one day a week for our dog and if the price rises (which it will) under the new proposals we will not be able to afford it. I can understand that there has to be a limit on numbers of dogs at one time . Our dog goes out with five other dogs. It is also very necessary for dog owners who work who rely on this very important service.
3358	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My maximum of off leash dogs is FIVE and I can control and be responsible for that number eg with them being highly socialised and trained and with me picking up all of their faeces. My maximum of on leash dogs is THREE as per above reasoning. Dependent on the size of the dogs on leash it could be four but that's not what I do, others can and do with great success. What I am opposed to is bigger packs with only one person responsible for same. That is when it is harder to be responsible within a park, with picking up faeces and when on leash - it being enjoyable for the dogs as a walking experience. I do not support or condone professionals such as myself leash walking ten dogs themselves. Too many dogs and it isn't enjoyable for the dogs and could be an accident waiting to happen for the walker.
3359	Support		Too many dogs being walked in public places that are not under control and it only takes one dog in the pack to create a problem and the other dogs will follow, as they are pack animals, my dog was attacked by one of these dog walking people who wasn't watching the dogs he was meant to be controlling

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3365	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No issues, just getting to limited on how and where the dogs can have a good run.
3371	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will directly impact dog walking services that have the dogs under control, and thus impact my dog and many other dogs in a number of ways: Decrease freedom to run and play: Dogs are built to run and play, and being off-leash allows them to do this to their full potential. This is especially important for high-energy breeds like my black lab. Decrease socialization: Off-leash areas provide opportunities for dogs to interact with other dogs and people in a safe and controlled environment. This can help them to develop better social skills. Increase stress: Exercise is a great way for dogs to relieve stress and anxiety. Off-leash exercise allows them to release pent-up energy and explore their surroundings, which can help to reduce their stress levels. Decreased fitness: Off-leash exercise is a great way for dogs to get the exercise they need to stay fit and healthy. This can help to prevent obesity and other health problems.
3430	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There is no licensing nor training check for professional do walkers. Some are properly trained and so can manage more dogs. Some are anybody who wants to earn some dollars. There should be a maximum set for "unregistered/licensed" walkers with a different and larger number for registered professionals
3438	Support		I am an avid dog lover and own a large dog. I do not think it is sensible for someone to be walking more than 3 dogs at a time. To me it is profit over wellbeing of dogs. Once dogs are in a pack, things could potentially go wrong at some stage. I have seen 'professional dog walkers' letting a van load of dogs loose on entry to a park. Things could get messy quickly - either within the pack or introduction of other dogs using space.
3457	Support		I think too may dogs off leash can be a problem to control for one person on their own

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3462	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have encountered dog walkers walking a pack and have never once considered it to be an issue. This is an affordable way to have your dog walked and socialized. What justification do you have to make this recommendation?
3463	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Reduced exercise and socialisation - this is a must for dogs wellbeing just as much as humans! We are lucky enough in New Zealand to have great outdoors for dogs to run. Let them have freedom. There are amazing dog handlers who always keep them under control off the lead! Please keep it that way.
3468	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dogs on leash are impossible to control when they are desperate to get off leash to play with the unleashed dogs.
3498	Support		people who walk multiple dogs are usually very strong and mindful of their chargers and the public
3499	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think around 8 dogs for walking multiple dogs and all off leash. I don't think there should be a limit on the off/on leash for dog walkers. I don't think the dog walkers are the problems. They would be mostly all trained and experienced at walking dogs and know where to take them so as not to annoy other people. The problem I hear more about is individual dog owners who have aggressive dogs and let them off leash and then they attach other dogs and the council literally does nothing. The feedback I have heard from people whose dogs have been attacked is that the council wont do anything unless these dogs actually kill your dog. Why!!! You should be so strict with individual dog owners whose dogs attach other dogs but you do nothing. And now you want to penalise experience dog walking companies who have all their dogs under control. You need to look at the individuals first not punish the rest of us!!!!
3503	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Focus on situations where rules are being ignored or owner's are not in control of their dogs, I have never had an issue encountering groups of controlled dogs, typically it is encountering one or two off leash dogs where people are ignoring leash rules and have no call-back control over their pets

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3504	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If a dog walker has certain qualifications then they should be able to walk as many dogs as they feel capable of walking. Also, if someone owns more than 6 dogs, they should be able to apply for an exemption to the rule
3511	Support		1 person is not capable of being in control of even 6 Dogs! It's impossible and dangerous particularly when that person is not even the owner. It's dangerous to the dogs, to other people, to wildlife and there is no way for 1 person to keep an eye on all 6 or pick up after them . It's a long overdue rule that I support even as a dog owner, I walk other people's dogs, and love dogs.
3512	Support		Hi, Thank you for addressing this issue as it has been a cause of concern for a few years. I have seen commercial dog walkers with 10+ dogs in the Waiatarua reserve and unable to look after them. On one occasion one company was putting dogs in their van while one of their little dogs had gotten its lead stuck around some rocks down at the pond and was unable to get free. Meanwhile another dog was halfway between the pond and the carpark looking lost with no handlers to be seen. I've rarely seen these commercial walkers picking up poo and never seen them dump a bunch of poo bags in our only remaining poo bin from their 10+ dogs after a walk. But the main thing is safety. Most park users walk their dogs peacefully and have full control of them. But you introduce a large pack of unfamiliar dogs to the situation and I think you can guess the outcome. The indivitual dog owners can only watch as the pack of unknown dogs surrounds them. We must trust that these dogs are socialised even though the owners have sub-contracted out socialising their dog. Lastly, the term "professional" used to describe a dog walker is inappropriate. Look at the definition of "professional" and you'll find there are education requirements, a licensing regime and an enforcement mechanism. These commercial businesses are operating on public land for profit with no one to answer to. Also, When I asked one operator if they should have so many animals running around, she simply said, "Yes. We are a business." It was as if they felt entitled. Kind Regards.
3515	Support		I think 6 dogs is fair and is much more manageable. Although I think all 6 dogs should be able to be off leash at the same time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3516	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing to provide feedback regarding the current dog off-leash policy at Glover Park and Madills Farm. As a regular visitor to these parks, I would like to express my strong support for maintaining the status quo, allowing dogs to exercise and socialize off-leash in these areas. The off-leash zones at both parks provide a vital space for dogs to get the exercise they need, which is essential for their physical and mental health. Additionally, these areas allow dogs to socialize, which is important for their well-being and development. Many local dog owners, including myself, rely on these spaces to provide our pets with a safe and enjoyable environment to interact with other dogs, and we have seen firsthand the positive impact it has on their behavior and happiness. Furthermore, the parks are large enough to accommodate both off-leash dogs and other park-goers, making it possible for everyone to enjoy the space without issues. Keeping the current off-leash policy will also continue to foster a strong sense of community among dog owners, encouraging responsible dog ownership and mutual respect between pet owners and other park visitors. I kindly ask that you consider the benefits of maintaining the status quo and the positive impact these off-leash zones have on both the dogs and the local community. I trust the council will continue to prioritize the needs of residents and their pets while [illegible]
3529	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Some single off-leash dogs are dangeroius. In other case, multipe dogs are safe. It all depends on the dog and the wlker and the environment. The solution is simple. Treat people like adults not kids and make them sully responsble for their actions. So if their dog(s) cause trouble/injury make them liable in law for the consequences including $ penalties.
3533	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Trust the dog handlers (generally trained professionals) to ensure the dogs are under control. Give dogs, and their handlers, some freedoms, and make it clear that there are penalties for any dogs who pose a risk to others. This is bureaucracy gone mad....
3535	Support		Good balance of safety and practicality

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3536	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The Council should keep to essential services. Dog walkers provide a service while earning a living. Limiting the numbers to 3 will result in either lost services or substantial increase in costs if the service. In a financial crisis Councillors should focus on cost reductions only.
3544	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposal does not take into account the size of the dog. E.g. It is much easier to control smaller dogs than larger ones.
3548	Support		Too many dogs per one person Dog walkers don't have control of their dogs that they walk Can be intimidating for other dogs to see a big pack of dogs together
3571	Support		I think that this is a reasonable number for one person to look after.
3584	Support		You can't watch and pick up after multiple dogs - I would say around kids sports fields 1 dog per person.
3627	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current laws give a great opportunity for dogs to exercise and socialise
3640	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This potential change has several negative implications: Reduced exercise and socialisation: Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Increased stress and frustration: Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. Difficulty managing multiple dogs on lead: Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe. INCREASED COST: Auckland's Dog Owners will have to pay more to have their dog walked by a Professional Dog Walker. We believe these changes would negatively impact the well-being of our furry friends and limit the effectiveness of ALL pack walking services. As well as punishing responsible dog owners who understand the importance of having their dog pack walked and socialised.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3648	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because the current rules seem to be working.
3694	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	To pack walk more than 6 dogs in public space you need appropriate training and be a registered member of the Profeasional Dog Walkers Association.
3707	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The limits should depend on where docs are being walked and the amount of experience.
3745	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Many people are highly qualified and work with dogs as their main source of income/profession. This is a service that is invaluable to people who own dogs. Making changes to lower people's ability to earn a living, while supporting families who want their family members (dogs) to get sufficient exercise is unfair. Dogs are extensions of the family for many people, those who may not be able to have kids - dogs are their kids.
3749	Support		Agree that we need better control which means fewer dogs per individual. You could say this maximum number is too high, but dog walkers provide a much-needed service for dogs and their owners and the volumes helps make fees affordable.
3772	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You can't treat every dog walker the same. If a dog walker is trained and has good control then a pack mentality for dogs doesnt get determined by how many dogs, but by which they are under control. This new proposed plan sounds like it has been dreamt up by someone with cats. If anything cats should be registered and forced to be fixed as these are a worse detriment to birds.
3795	Support		Dogs are social animals, but from time to time there is differences of "who is in charge" - you simply can't control all the animals if there are too many of them, especially if they are of the bigger breed and off leash.
3862	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most of the multiple dog walkers are paid operators and have complete control of their dogs. The current law requires control and fines if a dog isn't under control, I believe this is sufficient. You already have these dogs registered

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3898	Support		My dog has been attacked several times by dog walkers walking multiple dogs in Waita Reserve in Remuera. They encourage a pack mentality and my older dog gets surrounded by them and bitten. It is very scary. I support the limit on the number of dogs dog walkers can walk at any one time. You should also limit the number of dog walkers walking dogs at the same time. One lady just used to get someone to help her but this made no difference even though the ratio had improved. Its the amount of dogs walking at one time that sets them off. Several local dog owners would leave the park as soon as this lady arrived with her pack.
3900	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog is walked regularly in a pack of about 10 dogs by an experienced dog walker. There have never been any issues. Dogs are pack animals and enjoy socialising with other dogs. The adventure walks are essential for our dogs wellbeing, and it also allows us to get some "alone time". If council implement these changes and reduces the number of dogs that can be walked, it will become unviable for the dog walker. We are elderly and not capable of long walks with the dog, so she will suffer. We feel that a few unprofessional dog walkers are spoiling it for the many dog walkers that take their responsibilities very seriously and have full control of their dogs. Perhaps a dog walker register would help to monitor this.
3926	Support		Our small dog was walked by a company who had greater than 6 dogs off-leash at a time and our dog was attacked. It is not possible to keep more than 6 dogs under control at a time and 3 off-leash. Dogs can be unpredictable and the risk is too high to the dogs, children and other members of the public.
3984	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For dog walking companies who are trained this is going to ruin their businesses and they are trained individuals who don't cause any issues. They need to be exempt from any new bylaw
3990	Support		Too many people are doing it for income without training and the dogs are not controlled correctly. If I had my way every dog would be on a leash.
3992	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It is not about the amount of dogs but the control the walker has over them. 10 dogs with 3-4 off lead should not be a problem if the walker has dog training/phsycology knowledge and knows her dogs recall ability. Licence the trainer not the dogs.
4002	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If someone has control of multiple dogs they should all be on leach. You should be able to have max 4 on leach and only 1 off leash when you have no other dogs. Otherwise how can you control a situation?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4008	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If a dog walker has all dogs safely under control then there should be no issue. The council would be severly restricting a Dog Walkers business by putting these new laws in place. It's extremely unfair
4014	I don’t know		it depends on the dog and the area
4020	Support		I think it's unsafe to allow more than 6 dogs with one person. Also i think all the dogs should be on a leash and i think that all dog walkers should be registered and have to an amount per dog client that they take out. They are running a business on a public space and however they do it will most likely be inconveniencing other users. Many people like myself are nervous about dogs being off leash and having them run up to me or otherwise spoils my enjoyment and relaxation in nature. One dog per person is enough to handle. In addition to safety dogs may dig up grass or soil and leave their dog poos or wees which makes it unpleasant for other walkers. Also dogs can be noisy with barking and more than 6 very noisy. I certainly wouldn't want to be walking a dog if i encountered a pack of dogs. You will probably get submissions from all the people who have their dogs walked in large packs so i hope you get other members of the public submitting to balance out the dog walking company lobbying.
4024	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I would propose the strengthen the fines for people not in control of their dogs rather than setting a limit of dog numbers.
4038	Support		I am a runner and often I get bitten by dogs off leash where the owner has let them off.
4043	Support		If possible, we wish to remove off leash to this Park
4091	Support		Too many dogs are not able to be controlled well enough

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4117	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The real issue does not relate to the number of dogs but control of those dogs being exercised.. There are too many variables to have one size frits all rule. Variables include size of dogs, breed of dogs, temperament and many more factors The history of dogs and mankind reveals that dogs are an essential part of modern communities. Dogs have adapted to living in a human environment. Dogs fulfill many useful functions such as service dogs, companion dogs etc... Dogs bond with their owners and now have human attributes. Dogs respond well to love and kindness. Their health depends on proper exercise. Having a dog is expensive. It is against public policy to deprive people of their pets because they cannot afford to properly care for them. Dog walkers are essential for some dog owners. A better solution is to licence dog walkers who can then walk as many dogs as they consider prudent. Any breach of control would put their licence at risk. The problem with dogs is that their are dog owners and non-dog owners who do not understand the role and behaviour of dogs within the community. This leads to problems. Socialisation of dogs is essential. They need to have time to play with other dogs. Council should concentrate on educating the community rather than restricting the freedoms of dogs supervised by their owners or authorised people. We do not imprison our children for misdemeanours so why our dogs who bring so much joy to so many people. The Dog Control Act currently provides enough
4122	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have never seen a dog walker successfully walk any more than 4 dogs, especially large dogs. Even local owners struggle with 2 big dogs.
4135	Support		Dogs need to be under control and this seems a reasonable number of dogs able to be controlled by 1 person
4147	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers manage all dog on lead in a controlled way, they are not the problem
4163	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dogs off leash in these areas are well controlled

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4218	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For over 6 years my Jack Russell Molly has walked with a pack of 10 to 15 dogs once a week on a Wednesday.by a professional dog walking company City Pets. They are extremely well controlled and only new dogs are generally on leads. It enables Molly to become more socialized with other dogs, bigger and smaller and to my knowledge there has never been any issues. We get a photographic record after each days exercise, the dogs are having fun. To restrict them to only 3 off lead is non sensical.
4256	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	From the pack walking groups we've been involved with, none of the groups have had dogs that the handler haven't been able to control. If there's any doubts about the behaviour (unpredictable or not), the handler will have the dogs on a lead. Most pack walks take place in council-controlled public place at one time where these spaces aren't greatly utilised by the public, so maintaining current pack numbers isn't a safety issue for the general public. I don't see why you're attempting to punish those exceptional pack walkers (that provide training for the dogs in their group & have control over the dogs they're walking) as a result of a few pack walkers that can't control their group of dogs. If a maximum number is to be imposed, I think this number should be reset to ~ 12 dogs in a pack as a lot of people are reliant on these pack walking services, & it's the socialising of our dogs within these packs that makes them much more well rounded and better animals. You also have to consider the financial viability for pack walkers as well, & I don't think reducing the numbers of dogs makes it viable to run these services. As a result, there'll be less opportunities / availability for dogs to be involved with pack walks, & this'll have a negative impact on dogs health & social behaviour with other dogs when we do take them out in public surroundings.
4263	Support		I have had issues with the packs of dogs these dog walkers have I think 5 dogs is plenty for one person to handle and allow 2 off the lead
4276	Support		I sometimes walk three dogs on and also off leash and I feel it's the maximum that one person can keep a close eye on, and control, at one time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4309	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is little evidence that dogs being walked in packs are a cause of issue to public safety or public access to spaces. I believe that if any changes are required, additional consequences for large packs that do cause issues would be more effective, addressing any pack walkers who do not ensure control of their dogs. I am one of many working dog owners who uses a professional pack walker, and if their numbers are limited then access to such professionals will be limited or cost prohibitive. Again, the evidence in terms of injuries or complaints doesn't support such a change.
4418	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You can have one dangerous dog off lead than can do more damage the a pack of dogs that are under control but off lead. Our dog walks in a pack off lead with every dog under control as our dog walker is trained and trains the dogs accordingly. Get rid of the cowboys that think it is easy money they are the ones doing the damage. You need to look at getting the dogs walkers registered.
4419	Support		Sometimes pack walking dogs can be agressive and intimidating to others, 6 is plenty for someone to have control of at any one time
4427	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have seen PROFESSIONAL dog walkers with more than 6 dogs out walking. They always appear under control and respond to their walkers. Why should these people be punished for what is their livelihood when private owners with one or two dogs can't control their own pets? No-one seems to be upset about that. I've seen people with their dogs off-leash in on-leash only places, and seem to think the rules don't apply to them. If we need to licence professional dog walkers to weed out any that aren't compliant, let's do so; but let's not forget there are plenty of irresponsible private dog owners who need curbing first.
4483	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We use dog walkers who walk alot more dogs than what you are proposing and the dogs are all under control at all time s how about you spend time and resources on things that actually need dealing with and stop wasting tax payers money
4490	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am a dog owner only not a professional dog walker. Whilst walking my dog I daily come across professional dog walkers in off leash areas. I personally have never had any issues with the dogs being out of control. In fact I admire the manner and way in which the dogs are handled as a pack. Occasionally a walker may have 1 or 2 of the pack leashed for various reasons. I would support a maximum number of dogs say 6 and whether they are on leash or off leash should be at the discretion of the walker.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4526	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You are directly impacting the livelihoods of professional dog walkers who do this for a living and can well cope with over 6 dogs at any given time. You are trying to solve an issue that doesnt exist. Treat this as a case by case, not a blanket ban for all. (and NO, Im not a dog walker) but know many who are and do a very professional job
4570	Support		ensuring safety for the dogs, the surrounding wildlife and the people sharing the space,
4597	Support		Ability to control the dogs and monitor and pick up excrement decreases with number of dogs in care
4606	Support		Have seen dog walkers not keeping large numbers of dogs under control. Walkers not picking up dog poo because it is very difficult to keep a close eye on large numbers of dogs all the time.
4614	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	These businesses have been established in response to a need. They provide a livelihood for those that run them. They will be uneconomic if the rules are changed. They allow dogs to be socialised when owners are working or otherwise unable to walk them themselves.
4643	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	3 off leash will be difficult to control.
4647	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	There are too many dog walkers walking too many dogs. As the owner of a large dog of 40kg I know that it is difficult to control him at times becasue of his strength, however I see dog walkers with multiple dogs of large size often toed around their waist whihc they would not be able to control in this situation. It is also very intimidating for other people when approaching a person with multiple dogs as the dogs develop a pack mentality and can become aggressive. A walker with 6 dogs would not be able to deal with an unsafe situation especially around children should it arise
4650	Support		It's important for Dog Walkers to be able to walk multi dogs, and these people tend to be very responsible and aware of their dogs at all times
4657	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because the only people affected by this dog walkers who exercise and look after so many dogs in our region. This is an incredible service they have amazing control of their dogs and do an incredible job this new legislation makes no sense at all. Why ruin an amazing business that helps all Dog owners. Crazy leave the law the same

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4660	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I SUPPORT that pack walking is regulated. I DO NOT support the proposed numbers. Permitting pack walking with more than 1 dog off leash is dangerous. No walker can be expected to regain control of multiple dogs who are not leashed. This presents significant danger and should be much more tightly regulated.
4663	Support		More than 6 dogs cannot be controlled in my experience as a walker.
4700	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Most dog walkers are safe, considerate, capable owners, particularly professional dog walkers. These people would be unfairly disadvantaged by these overreaching and unnecessary changes.
4711	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. It would however penalise professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs, and play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained - reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. We've seen the continued improvement in our large dog's behaviour via this professional walking structure! Adding further restrictions will do little to address the main problems in the dog community, such as roaming dogs and owners/walkers with no control over their dogs. Instead, resources should focus on enforcing existing bylaws and addressing these larger concerns. The current system works when applied effectively, and no changes are needed.
4735	Support		Any more than 6 could lead to out of control dogs and person walking them. Dogs can be very strong, could bite people or other dogs, spooked easily, and could go into pack attack instinct onto a person or child.
4762	Support		dogs have to be on leash do not wait for someone to be seriously injured or killed until you believe its time for change
4764	Support		Dog welfare should be considered. large numbers together are hard to manage and as they have no regulation for understanding dog communication or body language it is unsafe for everyone
4775	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers provide a professional service walking dogs. They are well trained and have the dogs under control. Walking dogs for working families is an important task to prevent bad dog behaviour.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4793	Support		I have seen dog walkers in my area with more than 6 dogs off leash and not being able to control them around my 2 dogs. It's been difficult for me at my age and is unfair.
4831	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change is non-sensical. The current rules already establish the need for dogs to be under control at all times. The issue, I think you are trying to resolve, relates to roaming dogs and dogs that are not under any control. A change to the rules will not make any difference to this issue. You need to get to the heat of this issue to resolve the pack dogs. If people don't follow the current rules, why would they follow a new one. All the proposed change achieves is penalising those that already follow the rules. This includes those that provide dog day care services which jeopardises their business and the employment they offer.
4863	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	1 off leash should be the maximum to allow owner to be fully attentive to dog and prevent injuries to children.
4867	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think for experienced dog walkers running a dog walking business they should be exempt from the policy. It would be great to support them with a recognised a qualification or registered to a body, that approves them responsible for X number of dogs. For everyday people I support than they should not have more than 3 dogs off leash. but this should not relate to people qualified and running a business. Its a critical service that is growing in popularity for responsible dog owners, being able to safely choose a recognised and qualified business doing this service would be very reassuring.
4881	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Six dogs will make it hard to run a profitable business. My dog walker has amazing control of dogs and can handle 8. She is professional and trained.
4943	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think a professional dog walker can manage a pack of maximum ten dogs. With leashes and supervised off leash time. The professional dog walker we used for 4 years had no issues. Balanced the pack by spending time putting dogs together that worked as pack. He built trust, ensured training had been in place and a muzzles worn if required. A sensible approach is required. If the walker has at least 3 years of experience and testimonials to back this up.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4961	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I would support a hybrid approach. 1) Maximum 10 dogs (no limit on the number of dogs off leash and all dogs must be under control at all times) for licenced professional dog walkers, i.e. a business that is set up with the correct plans and policies in place (not a casual walker) alongside 2) maximum four dogs, with no ore than two off-leash for a private walker, taking thier own dogs for a walk. My reasoning being that professional dog walkers are constantly in contact with dogs, reading behavioural activity, understanding the situation and the personality traits of the dogs. They know the dogs they walk and their triggers and are professionally trained to handle these situations. They are focussed on the dogs and the surroundings, actively mitigating any potential instances before they have a chance to occur. As private walkers, we only know our dog. We don't have the experience to read the other dogs around us as well as we would like to and by nature private walkers can get distracted by what is going on around them. A balanced, pragmatic approach to this change is needed to ensure that businesses are not put out of business by beurocratic changes that don't account for the difference rules that need to be in place to account for different circumstances.
5007	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Although an even better proposal would be a maximum four dogs with no more than one off-leash.
5010	Support		I've seen multiple professional dog walkers barely constraining 10+ dogs as they bark at passersby and run off leash around shared beaches in Glendowie
5021	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You do not differentiate between the different sizes that dog in. For example - walking and controlling 6 Great Danes will be quite different to walking and controlling 6 Chihuahua. The level of control an individual has over a dog/multiple dogs will vary according to the skill of the handler and temperment/training of the dog/s. The proposed rules therefore fail to solve a problem. A rule that fails to solve a problem is poor and unnecessary regulation, will not be respected and will therefore simply be ignored.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5032	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a responsible dog owner, my dog gets walked with a professional dog walker twice a week when I work. The dog walker does training as part of her dog walking process. In the 3 years there has never been any incidents of concern and sometimes she has 10 dogs. This is her profession and she is qualified to perform her job with a number of dogs. The dog walker is trained in animal behaviour and is a skilled dog trainer. If you limit the dogs you will ruin her business and many others!! The costs will rise and I will not be able to afford a dog walker. We need to support these businesses. How about you check their qualifications rather than put rules in place in a profession you clearly no nothing about! Please do not put a 6 dog limit on dog walkers, it will kill these dog walkers business' Where is the data that suggests this is a problem?
5045	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs that are pack-walked are invariably from caring responsible owners that recognise their dog needs more exercise and socialisation than they can provide - often due to work and other commitments. The pack walkers have a social responsibilty and professional reputation they need to maintain. Pack-walked dogs are not the problem in Auckland, it is unregistered roaming dogs that have had little training. To put restrictions on pack-walked dogs while unregistered dogs roam free is unreasonable, unsafe and illogical. I did hear that a small dog was killed by some pack-walked dogs but this was a one-off incident and that particular dog walker should be prosecuted and be prevented from this happening again. To ensure you have responsible people pack-walking dogs you could set up a registration system like dog registration, and provide them with training before they can get registration. Then you would also have details about the walkers and what they are doing, and you would have a mechanism to take away their rights should they not comply. To restrict pack-walking the way you are proposing would put the costs of dog walking up considerably and therefore reduce the opportunity for people like me to have their dog walked safely and regularly to break up the week, give them exercise and group socialisation, and prevent them from barking when left home alone for a whole day. I request that you do not proceed with this proposal.
5055	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Certified dog walkers who have experience and training to walk more than 1 dog. The issue is inexperienced people who think they can walk multiple dogs. Stop the cowboys not limit the dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5077	Support		I think this limit seems reasonable. However, thinking about the safety of everybody, the dog carer, other people, and other dogs, I'd like to highlight the need for dog muzzles on certain types and size of dogs. It's been frequent cases of these dogs attacking other dogs, mainly smaller ones. Unfortunately, I don't think they are all reported.
5080	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Instead of wrecking dog walking businesses with this law change. Make a license system that makes these businesses liable should something happen. Essentially the same as the gun license law.
5104	Support		Wise to set an upper limit that serves people (recreational dog walkers, and dog walking business owners) and dogs well.
5112	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The laws already cover bad dog behaviour.
5120	Support		Often bothered by large dog groups
5131	Support		Maximum 6 is more manageable but I would like there to be fewer than max 3 off leash - these pose a potential risk when not under proper control
5141	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I understand the need to manage the safety and enjoyment of shared spaces but I believe that limiting the number of dogs one person can walk to four is too restrictive, particularly for professional dog walkers. I propose allowing up to eight dogs per walker, with a maximum of four off-lead at any given time. This compromise ensures that dog walkers can continue their business effectively while maintaining control and safety in public spaces. Professional dog walkers play a vital role in the well-being of many dogs, ensuring they receive adequate exercise, socialisation, and care when their owners are unavailable. Restricting the number to four could negatively impact these services, increase costs for owners, and reduce opportunities for dogs to stay active and social.
5147	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	It is understandable to manage the number of dogs one person can have with them at once however the current proposal for it to be 6 dogs is too restrictive on people who rely on dog walking as part of their livelihood. It is very reasonable to have control over 8 dogs or 4 off lead in an appropriate park space.
5149	Support		Seems to balance needs vs risks

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5155	Support		More than 3 off-leash dogs is too many for one person to effectively manage, especially if one of the dogs is not obedient.
5158	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have brought my dogs to Madills for the last 11 years. It's such a wonderful area for all to share, especially during the off peak times with no games on. Totally understand that when soccer or cricket is on, the dogs are off limits and only using the side of the park nearer the playground. I do understand that some dog owners who have been careless with picking up after their dogs could have sparked this action. But I hope that it is only a very small minority of them. A park is meant to be shared and respected, I hope a far decision can be made to benefit everyone so that it's a win win solution for all.
5199	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have a dog that iis walked by a professional dog Walker who remains to have all dogs under control on leash and off leash, with her experience and training I do not feel her business should be jeopardized when she is fully trained in behavior management and in the 3 years she has walked our dog there has been no incident, on reflection of what you are suggesting you are basically stopping the livelihood of their business and also for me as a responsible dog owner challenging whether what you are suggesting in changing a dog being left at home with little exercise and social interaction with other dogs , I do not think for one minute the responsible/trained dog walkers and also the responsible dog owners should be in a position/situation where this change becomes a mandatory decision made by council
5218	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not believe this needs to be regulated and will drive costs up for dog walkers
5222	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	1 person cannot safely and effectively control.and mange 6 dogs
5229	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Good dog walkers have no problem controlling a larger number of dogs in the right environment. It's hard to make a rule for all dogs and dog walkers in all scenarios and should be based on the situation and location. Many dog walkers will struggle to provide an affordable option for clients, and with significant limitations on dog walking within the community parks many people rely on this for the health and fitness of their dog
5239	Support		It is reasonable

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5263	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is too prescriptive and ignores the obvious flaw of assuming all dogs are equal. Ten golden retrievers playing off leash is far less intimidating than three rottweilers on leash waiting for the other three to finish harassing park goers. The existing rule already covers the intent, while allowing people walking friendly dogs to let them have freedom to exercise. This rule ignores paid dog walkers being able to provide their services. The outcome of this will evidently be government enforced animal cruelty.
5279	Support		Seems too high. One person for one off leash dog. On leash numbers at 6 is ok.
5282	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not believe there are issues with multiple dogs being walk by a single person. These are extreme outliers which do not present any significant risk or issue.
5298	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 2 dogs under any circumstances
5308	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	7 dogs off lead. It's impractical to have dogs on and off lead as how can they pick up their droppings, etc, and throw sticks in the water? 7 is manageable and ensures you have control
5309	Support		Dogs must be under control at all times.
5324	Support		From a safety perspective, 6 maximum and 3 off lease is better so that they don't develop pack type behaviours
5481	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I love dog
5520	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No change but agree that dogs must be under control at all times. No point putting a number to it, if the dog is out of control. the problem is not the number, but the owner who don't control their dogs. Dont punish good dog owners.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5584	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	do not support this proposal to limit the number of dogs a person may walk in a council-controlled public place at one time. While I understand the intent behind this rule, such as ensuring safety and responsible dog handling, a blanket limit may be unnecessary and overly restrictive. Many professional dog walkers and responsible owners are capable of managing multiple dogs safely and effectively. Instead of imposing a strict limit, an alternative approach—such as requiring professional dog walkers to demonstrate competency or adhere to a code of conduct—could be more balanced. This rule could also negatively impact dog owners who rely on professional walkers, reduce exercise opportunities for dogs, and create unnecessary barriers for those who can manage multiple dogs responsibly. A more flexible approach that considers experience and capability would be preferable. I encourage a reconsideration of this proposal to find a solution that prioritizes both public safety and the needs of responsible dog owners and professionals.
5589	I don't know		The key is that the dogs are under control not just on or off leash. Well trained dogs can be easily controlled by a good dog owner
5595	Support		Would prefer a maximum of 4. Dog walkers need to be in control of all their charges
5672	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 6- 8 dogs with all 6 - 8 off leash - under full control. I'm a trained veterinary nurse, plus studied animal psychology at Auckland Uni. I have owned and run a dog walking / pet minding business in Auckland for over 20 years. - Wags 2 Whiskers Ltd. Over the years I have watched other businesses come and go and have been horrified at the lack of control and the inexperience of some of these walkers. I believe 6 (max 8) off lead is manageable as dogs are generally introduced slowly into a group and an experienced walker is able to have good recall with all of them, quite easily. A pack over 8 is hard to keep track of if one was to lag behind or go astray. As the dogs generally vary in size I believe this is a reasonable number to be fully in control of..

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5740	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't support the local government restricting the number of dogs a dog walker can walk because it unfairly impacts their livelihood, making it harder for them to earn a living. Implementing these rules would mean we could no longer use/afford to use a dog walker for when we are working and thus, our dog would be stuck at home all day. Responsible dog walkers are trained to handle multiple dogs safely, and enforcing such a rule would be difficult—who will police it, and at what cost? Instead of arbitrary limits, the focus should be on ensuring proper training and accountability for those who take on the responsibility.
5751	Support		This will enable the walker to take more responsibility to control the type of dogs they are walking.
5819	Support		Makes sense to limit the number of dogs a person has control over.
5843	Support		My main concern is being able to watch dogs and pick up after them. Quite often I am at the Orakei Basin (off lead) and end up picking up many deposits that have just be left (can be up to 20 at a time). My small dog has also been frightened (ran off) when a number of large dogs ran up to her.
5854	Support		I can't imagine how a person can adequately manage 6 dogs on a leash never mind off leash. you couldn't provide decent exercise for 6 dogs and the walker, tripping over each other along the way!! 3 should be the maximum allowed.
5891	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I know that there are qualified and experienced dog walkers out there for whom restriction would put them out of business. Another option would be to have a registration for qualified dog walkers. If registered they could walk more than is proposed.
5951	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because it's the few that cause issues, not trained professionals and professional trainers , who has their dogs under control and it's their livelihoods at stake , not to mention well trained packs on and off leash the dogs are getting the proper exercise they need . Professional trainers to have a special permit if the law was to change . The ones that do not have their packs under control should be penalised NOT the once who keep to themselves and cause no issues.
6026	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Space are bigger enough for dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6033	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	While there might be occasional issues, I think the majority of dog walking situations are just fine. Why 'fix' something that's not broken? Competent dog walkers have the knowledge and instinct to know how many dogs they can handle. The good ones can handle more than 6 dogs off lead at a time. If anything, perhaps dog walking could be regulated...though I don't believe the costs are worth the minimal benefit.
6035	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People who have multiple dogs are in my experience responsible dog owners / guides. Trust them and give them freedom to help those who cannot walk the dogs themselves, rather than increase limitations.
6037	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't see the reason for the change that is very limiting for dog walkers who tend to have skills to manage multiple dogs and look after dogs for other people who are unable to walk them. I see dog walkers with multiple dogs on many occasions and have come across no issues. I strongly oppose the change and think that current approach should not be changed.
6041	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What about those who are dog walkers for a living? The dogs are under control and having a good time and much needed exercise. Have you thought about how this may impact someone's income?
6054	Support		The proposed six-dog walking limit seems reasonable. While most professional dog walkers keep dogs under control, even a group of six can be intimidating to other park users. This rule strikes a fair balance between dog owners and other park visitors.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6059	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I understand there are cowboys out there. But having been on a pack walk with around a dozen dogs, with a pack leader (human) who knew the dogs and had an established relationship - I cannot fathom the point or logic in this being so severely restricted. I could understand it in specific locations - but a blanket restriction will hobble business owners, increase already expensive prices, and lead to more dog issues. These are pack animals, that follow pack rules. Responsible operators should not be punished - and smaller pack sizes will make it harder for new animals to acclimatise. Watch any pack video from 'cherry.hoggs' to see what a 20+ dog pack can behave like. There is strength in.numbers. Restrict for certain parks/areas but not a blanket rule.
6069	Support		Seems a sensible number of dogs for people to control at a time
6087	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional dog walkers can control dogs up to 10 at one time and should be exempt. Dogs are pack animals and benefit from a higher number in a group
6099	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed changes to the dog walking rules that effect Pack Walkers. These are small businesses doing amazing things for our community by supporting dog owners to ensure their dogs are enriched, socialised and exercised in safe and monitored environments, while owners work. This policy would negatively effect the small business owners, dog owners and dogs themselves. It's also important to state that many dog/pack walkers collect their clients and travel further out to secluded and rural areas for more space and better adventures. As someone who works from home in the heart of Mission Bay I never see any pack walks on these beaches or parks in Orakei or Mission Bay. I also know from having my own dog that his kennels and doggy school are a 1hr drive out of town so again, his lack is not active in busy suburbs or central areas. Once again, I do not support the proposed changes. How about focusing on dog ownership education, providing more rubbish bins, doggy bags at dog parks.
6147	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I strongly do not support this, as a dog walker and a resident and frequent attendant of parks in this region, it is not about the dogs it is about the walker or owner. Good owners produce well behaved dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6163	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	i think professional dog walkers manage their dogs very well. It is more important that professional dog walkers are certificated in some way and then they can use their discretion to manage their pack. It us about the competency of the walker not the number of dogs.
6176	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Professional dog walkers, who already operate responsibly under the current rules, are being unfairly penalized by these arbitrary limits. The existing bylaw already requires dogs to be under control at all times, which is sufficient when enforced correctly. Additional regulations are unnecessary and will place undue strain on responsible dog walkers and dog owners alike.
6185	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have see very good professinal walkers handling dogs of all sizes with no issues. Seperating the pack at different times would be far too risky for the walker in regards to their personnal safety when being pulled by those left on leads
6187	I don't know		Hello, I am a resident of St Heliers and have been my entire life. We have had 3 dogs and I often walk the 2 we still have at Glover Park. I have played football at Madills Park and used to attend the athletics at Glover on a Tuesday night. I am very sorry to hear that you have intentions to ban us from the sports grounds, where will we be aloud to go off lead if not there? It's only one block from my home and I know a lot of locals. Not so much for myself but I know a lot of the older people meet there and it's a great social community for them, not to mention of course the dog socialising drummed into us by vets and dog experts alike. I don't understand why we can't carry on with the way it has been. It's just a matter of taking into account the other point of view and respecting each other. As it is we aren't allowed on the fields when in play for obvious reasons and that's fine, but when there's nobody there??? The park is for everyone and I think that's how it should stay. Why should one sector of the community take president over another?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6188	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Professional dog walkers, who already operate responsibly under the current rules, are being unfairly penalized by these arbitrary limits. The existing bylaw already requires dogs to be under control at all times, which is sufficient when enforced correctly. Additional regulations are unnecessary and will place undue strain on responsible dog walkers and dog owners alike.
6199	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the proposed cap doesn't solve a lack of control over dogs. Someone with very little dog experience could walk 6 dogs under the new scheme and it could be dangerous. I'd support a licensing system / regulated industry whereby skilled people can get approval to walk packs of dogs. Skilled pack walkers provide a lot of benefit to the community; allowing dogs to get proper fulfilment in a way that is safe for all.
6229	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This is the remit of professional dog walkers. In my view they can adequately manage 8 dogs without posing a hazard to the community.
6263	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs should be allowed at the park. I have been walking my dogs there for years
6275	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	responsible dog minder in Madills farm as I observe. Professional. No need as I have observed no issue me and my family being a local member of community
6294	Support		I have seen many dogs not being able to be controlled by one person. There are many dog walkers in our area and often we see the number of dogs not being under control off leash
6309	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Controlled well managed dogs are not a problem.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6369	Support		It's all about control. 4 dogs off a leash that are in full control, no issue.
6379	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dogs must be under control at all times which is currently the law. The proposed change unfairly targets professional dog walkers. My own experience is that the professional walkers have the control of their dogs, i often see them with long leads on as well. The issue is generally more with owners who are irresponsible and allow their dogs to run over to others.
6382	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 10 dogs, with no more than 5 off leash.
6394	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe you should license dog walkers which would allow you to actively monitor and deal with dog walkers who are causing issues. Ensuring registered dog walkers are qualified in some way to be able to take the dogs would also ensure that everyone and dogs are kept safe. By merely putting in limits on the numbers of dogs, the council will still be unable to prosecute or deal with the very few walkers who are not safe to be out walking multiple dogs.
6402	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dog is under control the number of dogs does not matter. It is up to the dog owner using the dog walker to consider and monitor the suitability of the walker.
6414	Support		Six dogs is reasonable if one person managing them out in public spaces
6440	Support		Seems reasonable for managing purposes.
6451	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog owners should be limited to 3 dogs (off lead or on lead) unless they are in possession of a special licence from the council that specifies the name and number of dogs they are approved to control - in order to obtain the licence, the owner must pass a practical test with their dog to demonstrate they have the ability to control their dogs when off the lead. Businesses offering Dog walking / pack walking services should also be licenced up to a maximum number of dogs. The licencing process should include a practical test to demonstrate they have the skills and ability to control the pack at all times. Pack sizes should be limited to 10 dogs with no more than 5 off leash.
6456	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think a limit of 8 dogs is a good baseline. In my view an application for a licence to walk more than 4 dogs would be a better way going forward. This would ensure that the dog walkers knew what they were doing.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6464	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I am part of the PDWA and they have already put together a licensing system. If you have spent lots on training and worked for someone else, you are aware of dog body language and behaviour, you train all the dogs you bring on and are sensible with when and where you let them off lead, it should be allowed. For some dogs, going out with a walker is all they get so it needs to be a service that exists for socialisation for many dogs or there will be a larger problem at hand for many dog and dog owners where the dogs can't handle the world around them.
6482	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Numbers proposed will limit the dog walkers capacity for earning income and therefore result in the closure of some really good & reputable businesses. Pack walking has helped my dog incredibly over the past 4 years with socialisation & training.
6498	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My puppy Toby goes on a pack walk twice a week with an experienced dog trainer. He is a happier, better socialised and better trained dog because of it. Dog owners who pay for their dogs to go on these walks are responsible owners - they care about the well-being of the dog and instead of a dog being left at home or left to roam, these dogs have amazing social experiences and become better dogs. To limit this would also take away the livelihood of so many trained professionals. The statistics also paint a very strong picture - 0.7% of issues raised with animal management are with multiple dogs and of that 0.7% there is no statistic pointing to dog walkers being involved. My pup is a better dog for his pack walking experiences and his trainer is extremely sensitive to others in the surround - ie takes the dogs where they won't disturb others - she literally did it this week and moved 3 times to avoid members of the public who might not want to be disturbed. If the number of dogs gets limited people will be forced into doggy daycare and the like or just leaving dogs home alone. Not only would this regulation change affect the dogs but also the professional dog walkers who have put time and money into their education, established a business and genuinely care about the dogs they walk. Of anyone - they are the most responsible when it comes to dog behaviour, picking up after dogs and ensuring the public are not disturbed unnecessarily.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6524	Support		The dog walkers need to be able to have control over the dogs - if you have 3 off leash dogs it is more than enough to try and keep control of them to ensure the safety of the public - I would suggest only one off leash dog at a time so therefore support putting some control over the number of dogs a dog walker can walk. I ahve had instances where the dog walker has struggled to control more than 6 on leash dogs and then dogs end up barging through myself and young grandchildren
6545	Support		People having large number of dogs puts the safety of those and other dogs and park users at risk. It o=would also be good to have a licensing regime for dog walking businesses
6572	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are already regulations in place so why not just police them?
6579	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Responsible dog handler have full control of their pack of dogs. They provide an essential service for working dog parents. Please look at fining or managing any random off lead behaviour by giving more support to dog rangers to fine and patrol. Its only 1 or 2 bad handlers in the whole of auckland. Ruining it for every one else.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6588	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	To Auckland Council, I would like to challenge this proposed bylaw. Although I don't own a dog, I am concerned about how this policy could negatively impact our community. After reviewing, it's clear that the data used to justify this change is incomplete and inconclusive. The report mentions that multi-dog packs are a "low to moderate" problem in frequency and "mostly low in impact," yet the proposed solution is a strict limit. The data also acknowledges difficulties in analysing incidents, particularly when it comes to identifying the number of dogs involved or the true cause of complaints. Implementing policy changes based on such ambiguous information is irresponsible. I am worried that this approach will make the situation worse. By restricting professional dog walkers who currently provide structured socialisation and exercise, dogs may become less socialised, excersized and more prone to behavioural issues. If responsible, experienced walkers are forced to leave the industry, the gap could be filled by unqualified individuals, leading to an increase in incidents. Therefore this would ironically result in the very problems I assume the Council are trying to avoid. If these issues arise, the Council will be responsible for creating a less safe environment due to poorly informed decision-making. It is concerning to think that a rushed policy could backfire, leading to more complaints and reduced community safety. A more responsible approach would be to implement a licensing system for professional dog walkers. This would ensure high standards while allowing the industry to continue providing valuable services. I strongly urge the Council to reconsider this
6595	Support		I have seen a dog walker brilliantly control 8 dogs on and off lead, but that is exceptional. Some owners struggle to control one. I think the proposal is a sensible compromise

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6596	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Setting an arbitrary limit on the number of dogs a person may walk in a council-controlled public place seems inconsistent with your stated policy. A more effective alternative is to focus on education and training for dog walkers to ensure they understand how to manage off-leash dogs appropriately. Moreover, how would this rule impact individuals who own more than the proposed limit, such as four dogs? Would one dog need to be leashed at all times? This approach appears to conflict with the council's bylaws outlined in the 'policy-on-dogs-2019'. The policy emphasizes responsible dog ownership and the importance of proper training and supervision, rather than imposing restrictive regulations. By providing educational programs and increasing enforcement of existing rules, the council can achieve a harmonious balance between different park users' needs without resorting to arbitrary limits on the number of dogs. This strategy not only aligns with the council's bylaws but also promotes a more inclusive and community-oriented approach to shared public spaces.
6645	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change mainly affects professional dog walkers. These people provide an important service in the community, ensuring that dogs are exercised and socialised where otherwise they may not.
6648	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would much prefer to see licensing/registration system put in place for professional dog walkers, to allow them to take packs larger than 6 and to have them all of leash. Instituting a blanket cap of 6/3 will severely curtail dog walking companies from running efficiently. I do support a cap of 6 dogs on-leash for the general public.
6672	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My daughter's dog is currently walked twice a week with a very experienced dog walker while she is at work. The dog loves the interaction with his walking group and is therefore a much more socialised and happier dog. If left at home for, potentially, 8 hours alone, he would probably bark and be distressed several times a week.
6673	Support		And furthermore, I think the maximum numbers should be lower

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6687	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A lot of responsible pet owners who are in full time paid employment rely on companies that provide group dog walking services to provide socialisation for their dogs in a more cost-effective/affordable way. By limiting the amount of dogs in these situations costs could become prohibitive, which in my view, would actually create more problems in the long-run. Unsocialised dogs who do not get ample exercise will be more destructive in the long-run.
6772	Support		These would make more manageable for anyone walking dogs to control the dogs giving no room for irresponsible dog owners or paid walkers to not control the dogs.
6778	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change restricts responsible dog walking companies from providing exercise, socialisation and general well being for dog owners unable to do this while out working or unable to due to health. They get to know the dogs they walk and how they behave. There cannot be a one size fits all approach as many of these companies walk dogs in areas and during hours away from the general public.
6785	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I DO support a maximum of 6 dogs per person (except with special licence to have more - such as a business with existing customers), but if they are well under control there can be more than three off-leash.
6787	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This proposal is likely to impact the provision of dog walking services, which goes against a key objective of the Dog Policy 2019 to "To keep dogs as a positive part of the life of Aucklanders by: ... ensuring their welfare. Dog walking services are important where responsible dog owners may not be able to exercise their dog as much as required and it is therefore the respinsible thing to do, to seek out additional exercise through professional services. This proposed change coud be far better managed through licensing - a true professional dog walker should be more than capable of making their own assesments about how many dogs they can walk at any one time. Licensing would be a far more effective way to ensure saftey of people and the welfare of dogs. I do not support a blanket rule change for all responsible dog owners.
6816	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there needs to be more consultation with this industry before suggesting changes. I don't believe there has been enough to date to make informed suggestions. I do believe this industry needs to be licensed or regulated in some way - to protect the dogs being cared for, and acknowledge the level of skill needed for this work and that not everyone has this ability.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6830	Support		I believe it difficult to keep track of and effective control of groups of dogs, especially when off leash. the dog walker is more likely to miss a dog defecating (and fail to clean up) the more dogs that are off leash. Dog faeces is significant issue and in our local area (Eastern Bays/Suburbs) dog faeces is to be found every time we are out walking.
6831	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am fine with Dog Walkers requiring a simple to obtain licence (e.g. to ensure they are aware of the rules they must follow and accountable in case of issues) and an upper limit of 8 (off leash) however the total number of dogs on and off leash presented in these options appears arbitrary and will significantly impact the livelihoods of lots of dog-walkers.
6849	Support		This seems reasonable.
6879	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional dog walkers require permits / licenses to handle larger groups, like Wellington where all commercial dog walkers are required to complete a course and pass an exam to obtain a license for walking dogs in public spaces. The license specifies the maximum number of dogs an individual can walk, which varies based on the walker's experience. See supplementary document for more details
6953	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support a maximum of 6 dogs on leash with NO dogs off leash(except in dog parks or dog beach area) Anytime that more than 1 dog is with a person, the dogs cannot be under control. Dogs run in any and all directions, so one person can not control (at least) more than 1 dog off leash
ŌTARA-PAPATOETOE LOCAL BOARD			
153	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because my dogs are well trained and behaved.
465	Support		This rule will benefit the safety of not only the community but the animals as well
1134	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers have trained their packs and are responsible. It’s the non professional people/ general public who haven’t trained their dogs properly it’s these ones that do the attacking of other dogs and people. Maybe set up a licencing fee and card system similar to a drivers licence to show competent trig walkers abd they can as many dogs as they can handle which is way more than four of six dogs (this way council can move revenue. Council can look at doing fines for non responsible dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1262	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would support maximum of 12 Dogs on leash particularly for professional dog walkers or dog trainers but would be all on leash if walking 12 Dogs. There could be allowances or acknowledgement for people working as dog walkers who are able to control more than 6 dogs while walking. Either via some kind of permit or licence
1397	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think maximum of 7 dogs, off leash if they have been socially trained, flat means no aggressive behaviors. My dog is pack walked twice a week because my job means I work on shifts, the walker walks 7 dogs maximum.over the5 years she has had zero incident. She is mindful of new dogs she introduces to the pack, aggressive behavior she won't take them , naughty dogs that can be trained wear muzzles and are on leash when the dog submits to recall and socialize with others.She removes the muzzle. I know this because she did this with my dog. She very good,responsible. That's why I say 7 maximum off leash for well behaved dogs.
1696	Support		From experience, it becomes incredibly hard to properly control more dogs than 6
1729	Support		Also do something about dogs menacing and roaming around. Actually do something for once.
1826	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Having four dogs are more manageable than having 6. More than 4 is a very large pack and unpredictable if some are of leash.
1856	Support		Some people don't have a leash on they dogs while walking on a public places
2245	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	You are affecting someone's livelihood hurting people with dogs. There many many dog lovers walking their dogs that have no issues in the community so stop hurting us
2317	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	this effects anyone who works as a dog walker. It is a service many provide.
2529	Support		Too many dog related dramas around auckland currently. Too many under qualified dog walkers walking dogs off leash with no control on recall, often causing distress to other walkers/dogs. I support the proposed change.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2850	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No off leash dogs. I've seen enough people get charged or get uncomfortable with dogs coming up to them and barking without owners having any control or getting to their dogs in time. And in reality, one dog on leash at any point. Dogs overpower their owners on so many occasions when other dogs are around. I've seen two dogs pull their owner down.
2968	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own a retired working dog (Explosive detection dog)that continues to require high levels of exercise. My dog worked for the NZ government for 5.5 years and is highly trained and disciplined. By using a professional and experienced group (City Pets), I am able to ensure that he is taken twice weekly for walks and maintains his exposure to and social behaviours with other dogs. The dogs in the group are all vetted before participation in relation to their behaviours and response to instructions and recall. They are exercised in an area where they do not infringe on others and do not present risk to any persons, other animals or property. The proposed changes will inhibit and disadvantage responsible dog owners utilising professional services who apply control of the dogs and do not allow them to present any level of risk. It will not address irresponsible "independent" dog walkers who use public areas and do not have appropriate structure or controls. These are people likely to want to make money off this service without the appropriate training or use of suitable areas. Those of us who use professional and approved services such as City Pets will be penalised despite our status as responsible dog owners who have their dogs and other peoples wellbeing and safety top of mind. I urge you to reconsider or introduce a form of licenced walkers.
2974	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	all dog shood be on lease no dog shouldn,t be without a lease
2997	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs need exercising and in a modern world there is a need for dog walkers. my dog goes twice weekly and there have been zero issues

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3005	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs need to socialize in a pack. Having them on lead will cause frustration and lead to more aggressive behaviours.
3352	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This would majorly hinder the quality of life for my dog and others I know who are part of Dog Walking services that provide out door adventures which i'm unable to do during the week due to my work commitments. If this would be enforced then the limit would raise the cost significantly and cause cost issues with doing whats in the best interest of my dog rather than him being stuck at home all week long.
3617	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not possible to run a dog walker businesses under these rules. Dog walkers are essential services for dog owners to give their dogs exercise when the owner can't. The reason the owner can't could be many: caring for a family member, illness, away. Not having this service is cruel to a dog, or might even make owning a dog impractical, depriving many of the ability to have social connections with others outside of work or family circle. Dog walkers are professionals, as anyone knows who has seen one: their control of dogs is something to behold. Also destroying even more businesses in a country with its current unemployment rate seems capricious. This country needs more people at work, and more people working more hours. Not a single piece of evidence has been made anywhere in the proposals that the dog walking business needs to be destroyed to make the public more safe.
4740	Support		Regardless of size, it’s intimidating and creates anxiety with the doggy day care lot of having more than 6 dogs approach you
4757	Support		Too many uncontrolled dogs crapping and no clean up
6005	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Restrictions should not apply to a registered dog trainer/walker. By limiting the number of off-leash dogs to 3 they will be unable to do adventure walks and this will kill the dog walking industry or otherwise increase costs to dog owners. I support restrictions for general members of the public but experienced owners or professionals should be exempt
PAPAKURA LOCAL BOARD			

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
49	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There have been very few reported issues with dog walkers having multiple dogs off leash. The "evidence" Council uses to report that Aucklanders have concern about dog walkers creating a nuisance and distress to the pubic is anecdotal and not supported by the number of reports made to Animal Control or Council. The current bylaw requires dogs to be under control while on leash and while off leash at all times. Dog owners who pay to have their dogs walked are, for the most part, responsible owners who invest quite a bit of money in their dog's welfare and registration. When paying for dogs to be walked, they expect professional behaviour and a high level of experience from dog walkers - therefore dogs not able to be under control are on usually on a leash and those that are under control can be off leash. This is dog-dependent and putting a number on how many can be on leash and how many off leash is arbitrary at best. I have not seen any evidence base cited by the Council as to how they came up with these arbitrary numbers. Given that owners invest heavily in paying for dog walking it is also our expectation that our dog's safety is considered at all times by the walker ie; dogs in the group that are new or are not under control are on leash. Putting these arbitrary numbers in the bylaw will likely result in in dog walkers reducing numbers and thereby having to increase prices. Dog owners will then likely have to reduce the number of walks each week or stop them altogether; we invest in professional dog walkers in order to ensure our dogs health and wellbeing. This proposed change unfairly targets professional dog walkers, there are many owners who walk their dogs both on and off leash whose dogs are not under control and cause a nuisance and
488	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Responsible Dog Ownership: Many dog owners who hire professional walkers are responsible and invest significantly in their dogs' welfare, including registration and immunisations. We expect exacting standards of professionalism and care from our dog walkers, including ensuring that only well-controlled dogs are off leash. Use of Registration Fees: Dog registration fees should be allocated towards creating dog-friendly spaces and ensuring public safety, rather than targeting responsible dog walkers. Focus and finance should target those owners with dogs roaming, dogs who are unregistered, dogs who are aggressive and dogs who are poorly treated. Focusing on owners who are showing responsibility is counter productive.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
544	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would like to see the 6 dog limit for private dog owners, but registered dog walking businesses should not be limited to these numbers nor to only having 3 dogs off leash. I would like to see these businesses licensed, with some sort of competency test to show they can handle multiple dogs off lead at a time.
557	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Instead of punishing responsible dog walking businesses, we should look to regulate WHO can walk multiple dogs. The PWDA in the UK has some standard regulation and registration requirements that are "out of the box ready" and would enable a fair approach while maintaining safety and comfort for all Aucklanders. I do not agree with placing a limit on jumber of dogs walked, because if it is done in the right place and by responsible walkers it is safe, good for the animals, and enables small businesses to operate. A restryon number of dogs will lead to responsible walkers going out of buainess, or changing their walks to shorter and/or more expensive services, impacting the people who are able to access these services and impacting animal wellbeing. It is councils job to find a reasoned and balanced approach to community issues, not to panic and restrict activities because of a few loud voices.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
594	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am a dog walker. I currently walk 7 to 8 dogs off leash. I have worked hard with my dogs to ensure that we are not a nuisance to anyone. We walk at Totara Park, and we choose tracks where we are less likely encounter other park users. When we do see other people and dogs, we will either stay on one side of the track to allow them to pass, or move off the track completely. I often have people stop to compliment my dogs on their good behavior. I know there are many other dog walkers like myself working hard in Auckland to give their dogs the best experience possible, while using their discernment to not upset others in those spaces. If this bylaw change happens, it means I will have to reduce the numbers of dogs in my walks and raise prices for the others. And because half of them will have to be on leash, my clients will be paying more for an inferior walk. When dogs are off leash, they're able to move at a pace that is comfortable for them, and they get much more enrichment from being able to sniff around and stimulate their brains than they do from exercise alone. Some dogs can become fearful or aggressive on leash as they don't have the ability to run from danger if they feel threatened, therefore they overreact to any potential threat. But besides the impacts this bylaw change would have on me, my clients and my dogs, I truly don't believe it will solve the dog-related problems facing Aucklanders. Those who currently do not have their dogs under control will ignore this bylaw. The only ones who will be punished are those who are already doing their utmost to give Auckland dogs great quality of life without upsetting anyone else. Thank you so much for your time, consideration, and the hard work you do.
619	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	by limiting the number of dogs allowed you are restricting someone's livelihood. those who do this professionally know how to control the dogs in their care. I don't like the idea if more red tape however maybe a better option is that if a dog walker wants more dogs at one time they can apply for a special permit . One of the criteria being they have no record of complaints against them.
762	Support		We have had a lady in our area walking 20 dogs off lead and it mauled a ladies small dog dog. She had no control over the pack and there had been no action taken against her. She keeps coming to our area from another area and walking a massive pack of dogs off lead. It's unacceptable and dangerous.
956	Support		Dog walkers cannot control more than 3 dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
959	Support		It is ridiculous that companies feel that they can safely walk a group of dogs. I even feel that 6 dogs is a lot for one person to handle on their own, especially if they are 6 large dogs. Dogs react differently when they are in a pack and I feel that pack walkers should be regulated and the definitely support the lowering of dog numbers.
989	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	You are restricting people's income by doing this, I have a number of friends who are dog walkers who rely on having multiple dogs on a walk to make ends meat, Maybe concern yourselves with the shity dog owners
1043	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It is hard enough to try withstand holding a few dogs back on leash let alone 6. 4 is still pushing it but definitely a much more obtainable number to to control if properly trained in k9 handling. Definitely no more than 2 off leash as this would make it far to hard to try gather up multiple dogs running around
1103	Support		Walkers have no control over large packs
1139	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have personally had both of our current dogs walked/taken care of as part of a “pack walk”. Had it not been for this type of business, we don’t think our dogs would have become as well-behaved, social, loving, obedient as they are now. This business, is trusted and walks numerous dogs at a time and she and her other handlers are 110% ALWAYS under control. These amendments would have an adverse affect on dogs as a whole, as it will put a roadblock between dogs becoming more SOCIABLE which is the real problem in Auckland/NZ.
1282	Support		3 dogs are hard enough to handle off leash and unless the dog walker has total control over all the dogs they are walking anything can happen and I just don't want to see another human bitten up by a dog being walled and the dog walker didn't have control over the animal. I think that walking 3 dogs at a time will would be more convenient for other dog walkers, walking there dog.
1305	Support		I support this as it can really be intimidating to the public seeing pack of dogs being walked around.
1346	Support		Dogs have a pack mentality & a large group of them can rile each other up & it can become dangerous for small dogs, cats & young children. There are irresponsible dog walkers out there who don’t have training & understand how to best manage dogs, so limiting the number of dogs being walked now puts a legal boundary in place to protect the community from the irresponsible dog walkers.
1357	Support		The number of dogs off leash should be reduced as a dog owner/walker cannot fully control off leash behaviour. Hence, I am in favour of the change.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1406	Support		Too many dog walkers do not have full control over the dogs they walk - this limit is good to prevent bad walkers or owners from not having their dogs under control
1415	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support the general public to have a restriction and that would be maximum of four dogs, no more than two off-leash. However, I would support professional dog walkers to have a licence or similar that they could present to a council enforcement officer or similar when required. Professional dog walkers know and care for those they are responsible for. They have a heightened social awareness when out with dogs. The alternative with this restriction, could be dogs otherwise cared for during the day, being left at home unattended.
1434	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	six dogs are not easily controlled compared to four if dogs are off leash people must be able to keep an eye on all as well as keeping them under control
1453	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't believe a person can take full control of multiple dogs, especially off leads. I would suggest an absolute maximum of three dogs on leads (preferably 2, and none off leads) with the ability for the Owner/walker to sit a test similar to "the responsible dog owner" certificate and which would test how effective that person applying is at controlling multiple dogs, then if they pass, allow extra dogs with one or two off leads. The size of the dogs should also be a consideration. I love dogs and have two myself, but know however gentle owners believe their dogs to be, there is still a slim chance something may set that dog off. I have seen numerous people not able to control just 2 large dogs on leads, let alone including any off a lead.
1494	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walkers have never been an issue, it’s the single untrained people walking their dog that sometimes can’t control it
1574	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	An all-out ban is very nanny state, and those who we need to follow the rules simply won't. It is just punishing people who CAN handle it and have brilliant companies running dogs off leash already. I would support people who handle more than 8 at a time needing a license, that makes more sense that banning the idea entirely.
1617	Support		Have heard of enough bad stories of dog walkers. No person can genuinely think they can control more than that in an emergency! I think 6 is still quite high. 4 on leash is a lot of dogs to deal with regardless of how trained they are.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1626	Support		I would actually like to see lower limits. I do not believe on person can effectively have "under direct control" that many dogs at once, especially if something triggers pack mentality
1982	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most dog walkers are geat dog learns to socialize, worry about dog roaming the streets, way more of a problem
2009	Support		My dog was attacked, thousands of dollars and now has a limp, because two off leash dogs attacked him
2103	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think most dog walking professionals have a good control of their dogs and it would be sad to see businesses go down hill for this reason . I 100% agree with they need to be under control at all times and don't let them off if they don't have 100% recall . Some people own more then 3 dogs and to not allow them to play with each other is not fair
2109	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This will severely impact the business that provide these services and would mean additional cost in order to facilitate these services. I think that under normal circumstances implementing a rule that gives specific areas that can be used for multiple dog off leash activities and more importantly there being an incident response process with the appropriate accountabilities for the dog walking company. Having these in place will put more onus on the walking companies to understand the nature of the dogs using their service and then deal with them appropriately. I also believe that there needs to be accountability on the public as well, going to a dog off leash area and then complaining about off leash dogs is unacceptable and should be dealt with that way.
2195	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 3 dogs and only 1 off leash at a time. This obviously can only be in an off leash area?
2197	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It will wreck dog walking industry i use their services but with Low numbers of dogs prices will significantly increae and this assist with less barking complaints
2247	Support		It makes sence. It is impossible to manage more than 6 dogs at a time

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2367	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am a dog owner, and I strongly support the practice of keeping dogs on a leash at all times when they are outside of non off - leash areas. I have witnessed on numerous occasions that unleashed dogs have scared people walking on the pavement or attempted to engage in confrontations with leashed dogs. If dogs are in areas where off - leash activity is not permitted, owners should always put them on a leash. Additionally, dog owners must be responsible for their pets, such as cleaning up after them.
2414	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have met dog walkers with up to 8 or 9 large breed dogs (labradors, German Shephers, retirevers etc) off lead and the dogs have all been very well behaved and followed commands, such as stop, stay, sit, when given, They are oftern better behaved and managed than single dogs walked by their owners!
2426	Support		TOo many dogs at once can be dangerous to other dog walkers
2436	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I think that one person cannot truly manage six dogs who may all behave differently and have differing needs. And if they cannot manage then other dogs/children could be at risk.
2533	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The dog walkers are not the cause of the problem and this will prevent services like this being affordable and available in Auckland.
2542	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We rely weekly on a professional dog walker to take our dog for a walk. This will eliminate their ability to work, or significantly drive up the price of dog walking services. If you are to change the limits, you MUST allow for professional dog walkers to get exemptions or permits to exceed this limit.
2612	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	a person has only 2 hands. If 1 dog goes potty, the person can hold 2 dogs only with 1 hand and can pick up the dog's ********** with the free hand. With the proposed maximum 6 dogs, how can you hold 6 dogs with just 1 hand and at the same time , pick up the dog **********? I see a lot of dog shits
2788	I don't know		Depends on the size of dog and the breed. Some are more prone to jump on people., or attack people while walking their own small dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3072	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Controlling multiple dogs is really challenging. I believe any dog walker should be limited to 4 dogs at one time to mitigate risks of unpredictable behavior. I believe no more than 2 dogs should be off leash as the behavior of more than one dog can change in a an instant and most dog owners do not have adequate recall for their pets.
3958	Support		Dangerous to have more
4162	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	In these tough economic times, small businesses such as dog walkers which are very popular in Auckland will not make much business if they have limitations on the number of dogs to be walked at once. These are experts in dog handling and behaviour and should not be limited to the number of dogs
4197	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs being on or off leash doesn't actually change whether or not they are "under control" - many dog owners do not have true control of their dogs even when they are on leash - want proof? Visit the Botanical Gardens and see how many dogs are barking and pulling on the leash while the owners struggle to keep them from running off.
4455	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is not a current issue. Focus on current issues like mandatory desexing and banning life chaining of dogs
4696	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't beleive the number of dogs being walked by one person is a problem. Generally the worst problem are unaccompanied dogs that are not under the control of their owner. They are the ones that attack unprovoked. These sort of owners are the ones that need to be censured. Dog walkers generally have good control of their dogs and are not a problem.
4829	Support		There is an increasing number of dog walking businesses taking large groups of dogs to off leash areas where they don't have full control over them.
4991	Support		I'd rather you went further. 1 on leash. None off leash.
5347	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	four dogs seems more appropriate, especially with regards to different sizes of dogs and sizes of persons trying to control those dogs
5428	Support		I support this, as a solo and duo dog walker with a thriving dog walking business. I believe it would be alot safer for everyone involved to set limits on how many dogs any one person can walk at any given time

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5728	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Separating onleash dogs and offleash dogs seems to make things unclear. What about dogs on longlines that are not held by the walker? If we set the maximum number, we could just set one number whether they are offleash or onleash. I support the idea of setting the maximum number. Considering the need to transport the dogs in a car or van safely, six or so would be a good number.
6183	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the dogs are controlled and on a walking leash with more than two people it should be fine especially for experienced dog walkers
6461	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	6 dogs is too many. 6 dogs would be very hard to control if they all start pulling at once. Also if you're picking up after one dog, how do you control the other 5? Maximum of 4 dogs gives a better chance of controlling them all, and no more than 2 dogs off lead will help maintain control of all dogs being walked.
6961	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	many this change penalizes responsible dog owners. You should focus changes to better address the issues of roaming and out of control dogs and bad dog owners
PUKETĀPAPA LOCAL BOARD			
32	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I believe you cannot control more than two dogs off lead at a time unless they have been well trained. I have seen dog walkers at our local park and whilst most were well behaved, I have witnessed dogs running off and the dog walkers not even noticing until they have disappeared out of sight. I have had dogs running up to me whilst walking mine on lead in an on lead area.
38	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don’t think capping the amount of dogs is going to solve anything. Reputable do walkers already know how many they can handle at anyone one time. They are also very clear about this as part of their business information. I think implementing a licence situation is a good idea so legitimate dog walkers who are experienced and know how to handle their packs can continue to provide their services without restrictions and perhaps capping those without a licence as they are not experienced enough to handle more than say 6 at a time with 3 off leash. Like a restricted driver.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
63	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog owners who are currently working require the services of professional dog walkers to ensure the care and well-being of their dogs during the day. The walks help prevent dogs from any behavioural issues due to them getting out and about whilst owners are at work. Without these services you will find more dogs with behavioural issues due to lack of exercise. The limitation on numbers means that these services will limit the number of owners they can help during the day. I would rather there be stricter regulations on who can be a professional dog walker or ensure there is a set standard/training to ensure the walkers are professionally trained instead to know how to handle situations and walk dogs properly.
115	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think having a maximum of dogs allowed off leash is not appropriate. But I do support a max number of 6. Having some dogs on lead and some off can cause frustration amongst the dogs and may lead to more reactive on lead behaviour.
148	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most dog walkers know how well behaved the dogs are and are able to keep them under control. This provides people who do not have time for their dogs in the moment to give it to specialised trainers or day cares who can take the dogs on walks to socialise
195	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I have personally worked for off leash walkers but also understand the inconvenience to other people that comes with this. However I do think it is good to keep some dogs on leash while others are off leash, that way people with inconvenient work hours can still use the service knowing their pet is exercised well. If only 2 dogs are off leash that can mean the dogs are having less excercise which consumers will be unhappy about - but a limit of 4 is still manageable by trained dog handlers and it means people won't be bombarded by 10 off leash dogs but the dogs can still be on rotation in their exercise group.
196	Support		I live next to an off leash dog park, I have 2 dogs, and I regularly see multiple paid dog walkers and am amazed at how often they cannot control all of the dogs under their care.
262	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	6 dogs on leash and 3 off leash is fine for households but dog walkers should be allowed more, they are professionals and that is their livelihood.
283	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Any more than 3 off leash dogs for most owners is not manageable safely.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
687	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All this would do is disrupt dog walkers from being able to take more than one or two dogs for a walk at a time. Better to focus on behaviour rather than numbers. A better rule would be only to allow dogs that have been trained/are under control at all times.
898	Support		A person may have problems controlling any more dogs than this, so I broadly support it. However, I am concerned that it will mean pricing people out of having their dogs walked by commercial dog walkers and hence lead to poorer outcomes for everyone. Unexercised, unsocialized dogs are, by far, the biggest problem when it comes to dog behavioral problems
934	Support		After COVID, we've had a large number of "cowboy" dog walkers who are doing dog-walking work full time. They are untrained, and I have seen first hand, dogs being treated poorly, pulled on my chains...the list goes on. We need strong regulations around dog-walkers, particularly ones who take multiple dogs out in public, and residential spaces.
1057	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Most dog walkers have their dogs under control. The dogs love to go out as a pack and are well looked after. Prior to getting a dog, many have considered how to keep the dog happy when adults are at work. Pack walks are not a free for all. If numbers are reduced then dog walking, as a career is not sustainable and will be exorbitantly expensive. From council's data , issues with dogs belonging in a pack only account for less than 1% of complaints. I think dog walkers should be registered and monitored. These changes are not addressing the problem issues with dogs in auckland.
1369	Support		I support reducing the number of off leash dogs, I would prefer the maximum number of off leash dogs to be fewer but it is a step in the right direction.
1445	Support		It controls the number of dogs at any point of time in controlled areas
1575	Support		Too many times I've taken my dog to an off leash dog park and there's a dog walker with 10-15 dogs all off lead and running around. It's total chaos and the dog poo isn't getting picked up. If the number of dogs on and off lead aren't limited then these people will ruin off lead dog parks for everybody.
1846	Support		often many dogs not under control as the dog walkers are too busy with other dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1899	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In my opinion, all dogs should be on a lead at all times. Too many owners do not have control of their dogs and they can injure people, birds/animals and attack other dogs.
1928	Support		Better control of dogs
1972	Support		It is easier to control a lesser number of dogs, and also there are people around who are afraid of dogs. For them, seeing lesser number of dogs together would be less frightening.
2327	Support		I agree with a set limit on the number of dogs an individual is allowed to walk as it seeks to balance the interest of public safety, animal welfare and responsible pet ownership. Walking a group of large dogs can be challenging and can lead to dogs within the group being injured, other dogs injured or public being injured
2460	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The council has provided no conclusive, evidence-based justification for this restriction. Merely stating it will “minimise nuisance and distress” lacks concrete data. There is no demonstrated causal link between reducing the total number of dogs walked and improving public safety. The proposal itself admits that “most dog owners are responsible”, so there is no justification for blanket penalisations. Moreover, the proposal overlooks the distress and inconvenience it would create for responsible dog owners, especially those whose multiple dogs offer essential companionship and wellbeing support. Any change to the bylaws should be guided by specific, demonstrable issues rather than imposing an arbitrary cap that risks penalising responsible ownership practices.
2471	Support		Give certainty owner has control over dogs, but ensure dog walkers also have control over the animals
2489	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don’t agree with setting a limit on how many dogs a person can walk at once because the Council hasn’t given any real proof for this rule. Saying it will lower nuisance and distress isn’t backed by solid data. The Council admits most dog owners are responsible, so this rule would unfairly punish everyone. It also ignores the needs of people who rely on multiple dogs for comfort and wellbeing. Any changes should be based on actual, proven solutions, and provide sustainable options, not just impose a randomly chosen limit.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2568	Support		As a tertiary qualified dog trainer (Unitec - Level 4 Certificate in Animal Management: Canine Behaviour and Trining) who has been working in the dog industry for 10 years I support limiting the amount of dogs being able to be walked in public places by dog walkers. In my personal experience, most dog walkers do not carry tertiary qualifications and limiting the amount of dogs they can walk really only effects their wallets. Having a large group of dogs means that you cannot keep control nor keep an eye on all the dogs at the same time which can lead to dogs running up to other people's dogs (which has happened to me and the dog walker could not recall them off my dog which meant my dog was surrounded by unfamiliar dogs which is a major risk to anyone). The industry needs standards and regulations set so that unqualified people cannot walk large groups of dogs in public. Almost all the qualified professional dog trainers I know support what the council is trying to do with limiting the amount of dogs walked at one time for public safety and for the welfare of the dogs being walked.
2602	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The professional dog walkers I have observed have always had large packs very well controlled. I think there should be a license which removes the limit.
2689	Support		I think the less groups of dogs, the less chance of becoming reactive. I also believe dogs do get stressed when there are a lot of dogs. I understand it is not all dogs. I know there are issues with stray dogs. But even responsible owners can be irresponsible.
2790	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This strikes me as a completely arbitrary figure and plan. Is there evidence of professional dog walkers being an issue? Surely a method of licensing this business would be better and provide some revenue for the council. The issue is individual owners and problems with individual dogs. Much dog related injury is within the home environment. I'm afraid the issue is little or no repercussions for individual dog "owners." I do not support this change. Obviously a friday afternoon plan.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2810	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe limiting numbers is trying to solve an issue that doesn't exist. The issue is that any dog must be "under control". I have seen packs of six or more dogs (more than six is unusual), with a mixture of on and off leash, that are perfectly under control. I have seen two dogs (on-leash) that would not be under control if unleashed. And I have been rushed by one dog where the owner, never mind the dog, was not under control. By all means require professional dog-walkers to demonstrate their ability to control - over and above the RDOL settings - in order to obtain a low-cost licence to carry out their activity with multiple dogs. I would suggest a licence is an option if they are walking more than three at once. The idea is to create consequences, not limit numbers. If a professional walker can handle eight dogs, they should be licenced to do so. If they can't they should be encouraged not to.
2907	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The council has provided no substantive proof that limiting to just three dogs for a walk solves anything at all. The people who regularly walk more than three dogs are professional dog walkers and daycare facilities. This policy cripples their business and makes it harder for dog owners to maintain animal welfare while they're away.
2948	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It will impact dog walkers who are skilled professionals and know how to handle off leash dogs. This is a stupid change and the rules need to be left as it. There is nothing wrong with the rules as they are
2961	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog participates in pack runs as recommended by AUCKLAND COUNCIL! These runs are essential for burning off his energy and ensuring he remains well-behaved and non-disruptive. Removing this option from our dog walking company is absolutely outrageous and illogical.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3006	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I'm against the proposed limit of three off-lead dogs for professional walkers. We use these services, and our dog gets so much out of the exercise and social time. Generally, only responsible dog owners take their dogs to these parks, so non-dog people really shouldn't get a say in how we manage our pets. This change would just make life harder for dog owners and walkers without solving any real problems. Please keep the current rules! Thanks, Jason
3010	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We (family of five - mum, dad, 2x kids, 1x dog) strongly oppose the proposed changes to limit professional dog walkers to only three off-lead dogs at a time. As family who uses dog-walking services, we know how vital these services are for our dogs' exercise, socialisation, and well-being. This change would have negative impacts, including: * Reduced exercise and social interaction for dogs. * Increased stress for dogs restricted by leads. * Safety concerns when handling multiple dogs on-lead. * Higher costs for dog owners like us!!! This proposal punishes responsible dog owners and professional walkers who prioritise our dogs' welfare. Please maintain the current rules to ensure our furry friends stay happy and healthy. Thank you for your time.
3105	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Some people walk dogs for a living, and if they are trained and capable of handling multiple dogs then I see no reason why things can't continue as they were. Additionally, many families such as mine, work during the day and send their dog to a dog minder which are already costly, and this price would only go up if they could take less dogs, thus leading to the removal of my dog from dogsitting which would give him a lack of socialisation and exercise.
3134	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The focus should be on unregistered dogs and bad owners. Our dog walkers are professional and competent. No change.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3165	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Only being able to take 3 dogs off leash is ludicrous! There are professional businesses that dog walking is their livelihood & would likely have to shut down if these silly rules were enforced. Off leash pack dog walking is excellent for dog socialisation, exercise and tiring out dogs so they are not cooped up all the time and turning into badly behaved dogs due to excessive energy and not having an outlet to run freely off leash. This also punishes responsible dog owners who understand the importance of having their dog pack walked and socialised.
3199	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	1) Dog walking services would struggle to offer fair and equal serious to all their clients 2) It would make it physically challenging to pick up after dogs when some are off leash and others on leash
3459	Support		I think all the dogs should be on leash regardless of how many. Even if it is just 1.
3653	Support		It is impossible to evaluate the skill of the person in charge of the pack of dogs nor to ensure the overall management of dogs that are in a pack formation - I understand that there is a pack mentality which may well lead to a dog behaving very differently to a time when they are on their own Therefore it is sensible and necessary to place a standardised limit for all people taking multiple dogs out into public spaces - irrespective of the competence of the human and the makeup of the dogs within a pack
4007	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposed rules would limit any dog walker—professional or not—to handling a maximum of 6 dogs with only 3 allowed off-leash at a time. However, the council's own data shows that just 0.7% of dog-related complaints involve multiple dogs being handled. Of this number, Auckland Council can't distinguish between professional dog walkers and regular multi-dog owners. I agree that the industry could benefit from regulation, however, these proposed rules are unlikely to have a meaningful impact on the real issues affecting the dog community. Instead, they would place unnecessary restrictions on professional dog walkers and others who care for multiple dogs responsibly and divert resources from the major problems.
4076	Support		Six is a fair number 3 of leash and 3 on gives the person more control than 10 or 20 of leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4201	I don’t know		I have some concerns with the control of dogs in the care of dog-walkers with multiple dogs (more than 6 per person) and personally wouldn’t entrust my dog to some dog-walkers. However I am concerned that dog walking businesses would not be viable to run and this could lead to cowboys operating in the space left by those good dog-walkers being forced out of the business due to costs etc. The council should adopt a licensing system for legitimate dog walking businesses and work with them ensuring they can demonstrate control of dogs under their care, the ability of carers to lead the pack etc. Dog walking businesses are a great asset for some Aucklanders enabling their enjoyment having a dog, ensuring their dogs are exercised, which in turn helps control of dogs in neighbour settings, i.e a well exercised and happy dog doesn't stray and is contented within it's home.
4366	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support this limit on the number of dogs a person can walk. Many professional dog walkers rely on this for their livelihood, and it helps pet owners who work full-time. Without them, many dogs would be stuck indoors all day, which isn’t fair or healthy.
4377	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should only be a maximum number of 1 dog off leash, as one person cannot have control of two off leash dogs at one time.
4433	Support		Any more than 6 dogs on a leash cannot be controlled if one of them decides to react to a situation
4436	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There seems to have been insufficient consultation with professional dog walkers and trainers. It is not just a question of the number of dogs being walked by one person - more the abilities of this person to control the dogs in their care. Licensing of pack walk service providers and the need to demonstrate a level of training and understanding of dog behaviour makes more sense. Further clarification required of how this would apply to a group of friends meeting up to walk their dogs together.
4481	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No more than one off leash as training levels vary
4565	Support		I think these limits are still to high, it should be a maximum of one off leash dog, and 2 on leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4678	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My dog regularly goes to a dog walking service, the dog service she goes to walks multiple dogs at a time. They ensure that all off-leash dogs are under control and any dog that is not suitable to walk off-leash they keep on a lead. Group dog walking is great for dogs' social interactions, and provides them with important social skills. As the dogs are regularly walked together and by the same group of people, they get to know each other and behaviours are monitored. I believe that group dog walking services are much safer for pets than local 'unregulared' dog meet ups that happen in local dog walking parks, as often owners have their dogs off leash when they can not be controlled. I belive a good alternative would be to require a licence for businesses or individuals to walk more than 4 dogs off leash at once.
4680	Support		For dogs which are ferocious, it's better to limit the number to one or two (maximum) off the leash. There have been so many instances when the owner him/her/themself find it hard to control the dogs in case of unexpected interactions and altercations.
4725	Support		Safety for children is a priority. If the new proposals are safer, then I support that.
4848	Support		This seems like a reasonable number to balance public safety and private enterprise concerns
5117	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A one size fits all approach is heavy handed and unnecessary and will be terrible for professional dogwalkers. As long as the dogs are under control, there shouldn't be a problem. Policy should not punish those who follow the rules, because some do not follow rules. Also people who don't follow the current "under control" rules aren't going to follow limits, so what's the point?
5452	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current rules work fine and there is no reason to change something that isn't broken
5494	Support		Those who run their own proper established businesses with certified training should be allowed but otherwise over this limit it gets hard for one person to cope
5573	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are many responsible dog walkers in Auckland who take more than 6 dogs for a walk at a time. In appropriate areas they should all be asked of lead. However, a licence should be introduced for anyone to be allowed to walk more than 4 dogs at a time. This will enable better management of dog walkers who are not being responsible.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5635	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Less dogs off leash. With holding dogs on leash it would be very difficult to control those off as well. My small dog was scared by 3 dogs rushing at her at once. One dominant one hurled her on her back, hurt her leg. I had to scoop her up by her harness to get her out the way .The owner had no control and said, " he's never done that before " She had to throw tree branches at him. I was terrified the other two off leash, would join in. Dogs will be dogs after all. None are perfect.
5714	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The scope of reference is flawed in that there is no reference between the public walking multiple dogs and industry professionals in the pack walking business.They need to be consulted, they are the experts and I believe if consulted would be happy to be licenced if it was fair and equitable. I am not in the industry but have a dog that is run with a professional pack walker and their level of control and understanding of canine behaviour is incredible. Please consult with them. Pack walkers don't walk multiple dogs down Mt Eden road. They are generally run in forestry or remote beach areas that have shared access.
5736	Support		The walker is more able to manage 6 dogs. Any more dogs than that can cause lack of control issues.
5791	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	All of these numbers seem too low. Commercial dog-walking is an industry that serves a very particular and necessary need in the market. Even if dog owners can only walk eight dogs, that is not enough to run a sustainable business with - meaning that in many Auckland homes dogs will just sit in their crates all day doing nothing. Also the concept of having half the dogs on leash limits the dog walkers ability to control the other half who are off-leash.
5874	Support		I've seen dog walkers with too many off-leash dogs, and I've watched as one or two dogs became difficult to control, with the walker being unable to do anything about it.
5878	Support		Because one person would find it hard to control 6 dogs, let alone a number greater than that.
5932	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have not come across any dog walkers who have not had their pack under control
6001	Support		As a frequent walker with two dogs, it is frustrating and dangerous watching many professional dog walkers with huge numbers of dogs taking over areas and not having sufficient control over them. It’s unsafe and regular people end up taking extra steps to keep areas safe, while the people causing the problem profit from it.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6084	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs walking is packs, specifically off leash are done so the vast majority of the time by professional services. By limiting the number of dogs in a "Pack" to 3 or 4 you are effecting small business, increasing pricing for dog owners who will not likely be able to afford a new rate. Dogs need socialization and these pack walks are a great outlet for it in a controlled way.
6150	Support		Too many idiots own dogs
6173	I don’t know		Pack walks help exercise and socialise dogs. This helps prevent issues with dogs being left all day and becoming bored and barking or roaming.
6268	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose to changing any rules regarding professional dog walkers. They provide a great service and there are many health benefits to both humans and dogs that outweigh any negative feedback received from local Karens.
6304	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most people walking 4+ dogs at any one time are trained/professional walkers who have full control over their packs. It's not fair to remove this because of a few bad eggs. Also the laws do not take into account the size or nature of the dog (i.e someone walking 7 chuaua sized dogs doesn't pose a risk to anyone)
6381	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think registered dog walkers who are certified competent should be allowed greater than 6 on leash as this ensures their continued ability to provide a much needed service affordably. Maximum off leash should be two. If someone wants more they can stagger the walks or involve another person.
6409	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are a number of professional dog walking companies that provide a valuable service to those of us who want to provide their dogs with exercise and stimulation over and above what they can themselves provide. A licensing/ accreditation system would continue to provide this service but would ensure that these businesses were held accountable to the quality of service provided including the training/ experience of handlers .
6500	Support		Feel this is a reasonable amount of dogs per person to have as a dog walker

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6526	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposal to set a strict limit on the number of dogs a person may walk at one time does not take into account the varying skill levels of dog walkers. Not all dog walkers are the same—some are highly skilled and capable of handling larger groups safely, while others may struggle even with a few dogs. I propose that instead of an arbitrary limit, a licensing programme be introduced for professional dog walkers and those handling seven or more dogs. This programme could involve pairing applicants with certified dog trainers to assess their ability to control a group of dogs safely. This approach: - Ensures that only skilled dog walkers handle large groups. - Does not unfairly penalise responsible, experienced walkers. - Provides a structured way to improve the overall standard of dog handling in Auckland.
6531	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree there should be some form of change as there are irresponsible dog walkers. However, I think either a registration or licensing system that confirms safe practise should be put in place for dog walkers who are responsible pack walkers with the appropriate training and expertise. Safe practise verification could include; appropriate qualification/expertise for walking multiple dogs and dog behaviour, an appropriate vehicle for transporting animals, equipment like leads and muzzles (if necessary for some dogs) and walking at restricted times (e.g. outside of peak dog walking time to avoid inexperienced individuals) I think the random pack walkers need to be weeded out who do not have the appropriate qualifications and practises in place for safe walking.
6602	Support		You can control that many dogs in most cases

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6705	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We are a professional dog walking company called Pooped Dogs Ltd, based in Auckland Central. Over 3 years of operation, and with more than 15,000 walks completed, we have learned what is a safe and manageable pack size for one person to look after, without causing disruption to members of the public using Auckland's parks and reserves. We believe a suitable maximum is 7 dogs, but we do not oppose the limit of 6 being imposed. We strongly oppose mandating that only 3 dogs can be off leash at a time. Where a dog walker is walking 6 dogs, it will be more disruptive and more difficult to manage any potential incidents if 3 of those dogs need to stay on-leash. This proposal does not take dog psychology into account and doesn't consider the pack environment and moving together as a unit. While our instincts might say that "fewer dogs off-leash" means less risk, this is not the case. Group walking is about working with dogs natural instincts to move as a pack, if the dog handler is less mobile they are also less able to respond to any interactions or possible incidents, and will have to manage two groups of dogs in two different ways. We expect this change to be difficult to comply with, and if
6723	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think the better course of action would be to regulate the dog walking industry by introducing a requirement for registration/accreditation for all dog walking businesses. If any issues arise with a dog walker, these would be dealt with by the accreditation body (Council or other).
6731	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would prefer a license system. Where walkers are licensed to cut out all the unprofessional walkers out there. Professional pack dog walkers need to be able to prove they can do the job properly o get a licence. Our dogs love their pack walks.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6774	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don’t support the proposal to limit the number of dogs per person. We use services of trainers/dog walkers for which this rule would be absolutely devastating. They have their dogs under control. They provide needed training and exercise for our dog and socialisation with other dogs. Our dog is so much better behaved after her pack walk every week. Limiting the number of dogs would either mean the end of the business for them or increase in prices we couldn’t afford. The result would be the opposite what the rule is trying to achieve. I would rather support the need to obtain a license for these qualified trainers and dog walkers which would exempt them from this rule
6805	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For pack walks, professional dog walkers do a good job walking more than six dogs. There is already a high demand for pack walks. If you change this rule, it will be much harder for dog owners to secure a pack walk for their dog.
RODNEY LOCAL BOARD			
66	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Supporting dog walking businesses by offering higher limits, promoting skilled dog handlers, and helping them stay in business. CISA NZ code of conduct is 12 and a good all rounder number.
68	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	In my experience more than 4 dogs can not be controlled by one person effectively. I think you are trying to address people doing dog walking as a business, in which case they should not be using public areas, they should have a purpose built facility, as other business are required to have. Public places have too many distractions to ensure the dogs have their concentration on any possible commands the walkers are giving, a walker who often isn't even their usual master/owner.
117	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe that the current laws, if consistently enforced, will serve the correct purpose. If anything, we should focus on more clearly defining what 'under control' looks like and prioritize education over restriction. Therefore, I do not support the proposed limits.
123	Support		Many have up to 20 dogs on & off leash. I find this intimidating and I know that if one dog is reactive or out of control the walker is not in a position to help. There has also been instances of dogs lost in the forest when off leash with them.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
137	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think needs to be distinguished further between public and professionals. I think something along the lines of what happened in Wellington. Maximum amount of dogs on or off leash 12 dogs and they have to apply for a permit or license. Could start with people who have been in business for 2+ years and have had no council complaints can apply for a license.
199	Support		Safer than current rules. I regularly see 1 person with 10 or more dogs in public areas which even for me as a dog owner can be a bit scary
213	Support		If something goes wrong with one dog it's not possible to have the other dogs under control.
225	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe it should be maximum ten dogs. I know a lot of people who own multiple dogs and this limits their ability to walk them in public. Ten would also mean this has a smaller impact on dog walking businesses.
439	Support		Too many large groups of dogs giving bad names to dog owners
484	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The number of dogs has no bearing on the level of training and owner care which has been given. I've had instances of being bothered by single dogs and their owners. Most people love and care deeply for their dogs to be respectful of the rules. More attention should be aimed at unruly and poorly trained dogs. Owners who flout the rules not only for the public but also the dogs wellbeing.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
536	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Unless you are an experienced (trained professional) dog handler it is near to impossible to have full control of multiple dogs when out walking or exercising. Professional dog handlers ensure safety if the dogs in their control and ensure that those dogs behave (before they are allowed to join the pack in public places) otherwise they don't join the pack for outing's. I've entrusted my dog to professional walkers and each has been diligent in ensuring my dog and the others in their control can walk together in leash (behind the walker) and stay together as a pack when off leash in designated off leash areas (public and private). The only time I see dogs not under control is with dog owners whether they have one or more dogs with them who simply let their dogs off leash (including designated on leash areas they are well aware of) and don't control of watch them, with the dogs wondering off into roads and private properties,, or pooing (and not knowing/ignoring the fact). Many without collars/registration. Some may be non-trained dog walkers simply taking friends and neighbours dogs for walks and have no idea of control. Are there any stats showing dog problems caused while with professional dog walkers? I doubt it, and this is the reason we should not tarnish them with the same brush as Joe Public. I feel that each dog walker should be limited to low number of multiple dogs while outside their property in public spaces (perhaps the same number as they are legally allowed to own/have a their home) unless they are displaying a legitimate licence proving they are trained professional dog walkers (and even each dog under their control a clip to their collars with the walkers details/licence #. Instant fine (no warnings) to those who aren't licensed.
564	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 10 dogs with no more than 5 allowed off leash at the same time. I believe the council would be better to register professional dog walkers as those who are committed to the profession are able to control 10 dogs and will have ensured that all of their clients have excellent recall when off leash. (I am not a dog walker).
638	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	3 dogs being walked off leash while the owner walks another 3 on leash means that there is a strong likelihood the off leash animals are not under adequate control. Two dogs being walked on lead should be the maximum allowed. Dogs should not be off leash at all unless at a designated off leash dog park.
725	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Even four dogs would be hard to hold if they all took off
813	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think you can just give an arbitrary number. Walking 8 little dogs is much easier than walking 8 big dogs. There needs to be something that allows more flexibility with this rule but four it to still be easy to understand. Maybe based on the height of the dog.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
821	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	1. My dogs have joined "pack walks" for many years, all of them led by experienced and responsible dog walkers who have far more control over the pack than most dog-owners do over their single dogs. When walking my own dogs, I have never encountered a problem with dogs being walked by a professional dog walker. Any issue has arisen because a dog owner is not able to control their own dog. 3.The limits proposed would result in the cost of dog walks becoming prohibitively expensive, and would likely put many professional dog walkers out of business. 4. This is an essential service for those of us that work and wish to provide our dogs with a good quality of life. If people are unable to find affordable dog walking solutions, then it is possible that many dogs will need to be re-homed, placing dog rescue organisations under increasing pressure and resulting in dogs being needlessly destroyed. 5. My understanding is that a very small percentage of dog control issues/complaints arise as a result of "pack walks", so this proposal feels disproportionate to the issue it is supposed to address. 6.Would it not be more appropriate to require professional dog walkers to be registered, so that if an issue arose, then action could be taken against a specific dog walker who did not have their "pack" under appropriate levels of control? In that case, I would support the proposed restriction applying to UNREGISTERED dog walkers.
822	Support		Easier for most to manage
845	Support		Safer for other people and other dogs.
849	Support		As the dog walking industry is unregulated and anyone walk dogs without any certification or restriction of numbers, I believe it is fair to limited the number of dogs that ANYONE (dog walker or person with their own dogs), can be walking at one time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
871	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think 6 is a reasonable maximum number but they should all be allowed to be walked off leash providing they are well trained and under good control. As a full time dog trainer and sport participant I often run my own three dogs plus one client dog, I have previously owned four dogs who I ran off lead together where appropriate, and I know many walkers who are able to run 6 dogs without impact to the public. In fact, often members of the public walking only ond dog off lead frequently are out of control charging up to me and unable to recall when requested so it's not all about numbers. I would love to see a greater animal management presence in busy off leash areas requesting dog walkers demonstrate adequate recall as has happened at the botanic gardens. Those unable to do so should be advised to put them back on leash. Another option is to consider adopting the existing Canine Good Citizen testing system to regulate which dogs are permitted greater off leash access to certain areas. This would promote training and reward responsible ownership. Small fully fenced dog parks are definitely not the answer to exercise needs. They promote poor training practices and are a very unnatural socialisation experience, often leading dog fights and frustration. I would prefer to see larger unfenced areas available for off leash walking in areas shared with other activities
905	Support		I feel it will be safer for all
972	Support		I don't think a single person can safely supervise more than 3 dogs off leash at a time.
974	Support		I believe anything over this puts dogs and public at risk. And 6 dogs is also a lot of poop to pick up.
992	Support		As someone who works with animals, i think it's irresponsible of handlers to think they can maintain control adequately of so many dogs on and off lead, like a lot currently do. In a public place, there are too many unknown factors and all it takes is one dog to not listen and innocent people and /or dogs/pets can get hurt or worse.
1005	Support		Dogs are being put at risk by people walking too many for a person to control, also putting other dog walkers at risk.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1063	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are many fantastic, capable pack walkers whose businesses rely on being able to walk multiple dogs at a time. These businesses should be able to continue, on a licence only basis. Sure, limit the number of dogs walked by the general public to 4, but allow businesses to apply for a licence to have more. If they have an incident, revoke their licence. Those who are sensible and capable won't have issues!
1076	Support		I think this number is much safer (it's still too high) for dog walkers or the public to walk this amount of dogs at once in public spaces off leash under control.
1084	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Is there any consideration being given to those that make their living as professional dog walkers, supporting the greater dog owning community and typically assisting in training better behaved dogs?
1104	Support		You cannot control more than 6 pack animals at one time. Particularly off lead. I struggle with just 3 and I'm not small, petite or weak.
1180	Support		I have experienced a larger pack walk and o e person was not able to recall and control the pack - this is dangerous to both dogs and people
1185	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think this by-law will negatively impact the careers and livelihoods of professional dog walkers - people who are well responsible and equipped to look after numerous dogs. The issue is irresponsible dog owners who do not obey the on-leash rules nor respect other dog owners' wishes when they are asked to put their dog back on lead (general unwritten rule: if you see a dog walking towards you on lead, you should call your dog back and put it on lead). I think there should be stricter rules and enforcement around ensuring dogs are on lead, rather than the number of dogs under a person's control. If this by law is to go ahead, I think a better work-around solution is that professional dog walkers can obtain a special licence that makes them exempt.
1283	Support		I would go even fewer. People with too many dogs to handle effectively - can be intimidating to other pet owners. This is also not a safe practice - as an owner of 4 dogs I would only walk 2 maximum at a time in a public space.
1286	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I disagree with the maximum of 6 dogs on leash. Professional dog walkers are able to control more dogs than this, and it is unfair to financially penalize them. I agree with the three dog off-leash limit.
1300	Support		Currently 'professional' dog walkers have extremely large packs that are often out of control and at best are intimidating to other dog walkers. While 6 is still a large number, it offers a compromise for 'professionals' to continue their business but hopefully have greater control of dogs in their care.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1318	Support		Groups of dogs (purely the number of them) can be intimidating to dogs and people alike. Even if they are well behaved. They almost never are under complete control so it's a good thing.
1320	Support		Too many 'dog walkers' walking too many dogs they can't possibly have control over them. Dog numbers should be limited and 'walkers' should have to be registered, hold a licence and hold insurance
1326	Support		I have been chased by 3 dogs off leash with a pack walker who had at least 10 dogs at Muriwai. She had no control over all of the dogs, I do not see how anyone could control 10 dogs at once on their own. I think 4 should be the maximum per person. It is out of hand when you pull up to the car park opposite the horse park at Muriwai and there are 4 or 5 pack walking dog vans. I fully support having to have a pass or registration to use the tracks at Muriwai. Dog pack walkers should need some sort of council registration so you can track who is there walking and making money off the local parks.
1370	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Both options below should be available: Ten dogs max on leash at all times. If you want off leash then 8 dogs max with no more than 4 dogs off-leash
1516	Support		The person who has such dogs has no control over them. All dogs should be on leash in public areas
1528	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I can't see a reason for this. If there are studies backing up that more dogs walking at the same time cause danger but if a dog walker takes 10 dogs to the beach and all are friendly and behaving well then this shouldn't change.
1550	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as dogs are under control I don't see why this is an issue... I know lots of places do pack walks like Doggy Bush Break and have heard nothing but great things!!
1555	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	As a former professional worker in the pack walking industry, I have met plenty of individuals who are capable of handling large groups of dogs, and keeping them under control within public spaces. However, I believe that obtaining a license should be a requirement for anyone, professional or not, to walk more than 4 dogs at a time. Licensing should include the individual to demonstrate their capability in handling a group of dogs in stimulating environments, an understanding of dog body language and are capable of enforcing basic training (sit-stays, recall, distraction work). This industry has been unregulated for too long. We need to make a change!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1568	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	8 dogs that have good recall would be plenty for one person to handle,some people cant even walk one dog but generally someone walking a pack would be a dog handler or a doggie business and they would generally be professionals
1583	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current rules as it keeps the dog walkers on business and they seem to foing a good job. We dont need changes.
1589	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers who are doing a service for people who have to work all day, will experience issues if some dogs are off the lead while others are on the lead. I find it pretty hard to believe that anyone other than a paid dog walker would walk more than 3-4 dogs at a time. Dogs will get excited and stressed if some of their companions are off lead while others have to be on lead. I seriously doubt that dogs who are getting walked by a paid dog walker are dogs causing issues...
1627	Support		I feel 6 dogs is a sensible limit. Any more than that number then I feel it becomes unsafe for 1 person to control and too many for them to possibly be able to collect the dogs waste.. Walking Six or more dogs is clearly a commercial enterprise and is not safe or suitable for public spaces
1646	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	we know several dog walking groups where there are >10 dogs walked at a time. The walkers are extremely strict and professional and I can't see why they should have their living taken away at a whim ... because a few council members propose so. How can you decide on other options of dog numbers . It is a totally arbitary number without any validity or science. Why do we have to go through this topic every few years!!
1647	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Number of dogs on leash taken out for exercise by a competent adult who is able to control a number of dogs is not a problem. When it comes to off leash is where the problem starts. Some owners are not even able to control one dog if that dog is aggressive or super active so there is no way that they can control 3 dogs. It is off leash dogs that cause problems not multi dog walkers.
1652	Support		Cannot possibly manage more than 3 in my opinion
1678	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A blanket limit will not change anything. Professionals should be able to get a licence or qualification which allows them to walk the amount of dogs they're qualified to

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1697	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are an important part of modern life. Dogs need exercising and. Socialising and dog walkers fill these needs for many people working full time or with dogs that need additional socialising. We have used one for many years , he has trained our dog and allowed him to interact with other dogs in a safe environment. 6 is too small a number - it's not economically viable. As long as the walker has control it's not an issue. After Covid there are many dogs that need socialising. You are penalising the dogs that are most probably under control. Down your efforts on dangerous and uncontrolled dogs ! .
1713	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Controlling six dogs is not sensible - if you think of this in basic terms it is three dogs in each hand. If they are all pulling you at once, there is no chance you can control them. People who walk dogs for a business may argue that they have their dogs under control "at all times' however I have seen so many instances of this not being the case when a dog has spotted something they are desperate to chase. The walker has no chance of properly controlling them. I walk locally where I know "pack walkers" also go and I purposely go there early in the morning to avoid them with their groups of up to ten dogs. My dog is well socialised but I think she would really struggle meeting a group that large, especially if all off lead, as a lot of these pack walking people tend to do. I also almost think setting a quantified number is not the best way of changing this bylaw. Trying to control four, 10kg dogs is quite different to four giant breed dogs who weigh 30+ kg. Further, I think there should be some kind of requirement for people walking dogs as a business to be registered with council, and have to maintain an annual registration, just as owners have to do with their dogs. I have been involved with a few dog walking businesses in my role in the veterinary sector and some are amazing, some are total cowboys who will hire anyone. Unfortunately, it's the dog owners and dogs who usually come out worse off.
1722	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Never seen any problems with dog walkers
1754	Support		Makes sense: people can't control lots of dogs on and off leash. There are some trainers that's could handle this (on lead) but they could apply for a special licence.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1761	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Only 6 dogs would have too great an impact on responsible dog walkers, who need a minimum number of dogs to break even
1784	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	- STOP the implementation of these new rules. - Consult with the Professional Dog Walkers Association and other stakeholders to develop practical, data-driven solutions. - Work with P.D.W.A to create a licensing agreement for professionals. Our aim is to set standards and enforce best practices. - Focus on education for all dog owners - Address the real issues, such as roaming dogs and excessive barking, which make up the majority of complaints. Why Support Professional Dog Walkers? - We ensure dogs are healthy, happy, and well-behaved members of the community. - We reduce stress on families who cannot always meet their dogs' daily needs due to work, family, health, or other commitments. - A well-exercised dog is less likely to exhibit problem behaviours that could impact neighbours or public spaces. Let's work together for fair regulations that truly address the needs of our community
1795	Support		Safer for other dog walkers as too many people have a large number of dogs not under control
1798	Support		I think if there is only ONE person walking more than 6 dogs at a time, it would be hard to keep them under control, unless they were very experienced in dog behavior.
1799	Support		I work in an emergency veterinary clinic and have seen countless cases of dogs that have come in after being attacked by dogs who are on off-leash 'pack' walks
1829	Support		It would be near impossible for one person to control 'pack' of unleashed dogs. Also it would stop those who lack experience with dogs from setting up a business, thinking that it's an easy way of making a 'quick buck'.
1838	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Regulated system for dog walkers - where they are certified to walk large numbers of dogs - no limit

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1839	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are amazing professional dog walkers who run legitimate businesses helping out families who have dogs that need walks during the day while there owners are at work. We use this service and it is a god send. I have complete trust in them that they keep all the dogs and public safe when they are out with them. It has been stated that only 0.7% of concerns were reported regarding dog walkers however they are the ones going to be the most affected by a change. Why not look at an alternative option of having pack walkers with legitimate businesses have some form of licence to continue.
1869	Support		Too many dog walkers are seen with a large amount of dogs to one person. No rules to protect us from knowing how many dogs a walker can walk at once
1882	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I an quite confident that our existing dog walkers are able to manage the dogs they are handling at present. They have the necessary skills to determine what dogs require on lead exercise or off lead. They would NOT take dogs out on pack walks that they are unable to manage.
1883	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers provide an amazing service. I agree some are incompetent but don't punish the good ones
1912	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why is this change being proposed? Professional dog walkers should be allowed to self regulate. Our dogs have been giing on pack walks for over 4 years, and have never had any incidents. This is another example of council over reach and the proposal should not proceed.
1921	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are plenty of dog walkers that have 6 or more dogs on leach, and from what I have seen they are very responsible
1936	Support		I have witnessed multiple examples of people walking large groups of dogs on beaches and in reserves who cannot control them when they start chasing other dogs or people. I really don't believe anyone can control more than 3 dogs at one time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1955	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	we need more control over the dogs off leash. two can cause a lot of damage and as a dog owner you cannot say the dog is under control if you have 4 others on lead - that is impossible.
1965	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional dog walkers having an exception wth holiday a license for working with a pack of dogs.
1995	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I agree with maximum of four dogs with no more than two off-leash unless license is obtained. OR Six dogs on lead with a license. Which sounds reasonable for professional dog walker. I don't feel that most of the general public would safely be able to walk six dogs on a lead so a license may go a way to help regulate and protect professionals working in that space. With the option of others to apply if they have the credentials or experience. But would also support 3 off leash dogs when there are not other dogs on leash. 3 dogs is not an unusual amount of dogs for someone to own or manage.
2021	Support		Living in an area where multiple dog walkers frequent daily- I strongly agree the limit of dogs they have in their control is significantly reduced- I have witnessed numerous alarming incidents with large groups of dogs- namely many dogs getting lost in the forest - some never found, walkers meeting and walking with other persons counting 40 plus dogs on many occasions, dogs chasing horses and bikes with no recall , dogs found quivering at walkers vehicles after breaking free from walkers, 10 plus dogs unrestrained in walkers ute(totally unsuitable vehicles for transporting animals) dogs found in middle of road tied together with short lead having broke free from walker, dogs with shock collars being unintentionally shocked whilst walker unaware, walkers being pulled in all directions.. I feel that the dog walking business has become a big money making exercise and the needs of the dogs are not met. I have had numerous dogs that freely have off leash exercise and pity the majority of dogs that I see . Huge accidents waiting to happen if this continues.
2070	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are responsible dog owners and walkers that can control multiple dogs As most properties can only have 2 dogs, this proposed change really affects dog walkers unfairly
2073	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should likely be different rules for private owners versus professional dog walkers.
2087	Support		I think most people don't have the ability to control more than 3 dogs off leash
2116	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Regulate professional trainers who are totally equiped to walk multiple Dogs safely and expertly

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2119	Support		I walk my dog at Muriwai Regional Park, & often come across groups of professional dog walkers, with at least 10-15 dogs per person. I find these large groups very intimidating. I don't believe that one person can properly control that many dogs, especially in the event of an incident.
2143	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are some cases where dogs walked in packs off leash are controlled and there are others where they are not. What you are going to do is punish the good and the bad won't care and will do it anyway because you do not have the staff to enforce this
2178	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Many people have multiple dogs - the dogs simply need to be under control at all times. If they are, there is no need for a limit. If you deny people the ability to walk their dogs or a group of dogs (like our community weekly dog walks where some people drop off dogs so they can take part in the group walk) they will simply ignore the rules and it will be unenforcible anyway. Dogs under control is what is important, not the number of dogs per se.
2187	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why change for the sake of change? If there is no issue, which I don't believe there is, why change and make restrictions?
2193	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dogs are unpredictable I've had a dog viciously attacked and bitten while on a lead by an off lead dog at Monte Cecelia Park in the on lead area.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2226	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. If this change happens then it will have a substantial impact on all dog owners in Auckland. The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents will not be able to access dog walkers, leading to more dogs being left at home all day and barking or roaming which is a reported issue by Auckland Council. Other dog minding services are simply not suitable for all dogs such as daycares, and it is important that dog owners can have access to other services that are appropriate for their dogs to fulfil their needs. Alternative recommendations: • All professional dog walkers must pay a yearly licence to be allowed to operate. •All professional dog walkers must have a minimum level of qualification and experience with handling dogs. •If professional dog walkers have reports against them that are proven with evidence, of not having control of their dogs, their
2244	Support		This will allow owners better control over the animals and reduce pack mentality.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2253	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. If this change happens then it will have a substantial impact on all dog owners in Auckland. The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents will not be able to access dog walkers, leading to more dogs being left at home all day and barking or roaming which is a reported issue by Auckland Council. Other dog minding services are simply not suitable for all dogs such as daycares, and it is important that dog owners can have access to other services that are appropriate for their dogs to fulfil their needs. Alternative recommendations: • All professional dog walkers must pay a yearly licence to be allowed to operate. •All professional dog walkers must have a minimum level of qualification and experience with handling dogs. •If professional dog walkers have reports against them that are proven with evidence, of not having control of their dogs, their licence could be revoked, and they are no longer able to walk up
2294	Support		A person can not be responsible for that many dogs. The manabiable number should be less than three,
2311	Support		Even if dogs are under control by capable dog walkers - the number of dogs approaching in a pack of more than 6 can be very intimidating to other dogs and cause them to flee inadvertently
2417	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	dog walkers are usually the only people who walk large packs of dogs - not just a member of the public. These businesses are essential to our way of life now. Most people with dogs are working and need this option to keep their dogs healthy, socialised and happy. The people who offer pack walks are usually in my experience trained and experienced and know what they're doing and put the community and dog safety first. It would be a terrible action to restrict only 6 dogs.
2428	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I'm in favour of the proposed limit of 6 dogs for inexperienced dog walkers. I would like to see experienced dog walkers, who earn a living from their service to be able to apply for a license to walk more than 6 dogs at a time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2429	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This affects people who have their own dog walking businesses. They serve our communities. It is their livelihood and this new bylaw will cause their businesses to be taken from under them. Has this even been taken into consideration?! In addition to this, the new proposal will not have any affect on roaming dogs. That will still happen. I would hope, that if this bylaw is passed, it will still allow for 'Registered Dog Walkers' to continue to operate their business. If not, this decision can only be seen as one that that will destroy a number of small businesses working hard to serve their communities.
2445	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We live in Rodney, a largely rural place with lots of space. A local dog walker has more than 6 dogs at a time but is so amazing. She has all dogs under control at all times. I don't think a law like this is going to stop the irresponsible people but will absolutely destroy people's businesses that are doing a Stirling job
2534	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Some dog walkers are far better than others. Rather than impacting on people who have had no issues, operate a license and revoke the license after too many complaints. The policy you propose is likely to make the lives of dogs owned by people with less income considerably more miserable for the following reason. You will force dog walkers to put their prices up and people of less means won't be able to afford it. The end result is that rich people's dogs will have a more fulfilled life than poor people. Poorer people will get their dogs walked off the books by cowboys. The end result is a worse outcome than the one you propose. Just police the dodgy dog walkers more.
2537	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This assumes that dogs are not trained and don't have good recall which is not true. Also applying this across all places and beaches is unfair you can't compare takapuna beach to Te arai.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2565	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The council has not shown any evidence that this policy change is needed, and this will be devastating to dog walking businesses that provide a vital service to many dog owners. There is a strong desire from the dog walking community to have an open dialogue with the council to come up with a better solution, that doesn't destroy local businesses.
2582	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional dog walkers aren't the problem. Out of control dogs are. There are irresponsible or inexperienced owners and paid pack walkers alike. The main difference is that one is getting paid. Arguably more dogs means more risk, but not necessarily. It is tempting to focus on regulating the number of dogs a paid walker may have as a one-size-fits-all solution to this safety issue, but any number of dogs can be out of control -with a loving owner or pack walker. The best professional dog walkers have more control of a pack than some inexperienced owners with only one dog under their control. The true professionals pick places to walk a pack where there are no choke points or sensitive areas which could bring them in close contact with the public. Rather than punish responsible professionals, and deprive busy, dog loving families of an affordable and convenient way to exercise their pet, by imposing what is a basically an arbitrary 6 dog limit on pack walks, it might be better to try something from the e-scooter playbook first. Councils could establish a licensing system for dog walking professionals to enhance safety, monitoring, training and enforcement. Ideally, the pack walkers would be trained, assessed, regularly monitored and observed to assess the pack walker's suitability and be required to be tested and re-licensed
2637	Support		I manage 2 medical centres and we have dog walkers claiming ACC because they have accidents walking up to 14 dogs at a time. The experiences we see indicate that 12-14 dogs cannot be managed safely by dog walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2638	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The biggest problem myself and my family have experienced is dogs off leash, which includes being bitten, rushed (typical) nipped often, and generally harassed when multiple dogs are not under control due to the extendable leashes being too long . It is critically important that all dogs are on a maximum allowable leash length in all public areas (typically 5 metres) except those that all for off leash dog activities w. These areas need to be well defined and preferably fenced. All dogs to be on leash on roads and this be enforced with significant fines- no debate.
2640	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	dogs bring much joy to the community I enjoy my walks and seeing people's dogs enjoying the space too... and there are way too many rules and regulations on us all already!
2668	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I used to be a dog walker and know how beneficial it is for dogs to go on pack adventures where they go to all be off leash and run freely together, they get their zoomies out, get to play safely with other dogs and do mental stimulation sniffing. If there is a limit this will make it harder for pack walks to happen, especially if the dogs have to be on leash or if some can be and some can't be due to taking turns that seems really unfair and could cause even more distress for dogs and humans. There is nothing wrong with the current circumstances of no limits, there are so many amazing pack walkers and dog walkers that ensue a positive experience for dogs and humans, why punish them?
2682	Support		Most dog walkers I see through the Riverhead forest and West Auckland Beaches use shock collars. The NZ Vet Assoc. does not support these devices, and the SPCA is calling for a ban on using, selling and importing these devices. There is no need to use any form of shock collar. If they need to use these services, they should not be in public as it poses a risk to the public and is a form of animal cruelty, as well as proving they have a lack of control of the packs they are walking.
2716	Support		generally that is a reasonable number to control. However I think that the possibly of a business being licenced to have a higher number of dogs should be considered.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2735	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I 100% do not support a limit on walking multiple dogs. it's not necessary and make no sense to target professionals. I've used a pack dog walker for some time and without them I doubt know what I could do without them, my dogs behaviour has drastically improved and I believe the group gives me dog the much needed socialisation under the watchful eye of a professional.
2736	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there SHOULD be a limit to number of on and off leash dogs walked at one time generally for safety of people and animals. However, there NEEDS to be a permit available for those that are able to manage more - e.g. professional dog walkers that have larger groups at a time. They may require certification or random checks etc but allowances should be made for examples like this.
2750	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Well I have never used a professional dog walker, I have come across professionals when out on my walks and see no reason to attack their industry when the real issue is free roaming dogs and the public not picking up there dogs poo. I think this proposal attacks professionals for what seems to be no reason.
2789	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Controlling 2 dogs off leash and holding onto 2 dogs on leash is very difficult a dog trainer might be able to do it but doubtful! Most people have no control of their dogs, It should be mandatory for all dog owners to do a dog training course.
2842	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not the number of dogs that is the problem it is the dog walker. We currently have our dog walked by a very professional dog walker who has every dog under her control, picks up all dog poo and has them straight back on the leash if there are any other people in the vicinity. If you want to walk more than 2 dogs you should need to get a permit (or similar). Don't limit the number of dogs as this will impact the business and many will go under.
2914	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I would recommend that "professional" or certified dog walker have freedom to walk as many as they like. Some kind of certification process to ensure they are the right people I see many of them out here with more control than most of the other people
3236	Support		I have worked as a dog walker myself and felt that 4 off-leash dogs were my maximum to be able to control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3252	Support		I personally own several dogs and would not attempt to walk more than 4 at a time. For me any more leads to a less personalized experience for each dog. 6 would be manageable on lead but again not ideal. I do not walk my dogs off leash. For dog walkers I would expect some maturity and understanding of dogs body language to be able to manage 6 comfortably. I would prefer 4 on lead but 6 is ok IF experienced.
3254	Support		A max of 3 off leash is good, I wouldn't mind a few more on leash, say 5 on leash, 3 off giving a max of 8. As a person who is afraid of unknown dogs, off leash are always a worry.
3285	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This is not really an issue and people walking multiple dogs are usually having them under control.
3343	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't see reason to limit the amount of dogs walked if they are under control, especially if they are on-leash. Some people walk dogs for a living, others own multiple dogs - to enforce limits would infringe upon their livelihood.
3414	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If all dogs are under control and theres not a material impact on anyone else then theres no need to make another rule.
3521	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We use a very experienced dog walker who has a pack of 12 dogs under control at all times, be off leash or on leash. I would continue to support this model and have the dog walkers licensed (and prove to the council that they are experts in dog management) The beaches that are used are vacant outside of the main summer period and therefore arent an issue for Auckland council.
3526	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All the professional dog walkers are fully trained . Please don’t let the 1 bad dog walker affect the entire Auckland population.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3528	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are dog walking businesses that would collapse if the rules were changed. They always have the dogs under control, they wouldn't have a business if they didn't have them under control. Perhaps there could be exceptions for experienced dog walkers that had all their dogs under control.
3532	Support		Pack walkers are a major hazard they often have little to no control over the dogs in their care. Often the dogs they have are aggressive and not friendly towards other people or dogs.
3538	Support		One person can not safely watch more than 3 off leash or walk more on leash should something unexpected happen. I would like to see a maximum of 4 dogs per handler. 2 on and 2 off. 2 dogs is plenty to supervise when it is toilet time. The amount of pooh not picked up is not good.
3560	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Who other than professional dog walkers bring that many dogs to a beach. This just seems like unnecessary bureaucracy that will cost money to implement.
3619	Support		A large pack of dogs on leads can be intimidating to others and can be difficult to control for 1 person. Off lead if the owner has no control this can lead to issues with others using the area or problems with other dogs.
3642	Support		I live in Snells beach and often there are a large number of dogs (usually large) off leash and the walker does not seem to be aware of what they are all doing and ???? they donot appear to be able to always control the dogs if a situation arises. I feel a maximum of 2 dogs off leash as I have personally on 2 occasions had 3 off leash dogs run up from the beach out of control and menace my much smaller dog. On both occasions the walker was unable to call dogs back for quite sometime as they were about 30 metres away with other dogs.
3664	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are enough beaches in Auckland for people who don’t like dogs to go to. Te arai and forestry have been dog friendly beaches forever and does not cause any issues. It would be the end of a beautiful way of life for so many animals and families in the area with them

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3729	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support this change. I believe it will negatively impact dog walking businesses, as well as create some serious dog aggression issues throughout.
3742	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I cannot support this proposal, as I believe it is fundamentally unfair. Pack walking has been invaluable in helping my dog develop social skills, and restricting it fails to address the real issues at hand. Instead of adding more bureaucracy for the sake of it, we should focus on enforcing the existing bylaws properly rather than creating new ones.
3793	Support		More control
3808	Support		On occasion there are simply too many dogs and not all owners are removing the faeces.
3881	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The limit is not the issue, but the person walking the dogs should be licenced/trained to understand and correctly control the number of dogs they walk. We hire a dog walker who is responsible, this limit shouldn't affect them, but should restrict a general member of the public having multiple dogs that could be out of control or dangerous. If the person is a professional the number of dogs shouldn't be an issue.
3916	Support		Too many dogs with one person are a nuisance.
3928	Support		Not possible to control large numbers of dogs
3929	Support		Trying to walk a large number of dogs with them all under control is not possible.
3983	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers should pay for a license and have a proven track record of compliance.
4004	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is a tremendous difference between a professional dog walker and someone who wants to make a 'quick dollar'. My dog is walked by a professional dog walker who has been in business for 7 years. She has just invested probably close to $40K upgrading to a newer vehicle. Safety, for both the dogs and the general public, is her number one priority when walking the dogs. It's incredible to watch the control she has over the dog pack and she has never had any issues. It's easy to say that she should just get someone to help her but then the business is not viable financially. What you are proposing will absolutely decimate her business and take away a vital service that she provides for our community and pets. Could responsible dog walkers not be licensed and inspected?
4053	Support		I think no dogs should be off leash if walking a group.. If one off leash runs off, attacks you do not have the ability to control as holding others.. very unsafe

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4074	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I know a number of professional dog walkers. You have completely misunderstood the problem. It is not the number of dogs which is causing the safety issue. It is the lack of capability of walkers to control any dogs - for a small number of dog walkers, and a lot of dog owners. Reducing the number of dogs walked or dogs off-leash will not solve or even improve the problem. In fact it is likely to make it impossible for dog walkers to operate, or drive it underground. The problem needs to be addressed by qualifying dog walkers in the control of dogs. This is possible and is the way most dog walkers learn. This service has been offered by the Dog Walkers Association, who have a strong motive to do this well, and a sense of care for the dogs they walk. This could be formalised as a licence for larger dog walking companies, so that there is recourse if they have demonstrated instances of lack of control of dogs in their care. I am not a dog walker but i have seen the benefit of dog walkers who do know how to control and socialise their dogs. Their work has a lasting impact on the wellfare of the dogs and the families who own them. I urge you not to destroy an industry which is doing good, simply for expediency or because you do not understand the need for capable dog control skills to be learned.
4093	Support		I don't object to the proposed maximum numbers, on and off leash.
4111	Support		Too many dogs is not safe and potentially harmful to the environment.
4120	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I feel it is important that dog walkers can still take more than 6 dogs on a pack walk as it is very good for the dogs socialization. Most dog walkers have very good control and I have seen dog walkers with 10 dogs that all were incredibly well behaved and listening, not bothering anyone. Conversely, I have come across plenty of private dog owners with just 1 or 2 dogs, who have no control of their dogs at all, letting them rush at other dogs, at people or horses.
4124	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I dont support in it's entirey. I heard the Radio NZ interview 7th Feb. I agree that the logical way forward is to have licensed dog walkers for more than 6 but if you are unlicensed then your proposal of 6 and 3 makes sense
4128	Support		Only rare dogwalkers have all their dogs under control, most don't. I know of far too many horrific incidents with dogs getting lost, dog attacks etc.
4140	Support		Dogs create a public nuisance and it should be less than 6 and 3

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4175	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The rules are already in place they just need to be properly enforced, new rules will not stop owners or people who don't respect the current regulations.
4204	Support		I see many people with multiple dogs off leash in forest areas and tracks. This can be overwhelming for a single dog being walked who might feel surrounded or threatened. I really don't know how one person can control more than 6 dogs at once.
4246	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	this change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and the services provided to me.
4297	Support		To many dogs per handler are causing big issues
4307	I don't know		I think that as long as the dogs are on leash there doesn't need to be a limit. It's the off lead dogs that need to have better control.
4311	Support		I think 6 dogs is still too many I'd like to see it at 4 on leash and 2 off leash I walk my one old dog at muriwai and woodhill Forrest and the pack walker's out there have got out of hand .. no control over these dogs and not regulated half of them are in experienced as well.
4314	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This would unfairly impact professional dog walkers who provide a service for responsible dog owners who are ensuring that the exercise needs of their pets is met even if they are unable to walk the dogs themselves. Reducing the number they can take will put the price out of reach for many families. Members of the Professional dog walkers association inc. have sufficient training and professionalism to have the rules remain as status quo for them. An exemption could easily be added to the rule change.
4322	Support		Any more dogs than this and they cannot be effectively controlled. Would propose even less off-leash of two only.
4380	Support		I believe all dogs in public areas should be on a leash at all times
4408	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Listening to what the industry experts are saying. Licencing professionals to help hold them accountable when there is an issue that arises (which doesn't if you look at the data) but will still keep those responsible business operating as normal

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4485	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Unfortunately there are many pack walkers that cannot control their dogs. And need to be held accountable for their actions. There are surprisingly quite a few pack walkers though that can handle and train there dogs appropriately for when out in walks who shouldn't be punished for others actions
4534	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Oppose the proposed limit of '6 dogs on lead & 3 dogs off-leash' at any one time. This will have a negative on the Dog Walking service we use 3 times weekly, and to us when their prices will have to go up. An alternative solution could be to lisence ALL professional dog walkers so they can walk larger groups. Different limits for the public versus professional dog walkers. A lisence for anyone wanting to walk more than 2 dogs. Different limits based on the density of the population in that area. Enforcement that your dog must be under control at all times More education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training in their community. We adopted a 2 year old rescue dog from up north. As we both work fulltime, our dog gets picked up 3 times per week by a professional Dog Walker.....she has learnt SO much with them which we are grateful for, as these manners radiate through when we take her out.....we've had so many positive comments from strangers about her manners when she's out with us.....which we love.
4537	I don't know		Not sure if this is a problem- would think that a licensing model would ensure vast practice is followed. Worry about those professional people who make a living out of it.
4573	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Having been walking for years with my dog at a local dog park and coming across these walkers, there dogs become a pack and are very intimidating and they are not always friendly, four is more than sufficient. If a fight was to break out how can they handle more than one to two at any given stage?
4602	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	How does someone control more than two dogs off leash? Owner need to pay bond/license for more than two if dogs rip into local fauna ...
4603	Support		There is a limit to how many dogs a person can effectively control at one time. While there may be a lot of really good dog walkers that spend a lot of time teaching their pack to walk nicely there are a lot of tounge operators that have no control
4631	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 2 dogs. From my observations, living on the beachside at Snells Beach where many dogs are walked, this is the maximum that one person can control. Many dogs are poorly trained and/or get excited when other dogs are around.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4639	Support		Little chance of them being able to be controlled if there if confirmation if there are any more
4640	Support		With a long life time of breeding, showing, traininh and judging dogs I know how uncontrolable dogs can be in unepected circumstances,
4703	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Many responsible people work as dog walkers . They provide a very necessary service and are NEVER a problem
4747	Support		The dog walking industry is out of control, currently anybody can decide to start a business as a dog walker without any experience or qualifications whatsoever and take 10-12 dogs out with one person, this creates obvious issues. Dogwalkers regularly lose dogs, there have been many instances where the public's dogs have been attacked and in some instances even killed with people also getting injured, it's also very intimidating to walk around a corner and inadvertently find yourself in the middle of 30 dogs, because the dog walkers often walk together, 3 people with 30 dogs between them. We often find ourselves needing to plan our day and walk our dogs at times around when we are most unlikely to run into a group. The industry desperately needs regulation and limiting the number of dogs is a start. I would like to see walkers licensed, having to demonstrate a level of skill before licensing and for them to be clearly identifiable by their company so any infringements can be reported, it's extremely difficult to currently do that currently when they don't wear any identification.
4788	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would like to see less dogs over all walking with one person as any more than 2 and they don't seem to have the control they should. People should not be able to have their dog off lead in any public spaces it's too dangerous as I've seen multiple dog attacks over the years and experienced it myself too

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4796	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	we have owned 3 dogs, currently have 2 and they have all since 6 months old walked with professional dog walkers. They have learned socialisation, have been well trained within a group environment and I am so grateful for the services they have provided, which has provided support for our family while we are at work/travelling etc. Responsible professional dog walkers that know what they are doing should not be unfairly punished by unqualified individuals that start dog walking services with none or very little experience. Perhaps a better solution is to license the professional dog walkers and subject them to biannual audits. So many of them do an amazing job, allowing 6 dogs and 3 off lease at any given time will severely impact their ability to earn a living.
4805	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I believe that it does not matter how trained the person or dogs are, you do not have control over the environment around you. Therefore you need less dogs to keep having maximum control.
4824	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Registered companies with professionally trained dog walkers should be able to continue walking dogs as they are correctly trained to do so with managing dogs in numbers. People who aren't trained correctly in dog management etc shouldn't be able to do this so easy. Well trained dog walking companies follow a set of guidelines with what dogs are involved in these walks and take time to analyse all dogs before setting off on walks.
4858	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog is walked by a professional 'licenced' business where multiple dogs are walked in a pack, usually at remote locations and open areas with few other people around. The dogs are always under direct control. The 'pack walk' allows my dog to be socialised with other dogs and assists with reinforcing his training, as he can relate to the other dogs when they are given commands. The dog walker has been in business many years and as far as I am aware there have been no complaints from the general public.
4887	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	we need to consult with the pet walking industry. They provide an essential service and promote responsible dog ownership. Collaboration with rhe professionals is key to addressing any issues perceived.
4899	Support		Don't want to walk too many at once
4946	Support		I think this is fair. But maybe needs review for businesses that provide walking services.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4950	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I support dogs being allowed to be walked anywhere at anytime provided they are on leash or controlled in another manner. I do not support the limiting of anything regarding where/where/how many dogs can be walked. Responsible dog owners are and business's are continually being charged more and given less. I do no support any further licensing and payments required to walk our dogs.
4966	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	If more than 2 dogs are off-leash at any time, I do not think it is possible for a dog-walker to maintain absolute control over ALL dogs as well as picking up their droppings.
4971	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	If more than 2 dogs are off leash at anytime I do not think it is possible for a dog walker to maintain absolute control over all dogs as well as picking up their droppings.
5018	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	This should apply to recognized dog walkers not general owners. the owners need training as well as the dogs!
5126	I don’t know		No strong views. What problem is it trying to solve?
5164	Support		Although maximum should be less 3 on lease. None off leash in a public space.
5234	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog attends 'pack walks' in the outer parks of the shore area, and he loves them. This will effect small pack walking businesses aswell. As long as the dogs are under control (which would restrict persons amount of dogs allowed to have anyways, as if they can't control the dog it shouldn't be allowed based on current rules), I see no issue.
5275	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I recognise there are issues around dog walking. Particularly with so-called professional dog walkers who use that term but are not. I want a licensing system for dog walkers so that people like Pet Adventures who offer an EXCEPTIONAL service are able to continue to offer that service with a pack of up to 15 dogs. I use them and know how professional they are - it is the cowboy operators who put this at risk, alongside the domestic dog owner who has an animal that is completely out of control without recall. This is where the menace is.
5325	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I live at, Buckletons Bay, Tawharanui Peninsula. This is the local park I am concerned about. It is a small, family picnic and swimming bay. Even 2 dogs off-leash are difficult when we take our grandchildren to play there. Two calm, well trained dogs are OK, but still unpredictable,

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5336	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog gets walked regularly with a dog walker/trainer who takes around 10 dogs at one time and it is amazing for my dog. If the numbers were restricted then I wouldn't get as much help to exercise my very high energy dog as I work full time and rely on the walks to keep my dog calm and happy and not a niusance to my neighbours. My dog walker/trainer is amazing with all her dogs she walks and they go through training to make sure they are listening well enough to go out in public with her so she is one of the actually careful ones who does an amazing job with all the animals.
5361	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. I am a dog walker who services Auckland dogs in the West/Norwest area. I have been operating since 2023 and currently walk 30 dogs every week. I do not support the proposed limit because: The data does not support that people walking more than three dogs off lead are creating a problem. Incident data presented by Auckland Council showed only 0.7% of complaints related to people walking more than two dogs, meaning those walking more than three must be even less. In addition the data used to support that there is a problem and presented to council in July 2024 was based on a survey of 2,000 civically minded people and its interpretation by Council is seriously flawed and fails to show that over half of respondents had never had an issue with people walking more than two dogs. The survey also doesn't ask how many people had seen more than three dogs being walked at once. There have been more than 2,750 signatures on the Professional Dog Walkers Association petition opposing this proposed limit so more than 2,750 people don't think there is an issue when less than 1,000 respondents to the peoples panel think they saw more than two dogs being walked causing a problem. The change unfairly targets professional dog walkers only. Auckland Council staff have said that they are not targeting professional dog walkers, but this bylaw change will only impact
5415	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because it works. Why change something that works already. Just making it more restrictive for those that are doing that already. If it was a problem they wouldn't do it I would hope.

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5429	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's working fine as it is , why change the amount of dogs to be walked?? Just another example of being throttled by more rules & regulations
5432	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Changing this rule would negatively impact dog walkers & their business.
5438	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think they should have a licence but then can walk 8 off leash as long as they are ok control
5440	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Work with the dog industry professionals around a licensing system rather than a blanket rule. PDWA NZ have the best professional in the industry to help make an educated decision on this. A blanket rule will just punish everyone including personal owners who have more than 6 dogs and skilled professionals who have put years of practice and study into doing what they do well and safely. A blanket rule for public and professionals seems unjustified as well. It's like saying electricians can no longer do 80% of their job alongside the public. Public walkers and professional walkers do not hold the same skill set or knowledge as those who have studied and worked professionally for years.
5471	Support		a person can only handle the most 6 dogs whether on leash or not

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5473	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	SUBMISSION FOR AUCKLAND CITY COUNCIL DOG WALKING RULES When setting regulations for dog walkers, careful consideration needs to be given to factors that influence outcomes such as the number of years of experience and the location where the dogs are walked. As a pack walker with over seven years of walking dogs, conducting over 3000 pack walks in that time, I feel qualified enough to suggest ideas and standards for commercial dog walkers. I have grown my business Doggy Bush Break from scratch, currently have a good clientele base with a waiting list and won a business award in 2023. It takes a very special person with a very special set of skills to be able to handle a pack of dogs. A blanket rule covering dog walkers will not work if the person has had zero experience or proper training. It also penalises the experienced, long established, experienced dog walkers who often have more control of their packs than some dog owners. I would suggest a monitoring or licencing system instead. I have seen dog walkers that can't handle six dogs because of their lack of inexperience meaning they have no concept of safety of the pack in public spaces, animals and the environment because of their inability to assess their environment or the animals
5483	Support		The amount of dog any one person has definite control of has a limit. There needs to be a definition of what 'under control' actually means, especially off lead.
5491	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Rather than sweeping changes, a license system would be better.
5495	Support		Because more than 6 dogs is virtually impossible to control and pack walkers with large numbers of dogs are problematic in many areas
5567	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Maximum 4 dogs but none off leash. How many people have instant recall with their own let alone someone elses dog.. Very rare !

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5717	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	all the professionals I have seen walking dogs appear to be handling those dogs in a manner that makes no sense to make any proposal to limit the number of animals being walked. We want postively socialised dogs that do not cause a nuisance - to achieve this, dogs need to be social. people and dog friendly, achieved by having them out and about with other dogs and people. We want dogs not to be causing a nuisance at their place of residence - achieved through stimulation and exercise. These are achieved for some dogs, bu pet walkers, being taken out and about (stimulation) , being with other animals (socialisation) and exercise (walking , running and playing with a number of other dogs) . Put limits on this and there will be animals who will miss out on this opportunity.
5799	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This set limit would greatly impact the livelihoods of many responsible and capable Dog handling professionals in our region. Many of these professionals have operated under the current rules without issue our incident in shared spaces. An irresponsible person in charge of two out of control dogs is more hazardous to the public than a responsible dog walker with a well trained group of 10. If an effort was made to properly hold those who break the existing rules accountable we would see that the majority of those cases are members of the public with one or two dogs. The large majority of professionals walking large packs are the most responsible and respectful users of shared spaces as they hold themselves to a higher standard of care. I believe the supposed changes unfairly target professional dog walkers as they are more visible public users and not due to any wrongdoing.
5810	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our experience with dog trainers and walkers over the years, is that they have control of the pack of dogs they walk/exercise. We have seen first hand on many occasions the pack being instructed to move to one side, sit and wait for walkers/cyclists/horse to walk past, packs of 12+ all off leash. We would not allow our dogs to go out with a pack walker that was not experienced and that we trusted implicitly, as the ramifications of one of our dogs behaving badly would fall onto us and would potentially be fatal for one of our dogs, we would not risk this. The enrichment provided by dog walkers/trainers cannot be understated, we have rescue dogs and they have grown in confidence and it has helped with anxiety and fear behaviours by being part of a well led pack.
5952	Do not support		Maximum 2 on leash, and none for off leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5956	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The Auckland City Council is currently proposing a bylaw that would limit the number of dogs a person can walk at one time to six, with a maximum of three dogs off-lead. While this may seem like a measure to improve public safety, it is unlikely to address the real problem of irresponsible dog ownership. The individuals who are already failing to keep their dogs under control will likely continue to do so, regardless of this restriction. On the other hand, professional dog walkers, who are providing an essential service for both dogs and their owners, would be severely impacted by these limitations. - **Impact on professional dog walkers:** The proposed bylaw would significantly affect businesses that specialize in dog walking, putting additional strain on their ability to operate effectively and provide for their clients' needs. - **Ineffective solution for irresponsible behavior:** This measure does little to curb the actions of irresponsible dog owners or “cowboy” dog walkers who flout existing rules. Instead, it risks punishing those who are already walking their dogs responsibly. - **Wellington’s approach:** In contrast, Wellington has implemented a more thoughtful approach by requiring professional dog walkers to pass a test and undergo an assessment by an animal control officer before being licensed to walk a set number of dogs. This system ensures that only qualified professionals are walking multiple dogs, reducing risks while supporting responsible practices. Rather than imposing blanket restrictions that could hinder
5965	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Experienced pack dog Walkers are trained to control dogs & if they are regular dogs, the walker knows their behavior. It's the wanna be ones that want to earn a quick buck us ruining it for the Professionals.
6022	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don’t believe that it is the amount of dogs being walked that is the problem, it is whether the person can handle them safely and respect the public and the areas they are in. We have many more issues with roaming dogs, and just generally having off leash, out of control dogs in on leash only areas. In my experience, the average dog owner is usually more likely to be irresponsible with their dogs. I have personally had many off leash dogs rush over to my dogs when I’m minding my own business, with seemingly no owner in sight

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6036	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers ae a important part of our animal care, the new rules will affect this service .
6102	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There is not enough detail - rules should be different for certified/accredited dog walkers to those of general dog owners. I am aware of a number of professional dog walkers who have the ability to control a number of dogs (8-10) better than individuals walking there dogs along the beach or other public spaces ! Please don't let these professionals be disadvantaged by the actions of others
6136	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	When setting regulations for dog walkers, careful consideration needs to be given to factors that influence outcomes such as the number of years of experience and the location where the dogs are walked. A blanket rule covering dog walkers will not work if the person has had zero experience or proper training. It also penalises the experienced, long established, experienced dog walkers who often have more control of their packs than some dog owners.
6170	Support		That number is more manageable
6184	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own 8 working dogs I take out under control. Why should I be punished for letting my dogs run off their energy and having a good life because of a few people that don't have the skills to control dogs but enter a profession that requires that skill? To resolve this issue I support the PDWA in their licensing idea.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6197	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog has a weekly walk with a professional dog walker so that she can learn dog-socialisation skills. I pay for this service precisely because there is a group of dogs (not a limited number). The dog walker is absolutely professional in the standard of behaviour she expects from all the dogs in her charge and she trains them to behave accordingly. They are not allowed off leash until they demonstrate that they have learned the required behaviour. Rather than the draconian limits on the size of the pack, as proposed, I suggest we develop a registration and licensing system. I understand that dogs can be a problem, and that occasionally humans are hurt by them. This is always a very sad event. But, as you know, it doesn't mean that all dogs are bad, and you are clearly aware that owning dogs brings significant benefits to humans. You also know that a single dog can be as much of a problem as a dog that is being walked as part of a pack by a dog-walking service provider. My dog attends a weekly afternoon walk/run with a group of dogs, precisely because I want her to learn appropriate dog socialisation skills. There is no other way that I can summon a group of dogs to give my dog the experience of being one of a pack. And, even if I could, I know I don't have the ability to control a group of dogs. But I do know how to control my dog. [illegible]
6329	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There needs to either be no change, or a special licence for professional pack walkers to carry on with their business. Our dog goes once a week with Nicki at doggy bush break on his pack walk. This is something we need to continue as it has been so beneficial to his training, especially as he was a puppy during covid lockdown so did not get all of the socialization and experiences he needed. His pack is always the same dogs and they are very well behaved together and look after each other. Nicki business would not be viable with a group of only 6 dogs.
6335	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Walking 3 dogs off leash and one decides to attack say, a horse, the others may follow. Having 3 other dogs on leash, how is the handler going to control 6 dogs? A Responsible Dog Walker registration is paramount to public and livestock as well as others' walking their dogs. Maximum 8 dogs with off-leash dogs only ever in an area where there is no one else present. As soon as a horse or other dog walker is seen, ALL dogs must be on leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6336	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking by our trainer is a very important part of our dogs life. They are a responsible and qualified trainer with full control of as many dogs as they have at the time
6358	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The status quote Q works well for when we exercise our dog and she attends a professional dog organisation.
6365	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have seen a professional dog handler walking 10 dogs all on a leash, she had total control of the dogs. Why disrupt and potentially ruin her business, for no good reason.
6371	Support		It is rare for a person to have full control of 6 off leash dogs , and asking for trouble. Look at the amount of dogs that have got lost in Riverhead forest by dog walkers walking multiple dogs. Simple- less dogs hopefully more control
6380	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If the number of dogs is so limited then our trainer would not be able to financially carry out the great walks that our dog enjoys. They are qualified trainers and are responsible with all the dogs they walk
6429	Support		How can one person control a large number of dogs, if one goes ferrel?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6470	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The solution isn't in managing the amount of dogs a handler can manage. It's in breed specific licensing and training. A single power breed(American bulldog, Rottweiler German Shepherd, etc. can kill a human or another dog without any help. Education is the solution. Owners wanting said breeds should have to go through licensing courses and examinations which both owner and dog must pass. The same can be said for dog walkers. A shitzu isn't going to kill but it can start an incident that a power breed will finish. Dogs need to be trained to a standard which prevents incidents to the greatest degree possible. There are a lot of pack walkers who are highly skilled trainers as well and have never had an incident. It hardly seems fair to limit them to a number of dogs when the culprits who cause incidents continuously would probably be able to cause another one with even a single dog, on or off lead.
6506	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Doggy Bush Break 21 Feb 2025, 20:29 (2 days ago) to me Hi Tia, My sincere apologies if you have already received an email from me regarding submissions. Please ignore this email if you have. My web host thought I had been hacked as I sent out over 400 emails at once so immediately put a stop on them. Great to know I have good security! Some had already been sent and I have no idea who has received one or not. So in order to cover all bases, I am resending to everyone. Sorry for the inconvenience. Nicki

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6514	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs must be under control is more than enough regulation. Numbers are not this issue. Poorly managed dogs with poorly managed dog owners are the actual issue.
6525	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am the owner of six dogs, I live on a rural property where this is fully allowed. All my dogs are registered, I have a responsible dog owner licence, I have never had a complaint about me or my dogs and I have spent years training my dogs. I regularly foster for dog rescues and have personally helped over 20 dogs out of council pounds and into homes. The proposed limit will mean I will not be able to walk all my dogs off lead by myself. My dogs love to go for walks in the forest and beach and exploring these places off lead is what fulfils them mentally, emotionally and physically. By not being able to walk them together off leash my life and theirs will be turned upside down and will mean my dogs will hardly ever leave my property as I can't walk them anywhere else. This will impact their socialisation and training (making them naughtier) as we won't be able to practice the behaviours I have taught them. Walking them and keeping three on leash will be devastating for me and them and cause so much more frustration for my dogs and me on every walk. Walking my dogs is also extremely important for my mental health and not being able to do that after work and watch them explore together will hurt me on such a personal level. I think Council need to seriously consider who they are impacting with this change and how responsible dog owners like me will be hurt by this. I also think Council need to think about how they are going to make a whole group of people who love dogs rule breakers just for trying to do the right thing. I have never met a person walking multiple dogs who doesn't understand dogs, isn't respectful and follows the rules. I have personally been rushed in public spaces by one or two dogs being walked off lead by one or

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6541	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit will mean I can't walk my 6 dogs together on my own. This will seriously impact their quality of life and mean they won't get the regular exercise they deserve. I also don't support the limit as I don't think it will solve any problems. There is no data to say that multiple dogs being walked is a problem. This is a solution looking for a problem. Council should focus its resources on roaming and aggressive dogs so people can safely walk through parks and down the street and not be scared of meeting a dog. Any new bylaw or limit will divert council resources from this important work. If council think that dog walkers need to be regulated then a licence should be introduced but ordinary dog owners should not be impacted. Council should also work with professional dog walkers as they are experts in dog behaviour and are regularly on the streets and pick up roaming dogs for council.
6599	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the dog handler needs to be licenced according to experience Our dog walker is safe and all ger dogs respond to her instructions A little censong system would ensure that only well trained handlers can walk the dogs safely Numbers sre not an issue then

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6608	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will penalise responsible professional dog walkers who are an absolute godsend for so many dog owners around Auckland. It seems the majority of problems with dogs attacking or injuring people is to do with roaming dogs, not dogs being walked as part of a group by professional walkers. The council should instead focus on addressing roaming dogs and also consider a form of licensing to regulate professional dog walkers, who provide a valuable service. There is no doubt there has been an increase in the number of people offering dog walking services and a licensing process would help to ensure they meet certain standards of training, ability and care. We have a five-year-old male German Shepherd (Frank) who has been going to a professional dog walker for the past four years. He walks off-leash regularly with several other dogs under the supervision of a trained handler. While we walk him twice daily, his regular pack walks are an excellent way for him to get the extra exercise he needs and this additional interaction with other dogs goes a long way towards his behaviour and socialisation. We love knowing that Frank is out having adventures on his pack walks in the care of trained professionals

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6670	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Benefits of pack walks for dogs: The proposed rules will adversely impact dogs and their health and welfare in Auckland. Commercial dog walking businesses provide an important and needed service in the region. Socialisation This includes the environment, not just with other dogs. I have a lead dog who works with every pack, and she is vital in my business as she keeps the pack in line. Dogs learn many different play techniques which helps them to interact properly with other dogs while out with their owners. Many of my clients are at work during the day and their dogs weekly pack walk is often their highlight of the week. Exercise & Mental Stimulation Many dogs require more exercise and mental stimulation over and above their daily walks, and the pack situation provides this. Leash training Training how to walk and behave on a leash – no dogs are to walk in front of my knee. The pack trains the newbies. This in turn transfers over to the owners. Environment training How to remain calm and have self-control in the many situations that are presented while on the walks. I have had horses, rabbits, ********** pheasants, birds, cats and people throw balls and sticks in front of the pack while on the leash. I often have more
6682	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This change will have huge impacts for many businesses in the industry, most notably dog daycare facilities and pack walkers. The industry needs support and regulation, not wide-sweeping limits such as those proposed.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6683	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have been a dog owner and trainer for the last 10 years and over that time there has been a significant increase in the number of professional dog walkers walking large numbers of dogs. In this time I have never had a bad experience with these walkers, and the vast majority are highly skilled in managing their dogs while being very considerate of others in the space. However I have had many issues and incidents with single or pairs of dogs being walked by their owners, who lacked the knowledge or ability to appropriately control their own dogs. Dog walkers provide a important service in training and exercising dogs appropriately in order to reduce issues like barking or escaping. Dog walkers are also an important source of knowledge and training for owners who may not have other opportunities to learn appropriate dog management. Many walkers provide basic training on lead walking, recalls and basic dog manners that transfers across to owners, resulting in better control and a more enjoyable experience for all of us sharing spaces. Unfortunately limiting numbers of dogs will make it more difficult for many of these walkers to continue their businesses, with smaller groups resulting in fewer dogs being taken out each day and lower affordability for many people. Sadly this will result in more dogs not having their exercise and mental stimulation needs met and an increase in problem behaviors. My own dogs have gone out on group walks for many years and it has been a wonderful experience. They have learnt social skills in groups of dogs and how to be calm around other dogs so they don't cause issues with other dogs when I am walking them. They also became so much more comfortable in different

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6696	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe that there should be restrictions on who can walk more than six dogs at a time, the inexperienced dog walker may be overwhelmed and unable to control their pack which can be dangerous not only for the dogs but for the general public as well. My suggestion is having a license where dog walkers need to register and based on their experience and capabilities that determines how many dogs they can have in one walk. The dog walker service we use has twelve to fourteen dogs at a time on their walks and it is not only greatly beneficial for our dog socially but in terms of learning public etiquette and how to appropriately behave. Our dog walker teaches our dog alongside of the other dogs how to behave in public settings in order to reduce the disturbance on other public patrons. Without having these walks our dog would have no other interaction or exposure to the outside public settings and be confined to our property. In terms of the social aspect our dog would get no other pack experience without these walks, so having twelve to fourteen dogs helps him gain that needed social and mental stimulation that he desperately needs. Dogs are social creatures and need to be around other dogs, by limiting the number of dogs being taken on walks it takes away from that much needed experience. If done correctly dog walking in larger packs can be highly beneficial not only for the animals but for the people and natural wildlife in different regions. By cutting down on the number of dogs allowed on a walk it not only impacts the business aspect, but it also limits how often our dog can go on walks. It will also cause a decrease in diversity within dog walking groups, having different ages, genders, and breeds on walks aids in exposure to different
6714	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe that dog walkers should be licensed and liable / responsible but limiting dog numbers will mean that professional dog walkers (the good ones) are punished.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6786	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	When setting regulations for dog walkers, careful consideration needs to be given to factors that influence outcomes such as the number of years of experience and the location where the dogs are walked. Our two dogs go out with a very experienced dog walker with over seven years of walking dogs. It takes a very special person with a very special set of skills to be able to handle a pack of dogs. A blanket rule covering dog walkers will not work if the person has had zero experience or proper training. It also penalises the experienced, long established, experienced dog walkers who often have more control of their packs than some dog owners. I would suggest a monitoring or licencing system instead. I have seen dog walkers that can't handle six dogs because of their lack of inexperience meaning they have no concept of safety of the pack in public spaces, animals and the environment because of their inability to assess their environment or the animals correctly. I have also seen owners who cannot control their dog/s. Our dog walker can safely walk up to 14 dogs on the leash and can control all the dogs off leash because the packs have been together for years.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6804	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Big concerns... A) You would potentially be decimating an entirely responsible industry. B) I see a situation where the issue attempting to be addressed here could end up worse with these amendments. C) There appears to have been a lack of proper consultation with professional pack walkers and/or their clients. I am the brother of someone who works in the pack walking industry. She, like many of the other professionals in this industry, has been practicing from a long time in the industry and has learnt from other professionals from the start of her career in it. I go out on one of these pack walks with her and her clients' dogs perhaps on average once every second month or so throughout a given year, and so I have thorough experience of what her pack walks are like, and the positive growth her clients' dogs can go through. What I see are dogs that become better trained and better behaved with these walks. There is training like "recalling" involved providing structure and discipline for the dogs. The healthy social nature of the exercise the dogs receive calms them and allows them to become more confident and secure which makes them more awesome pets to be around for anyone interacting with them. My sister trials these dogs before deciding to take them on as new clients to ensure a dog can be worked with. She is responsible and provides an excellent much needed service for her clients. She would be one of the many professional pack walkers who could be heavily negatively
6829	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Perhaps dog walkers could be registered We use doggy bush break It is fantastic Dog walker has dogs under control at all times and trains the dogs with excellent behaviour

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6842	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Kia Ora Auckland Council, I oppose the proposed limit that has been suggested. Although I don't own a dog, I regularly visit local parks and beaches where I often see professional dog walkers. From my experience, these walkers manage their groups very responsibly. The dogs are well-behaved and under control, which contributes to a positive and safe environment for everyone. In contrast, the few issues I have observed involved individual owners struggling to manage even one or two dogs, or just blatantly disregarding the rules. Imposing a strict limit on professional dog walkers seems unnecessary when the problem is not with group sizes but rather with untrained or uncontrolled dogs. It would be more effective to ensure that walkers are properly trained and held to high standards rather than penalising those who are already doing an excellent job. I believe a licensing system would achieve this without the unintended consequences of limiting access to professional services. Please reconsider this proposal and focus on a solution that addresses the real issues. Thank you for considering my submission, Lisa Rutt
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD			
19	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most responsible dog wakers work with a maximum of 10 dogs. This is around the number that is required to ensure a financial balance between return for effort of the dog walker and price to customers per dog. The proposed limit of six will price dog walkers out of the market. The issue is not the number of dogs, but the responsibility and cpability of the dog walker.
34	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No maximum limit for professional dog walkers who have registered as such and have a proven track record that shows they are capable of handling large packs. Professional pack walk dog handlers know what they are doing. Keep the maximum limits for non professionals and new entrants into the pack walk industry (ie require a minimum x number of years before they increase the pack sizes)

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
43	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	there is a need to engage directly with the dog walkers association and to establish a code of conduct or licensing programme that they can work under so that they can safely manage the dogs in their care, ensuring the public are also safe and not disrupted. There is honestly not a major public concern with the numbers of dogs being walked however there is a concern with dogs roaming the streets which is an issue if there is 1 or multiple, they are simply not under control. That is the issue which needs to actually be addressed rather than those who are actively walking their dogs.
65	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No Change is necessary. If a limit is to be placed it needs to have a licensing option for professionals to be able to walk up to 12 dogs at a time.
67	Support		Just feels like a safe option as I can’t imagine a single person can manage more that the number of dogs at a time.
129	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Control is simply not about the number of dogs in a group, but the knowledge of the handler, how they have implemented the group and what management strategies and training they are consistently doing while walking. The errors made do not equate to the number of dogs yet the lack of handler control.
138	Support		I support it however I think it should be limited to four. I have a disability assistance dog that has been hassled by dog walkers and it makes accessing the community much harder than it should be
179	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	6 dogs is still too much. If it's 3 off leash + 3 on leash I don't see how the person can control the 3 off leash dog while having another 3 dogs on leash.
192	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most dog walkers are very responsible and knowledgeable, good dog owners will only pay and engage with responsible dog walkers. If dog walkers are not providing good service, their business won't last. This should be regulatory enough for dog walkers. Regulating dog walkers are not addressing the issues of roaming dogs or abandoned dogs/puppies. So instead of focusing on dog walkers why not shift that focus to dog owners. Find a way to get all dogs registered, and mandatory neuter/spay dogs that doesn't pass ideal genetics tests. Get irresponsible dog owner's dogs mandatory neutered/spayed. Give Animal Management Officer more authority & resources to make these decisions, and impose heavier punishments on irresponsible dog owners.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
200	Support		Having more than 3 dogs off lead leads to pack behaviour. Not easy to control them.
208	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We used the services of an extremely competent and fabulous dog walker for several years. Natasha from Nats Pack was such a talented dog handler. She took our nervy, slightly difficult dog on probably 50 or more walks with a pack of up to maybe 15 varied dogs - big, small, fluffy and tough looking ones. They were off lead for part of every walk and there was never a problem, we were never anything but thrilled with her service. Please don't blanket punish all the genuinely talented dog whisperers out there just to keep the cowboys under control. They will drop off anyway as dog owners realise that they're not the real deal.
227	Support		Most of these are professional dog walkers so make them pay a licence to walk even 6 they are getting paid enough.
231	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Rules need to be made by consultating with the PDWA, their should be a maximum amount of dogs walked by one person but the off lead rule should be the same as the number of dogs walked or the rule could be that dogs should be attached to a loose long line.
246	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change if implemented would severely affect professional dog walkers whom provide a fantastic solution for dog owners, and who in their professional capacity do keep their group dogs under control. They are a great training tool for dogs that can take instruction and can be controlled. They provide a service to the wider community by enabling their trained dogs to be dogs that can be controlled by their owners. Controlled and trained dogs is what Auckalnd needs and they provide the basis of this for many dog owners
256	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We have amazing dog walkers who train and walk my dog twice a week, by limiting the number of dogs they walk you will ruin their business model. Make dog walkers get a license to provide services, ensuring that dog walking businesses meet certain regulations. By limiting dog numbers you are solving the wrong problem. It is untrained dog walkers and irresponsible dog owners that are the problem.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
259	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There is obviously a problem with some cowboy operators who are walking an unsafe amount of dogs in an unhealthy manner for those dogs (such as not having control over the dogs, walking a large number too closely grouped together so the dogs don't have personal space, leading to stress and making control over the dogs harder). Instead of a hard limit i would prefer Auckland Council or otherwise to issue a dog walking license, or work with an industry body who could issue licenses. Dog walkers
274	Support		I don't believe that one person can control more than 6 dogs at once, especially off leash. I have personally been rushed by packs of off lead dogs being walked while walking my own dog. I have also had to put myself in harms by by walking on a busy road because the footpath has been blocked by people walking about 10 dogs on lead. I've seen videos of dogs and walkers going off the track on walks that are being protected from kauri dieback. I know people who live near riverhead forest who no longer can use it for recreation due to being attacked and chased, especially while they were riding horses. Dog pack walkers make going out into nature much more scary for normal people
280	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	To help support professional dog walkers and regulate the industry. I am a CISA NZ walker who is held up to their standards and code of conduct, their limit is 12.
304	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	It is the owners of bad dogs that need dealing to. Not good Trained Dog Walkers who always have their dogs under control. Why should our dogs not be able to go out and have a lovely time with our Professional Dog Walker because of bad Owners of dogs who let them roam the streets. The issues that have arisen have been 99% caused by bad dog owners not having their dogs under control. Dog Walkers have to run a successful business to survive and if the Council destroy their business their will be more unruly dogs roaming the streets.
332	Support		Even 6 seems a bit high as it depends on the type of dogs. There should be a new register and certification for people who want to be dog walkers
334	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be exemptions for official dog walkers or a licensing system. Our dog has been walked with a professional for years and benefits enormously from the socialisation. The walker is qualified and easily handles more than six dogs. I'd hate to see legitimate businesses like hers suffer when a licensing system would be a better alternative.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
467	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	No dogs should be allowed unleashed.
545	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You should require those operating pack walking businesses to be registered and prove they can operate safely. Not all pack walkers operate the same way.
575	Support		agreed that pack of dogs require more skill and ability to control, and it could impose risks to certain degree on other people if the pack does not behave as they should be in public.
599	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I use a dog walker company and it's great for socialising and the dogs have fun together there have been no issues whatsoever why try and fix something that's not broken.
644	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If not dog owner then must be licensed. Then max four on leash and two off in all cases.
652	Support		I support this new restriction as it's hard to imagine how one person could be even aware of what more than three dogs are doing when they're freely roaming a large open area. Also being approached by a pack of dogs off leash (even if friendly) can be frightening to people and other dogs. Regarding the limit of 6 dogs on leash - I can imagine someone being able to be in control of more than 6 small dogs on leash, but probably not very large ones. Maybe there could be limits in busy areas like city parks and beaches, but no limits in areas designated for dogs like dog exercise areas?
656	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Cost prohibitive to change rules as dog walkers will not sustain businesses.
664	Support		Larger number of dogs is harder to control, and not everyone, especially children, like to have dogs come up to them, it can be scary for some people.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
682	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All the dogwalkers I know are trained professional who have total control of their packs. This will mean the end of numerous small businesses.
754	Support		Reasonable setting to retain control over dogs in walker's care
759	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	While I fully support Auckland council making the effort to ensure all people & dogs are safe, I do not think this should apply to professional dog trainers. Professionals know how to handle their dog packs, taking away their ability to walk packs of dogs larger than 6 would effectively put some out of business. We need more affordable trainers available to ensure dog owners can afford/have access to a reputable trainer to improve canine behaviour in Auckland
811	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed changes will have a huge impact on current dog pack walk groups. These professionals who manage and maintain multiple dogs have a great benefit for the dogs mentally and physically and restricitng the amount they can walk actually doesnt provide any benefit. Our dog has benefited greatly from larger walking group socialising with mutliple dogs, getting the mental and physical stamina from the larger group of dogs to run and burn energy and also the training he recieved as being part of big pack group has meant that we a family can take him anywhere without a doubt knowing he is trained, well behaved and under our control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
846	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limits on the number of dogs a person may walk in council-controlled public places for the following reasons: 1. Unnecessary Regulation The proposed regulation is an additional layer of control that is not necessary. The majority of dog owners and professional dog walkers already take their responsibilities seriously, training and managing their dogs effectively. Introducing a regulation that will be difficult to enforce undermines trust in the community's ability to self-regulate. 2. Challenges with Enforcement Unless Auckland Council significantly increases staff and resources to monitor compliance, this regulation is unlikely to be enforceable. Without consistent enforcement, the policy risks being ignored, leading to frustration and confusion among dog owners. 3. Negative Impact on Professional Dog Walkers This policy disproportionately impacts professional dog walkers, many of whom walk more than three dogs off-leash at a time as part of their livelihood. By limiting the number of dogs they can manage, the policy threatens their ability to operate viable businesses. 4. Focus on Responsible Ownership Instead Rather than imposing arbitrary limits, the Council should focus on promoting responsible dog ownership and behaviour. For example: • Providing meaningful education for dog owners on effective training and control. • Offering incentives for participation in dog training programmes
892	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Instead of making a blanket rule, dog walkers should be subject to specific standards that they must comply to in order to operate - this can be like the food rating system. Those who have taken the time to receive training and are dedicated dog handlers/behaviouralists will comply and it will weed out the cowboys.
919	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Instead of setting limits, regulate the dog walking industry. Our dog walker, can easily manage 12 dogs and she is extremely competent with dogs on and off leash, limiting the number of dogs would severely affect her business and would not be able to continue providing the service. I know other dog walkers are in a similar position. They are keen to be regulated so irresponsible walkers can't be left in charge of so many dogs.
925	Support		Too many dogs roam free. No dogs should be off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
930	Support		Even a single person has a hard time controlling one dog, let alone having multiple dogs would be impossible and too dangerous to both the dogs and humans out in the public. Dogs are unpredictable when it comes to pack walks or in a large group of dogs. Very well trained dogs can suddenly become aggressive if triggered by rude/untrained dogs, so I support the limitation for the sake of safety.
994	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed by-law changes that would limit the number of dogs that can be walked at one time. These restrictions would severely impact local businesses, particularly qualified dog walkers, making their operations unfeasible. As a dog parent to a 4 year-old german shepherd, I consider pack walking an essential service that helps my dog stay calm, social, and well-trained. This service provides crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioral issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. Rather than imposing limits on the number of dogs, I believe the focus should be on licensing and regulating who can operate pack-walking services. Qualified professionals—those with formal training, certifications, and experience—should be permitted to walk larger packs, ensuring high industry standards. This approach would address concerns about unqualified operators who do not adhere to best practices, unlike dedicated professionals who prioritize safety and public courtesy. Reducing pack sizes may also increase costs, making these services unaffordable for many dog owners and potentially forcing reputable operators out of business. This could lead to more dogs being left home alone, which would negatively impact their well-being and contribute to nuisance behaviors in our community. Personally, if these changes were implemented, it would mean
1022	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think you should offer licences for professional dog walkers
1035	Support		People.need to be able to control their dogs. Too many things could go wrong with too many dogs with one person's supervision
1044	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Classic case of few ruining it for many, those pack walkers that caused issues will continue to flaunt to rules regardless while those that care about dogs and are trained behaviourist taking it seriously will have their businesses rendered non viable.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1046	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think it's worth to note that this new policy/ law has come in without talking directly to those affected. For dog pack walkers they walk up to 10-20 dogs at a time in a controlled environment. They aren't just let off straight away. There is multiple training that goes involved for the dog walkers to be comfortable to let the dog of leash and training aids/ measures. If the law has less than 10 off leash Pack walkers business will not be sustainable and in turn dogs will not be walked. For some these pack walkers business help train dogs with walking and in their behaviour. Personally first hand they train these dogs to behave in a positive way that owners don't have the time for. If these business cannot be sustained then there may be more dog fights or issues as owners cannot walk there dogs etc
1074	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	maximum of 4 dogs all on a leash
1097	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A licencing system based on skill level with the ability to be rescinded if the licence holder is unable to control the multiple dogs
1132	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Have used packwalkers in the past before and as long as they're trained professionals, they are not causing any danger to the public. It's up to the dogs owner to do their research before sending their dogs with a pack walker
1141	Support		I support this for many reasons, firstly it's unfair that dog walkers use council parks as their business locations charging customers money for work on public land but do not pay a concession fee, when food trucks, horse riders etc all pay concession. Secondly it's extremely dangerous for any unskilled person to have a "dog pack" packs can be easily distracted and be threatening for other walkers, dogs, wildlife, horses. The more dogs going somewhere at once also creates more damage to the environment and potential for waste.
1156	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I think the number is irrelevant, but licences should be able to be obtained for those who have dog walking businesses where this amendment would put them out of business, and take recreation opportunities away from dogs who are part of full time working families. The 6 and 3 number is fine for the average member of the public but there should be the ability to exceed this if you are a business.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1165	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Changes are ridiculous
1166	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are many amazing dog walking services that take fantastic care of many dogs and take them on adventures every day. By limiting the number of dogs you will be destroying people's livelihoods. You have no right to limit or control people in any way, especially if it affects their means of income. Why do you want to limit the number? Who gives you the right to tell these people that they can't safely walk 20 dogs at a time when that's what they do every day successfully. Stop government overreach. Stop nanny state. Stop limiting people and their animals.
1192	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog has been part of a dog ‘pack’ which has been life changing for her. They have never had an incident with their large group of dogs as they are properly trained. It would be unfair to impact their business and livelihood due to a small number of rogue untrained people who have ruined it for others.
1195	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think that there needs to be regulation of commercial dog walkers and they need to be licensed. Many experienced professional dog walkers can capably handle multiple dogs and can make a living, walking multiple dogs safely in areas away from the public. However it is walkers that don’t know how to handle multiple dogs that cause the issues. Commercial walkers should be examined in order to be issued with a licensed and then assessed annually/ bi annually to maintain their licence. If licensed they should then be able to have up to 10 dogs at any time.
1209	Support		Issues with commercial dog walkers not having multiple dogs under control
1311	Support		I strongly support this proposed change and believe it will improve safety in general and provide a better experience for those dogs being walked by 'pack' walkers.
1331	Support		Perhaps half the population do not like dogs now? Reducing the number of dogs permitted outdoors at any one time is sensible.
1363	Support		I've had too many encounters of dog walkers with large packs both on and offlead rush up to my onlead dogs and cause problems. I rarely head to where other dog walkers are now as it has become dangerous for me as a pregnant woman to walk in places such as muriwai and riverhead

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1368	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Instead of creating rules for people out walking and taking care of dogs, put time and money towards dogs that are neglected or abused and don't even get a walk. As long as dogs are under control, who cares how many are being walked at once
1423	Support		Dog behaviour changes when in packs, sometimes without warning. Reducing the numbers means there is more likelihood of safer walking for both dogs & humans using the same area.
1458	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have used several professional dog walking (pack walking) services for my dog many times. My experience is that professional dog walkers require taking your dog on multiple test walks before they can agree your dog is trained enough to pack walk. I would suggest that instead of a blanket rule against pack walking, there is a framework set up for accrediting professional dog walkers, or a higher maximum limit set for accredited walkers. Auckland Council could manage this in a similar way to the RDOL scheme, and charge a fee to generate income towards the management of the service.
1517	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	As a long time dog owner I would say that nobody can control more than two dogs at a time on leash or off. More than two dogs tend to behave as a pack and that is when trouble starts. If you have six dogs on a leash and they decided to do their own thing then no matter how big an individual you are you can’t restrain them.
1545	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I feel they should be allowed 10 dogs and I don’t have a problem with them all being off leash at once’s.
1572	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	People who walk multiple dogs should have a license - and show that they know how to control the dogs, how to be in a public setting, how to deal with dogs that are out of control. There are a lot of people who have taken up the 'job' of dog walking with no experience. I have used dog walkers for the last 6 years, and I know what steps they take to train each dog before they are able to go on a pack walk. I see people in my area who have a single dog and do not know how to deal with it when they are out of control. The only way forward is a licence - which is like we have to do to be dog owners. I believe there is an association that has been started to help regulate the dog walkers to show how they are able to pack walk successfully.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1605	Support		Dogs can be unpredictable and have a pack mentality. I think I it would be hard to control even 6 dogs at any one time even if all 6 are on a leash, over 6 would be impossible. I also feel that any more than 3 off lease at any one time would not be properly controlled.
1642	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Why do you need the dogs to be off leash at public parks ?? That's not fair for the people like me who are scared of dogs.. with also many incidents where the dogs off leash charging on other dogs and running towards random people, we need to have a no off leash policy for all the parks. You can also have a dog friendly parks that Is separate from public parks where any number of dogs can be allowed with or without leash
1828	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I believe as long as the dogs are under control, 8 dogs will be good number to have them at once for professional dog walkers
1881	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Number of dogs being led by one person is not the problem - it's the number of irresponsible, untrained owners which results in dogs not being guided in the right way. Dogs don't know human etiquette unless humans train them properly. This blanket rule punishes well-trained dogs, owners who do the right thing by themselves and their dogs, and well-run dog walking agencies. My solution: give more power to animal management to enforce rules around registration, and to punish unregistered breeders more severely.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1903	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The council's own data in the report findings 2024 is flawed and misleading. Your graph on page 50 attempts to compare two incomparable data sets (one includes at home and where the dog was roaming) while the other is specific to a person walking multiple dogs in public only. In addition, it appears the footnotes of page 50 have intentionally left out the full scope of Q13 which is also extraordinarily misleading. The 22% number on page 49 is derived from people who have seen multiple dogs out walking. There is no correlation between seeing multiple dogs and the number of "incidents" (which as stated is flawed data derived from two incomparable data sets) caused by multiple dogs. Council has not proved that walking multiple dogs is a problem that 'still exists and is the same' because it appears to me council has no data to support that. Instead this report seems to have been deliberately curated to try and show a problem in the absence of good data. Further, council has ignored the fact that when describing multiple dogs, respondents of the survey strongly indicated that the issue was with 2-3 dogs being walked (80% and 41% respectively). This proposal unfairly targets the industry of pack walkers whose services will be limited and whose prices will need to increase significantly if they are able to continue operating at all. This in turn unfairly impacts those Auckland residents who rely on their services at a time where corporations are beginning to force their staff back into to the office and NZers are living in an economically challenging climate. A reduction in pack walking services or making them financially unviable for the public is likely to have the impact of increasing
1924	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum dogs (6) with only (2) off lead. Two off lead is manageable for a walker in most circumstances. (3) likely means the dogs are not necessary together when investigating/playing.
2303	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I've been out with our dog walker / pack walking company who can safely and responsibly manage upwards of 10 dogs. If these changes were to happen, there is a proposed price increase of $50 to $85 per walk and we would have to stop that due to being too expensive. So this is technically inflation causing, and with the current economic climate, many dog walkers will be out of work. Dogs who are controlled in a pack, follow instruction a lot better than individually poorly trained dogs. They are a pack animal so most follow along after the well trained leaders.
2364	Support		Packs of dogs on or off leash are intimidating to other dogs/humans

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2448	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The day care my dog goes to excels at walking multiple dogs on leads together. It is good for dogs socially and they learn to be part of the pack and behave themselves. This is the way i got my dog to walk nicely on her lead - by letting her be part of this method. So i do not think it should be changed but of course the person must be qualified and know what they are doing.
2593	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My dog used to LOVE pack walks with his professional dog trainer. Changing this law for professional business owners would likely cause there businesses to crumble due to either an increase in price or due to the de crease in numbers being able to go. Make a program where pack walkers have to do a course or prove there capability to manage the numbers they have. By all means restrict the general public, but the people who do this for a job generally know how to manage the animals on or off lead (and if they don't they should either be made to learn tha skills or find a new job). Our pack walker was a highly recommended animal behaviourist who spent time with our dog both on and off pack walks, trained him with recall and helped us with training for him. These kinds of people we need to help us become better dog owners

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2597	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The report claims that walks involving multiple dogs are overrepresented in "incidents" and thus pose a problem. This assertion is untrue. The data shared with Aucklanders during the public consultation omits information that doesn't fit with the narrative council wants us to accept, misuses data, extrapolates beyond reasonable limits, and includes biased comments. The council has not proven there is a problem to solve; hence, this process should be halted until sufficient information is gathered to make an informed decision. The current proposals will put over 100 young, highly trained entrepreneurs out of business. These individuals are exactly what we want in our city: running their own businesses, paying business rates, and providing a valuable service to busy Aucklanders. They take dogs on pack walks both around their properties and in shared public spaces. You have failed to prove there is a problem to solve and have also failed to show any root cause analysis to support the measures you wish to introduce will solve the problem you're trying to solve (which, from what I can make of the data, doesn't exist). I expect new laws to be supported by data that clearly defines the problem they aim to solve and to have a root cause analysis to ensure that the new restrictions on freedom are a fair exchange for harm reduction. Unfortunately, the current consultation around dog bylaws by Auckland Council fails on both counts. Additionally, even if a problem is defined, there has been no root
2633	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Difficult to control a number of dogs at one time especially large dogs. Even well behaved dogs, dogs will react differently to approaching other dogs, sudden noise by the car etc. which could potentially be hazardous to general public particularly to small children.
2662	Support		Reasonable maximum number of dogs for a single person to handle.
2733	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	This element is not responsible dog ownership but business. 1 dog off leash will stay with the pack (the other 3) but 2 dogs have the potential to hype each other up. So I feel only one dog should be off leash at any one time. Place like K9 Heaven give dogs the freedom to run...rather than restricting access to individual owners who train and walk their own pet dog responsibility...would it not be better to have a piece of land that these multi dog walking companies can hire on an hourly basis to exercise the dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2763	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are so few places you can already walk your dog, especially off leash. This is why it's packed with offleash dogs in the few places they are allowed. Especially when there are hours of when you are allowed to go involved.
2782	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 3 dogs on leash & only allowed off in Dog Parks/Off Leash Areas. I am the owner of a Maltese Shitzu dog & it is quite daunting when you see someone with several dogs coming towards you. Luckily the area I live in has a lot of side roads & paths I can go down to avoid this situation. I also feel that if you have one hyperactive dog then this can set the other dogs off which makes it harder for inexperienced people to have control of them.
2936	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current rules seem to work fine and it is the responsibility of the dog handler to ensure the dogs are under control. Even 3 dogs off leash could be out of control, it’s very dependent on the dog handler and dogs themselves. This proposed reduction in the number of dogs allowed off leash would kill many local dog walking businesses which is unfair to these people who’ve spent years building these up.
3071	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think this is just stupid to implement a “max off leash rule” - dogs should roam freely. You’re only going to cause more anger and frustration within the community. We as dog owners pay professional companies to walk our pups off leash so they can have a good run around and get tired!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3319	Support		I am a Dog Behaviourist, qualified with a Bachelor in Applied Animal Technology, majoring in animal behaviour, a Certificate in Canine Behaviour and Training, a Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations and a certificate in Vet Nursing. I am am an endorsed member of multiple professional bodies. I have worked in the dog behaviour and training industry for decades, and currently work alongside Veterinary Behaviourists specialising in aggression. I am also an ex professional dog walker. I fully support the limit on numbers of dogs being walked together. I have seen many out of control packs of dogs being walked in Riverhead forest, beaches and parks. Any appearance of control of large numbers of dogs by one person, is just an illusion. One person cannot reasonably maintain control over even 8 dogs, it takes only one dog to react to something in the environment, to set the other dogs off, and physical control becomes impossible. Walkers with no qualifications or knowledge of dog behaviour walking often up to 20 dogs are just an incident waiting to happen. What's more, many dogs on these walks are not actually enjoying them, they are barely coping with being forced to walk with so many dogs, and this constitutes a compromise to their welfare, rather than a benefit. I would prefer the rules to go further, that the size of the dog is considered, not just the number. Walking 6 German Shepherds, is vastly different to walking 6 daschunds. I would also prefer that dog walkers had to be licensed and pass basic courses on dog body language and leash handling skills, and be required to hold liability insurance.
3346	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Currently my dog is walked by an excellent pack walker and he has been attending for about three years now. At the beginning we did lots of training together before he was allowed to join the pack and then there was an adjustment period. He was on a long line until he could be trusted to walk off-lead. He has now been walking off-lead for a while and we have never had any issues. This service is super helpful as it is structured and I completely trust the pack walker to be able to handle any situations that arise. This gives my dog healthy interactions with other dogs twice a week. By changing to the proposed limit of 6 dogs and 3 off-leash at any one time, this will be negatively affecting my pack walkers business and will not be sustainable. She will either have to increase the prices or stop the service altogether. I believe that there are better solutions such as licensing professionals to walk larger groups, enforcing the rule 'dogs must be under control' and also providing more education to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them,

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3415	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No change to the current state, allowing for trained and registered dog-walkers (or members of the Dog Walkers Association) to designate and work with council to define the appropriate numbers. Our dog has excelled since joining a Pack Walk where up to 12 dogs can sometime be in attendance, and more depending also on the number of walkers. Off lead exploring for these dogs are critical to their well being and, as long as the Walker has verbal control, there is nothing that should be held against. I feel that it is more important that the rules for trained/certified and professional walkers allow for more flexibility that that of Amatuer or casual walkers.
3652	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Two off leash dogs should be the most - its too hard for one person to control or monitor more than two unleashed dogs
3677	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I understand there some concern from the public in tyhis area but I believe that the dog walking services are important to dog owners, and the proposed changes would mean a significant cost increase which could potentially put many out of business. The costs of dogn wonershiop are already significant, and for responsible dog owners who try to ensure best quality of life for their pets the changes may put this optioon out of reach. Instead of imposing arbitrary limits for the whole of Auckland, I would recommend engaging in consultation with the sector to discuss the best way of addressing concerns. Out dog walker for example walks the pack off leash only in areas that are less frequented. I believe there are options to put in place standards and regulation to ensure that responsible businesses who manage their activities in a way that mitigates risk can continue to operate and provide a high quality expoerience for the dogs.
3750	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	First of all there will be large number of dogwalkers without a job or loosing their jobs, Secondly these dog walkers give dogs the opportunity to be dogs and dogs that are unable to be walked will self employ themselves into behavioral issues such as barking continuously and then the council will end with other complaints. Some of these dogs may developed issues where owners will not be able to cope with at home and end up in shelters and potentially being euthanised .

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3784	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe you need to differentiate between members of the public casually walking a number of dogs and professional dog walkers. Professional dog walkers could be subject to a licensing arrangement which takes into account their training and experiance as well as the orientation process they put a dog through before doing it to their pack. As well as where they are walking the dogs, I.e in a built up area or on a beach or in a forest. As a dog owner who uses a pack walking service I see the benefits they provide to the mental and social stimulation of my dog. I also am keenly aware of the relationship they build with not only my dog but with all the dogs they look after. A blanket limit of 6 or 8 dogs per pack and a limit of the number of dogs off the lead at anyone time will decimate the dog walking industry in Auckland. Not only will it make pack walking uneconomic financially for the pack walkers without out substantial price increases but it will put the service which many people rely on for their dog financially out of reach. In addition limits on the number of dogs in a pack will substantially increase the number of dog walkers required to meet demand. I am strongly against a one size fits all approach and would strongly request the Council engages with the Professional Dog Walkers Association and get some meaningful qualified input into the decision making process as I agree the current unrestricted situation we have at the moment does need to be looked at.
3976	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Not only will this new rule take out one of the best things we can utilize in Auckland for our dogs while working full time - which is pack walks run by Professionals, this is a service I use once a week to break up the long hours I am working to give my dogs a more fulfilled life. if these changes were to take affect WHICH I HOPE THEY WONT it will create an issue of many dogs not being exercised enough - this could result in more roaming dogs due to boredom at home - not being fulfilled etc etc etc - Auckland council already cannot keep up with the amount of dogs that roam the streets, and none of those dogs are the ones using these services - RESPONSIBLE dog owners are the ones that are going to be disadvantaged all because of those that don't look after the ones they have - a new bylaw is not the way to change things - bring in mandatory desexing - & stop backyard breeding - start there, don't attack the professional services that are there to utilize to have happy dogs in happy homes.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4146	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The number of dogs doesn't matter, is the handler experience that does. Create a license for dog walkers where they need to prove their knowledge and control over dogs.
4172	Support		I think this is still to high.
4273	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	We have a dog who regularly attends Pet Adventures with Caleb, Melissa and their amazing team of handlers. These proposed changes for the maximum number of dogs would severely impact their business and subsequently would make these amazing adventures and social outings unaffordable for us. We are committed to providing the best care for our dog and so along with regular walks, Pet Adventures has made an amazing difference for her temperament and social behaviour with a mixed range of other dogs. This is solely down to their experience and positive control over their packs. I would like to propose that businesses and organisations such as Pet Adventures can have exemptions to the limit, noting that they have experienced and trained handlers with their own maximums set in place. I would like to see untrained 'dog walkers' limited, as they do not have the appropriate skills to handle a larger pack. I hope that there will be an application process for exemptions and licenses for businesses that have such a positive impact on the dog community.
4337	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe you need to separate requirements for private individuals versus professional dog walking businesses. I believe private individuals should not be able to walk more than 4 dogs, with only two off lead at any one time. I also believe that professional dog walkers should be licensed to be able to deliver these services and should have to renew this license on a bi-annual basis. When applying for renewal, council should take into consideration any complaints received about the dog walker (and dogs) over the past two years as part of the renewal decision making process. I think competent, professional dog walkers should be allowed to walk up to 12 dogs at a time, with a maximum of 3 off lead at any one time.
4405	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will lead to more problems. People won't be able to afford to send their dogs to dog walkers, so there will be more problematic dogs in our communities. The dog walkers are mostly professionals and experts, who can help with dog behaviour and training and owner education. They are making our communities safer. If you destroy them there will be far bigger problems.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4477	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I would like to add that professional dog walkers, organisation's who run business with large packs of dogs, have a license. Be trained, skilled to have dogs in packs walking in places like Muriwai and must show that the business owners are fully trained and there staff. Individuals be responsible for their dogs behavior and prosecutored if not complying to clear guidelines added to this clause. People have the right to have choices to use these services and people who choose to walk a dog also has to show responsibility to care, walking in public streets, parks, beaches are held accountable for there animal and know that they have accountabilty. Pack walk providers provide a service for dog owners, to pay for a service of choice knowing that there dog/dogs are socialing, as dogs walk in packs. Exercising, fulfilled., no bored, possible roaming, barking dogs, left at home causing disturbing behavior. Why take away what's already working. Get these business owners to have a license instead of stopping thus service. The dodgy operators will not pass. Reducing the amounts of off leash to three stops families being able to socialise, getting together at the proposed venues that are mentioned. Concentrate on stopping back yard breeding, selling dogs, using dogs to fight, dumping them. These are the dog owners who need to be stopped. Look at what what obviously is working in Wellington with professional pack walking businesses. Upto 10 dogs off leash under control.
4488	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Regulating the rules for the dog walking industry and multi-dog households would be a more effective approach than imposing restrictions that limit both the industry and dog owners' ability to meet their dogs' needs.
4513	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think a licence system should be implemented for anyone wanting to walk 6 or more dogs, anything below that is fine.
4540	I don't know		I only agree with the 2nd choice because I was a dog owner & all dogs can be temperamental..
4608	Support		It might depend on the dogs and maybe strength of dogs but I don't think you can hold onto more than 4- 5 dogs at any given time
4653	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	No change to current rules for registered professional dog walkers (set up a registration system), for everyone else new proposal is ok.
4658	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would propose no limit to the number of dogs on leash, or two dogs off leash. Potentially I would also be happy if there was also a restriction to have to have a license to walk more than 4 dogs on leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4791	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have a Bachelor of Applied Science in Animal Management and Welfare and have also studied and worked in the field of animal behaviour (specifically with dogs). I also used to be a dog walker. Whilst dogs can be trained, there are always variables that mean they cannot be fully controlled. Two off lead dogs per person is more than enough in terms of safety for everyone (including people and other dogs they encounter on walks). I have one dog and if we go for a walk in an off leash area but come across a pack/dog walker, it means we just turn around and go somewhere else. It is not fair on my one dog to enter a space where there are 4+(at the moment more like 8+)dogs who all know each other, who rush up to my dog and overwhelm her. There is no way that 1 person can control multiple dogs who all decide to do their own thing and especially if a fight starts etc. It really isn't worth it, so we often can't walk at popular places due to this. It is extremely frustrating. Sometimes I will try and wait until the pack walker leaves but they often will be in a space for 1-2hours.
4941	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Submission for Auckland Council We note the proposal to change the system for professional dog walkers in Auckland as forwarded by Auckland Council. We note that the intention is to reduce the number of dogs allowed to be controlled by dog walkers to 3 on-leash and 3-off leash. Consideration needs to be given to the consideration of a “professional” dog walker. There are a number of professionals who have gone through rigorous training and have years of experience. These are the ones who know how to control dogs off-leash, generally stay away from “public” areas and further provide on-the-walk training to the dogs in their care. There are those however who cannot be regarded as “professional”. These are the ones who will have a number of dogs over which they have little control and simply “hope” that nothing bad will happen. They generally don’t have experience other than owning a dog themselves. We recommend that a licensing system be brought in by Auckland Council, similar to that in place in Wellington. Those providing dog walking services must be licensed to show they know what they’re doing and know how to control the dogs in their charge. The ongoing training provided by professionals ensures that proper training procedures are reinforced thus reducing the likelihood of danger to the public caused by those frequent dogs (and their owners by default) that do not have the proper training and socialization regimens. These dogs are often unregistered, are not properly trained, not desexed, and also are often inherently “dangerous breeds”. They are also allowed to roam

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4975	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support introducing a licensing regime for professional dog walkers in Auckland, which will address the issues and keep dog walking available for Aucklanders regardless of income. This is in place in Wellington and has been very successful. I support this option for the following reasons: My husband and I have a 4-year-old Miniature schnauzer and a 3-year-old. Just before the birth of our son we had concerns of our ability to provide our dog with regular walks and stimulation while we navigated the chaotic world of a newborn. Through recommendations, we met Natasha from Nat's Pack who did an initial assessment to see if he was suitable to join her adventure walking pack. For the last 3 years, she has taken him on a weekly pack walk which during many sleepless nights, knowing our dog was getting a decent walk the next day took so much pressure off us. Now with both of us now working full-time and commuting and raising a toddler we still rely on these weekly walks to allow him to socialise with a mix of different breeds and sizes of dogs and come home exhausted. Natasha can manage up to 12 dogs at a time, with most off-lead and has 8 years of experience running her own business. Not every dog walker has this level of experience to do this safely, and it's unfair to limit the numbers to an arbitrary number with no evidence to back it up and penalise experienced professionals like her who have so much skill with managing dogs. There has not been a single incident on her walks since we used her services. She will keep dogs on lead the whole walk if the forest environment is too busy or the pack energy is not appropriate. This level of dog behaviour knowledge and responsibility towards [illegible]

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5134	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would support a system which allows for the licensing of professional dog walkers to allow multiple dogs (more than proposed above) to be walked off leash. None of the proposals listed above address the current problem in Auckland of roaming dogs. There is no empirical evidence that professional dog walkers walking multiple dogs are a problem in Auckland. The effect of Councils proposals above will: 1. Put professinal dog walkers out of business or make access to their services unaffordable for dog owners. 2. Cause more dogs to be locked up inside during the day whilst their owners are at work thereby increasing the risk of dogs escaping and roaming. 3. Prevent dogs being socialised with other dogs. Socialising prevents dog reactivity and makes dogs calmer and more domesticated. 4. Prevents a valuable avenue for dog owners to train their dogs to be good citizens in Auckland society. 5. The above proposals would allow non-professional dog walkers to walk multiple dogs when they are not equipped to do so. This potentially cause more harm. 6. The proposals above will not achieve the objectives of Auckland's policy and by-law: - Keep dogs a positive part of the life of Aucklanders - the proposals will cause dogs to be confined indoors for longer leading to behavioural issues. - Minimises the problems that dogs an cause - the opposite will occur - it will excerbate the problems for the reasons set out
5223	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It’s currently working well imo
5225	Support		There seems to be a huge number of unregulated or unaccredited dog walking companies recently, leading to an increase in dog related aggressive incidents. In addition to this policy, I think we need to look at dog grooming and dog training facilities next - what are the basic qualifications for these individuals to work with our pets?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5249	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I've seen dog walkers who do this for a living stop about 20 dogs who watched me walk past with my dogs, I was amazed, these people spend hours training g these dogs for pack walks and the dogs are so well behaved, I've also walked past one person with one dog who has no control over it and hasnt properly trained their dogs with it lunging and pulling to get to my dogs, I truly don't believe the amount of dogs make a difference it's all in the education they have be given
5256	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. This rule punishes responsible dog owners and professional dog walkers while doing nothing to stop bad dog owners who already ignore the rules. Auckland doesn't have a problem with professional dog walkers—it has a problem with roaming, uncontrolled dogs, and that's where Council should be focusing its efforts. I use professional dog walkers, and they have been incredible. My dog has gone from an energetic, excitable pup to the most well-behaved, under-control, and social dog—all thanks to the structured walks, training, and socialisation she gets with them. We recommend them to everyone. One of those people was my boss. His dog was aggressive, getting formal complaints, and was on the verge of being put down. He started using our dog walkers, and now that same dog is in control, happy, and thriving. Without the expertise of these professional walkers—who this rule would directly impact—he wouldn't have been able to turn things around. This rule won't fix anything because the number of dogs being walked isn't the issue—it's whether they are controlled. Professional dog walkers do control their dogs, and in many cases, they make dogs better behaved than they would have been otherwise. Instead of stopping them from doing their jobs, Council should: - Develop a licensing system for professional dog walkers so they
5258	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The current system in my community works well, I have found no problems with how things are currently being run. Adding a limit to the amount of dogs feels pedantic and inconvenient to everyone. As long as the dogs are under control as the rule currently states, that's all that should matter.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5305	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I DO NOT support the proposed limit on the number of dogs a person may walk. Auckland has a problem with roaming dogs, and this proposed limit will do nothing to stop this, nor will it stop the bad dog owners who don't follow the rules. This proposed rule change only punishes good dog owners, and will absolutely stop professional dog walkers from operating. None of the issues are caused by the number of dogs being walked at one time, so limiting the numbers will do nothing to stop the issues. I'm all for the council to collaborate with the professional dog walkers and create some sort of license, to ensure that professional dog walkers are able to continue operating, and strongly believe that instead of focussing on the limit of dogs one person can walk, they should be focussing on being able to better enforce the existing rules and increase resources on controlling roaming dogs with irresponsible owners. There are multiple known problem dogs in my area which have attacked adults and chased children - which the council has done nothing about. Don't you think this is a bigger issue than more than 6 dogs under control by one walker? My dog goes on regular pack walks with up to 10 dogs, every week. It's the best day of the week for him, and he looks forward to it every time. There have NEVER been any issues with the pack
5447	Support		Too many dogs to 1 person to care for is a safety issue for the dogs safety.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5463	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am writing as someone who sends their dog on weekly pack walks with a professional dog walker who is also a qualified trainer. This experience has been invaluable in helping my dog develop into a well-balanced and well-socialized companion. She now interacts perfectly with other dogs, which demonstrates the positive impact that skilled, professional pack walks can have. I strongly believe that licensing professional dog walkers is the best approach to improving industry standards. Simply reducing the number of dogs per walker will not address the issue of unqualified or irresponsible operators. If the council is genuinely committed to ensuring public safety and responsible dog ownership, it should focus on regulating the industry through licensing rather than imposing arbitrary restrictions. This would provide peace of mind to dog owners and the public, ensuring that only qualified professionals are entrusted with group walks. Additionally, I strongly disagree with the proposal to allow only half of the dogs off-leash at a time. Anyone experienced in walking multiple dogs understands that keeping some on-leash while others are off-leash creates unnecessary frustration and tension among the dogs. This approach is not only impractical but also unfair to the dogs involved. Licensing professional dog walkers would ensure that they have the skills to assess whether a dog is suitable for off-leash walking and the ability to maintain reliable recall when necessary. From my experience, the majority of dogs sent on professional
5517	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because from the data you have shown, there is no reason to change the rules. You data has no logic - it has been written by an office worker who unfortunately has little understanding of data and the usage for gathering evidence.
5525	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Common sense prevails - Dog owners know their dogs obedience capabilities and judge how many dogs they can keep under control.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5625	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This proposal doesn't account for professional dog walkers. I think their industry should be regulated, and they should be licenced to be able to have more dogs off-leash than the general public. There needs to be some kind of vetting process to ensure they are skilled and proficient at keeping the dogs under control. Our dogs benefit from pack walks, and as a result they are better behaved and well socialised, compared to before attending pack walks.
5685	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	It would be better to have license professionals and limits rather than blanket limits which will be detrimental to to those that run a dog business in a professional organized manner.
5696	Support		I think these limits are all perfect. No self-respecting owner should be trying to walk more than 6 dogs on leashes. The footpaths aren't wide enough for any larger pack of dogs, and there's no way the owners would be able to control anymore than that at once. I'm not so certain about the number of off-leash dogs. I personally don't think any dogs should be allowed to be outside in public areas unleashed. But if you are going to allow such a practice, I suppose limiting the number to 3 is pretty reasonable.
5745	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Lincensing/ training so all dogwalkers have the correct skill to keep walking multiple dogs. Remove dogwalkers that are not able to do so safely
5749	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I think that 8 is a more realistic number
5827	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not believe enforcing a limit on the amount of dogs being walked is going to help the statistics as it will significantly impact the professionals who have the expertise in handling larger packs of dogs. If anything enforcing a blanket limit will cause more issues. I think the best course of action would be to enforce a licensing system amongst professionals. I understand the PDWA would be more than willing to help police this. You have to recognize the benefits that pack walkers provide, giving dogs an outlet to be just dogs, unmatchable exercise and training that goes along side this. If owners are unable to access a service like this, there will be many many dogs not receiving appropriate exercise, having their social interactions managed where needed and being taught appropriate social interactions. I agree that there a few bag eggs in the industry but the industry as a whole should not be penalized for the uneducated. If necessary, having a blanket rule for public but a license for professionals would be ideal.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5873	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It will put a lot of people out of jobs, Why don't you change it so that they have to take a course or have a qualification in order to walk x amount of dogs
5880	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If a limit is put in place, at least give experienced dog trainers and walkers the opportunity to be licensed or hold a permit to have more off lead. Off lead pack time is a crucial part of rehabilitation of dogs with aggression issues.
5885	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I DO NOT SUPPORT the proposed limit on the number of dogs a person can walk. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs, and this restriction does nothing to address that problem or hold irresponsible owners accountable. Instead, it unfairly penalises responsible dog owners and would make it nearly impossible for professional dog walkers to operate. The number of dogs being walked at once is not the issue—enforcement of existing rules and better management of roaming dogs should be the council's main priority. Rather than imposing these absurd limits, the council should be working with professional dog walkers to implement a licensing system to help regulate the industry. This would ensure high standards without putting them out of business. There are multiple known problem dogs in my area which have attacked adults and chased children - yet the council has taken no action, even after these being reported by multiple people. Isn't this a bigger issue than a professional walker managing six or more well-behaved dogs? My dog attends weekly pack walks with a responsible company, and it's the highlight of his week. These walks are safe, well-managed and provide invaluable exercise, training, and socialisation.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5929	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Not effecting anybody in the situation and doesn't help with some peoples jobs
5976	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional walkers should be licensed. Most non-professional walkers don't have more than 2/3 dogs with them.
6021	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	If you limit number of dogs, imagine how can they enjoy life? If a pet sitter or walker is licensed enough to handle multiple dogs, that should be fine.
6209	Support		This appears to be a sensible approach as it is risky having more than this many dogs on of off leash at the same time.
6261	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are many excellent dog walkers who can manage multiple dogs and while there have been some high profile issues they are on the minority

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6283	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners by impacting our ability to access professional services readily that are affordable and overall the restriction will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I have previously lived in Ranui, a suburb that has a prolific stray dog issue, there have been many times where I have not been able to walk my dogs due to potentially dangerous roaming dogs in the area. As a female walking my own dogs I did not feel safe doing so with roaming dogs within metres of my home, I have even come home from walks with stray dogs on my property. One of which was not dog or people friendly and I was lucky enough the owner came by to restrain their dog so that I could enter my own property safely. It's also an absolute travesty that where we have tried to do the responsible thing by reporting a roaming dog, it has taken over 40mins waiting for someone to answer my call only to be told an AM officer would be around "in another hour or so". I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers to ensure those who are operating in that capacity have the skills to handle multiple dogs and continue provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dogs are large breeds with medium to high energy levels, being able to go out with a dog
6285	Support		I support this change. I, personally, have seen the chaos that ensues when dog walkers walk in public areas with sometimes 16 dogs. Furthermore, a friend of mine is a dog walker and I can honestly say that some of the stories she has told me about others in the industry and their irresponsible behaviours with 16 dogs off lead and "pack fights" with other off-lead dogs is horrifying. She initially asked me to sign this in support. However, I truly believe that this should be capped!

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6357	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As someone who regularly sends my dog on professional pack walks with a qualified trainer, I've seen the positive impact these walks have on socialization and behavior. My dog is well-balanced and interacts well with other dogs, proving the value of skilled, professional walkers. Reducing the number of dogs a trained pack walker can walk will not impact the actual problem dog encounters - the owners who say "my dogs really friendly" and let them run loose out of control, where they run up to other dogs on a leash who may not like this behaviour. It is these owners who created issues for my young dog when in training, and it is the pack walking with a trainer and group of other well balanced dogs that has helped her become a well balanced dog herself. My elderly mother also uses a pack walking service - it enables her to give her dog that exciting extra bit of exercise and training he needs each week above the short daily walk she can manage and means she can continue keeping her companion by her side, knowing she is fulfilling all his needs, something she may have to reconsider if dog walking limits are raised and the cost becomes prohibited. Licensing dog walkers, rather than reducing the number of dogs per walker, is the best way to improve industry standards. It would ensure only qualified professionals are entrusted with group walks, offering peace of mind to owners and the public.
6386	Support		Dog walker would not be able to control more than this number
6404	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walking industry should be regulated and each business assessed. The proposal is unfair to the businesses that train the dogs in their care and allow the 'cowboy' businesses to alienate the industry.
6424	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Setting a number isn't going to solve the problem. I have encountered a single person walking one dog, and they have no control over the dog - I had to walk in the other direction as it was intimidating. I have encountered a single person walking what looked to be 20 dogs and they had total control and never once felt unsafe. I think harsher consequences for losing control/losing a dog need to be the solution.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6577	Support		I have noticed a significant increase in dog walking businesses using public parks to exercise the dogs they are being paid to care for. My personal observations are that these businesses have low staff : dog ratios, single person supervisors are the norm, dogs pooing is unattended and not cleaned up, dogs run without being managed by business staffers left to be managed by people walking their own dogs
6634	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs should under control at all times on or offlead. Our current rules are barely enforced.
6662	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Working dog walking professionals should not be restricted when walking dogs. If anything, maybe requiring a permit
6710	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	For general public I think there should be a limit to how many dogs can be walked, however, I think a license system will be best for professionals and experience multiple dog owners. Pack walks have brought so much value to mine and my dogs life, especially because I work long hours. Without a pack walking service my dogs would lead very boring, un-enriched lives. The experienced pack walkers allow dogs to socialize in a controlled manner as well as give them adequate exercise. It would be a shame to have these services banned when only 0.7% of complaints have been about professional dog walkers.
6806	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Dogs should be walked on leash, except for when they are in parks, when they can be off leash in designated areas, and definitely not allowed to roam free by the children's play area.
WAIHEKE LOCAL BOARD			
420	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	It only takes 2 dogs to pack and attack another dog or human. I suggest only one off leash at a time. Max 3 dogs total with 2 leashed at any given time. Install Cameras at entry points to detect if leashes are being used as often they don't even carry them on their person when dogs are off leash. If an incident occurs there is a record of car parks entry and exit points so that staffing and monitoring can be done from a central location as there are not enough staff to police this physically. Just send the fine in the mail.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
514	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	It's simply impossible for one person, even if skilled, to manage three dogs off-leash while already controlling three on-leash.
793	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Where is the data that shows the difference between complaints and actual issues reported? All we are getting is hearsay at this point. I will support a change if I can see the actual data that warrants it.
861	I don’t know		I think in some cases this is far too many eg 3 big aggressive dogs potentially in pack mode would be unlikely to be held back by 1 person. However for a dog walker walking a pack of small dogs, 3 off leash dogs is not enough.
895	Support		People walking large groups of dogs in Waiheke are causing issues with dogs attacking other dogs, wildlife and people. Needs to be restricted.
1261	Support		I can't see that a single person could control more than 6 dogs.
1459	Support		Accepted as being feasible in the big spaces to roam.
1716	Support		Avoids large groups of off leash dogs which can be intimidating to other dogs and people.
1719	Support		I support reducing the number but think 6 is still too many. With three on a leash it will be difficult to control the three that are off-leash
2000	Support		it makes sense. On waiheke i see a person or people walking several dogs, most off lead and ignoring the dog behaviour as they stroll and chat. not picking up the poo or caring what the dogs are up to. there needs to be more control.
2002	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This only affects commercial dog walkers and I feel that they should be closely consulted. Any negative impact on their business will be a financial burden to them which will then be a financial burden on the individual dog owners who use their services. I have a dog and have not noticed any issues with the commercial dog walkers as the by-law currently stands
2644	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	max 2 dogs with no more than one off-leash and must be under control at all times
2696	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Lots of dog sitters looking after other people's dogs need to continue to exercise these dogs. These people are very responsible as dog walkers largely because they are looking after other people's dogs and are also dog minding professionals.
2731	Support		Have seen the impact of a "pack" of dogs when walking my own.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2732	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What proportion of complaints relate to dog-walkers. I have been using the same dog walker for 15 years and I'm not aware of any problems. He takes approx 10 big dogs and gives them plenty of exercise (He collects my dogs at 9.30am they get 1 hour bush/park run in the morning and another 1 run in the afternoon in the afternoon before dropping them home at 4.30pm). He also looks after two big dogs which have issues but they are kept on the lead at all times. I have many photos and videos of the dogs happy and contented. I have also seen from a distance many times and the dogs are happy, well exercised and peaceful. If you restrict the number of dogs that can be walked at one time, the price of dog walking is going to go up and there will be more dog issues from dogs left at home and not exercised enough. Leave the policy as it is, and deal with any problem dog-walkers on a case by case basis And, I believe you have more complaints about dog-owners that don't exercise their dogs enough rather than those of us that do take good care of our dogs. A final point is, paying for dog-walkers is not cheap. I have recently undergone chemotherapy and radiotherapy and had to use the dog walker more - for 2 dogs each day that I travelled to Auckland (from Waiheke) cost $68 for the dogs. A lot of people can't afford this sort of money and if the price goes up there will be even less people can afford this luxury for their dogs.
2740	Support		Actually I find 6 dogs to hard to be managed by the dog walkers. They often struggle to keep them under control.
2760	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 2 dogs must be under control at all times dog owners to pick up the faeces which a lot do not do even with one dog
2879	Support		Running bigger packs of dogs on parks and reserves is not reasonable and can cause problems for other dog walkers.
2933	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max number of dogs should be two, none off leash, unless in designated space. Number of dogs owned should be a maximum of 2z
2935	Support		I believe 6 dogs on leash is the maximum that can be controlled satisfactorily, and 3 dogs off leash is the also the maximum that can be supervised properly.
3008	Support		Appropriate and manageable numbers, even for dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3054	Support		This is welcome. Dog walkers provide a valuable service to dog owners, however large numbers of dogs, especially off-lead, are impossible to control properly. Lack of control means irritation to other dog owners who ARE in control of their dogs, and other members of the public using public spaces
3256	Support		I don't have an issue with this change BUT the fundamental issue in Auckland is there is the lack of penalties or oversight for those who break the rules and cause harm. Unregistered dogs, off lead, unsupported not picking up dog poo . The actions of a few make it difficult for those who love and look after their dogs.
3712	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are very few dog owners who follow the rules now. As a long time resident of walking on Onetangi Beach I do not like dogs charging up to me and many owners who have several dogs do not notice when their dog has defecated and therefore miss picking it up. Dogs who are chasing birds do not come when called by their owners. I think less dogs per person is required.
3968	Support		It is imperative for people to be able to control their dogs with multiple users of the track, I would prefer 4 maximum as 6 still seems like too many. No one in the community uses the Portafiled Track in Whitford as they are too scared of commercial dog walkers who are not in control of their dogs. Today one of the dogs walked by a commercial dog walker went missing & there has been a death of a residents dog by commercial dog walkers. Signs need to be erected so the rules are clear & the situation monitored for compliance as residents feel intimated & powerless.
4100	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is not a solution to an issue regarding dog control. It seems like council want to appear they're doing something and this is a short cut way to actioning any rule - rules for the sake of rules. This will hurt a lot of small businesses who manage their dogs very well, while not addressing the core issue of poor dog control - if a walker can't control their dogs, it doesn't matter if there's 1, 6 or 10 - an accident will happen. Do something useful please council and enforce better dog management rules.
4116	Support		I think the numbers are still to high. I'd like 4 - 4 - 2
4248	Support		Walking 6 dogs on leads can be done safely by a professional dog walker or trainer. Off lead, has other risks and I would agree that 3 is max.
4371	Support		I think it should actually be less than six but this is a good start

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4379	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Firstly this is a rule for the sake of making a rule it is pure bureaucracy and absolutely ridiculous It makes absolutely no sense whatsoever and whoever came up with this idea clearly does not have any idea about what dogs are like in a group they actually behave like a pack and a better behaved together then they would be even on the own this clearly shows a lack of knowledge of canine behaviour on the part of the council. Thirdly the idea of a dog being under control is purely up to the owner and from what I have observed from many years of dog walking and being a professional dog walker I have observed that the owners are the issue not the dogs and in most cases 99% of the time it is the bad behavior of one dog with one owner that is the issue not a group of dogs that are well behaved and walking with a pack leader I honestly feel like this regulation suggestion is an absolute joke I have heard nothing but bad reports from everybody about this ridiculous idea.
4484	Support		All dogs should be on lead in all public areas , unless specifically off leash dog parks. On leash on beaches.
4504	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is unnecessary and just another rule for the sake of it
4661	Support		It is safer for one person to have less dogs when walking particularly off leash
4734	Support		Dogs should be allowed at certain areas of Waiheke beaches all year round. As long as owners are responsible and respectful to others
4784	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The amount I selected seems more reasonable. And people will be more able to manage that number. 6 seems too many.
4864	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Packwalkers provide an amazing service to the families with dogs. Good responsible packwalkers who have the dogs under control are very good at what they do. Limiting their numbers will impact their ability to provide this service effectively. It's only the few that don't know what they are doing that is affecting all the hold responsible pack walkers. Not only are they providing exercise ie, they provide the opportunity for dogs to be well socialised and include training. Maybe impose a licensing protocol rather than limiting numbers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4908	Support		I think there should be a limit as I have watched dog walkers not having dogs undercontrol. One leading to the euthanasia of that dog. I do believe also the Council should go further and require professional dog walkers to be licensed and have completed so.e animal behaviour type training and health and safety training.
6282	Support		Even 6 dogs seems like a lot for a single person to deal with. Some people cannot even control one dog off a leash, so three off leash seems a lot. Why not make these people get licences where they have to show they can controls dogs?
WAITĀKERE RANGES LOCAL BOARD			
15	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It's not the number of dogs but the skills of the person managing and the individual dogs general behaviour. Majority of people struggle to walk one dog where as individuals skill in a field or have plenty of canine experience are able to control dogs better than the average person
35	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own multiple dogs and it would mean I am unable to take my personal dogs for walks which would be extremely detrimental to their wellbeing. They are active dogs and need many hours of exercise a day which would be impossible to do in groups of 3 as would take up too much time. We enjoy hiking in Riverhead forest and have never encountered any issues.
82	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	restricts dog walking businesses during the week. this would likely increase costs leading to people not being able to afford the service and could put people out of business. this also has a negative effect on the owners and dogs
107	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I have more than 6 personal dogs, all under 5kg, and wouldn't be able to walk them together

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
132	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Instead of limiting pack size, we propose focusing on regulations for professional dog walkers. Currently, there's no legal distinction between trained and untrained walkers. Implementing a licensing program that requires experience, training, and certifications (including pet first aid), along with a yearly registration fee, would ensure public safety and separate responsible professionals like the person who walks my dog from those just looking for a quick profit. This approach would allow trained and certified professionals to continue walking pack sizes they're experienced with. Currently my dog walker works with each dog individually and as part of the group, strategically selecting which dogs can go in each pack. She will also advise when a dog is unsuitable and recommend individual training. She educates the owners on training techniques and ensure they complete the same types of training at home. Education is absolutely vital to dog ownership, and well-trained dogs are absolutely vital for community safety. By focusing on qualifications for pack walkers instead of a limit on size, we can improve dog behaviour and public safety for everyone.
136	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I know many responsible dog walkers (including myself) that often congregrate and walk their dogs and I know many who walk dogs for a living. The max dog limit would drastically affect those who walk dogs for a living and provide an outlet for dogs whose owners can't walk them every day. These professionals are amazing with dogs and have full control of any and all dogs on or off lead that they walk. They are super respectful of the public and I don't see how this proposed rule would solve any issues perceived by the public as 'irresponsible dog owners' don't usually walk more than 3 dogs anyway.
170	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The majority of pack walkers have their dogs under control at all times. Limiting their numbers to a maximum of 6 will not stop those few who don't have their dogs under control. Instead enforce licencing to manage those bot doing a good job.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
217	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	1. Existing regulation and bylaw already require dog owners to keep their dogs under effective control and ensure that the dog does not cause a nuisance to any other person (see Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019, clause 8 and the Dog Control Act 1996, section 5). 2. There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. 4. There is no evidence from other local councils who have limits like this that they achieve their objective (for example, Tauranga City Council has a similar limit structure and has not issued any infringement notice since this was put in place in 2018). 5. If this change happens then it will have a substantial impact on all dog owners in Auckland. My clients who send their dogs on walks with me would be faced with huge increases in the price of my services that would be needed for me to comply with the Council's limits, if not that, they will loose this service all together as it will no longer be financially viable. 7. The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
242	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Existing regulation and bylaw already require dog owners to keep their dogs under effective control and ensure that the dog does not cause a nuisance to any other person (see Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019, clause 8 and the Dog Control Act 1996, section 5). There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. There is no evidence from other local councils who have limits like this that they achieve their objective (for example, Tauranga City Council has a similar limit structure and has not issued any infringement notice since this was put in place in 2018). The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents will not be able to access dog walkers when their dogs need it, leading to more dogs being left at home all day and barking or roaming. Other dog minding services are simply not suitable for all dogs such as daycares, and it is important that dog owners can have access to other services that are appropriate for their dogs to fulfil their needs.
247	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not believe that the number of dogs a person is walking increases the risk to the dogs, the walker and others using the public space. I believe with adequate training and responsible behaviour there need not be a limit on the amount of dogs being walked
252	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	If restrictions on numbers are necessary, a limit of 12 dogs per handler seems reasonable. However, in my opinion, even one dog in the hands of an irresponsible handler is far worse than 15 dogs managed by a responsible, qualified handler. The focus should be on education, establishing industry standards, and ensuring proper care. Limiting the number of dogs per person feels like a superficial quick fix that fails to address the underlying issues.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
269	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think limiting the number of dogs walked is the answer. You will still get the same issues with the same people even if they only walk 6. I think regulations should definitely be looked at but limiting numbers is going to have a huge negative effect and increase the amount of uneducated and nonprofessional walkers
271	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. There is no evidence from other local councils who have limits like this that they achieve their objective (for example, Tauranga City Council has a similar limit structure and has not issued any infringement notice since this was put in place in 2018). If this change happens then it will have a substantial impact on all dog owners in Auckland. The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents will not be able to access dog walkers, leading to more dogs being left at home all day and barking or roaming. Other dog minding services are simply not suitable for all dogs such as daycares, and it is important that dog owners can have access to other services that are appropriate for their dogs to fulfil their needs. Alternative recommendations: - All professional dog walkers must have a valid license to be
309	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I did my research and my dog goes out with a wonderful and experienced dog trainer/walker. She has multiple dogs off lead and some on long leads if they need a bit more work. Limiting the numbers is not going to benefit the good, well trained walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
313	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The number of dogs being walked at one time is not the problem. I oppose this because it is fixing a problem that doesn't exist. If regulation for dog walkers is required do that. Don't punish business owners who are capable, qualified, and responsible.
402	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For 7 years our dog has been going twice a week with a registered and highly experienced pack dog walker Follow the Leda. She is an expert in her field in pack walking and animal management (dogs). If this were to pass these walks would no longer be allowed. These dog daya are vital for the wellbeing of our dog as we work full time and are not able to get them out as much as we like. The entire time our dog is with the pack we know she is well cared for and that safety of the dogs, other people and other people's dogs is of utmost importance for these opertors. I do not support the limit on dog walking and think this penalises the reputable opertors who follow rules and regulations.
486	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are responsible and do what is needed to enaure safety and well being of dogs as well the public
503	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog thrives during his pack walks. They do continuous training with the dogs and have better control over multiple dogs at once than most do with their own dogs. I do not support changing the rules.
506	Support		One person can't handle that many dogs
523	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If people are afraid of dogs nothing the council can do will make them feel safe

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
612	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	12 dog maximum is current dog association guidelines. Most walkers are trained professionals and can cope with up to that amount. Better to register and train walkers rather than blanket rule everyone to cater for the lowest possible competency. It's harder to make money at six dogs per walk. Costs associated with the walker would likely mean very little profit line
634	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposal doesn't provide any means for exceptions, there should be a license to be obtained for walking more dogs at the time. For example professional dog walker license.
640	Support		There is no way a dog walker can adequately control more than 3 dogs off leash, particularly if they are not even their own dogs. These dogs do damage to vegetation, spread kauri dieback and generally cause a nuisance to other park users (i.e. jumping on people, scaring people, getting into picnics etc).
689	Support		In fact I think this could be more restrictive, and the rule should take into account the size of the dogs. If someone has three large dogs on leashes, it will be hard for them to deal with an incident occurring with any of the six dogs they may be walking. Obviously this is much easier with 6 small dogs. I would propose 6 with 3 on a leash for small; 4 with 2 on a leash for medium, and 3 with at least 1 on a leash for large. However, the six is a good start.
700	Support		Dogs need to be under the control of their owners
713	Support		To many dogs are controlled by one person and they can't handle them
752	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is not the amount of dogs that are the problem, the danger occurs when you have owners that have high risk dogs and they let them roam. Target owners that dont control their dogs at home not qualified dog walkers.
876	Support		I support this, but would go further and reduce numbers more, controlling 6 onlead large dogs is not feasible for most people. Also watching 3 off leash dogs is not safe. I would reduce to 4 on lead (total) and 2 off lead.
965	Support		It is unrealistic for one person to be able to control more than 6 dogs at a time. People who do so are unfairly imposing on the rights of other users.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
969	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	People walking multiple dogs on or off leash do not routinely stop to pick up faeces as this can be in the "too hard" basket. I have seen walkers with multiple dogs struggle to control them. I have read of instances where dog walkers use enclosed public tennis courts to set the dogs free but fail to clean up faeces when they leave. Use of sports areas for this is banned anyway
1003	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This change will impact the great services that is provided by professional dog walkers, as the number of dogs they service will be reduced. These professional dog walkers know what they are doing and how to control the dogs under the care.
1011	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Regulate the industry don't make it impossible for them to do business or for the public to use their service as the pricing will be unaffordable. The big dog problem is not the dog walkers, it's the unresgisteted, roaming, neglected and abused dogs you should be focusing on. They are the problem, the back yard breeders, the dogs that cause fights and scare people. Not the ones under control. It's ridiculous that you can't get the biggest problem sorted so you are tinkering around the edges. Have dog walkers registered and get animal companion register NZ to be the body that overseas it. Not the SPCA. You have put so many dogs down that you should be focusing on animal welfare which then looks after human welfare. Please look at the big problem and fix that and not a problem that's easily fixed. Our animal welfare laws are ********** and we are worried about dog walkers. A city like ours should be showing the country the way and show that we love our animals and are prepared to see the horrible living or surviving conditions some of them have. We need to do better, be better for those that can't speak for themselves.
1075	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will impact educated and business dog walk packs, this is a vital role to people and more importantly their dogs, no where else can this enrichment for mental, and physical well being be done.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1088	Support		If something were to go wrong, I believe one dog walker would struggle to control more than 6 dogs. We all hope everything goes well whilst walking but if on the off chance a dog was to get aggressive toward another dog for coming too close etc whether in the same pack or a dog not within the same pack, that is a lot of dogs one person would need to try and get control of. Especially if the rest of the dogs turn aggressive following the lead of the original dog which does happen. Prevention is key to avoiding these situations
1168	Support		Seems to make sense for safety of dogs and others.
1196	Support		Safety of the dogs and people, difficult to have full control over too many dogs.
1211	Support		I am a dog owner and utilise several off leash areas in West Auckland including Kakamatua Inlet. I have witnessed some extraordinarily large “pack walks” of off leash dogs, and many incidents of the dog walker having limited control of dogs that are not their own. It’s really dangerous. If operators want to run pack walks with over 6 dogs they should utilise fenced farm land that they have leased to do so, that is what my dogs daycare does. I walk my neighbours and my dog frequently, they are both well behaved but there is no way I would try to walk more than 2 of them off leash there is no way you can control that many dogs if one starts a fight, especially if they don’t know you well. So limiting to 3 max off leash is the bare minimum from a safety perspective in my opinion. And definitely please stop large pack walks in public spaces, it’s just an accident waiting to happen.
1220	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Professional dog walkers should not be restricted in the same way as general public. We got our dog during Covid so socialising her with others was really challenging. 3 years on we were still struggling, through regular pack walks with up to 10 other dogs she ability to socialise with other dogs in a natural environment (not a doggy daycare warehouse) she has improved drastically when out with us. I do agree there should be regulation on professional dog walkers so that we know our animals are not being walked by Cowboys
1234	Support		Even 6 dogs together can completely block a footpath so more than that definitely negatively affects the access to and enjoyment of other people using the footpaths. I think when 6 dogs are being walked, they should ALL be on lead as managing unexpected hazards could be problematic. I have a dog who i walk every day so I completely support dogs getting exercise however if people can’t make time to walk their dogs then maybe they should consider not having one.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1240	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The changes need to be aimed at the training of the walkers - someone who has no training should not be the reason why experienced dog walkers with years of training in dog psychology and walking. These proposed changes are going to ruin livelihoods. PDWA are a prime example of many dog walkers who would be effected by this, capable of taking dog packs of 10+, as they do the work before heading out to bring new dogs into walking packs and keeping all undercontrol, versus the walkers who are just trying to add additional dogs to get an extra $ each walk, with no prep on getting themselves and the dogs ready.
1241	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I have never had an issue with a professional dog walker and off leash dogs but I have with private owners. Private owners haven't had training and don't always see the reaction/behaviour of others around them.
1291	Support		I have encountered dog packs. Generally under control but if I put my dog with a walker I would want more individual focus
1322	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	While I'm not a walker of "multiple" dogs, im of the opinion that individuals having multiple dogs are generally considered "professionals" and as such have more experience in "controlling" and recalling their dogs. I believe changing this law will NOT reduce the number of adverse altercations with dogs and simply goes to penalise responsible people. I remind you of a very recent incident (news bulletin) where 3 dogs (being walked) attacked an elderly couple in Woodside Reserve thus this law would have been ineffective in that instance. Instead penalties should be increased for individuals walking dogs that cause harm.
1325	I don't know		There is no point changing the rules as the current rules for dog owners are not enforced. Improve enforcement.
1391	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I walk my adopted, well-trained retired greyhound (10yo) twice-daily on local walks. We meet other dog walkers (max 2 dogs) all on leash and usually we acknowledge each other as they see us crossing the road to avoid them. Once a week we go to local parks, but not off-leash parks. I have met dog owners who ignore the Ak Council 'dogs on leash' signs. My dog was attacked (with a previous owner) and as dogs retain memories he is fearful although my training tactics are working and he is less fearful. That may change if we cannot escape from a pack of dogs and inexperienced walkers. I'm too old to fight off dogs and dogs off leash would be terrifying to both of us.
1429	Support		However this should be specified to dog paid dog walkers, this is why they need to be a registered business. I have four dogs and at Kakamatua it's off leash and that should remain an option for me to have all fours dogs off leash

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1491	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Prefer someone has 15 dogs and they are under control than someone has 1 dog who is vicious and out of control. Maybe dog registration should reflect this
1559	Support		Safety for dogs and people.
1567	Support		Dog are a pack animal but for a human to control 6 off leash is too much 3 on 3 off ok
1576	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think standardising on- and off-leash dog limits per person won't fix the issue around uncontrolled dogs causing harm to other pets or humans. I have been a dog owner myself for most of my life and although we always ever had one dog at a time in my experience dog owners with more than 2 dogs usually are very experienced and their dogs well behaved and under good off-leash control. Our dog walker walks large packs and she is super experienced and a professional dog walker and trainer. Our dog never had any issues with other dogs, her safety standards are high and she only ever invites one new dog into the pack which then undergoes extensive pack training on leash for a multitude of months before the next dog is allowed in - when there is space that is. In other words: limiting numbers don't increase safety standards, responsible dog ownership/caregiving does! We live in West Auckland which has loads of unregistered dogs and many dog owners hold large and powerful dogs such as pitbull cross breeds as a status symbol/sign of power or whatever their motivation. I have seen so often that they are inexperienced and incapable or controlling their dog(s). They usually have no more than two dogs at a time - and much of the time only one, yet they scare me and I know many of my friends and family. The proposed law will not even remotely clamp down on these real dangers and unpredictability to our community. Instead we're putting pressure on people who make a living of dog training with larger groups (dog and their owners) where we need them to educate us and help turn our pets into well behaved and controlled adult dogs. Why instead not enforce people who lead larger packs to register
1591	Support		Unrealistic to think that you can control dogs in any more quantity

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1598	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers provide an incredible service to dog owners and to the dogs that they walk. It improves the lives of both the dog owners and the dogs they own. This is a service that is critical to any dog owner who lives and works in Auckland full time. It is very difficult for owners to be able to walk their dogs during all work days. This is due to the fact that travel times in Auckland are very long during peak hours. In this everyday scenario, dog walkers provide an invaluable service to Aucklanders. If there is a limit put on dogs to be walked on a leash many dog walkers may not be able to make a living and will go out of business. There will be more dogs that end up being neglected as the owners try and balance work hours and dog walking. I have never seen professional dog walkers in Auckland who do not have control over the dogs they are walking. I am not sure what data is being used to make this into an issue. If there is ever an incident, the individual dog walker should be held responsible, and not the entire dog walking industry.
1612	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I've been to Monte when dog walkers have been there supervising their charges appropriately while their families are out and working or at school. I have NEVER had a problem with them with my dogs and have found that the dogs are under control and have never witnessed an altercation with another dog or human. PLEASE STOP controlling dog walker companies as this is their job and 99% of the time, they are experienced and know what they are doing. It is the single dog walker who is just trying to earn an extra dollar that occasionally MAY experience an issue. I have experienced more issues at Big King with wilful dog owners rather than dogs.
1613	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Depending on size of dogs, even four on leash at a time can be physically challenging to control if behaviour becomes problematic. Off leash numbers should be limited to ensure safety of others, including other dog owners and dogs themselves
1665	Support		It is very hard for one person to control dogs if one goes mad; for public safety I agree with this measure.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1670	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I understand the reason behind the limit. I'd find it pretty hard to control 6 on leash dogs, let alone 8. However, I feel professional dog walkers should have some kind of exception or something. The woman who walks my dog can handle eight dogs fine, but I've seen regular dog owners struggle with 2 or 3. So I don't feel that 3rd "Max 8 dogs, 4 off-leash" would work as a blanket option to all people who would be walking large sets of dogs
1680	Support		People can't control that many dogs safely
1753	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I believe the proposed number of off and on leash dogs is too many for one person to be responsible for.
1800	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I use Pet Adventures who offer raining as well as pack walks which is good for dog socialisation. There business is very different from a teenager walking neighbourhood dogs for example as they have better systems and control but will be adversely affected by the rule change
1801	Support		I am a dog owner and support professional dog walkers but have witnessed dog walkers that do not have sufficient control of large groups of dogs. This puts other dogs, their owners and other members of the public at risk. Larger groups of dogs are more likely to not have their waste picked up which can be particularly bad at beaches. I support the proposal but suggest a limit of five dogs., Larger groups of dogs can be accommodated at private doggy daycare businesses in a controlled environment.
1825	Support		I support the change but feel that 6 on leash dogs is perhaps too much for one person to safely control. I definitely support having a limit on the number of dogs allowed to be walked. I am particularly concerned about off leash dogs and lack of ability to see where dogs poop to pick it up. I am also concerned about safety and individual owners being able to walk their dogs safely, which may be difficult when there are large groups of dogs being walked off leash.
1860	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There needs to be a distinction between a dog owner and a professional dog walker. Professional dog walkers should have a licence and be able to walk more dogs at a time. For a non- professional dog walker then there can be a restriction on the number.
1918	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	maximum of 2 dogs on leash not off as these animals are designed to work in parks .ludicrious that you would accept 6 THAT IS IRRESPONSIBLE ALSO would would make it dangerous for walking adults and children .DO NOT believe any dog should be in our regional parks as we are trying to protect our native birds ie KIWI and any wildlife we have left

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1959	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Because dogs are pack animals and if I am walking my single dog and those off leash dogs come up to mine it can be intimidating. The dog walkers should have a licence and max of 4 dogs.
2058	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support having only 6 dogs on and off lease, but I do not support only three being off lease at any one time. I have my own dog walked by a fully trained and competent dog walker and she has only walks 6 dogs at a time and they are all totally under her control. It is very unfair that at any one time 3 of the dogs need to be on a lease. What you appear not to have considered is having a registration system that determines whether the companies and dog walkers have the required competency and experience to walk a pack of dogs.
2095	I don't know		I have felt intimidated by large packs of dogs which are not always well-controlled by their handlers, so believe the 'control' aspect of dog handling needs to be policed. The number of dogs is largely irrelevant, with some pack walkers being fully capable of controlling large numbers. Anyone bringing animals into a public place must have them under control or be prosecuted. Perhaps a license could be issued to pack-walkers who have proved their competency.
2167	Support		It needs to be monitored and controlled
2176	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would propose limiting the number to two dogs with anything else needing a licence - all it takes is one dog to be compromised and you lose control over all the rest. Far better it be one other dog at least until roaming dogs / dog attacks are reduced more generally. When we have better outcomes then revisit to increase numbers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2249	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. If this change happens then it will have a substantial impact on all dog owners in Auckland. The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents will not be able to access dog walkers, leading to more dogs being left at home all day and barking or roaming which is a reposted issue by Auckland Council. Other dog minding services are simply not suitable for all dogs such as daycares, and it is important that dog owners can have access to other services that are appropriate for their dogs to fulfil their needs. Alternative recommendations: • All professional dog walkers must pay a yearly licence to be allowed to operate. •All professional dog walkers must have a minimum level of qualification and experience with handling dogs. •If professional dog walkers have reports against them that are proven with evidence, of not having control of their dogs, their licence could be revoked, and they are no longer able to walk up
2395	Support		If anything were to go wrong, like an attack from another offleash dog, this is dangerous for the dog walker or people who may try to help.
2572	Support		Out of control dogs pose risk to members of public and other animals. I fully support capping numbers to 6, which in my view is still very generous.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2709	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) misses the mark in addressing the real challenges within the dog community, such as uncontrolled dogs and roaming animals. Instead, it unfairly targets professional dog walkers who already manage multiple dogs responsibly. Professional dog walkers are vital in providing dogs with regular exercise, socialisation, and training, helping to reduce behavioural issues that often lead to complaints. Imposing arbitrary number limits disregards the expertise and training these professionals have in managing groups of dogs safely. A more practical and evidence-based solution is needed, including consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to develop effective and balanced policies. 'Tēnā koe I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed limit of “6 dogs on-leash and 3 off-leash” at any one time under the updated Dog Policy and Bylaw. I have also submitted online but wanted to follow up with a more detailed response. While I understand the Council’s intention to address concerns about dog control and public safety, I strongly believe this proposal will have unintended negative consequences for professional dog walkers, the community, and the broader dog-owning population.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2711	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have run a non-profit small dog rescue and rehome charity from my home in Titirangi for 20+ years. I am Council approved for up to 14 dogs. I have a Responsible Dog Owners License. I have rehomed at least 200 dogs to approved , wonderful forever homes. I walk all my dogs together for practical and time management purposes. At present I own 7 and there are 3 others living elsewhere on my property, owned by someone else (also wth a RDO). Almost all of the time we drive together to destinations and walk our dogs together - all 10 are small or very small dogs. At times I will have one or two additional dogs with me as well , as I have regular dogs who come to stay for the day or board for several days/weeks. We go to parks and beaches in West Auckland where the dogs can be off leash. This proposed change would severely negatively impact upon us both, but particularly me. Specified off leash dog parks and beaches under the seasonal access rules should be allowed to cater for up to 12 dogs off leash, if under control.
2758	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are not the problem. Unregistered dogs with owners who don't control them is the problem enforcement action needs to be focused on those who wilfully let their dogs roam
2889	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think limiting the number of dogs is going to help the issues a licensing system and better education is what's needed
2947	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Or maximum 6 dogs with no more than 4 off leash
3045	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think there should be a certification process to put end to cowboy walkers where you have to prove staffing levels, staffing competency and being a registered, well reviewed functioning business - instead of any Joe blog off Facebook. This would ultimately punish hard working companies doing a fantastic job who have dogs wellbeing front of mind and spend time with the animals. A lot of these places use long line leads for a few weeks with new dogs to get them well integrated, and some offer option of gps collar. They also tether dogs to the walkers in on-lead areas already. It's also extremely harmful to dogs who require this type of socialisation. Dogs who are not used to other dogs become more tense to deal with in real world.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3133	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking is not managed by the number of dogs or having them on a lead, it is managed by the walker having control of the dog(s) that they are walking Walking companies have well trained handlers that are able to manage their packs and do not seem to cause any issues. however, it is people with unruly and poorly trained dogs that are problematic and changing the number of dogs walked will not sort the issue. Maybe the real issue needs to be addressed instead
3406	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As someone who works in the animal industry and understands dog behaviour, I have come across multiple dog walkers and companies they have continued to have well socialised and controlled dogs, this is purely based on dog behaviour and training. Dogs that are part of regular pack walks with experienced dog walkers are accustomed to the routine, they're all well socialised and usually know how to behave in a pack, understand recall etc. Dog walkers and people that own a larger dog pack will carry around training tools with them, such as treats, training collars, long lines, toys and other items that help their dogs stay under control at all times not to mention they all pick up after their dogs! I have run into more irresponsible dog owners or roaming dogs with issues then pack walkers. I understand that it can be scary when you have nil or few experience with dogs but as someone who works with animals, understanding behaviour is key. The dog walking industry as well as a lot of other pet industry's are growing because we are putting our pets first, we want the best for them. Regular exercise, pack socialisation and small business are needed for both dogs, trainers/walkers and dog owners need the dog walking industry. People who are responsible and own multiple dogs taking them out to get their enrichment met should not be punished, the dogs should not be punished. Feel free to contact me further
3639	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a professional dog walker I match the dogs I walk by temperament and cohesion as a group. With over 6 years walking small groups of dogs I always maintain control over the group at all times - having some of the group on lead and some off lead would potentially lead to frustration in the dogs on lead, making them harder to control and breaking the group cohesion.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3649	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Any responsible competent dog handler knows their capacity to control the dogs in their care. These restrictions will lump them all under the same competency and restrict their business. They don't want harm to others dogs of humans so can make the call on how comfortable they are with capacity. Perhaps newer handlers can have a review period with a restriction on numbers.
3690	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I vehemently oppose the proposed limit as only 0.7% of dog-related complaints to the Council involve multiple dogs, and this figure includes everyday pet owners. The majority of complaints stem from issues such as untrained pets, roaming dogs, and underfunded animal control services. This proposal does not address these core concerns and instead penalises responsible professionals who contribute to safer and more controlled dog management in the community. Dog walkers (many of whom are also trainers) will have to either: Change the way they make a living Raise their prices, leave Auckland or, Find a new career all together. This would limit access to good trainers, taking away support many dog owners need. Those that have dedicated their life to learning how to train and walk dogs safely will not be able to continue, leaving a gap in the market for people part time looking to make some quick cash, further increasing the risk to the public and the issues you are trying to prevent. Clients will suffer from this. As will the community. My main goal when pack walking is teaching the dogs how to be well-behaved and content in this human run world. I support busy families by ensuring their dogs have stimulation, exercise, socialisation and training, I also help owners get a better relationship with their dogs. This makes the dogs we work with much less likely to cause problems, reducing complaints about barking, roaming or worse.
3702	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I see many experienced dog walkers with large groups of off-leash dogs and all are well-behaved and under control. They know what they are doing - no need to restrict number of dogs for professional dog walkers.
3802	Support		As a responsible dog owner, we have had encounters with people walking multiple dogs, sometimes not very good.
3879	Support		I feel the control of more than six is questionable.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3907	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I cannot see any good reason to change the rule - why does it need to change? Is it due to a perceived increase in pack walking activities? Why is this a problem? This rule change proposal unfairly targets dog walking businesses - which are often sole trader businesses and (anecdotally) often women-run businesses that are hybrid working opportunities - very well suited to experienced women dog handlers. I am not a dog walker but often encounter walkers with their dogs that are at places I regularly walk my own two dogs. Dog walking packs are perhaps the best trained and behaved groups of dogs I see - that is on and off lead. In an urban environment, I have seen pack walkers be very considerate and yield to people on footpaths, including mobility scooters and baby strollers. Every dog pack and walker I encounter (or observe) are exemplary in their conduct (walkers and dogs) and are in fact an example to us all. Changing dog number limits will increase the numbers of packs in public spaces, surely? Limits will achieve very little in the apparent and perceived control that is behind setting limits. It feels like an artificial control, another dog rule for dog rules' sake. Auckland doesn't need another rule to demonstrate how much we don't like, value or respect dog pets. Please reconsider your proposal to set dog number limits for walking dogs under control in public spaces. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.
3980	Support		Less is more. I think 6 on leash at all times. No dogs off leash
3993	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I currently use a professional dog service Paws on Tour that has 8-10 dogs off lead. We chose them over an individual dog walker because of their professionalism and the standards they have in place. We have never had an issue with them and they have never had an issue. Changing this rule would reduce the value of the walk for our dog, increase the cost, and put pressure on this valuable service. I believe a controlled dog walking regime (registration or otherwise) would better address the issue of dog walkers. I believe there's a big difference between some of the companies vs individual dog walkers when it comes to standards and protocols. I also don't believe, as laid out in the reason for review, that changing the rules to dog walkers is the right answer. There are a lot of bad dog owners out there that don't socialise their dogs (something this service does), don't exercise them, and thus why they escape and roam or are hard to manage in public spaces resulting in attacks. The problem is the individuals (dog owners and walkers) not the professional companies.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4001	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have worked with dogs for a lifetime. I accept some people cannot walk one dog let alone 14 or 6. However dont assume everyone is like this- i have known people who can control 14-20 dogs off leash! Yes, it can be done and is to be admired. I cannot and do not wish to but i have seen it. Stop penalising people with skill. I know people right now who can easily control 10-12 dogs. They integrate them and control them well. So no i dont agree with your proposal.
4030	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I walk my own dog four times a day and am training a support dog for a person who received a major brain injury as a child, and is deaf and mute and has limited into the intellectual ability. On my walks in many parks around West Auckland I've never seen a problem with dog walkers' dogs,, even those who are walking eight dogs or more. They're always very professional, courteous and have control of the dogs. The only problem dogs I've ever run into have been strays and dogs with their owners that have clearly never been socialised. I believe dog walkers need to be licensed, but if they are they should be allowed to walk eight dogs. Limiting the number to 6 obviously has an effect on their livelihood which in turn will lead to increased dog walking fees for owners, leading to mini dogs not getting the exercisemental stimulation and socialisation they need.
4044	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have had dogs in Auckland for a long time now and walked in most places where you can walk dogs in West Auckland and have never had an issue with pack walkers. I have however had issues with individuals with off leash dogs they cannot control. Education around why you need to have your dogs under control in off leash areas would be far more beneficial.
4184	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why don’t the dog walkers be licensed as a profession.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4220	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This would negatively impact a very specific group: Dog walkers. I have seen experienced dog walkers handle over 10 dogs without issue and I can't see this change as being anything else other than to attack the livelihoods of this necessary service. I would like to see a different approach other than a blanket ban on the number of walked dogs such as licensing to make sure the quality of our dog walkers are preserved instead of eroded.
4265	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose the proposed limit, as only 0.7% of dog-related complaints to the Council involve multiple dogs, and this figure includes everyday pet owners. The majority of complaints stem from issues such as untrained pets, roaming dogs, and underfunded animal control services. This proposal does not address these core concerns and instead penalises responsible professionals who contribute to safer and more controlled dog management in the community. As the owner of a 2 year old boxer cross I consider professional dog walking an essential service that keeps my dog calm, social, and well-trained. These services provide crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. If these restrictions are implemented, many experienced, qualified dog walkers who have dedicated their careers to providing safe and professional services will be forced to leave the industry, relocate, or significantly increase their fees—making professional services accessible only to wealthy owners. This could create a gap in the market, allowing inexperienced individuals to enter the industry without proper training, ultimately worsening the very issues the proposal aims to address. Without access to the support of professional walkers and trainers there will be a greater strain on busy families and their dogs. Walkers provide biological fulfilment and training to help

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4286	Do not support		I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers. The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Instead, it penalises professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions.
4363	Support		No matter how well behaved the dogs are no single person can adequately care for and control more dogs than 6
4372	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care about their dogs wellbeing. It penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules. Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients.
4416	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are a great way for the dogs to socialise together. Not only are they getting their exercise but have more than a couple at once ensures they get socialised.

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4431	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are essncial for others with no time to do it properly. A good pack which most are esencial for dog socializing making them happier less aggressive!
4449	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 10 dogs, with no more than four off-leash. With the reduced number of dogs, dog walking services will make it more expensive to use. This will reduce the number of people using the service, which will result in more dogs with less exercise and socialisation. This will be counterproductive to the objective of reducing the number of incidents of dog attacks and aggressive behaviours.
4459	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose the proposed limit, as only 0.7% of dog-related complaints to the Council involve multiple dogs, and this figure includes everyday pet owners. The majority of complaints stem from issues such as untrained pets, roaming dogs, and underfunded animal control services. This proposal does not address these core concerns and instead penalises responsible professionals who contribute to safer and more controlled dog management in the community. As the owner of a 3 year-old whippet , I consider professional dog walking an essential service that keeps my dog calm, social, and well-trained. These services provide crucial mental, physical, and social stimulation, preventing behavioural issues such as excessive barking and reactivity. If these restrictions are implemented, many experienced, qualified dog walkers who have dedicated their careers to providing safe and professional services will be forced to leave the industry, relocate, or significantly increase their fees—making professional services accessible only to wealthy owners. This could create a gap in the market, allowing inexperienced individuals to enter the industry without proper training, ultimately worsening the very issues the proposal aims to address. Without access to the support of professional walkers and trainers there will be a greater strain on busy families and their dogs. Walkers provide biological fulfilment and training to help dogs be well-behaved members of the community. Without this

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4511	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I work as a vet nurse and can attest to the care and attentiveness provided by these professional dog walkers. A lot of these pack walkers have multiple dogs of their own and then they also walk their home stay dogs AS WELL so if these ridiculous rules came into play, they either wouldn't be able to look after their own animals to the same degree, leaving them at home for hours alone, or they are risking losing money by taking on fewer homes days and day stay dogs.
4563	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The problems with dogs in Auckllland is not about walking multiple dogs, it is owners who walk dogs off leash when they shoukd be on leashs; owners who dont properly fence anf owners who fail to register their dogs. Leave dog walkers out of this
4571	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum should b 3 dogs with no more than two off leash unless a licence is obtained. Too many people are walking too many dogs at a time and they can't control them.
4610	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	All dogs should be on leash at all times on any street. It's a fallacy to pretend that any off-leash dogs are "being walked" at all. Any off-leash dog is not under the control of the walker. This is especially the case when there is more than 1 dog being walked.
4813	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Too many negative experiences with irresponsible dog owners. Three off-leash dogs is a LOT when they are untrained. They make walking/hiking/cycling miserable for everyone around them. Two is plenty. None would be better. Same with dogs on leads. Maximum four is to me so many.
4817	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I rely on professional dog walkers and they safely run small packs in appropriate areas. Professionals, perhaps licensed ones, should be allowed greater numbers in appropriate areas.
4827	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Who are you to determine how many dogs a person is capable of keeping under control? I don't care how many dogs a person has with them as long as they are under control. You are just picking an arbitary number.
4898	Support		These numbers are still too many - 3 dogs on a leash and 1 off a leash. My observations are people have difficulty controlling just 1 dog. This is especially noticeable with dog-sitters. Dogs are pack animals and can only be obedient to their owners who they know.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4929	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	An experienced dog handler can safely control more dogs than the proposed change allows for. This is particularly true when the handler chooses to walk in locations which are not frequented by large numbers of people.
4934	I don't know		I have previous submitted feedback on the dog rules but have modified my position on walking multiple dogs. While I understand that there have been instances of large groups of dog being walked attacking other dogs in a pack I feel the threat of menancing dogs to other dogs and people is of far greater significance. I have a personal experience with this and found the reponse was pretty average.
4952	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 6 dogs, and all can be off leash. Six seems a reasonable amount, but if you are in an off leash area I don't see why they shouldn't all be allowed off at once, particularly as they are likely to be known to each other and so will want to interact together.
5028	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walking of dogs by professional service providers offers an invaluable service to dog owners. Socialising of dogs in groups is very important for behaviour management, general socialisation and wellbeing of dogs. Rather than limiting than limiting the number of dogs that can be walked at one time on or off leash, I feel that licensing professional pack walkers would be a better solution. There are many pack dog walkers who are highly trained in dog behaviour and animal management. Their services greatly enhance the enjoyment of many dogs and their owners lives. Licensed professional dog walkers who have proven they are able to control and effectively manage packs of dogs, should be able to walk them on beaches and in public parks. This license should apply to anyone wanting to walk 2 or more dogs.
5411	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Unfortunately, many dog owners don't know how to train their dogs.

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5480	I don’t know		A dog owner in Auckland can only have 2 dogs without a specific licence. Meaning owners or organisations walking more that 2 dogs are dog walking or training facilities. Regulate the dog walking industry. To prevent random untrained individuals creating businesses to walk dogs and not have a clue how to control them. NZ is the most dog unfriendly country I have ever lived in. Surely the controls need to be fining those with unregistered dogs. Those that are continually impounded. Your policy makes no sence. Limiting the amount of dogs you can walk at one time. Will have no impact on aggressive behaviour.
5577	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	My dog is current walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead (we know this because our dog was on a lead for the first month and when she changed days). I would support a licencing regime to allow professional companies like this to operate with the current pack sizes. These proposed changes are not addressing the root of the issue raised by the public (dogs on the loose, aggressive dogs, people not picking up dog poo) and are simply going to drive costs up on people who use the service. Services like these are critical for working people to ensure their dogs get adequate exercise and socialisation. If costs on operators rise many families may have to give up the service and making for less socialised dogs and less educated owners.
5579	Support		I actually think 6 is too many. I walk two dogs together on occasion and it's very very hard to control them and to manage to clean up after them. Anyone dealing with more than two is not going to be in control unless using subversive measures on the dogs, such as choke collars. They would also be unable to effectively pick up after that many dogs. However it is important that dogs are exercised and some people rely heavily on dog walkers to do that for them. 6 is a sensible maximum that would still make it viable for dog walkers to operate.

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5606	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dont destroy the people who are trying to make a living by walking dogs. they should rather have a license in place.
5652	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think the key here is that dogs must be under control at all times and if they are, then they should be allowed some freedom. It also depends entirely on where the dogs are - there are open spaces (not smaller local parks) where more dogs can be safety off leash and controlled i.e. where there is plenty of open space for them to have enough exercise, where they are not around crowds of people, not near road etc. As long as the dogs are safe and well controlled. I have not seen any recent (in the last few years) issues with dog walkers and off leash dogs.
5706	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because my dog has been with an amazing pack walker for years & I love to see them walking free, fully under control. She's had the best time with her crew.
5896	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	8 is a reasonable number for a pack walk
5902	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Regulate who can be a dog walker through proper vetting to ensure handlers have adequate experience necessary to walk dog packs rather than limiting offleash numbers. This solves multiple issues of safety.
5909	I don't know		50/50 on this as some are trained to handle all these alone where as others are not
5959	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the number of dogs a person can walk at one time will have no impact to public safety. What will make a difference is if dog handlers are ensured as qualified to manage dogs. You can have an owner walk the streets with their unhinged, untrained dog which is a risk to public safety. Ensure that people follow leash rules in public areas and dog walkers are professional, qualified and committed to continuous improvement.

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5989	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because this affects professional dog walkers
6082	Support		I support this proposed change as incidents have shown that the pack mentality can override dogs' basic training and things can go wrong. I think there should be an opportunity to attain a permit to be able to exceed the maximum number after some form of pack-handling training is completed.
6086	Support		I don't believe that all dog owners and or commercial dog walkers can have more than three dogs off lead and be confident that they are "under control". I do believe that there are dog owners that do have this kind of control, however you can't have different rules for different people. For the safety off all dogs I would like to see this limit apply mostly to commercial dog walkers.
6117	Support		Dog walkers that I have come across don't always have great control of their dogs
6359	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The main target here is clearly dog walking businesses. You're going to negatively impact the accessibility to these services by changing these rules so drastically with such a huge limit to off leash dogs. Reputable companies have processes and checks in place to ensure dogs are safe off leash and under control of their professional handlers. The cost will exponentially increase with proposed changes to limits, making the service unaccessible for most. This will negatively impact the wellbeing of dogs. There is so clearly no support or backing for this bylaw change, how it's gotten this far is absolutely ridiculous.
6361	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	I think that professionally trained dog walkers are able to handle more dogs and provide a great socialising service for those busy folk who have dogs but not the time for a big social outing. The real problem comes with individuals and families who have dogs and don't spend time training them or socialising them and then let them of lead in public spaces. We often meet professional dog walkers out walking in Waikumete cemetery or at mount Albert Domain and have had no problems. But have seen many roaming single dogs around our streets getting into trouble because they are bored.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6407	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is a huge demand for professional dog walkers who provide a much needed service for dog owners who are not able to be with their pets during the work day. Considering that the increase in the cost of living now requires most households to be double income it would be unfair to take away a utilised service that ensures their very loved fur children are happy and taken care of while they work. The increase in demand for childcare reflects this same position and would never be scrutinised in the way this industry is. As an avid animal lover who continually helps and rescues animals it is obvious to see that the bulk of issues caused by dog aggression (the reason for this potential change to dog walking bylaws) are not the result of the households who utilise dog walking services, but rather those who provide no stimulation for their pets and have them roaming free instead of secured on their properties. These particular households are not the market that uses professional dog walking services.
6447	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The erosion of dog access to life is precipitous and predatory. Dog access to anything is being eroded daily and it does nothing to assist humans cope with and be tolerant of anything that looks 'other'. This is a slippery slope
6448	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Dog walkers provide A great service, asking professional dog walkers to have a licence to have more than 6 dogs makes sense. However costs of licences should not be prohibitive
6520	I don't know		I think it is wrong to restrict the number of dogs if led by a professional dog trainer, as I believe their livelihoods are at stake. I know particularly of one dog trainer/walker who is absolutely capable of leading more than 6 dogs at a time - and is a registered dog trainer, is incredibly professional and responsible. It is the 'cowboy' kind of dog walkers that are the problem, they should not be able to walk multiple dogs - and all dog walkers should be properly registered.
6536	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	support limiting off leash dogs to 1pp to ensure the dog can be effectively monitored. Treat leashed dogs differently: no upper limit for leashed dogs so long as the person is a licensed dog walker and has clearly visible ID; with no ID, a max of 3 leashed dogs per person (again so dogs can be effectively managed and attended to).

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6575	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	To Auckland Council, I am concerned about how this policy could unintentionally create more issues than it solves. One of my main concerns is the poor quality of data used to justify this change. The proposal acknowledges that incidents involving multiple dogs are relatively rare and have a low impact. It also admits that the data is challenging to interpret, with no clear evidence linking the number of dogs to safety issues. Making significant policy changes based on inconclusive and incomplete data is reckless and undermines public confidence in the decision-making process. Even more worrying are the unintended consequences this rule could create. By making it harder for professional dog walkers to operate, the bylaw could drive experienced, responsible professionals out of the industry, or raise their prices beyond what the people who really need the service can afford, especially at this time of financial difficulty for so many. This would leave dog owners with fewer trusted options and could lead to inexperienced individuals filling the gap. In turn, this might increase the very risks the Council aims to reduce. Additionally, dogs that don't receive regular socialisation and exercise are more likely to develop behavioural issues. Limiting access to professional walkers could lead to an increase in poorly behaved dogs, ultimately making public spaces and even people's own homes less safe and enjoyable for everyone. If this happens, the Council will be responsible for introducing a policy that worsens the problem it set out to solve. Before moving forward with this proposal, I strongly urge the Council to consider alternatives that address genuine concerns
6587	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Having previously worked in the industry in Auckland myself 2014-2019 I went through rigorous learning and training to have a safe and successful business as a preference I preferred to have 8-10 dogs at one time, I could definitely handle more but the number was a nice one to be able to navigate foot paths or trails any more and it a bit excessive. I believe there shouldn't be a rule around how many as a total and only a portion of those being off leash. It doesn't make sense. I believe a total Number of 10 with all being allowed off lead IF reliably trained and under control (which is the law of any off lead dog- however most pet dog owners don't have control of their 1 dog let alone more) I know of plenty of dog owner within Auckland region who own upwards of 5 dogs with great control it would be a shame that they may have to limit how they were to exercise their family dogs.

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6591	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Professional dog walkers are well trained able to control multiple dogs.
6604	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I strongly oppose limiting the number of dogs that can be walked at one time. In my opinion, it makes much more sense to require professional dog-walkers with large groups of dogs to be licensed. Regulate the industry, rather than apply blanket restrictions that will prevent highly-trained professionals from doing their jobs (or requiring them to raise prices beyond that which an average NZ household can afford). As the owner of a Swiss Shepherd, professional dog walking is an essential service for our family. Our daughter - the younger of our two children - died unexpectedly in 2022. Our dog is a crucial member of our family, a hugely important source of support for our older daughter who has been through the enormous trauma of losing her sister. However, as grieving parents and dog owners, my husband and I are now faced with often being mentally or physically incapable of giving our dog the stimulation she requires. In order to keep her, we rely on a regular pack-walking service. Our pack walker is highly trained and professional. She is able to keep her prices at an affordable level because of the number of dogs she can walk at one time. We have seen the way she handles our dog and the other pack members at pick-up and drop-off. She is fully in control, compassionate and is constantly training the dogs while she works with them in a pack-walking capacity. Our dog is overall far less reactive and more engaged with us at other times because of the time she spends as part of the pack. I am acutely aware that there are many so-called 'professional

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6610	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I'm a professional dog walker who walks a maximum of 6 dogs (usually 4-5), however I put a lot of work into all the dogs in my care. I have dog training and professional dog walking qualifications. I do believe there needs to be change and think a cap on numbers is a good start, but not on how many can be off leash. However it doesn't solve the real issue which is people with no idea thinking it's going to be an easy job, as well as general members of public who don't control there own dogs or understand them well. I don't believe setting a limit to dogs allowed off leash is the right approach. Whenever I see anyone every dog goes back on leash unless they're very trustworthy to hold a stay command. Which is how any good professional or pet owner does things so you can see if its a good idea for the dogs to mingle or not. However if there was tension with a strange dog who came into the group I would drop the leashes of certain dogs and tell the dogs to follow me (a comand everyone knows well). Some dogs are far more tense on leash so it deescalates the situation much faster. I would hate to have this very important option removed for fear of prosecution as it's basic k9 understand/behavior that leashes can create more tension in some dogs. I think a cap on numbers, maybe 6-8 dogs, and compulsory course to show you understand k9 training, behavior, first aid etc, and/or maybe license would be far more effective. At the end of the day with the proposed laws anyone could still walk multiple dogs and have no idea what they're doing. On another note I've been a dog owner for over 10 years and a dog walker for 4 I've
6615	I don’t know		Walking multiple dogs could be done at certain times so that people who don’t like dogs can avoid these areas
6724	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe we should be following other cities by licensing the industry. This means working with the dog walking community. Having a range of different people in the industry helping work the council to regulate our industry. I don't think the limit should be 6 or 8 dogs. I think 10-12 dogs should be the limit if you know what your doing. But it should be licensed and tested with different distractions and how you react to them. Just like when passing a drivers test.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6736	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe this is to put control and regulations on the dog walking community. There needs to be a separation between person people who do not have the skills and knowledge to control a handful of dogs vs highly trained businesses and individuals who have done the mahi to know how to deal with individual dog personalities and have them trained and integrated into a controlled pack walk. This is going to seriously restrict great pack walking and dog homestay businesses that are great assets to our community. Do not restrict the number of dogs they have but regulate and ensure that the individuals running these pack have an agreed level of training and skill to handle their packs.
6820	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a very basic summary of my opinion- Professional dog walkers are known to allow socialization with dogs in a controlled manner. The inability of allowing dog walkers to continue working and having dogs off lead will lead to a path of more unsocialized/untrained dogs. As a dog behaviorist and a dog professional for the past 15 years (in the USA & New Zealand), my opinion is you will do more harm to dogs and more incidents will occur. Owners who do not have enough time to exercise/train their dogs often seek professionals to help, dog walkers. Limiting the number of dogs on a pack walk will cause prices to go up, and owners to leave their dogs at home. Dogs who stay at home will lead to unsocializing & not enough exercise which can turn energy into anxiety, which takes a dog to the path of reactivity. Reactive dogs can cause incidents whether they are on lead or not. More dogs on lead could create incidents for people being pulled over and getting hurt... The price demand on dog walking goes up, and people who cannot afford dog walking any longer causes more dogs to be surrendered. The cycle will continue. If there were strict laws on people who are allowed to own a dog, and professional dog walkers could hold a license to guarantee a controlled dog walk, or that there are designated areas in parks for dogs and their dog walker, we should be able to continue on as is. With this law, you will create a bigger problem, and more incidents.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6934	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	see attached Summary of Attachment: Opposition to Dog Walking Limits: No evidence supports restricting the number of dogs a person can walk. Professional dog walkers often have better control than private owners. Support for Licensing Professional Dog Walkers: Suggests investigating a licensing system for professional dog walkers
6943	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	see attached Summary of Attachment: Opposition to Dog Walking Limits: No evidence supports restricting the number of dogs a person can walk. Professional dog walkers often have better control than private owners. Support for Licensing Professional Dog Walkers: Suggests investigating a licensing system for professional dog walkers
WAITEMATĀ LOCAL BOARD			

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
46	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Generally I agree with the council recommendation for untrained, non-professional dog owners/walkers. However, the PDWA (Professional Dog Walkers Association) offers the council an opportunity to recognise the benefit responsible, professional dog walkers provide to busy working professionals that have pets. As someone that has a busy full time job, with a dog that needs regular exercise, I have worked with Fur & Forest (a PDWA member) for the last 4 years. They are an exceptional dog walking service, that I know provides benefits for many hundreds of families across Auckland. The council can balance their goals of providing safe spaces for the public by working with PDWA and their members to enable them to continue operating their businesses as is, while ensuring untrained, unaccredited providers and private owners are not able to do so. By implementing the proposal, you risk removing an industry that provides benefit to thousands of Aucklanders and the pets that they love. The professional dog walking industry has exploded over recent years, that is because Aucklanders want and need this service. The answer to irresponsible operators is not to heavy handedly remove all rights for everyone. It is to ensure responsible businesses are held to account by a set of requirements. Implementing the recommendations will likely destroy many
54	Support		This limit allows walkers to have full control of the dogs they are walking to ensure other users of the public space are not at risk. Despite this, six dogs at one time still feels like a large number of dogs for one person to supervise, particularly if all six are large-sized dogs. I think this should be a factor in assessing the maximum number as six small dogs is a very different issue to six large dogs - regardless of whether they are on- or off-leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
85	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People who pay to have their dog walked are not the problem. It's the stray dogs or owners who don't care while poop everywhere as seen on our security camera. Dog walkers are responsible and a vital part of our community to keep our dogs happy and owners can earn a living whilst they have their dog. If this changes then dog walking will become more expensive and people will be forced to walk their own dog after work when they are tired and that leads to people who can't be bothered picking up after their dog or enforcing manners ! It's not right!
94	Support		There are some dog walkers who are unable to control their packs.
112	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There should be a licence vs a slap of a number as so many of us who have more than four dogs will be penalised. Dog walkers do a fantastic job and it will be incredibly sad for the owners who suffer and businesses who can not function with this proposed number.
118	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Putting a limit on the amount of dogs each person can walk is not protecting the dogs or the public. Incidents happen when people don't train their dogs. One untrained dog is more dangerous than 10 trained dogs. Please put regulations on dog ownership- ensure people are training their dogs or have their dogs trained by professionals.
122	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I largely support the proposed limit of 6 dogs (3 off leash, 3 on leash), but I think there needs to be an exemption made for professional dog walkers, whereby they need to gain an annual licence to walk a larger number. Many dog owners utilize dog walking services, and most professional dog walkers are experienced dog handlers who are capable of controlling a group of dogs. However, I do think a professional license/assessment would assist in this area as there are some cowboys in the profession.
157	Support		Too many people without dog knowledge claiming to be experienced walkers Too many unsociable dogs Too many dog attacks
162	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Some of these animals are very large. It barely seems possible for someone to properly control two loose dogs while also holding two other dogs.

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165	Support		I have ran into MANY instances with pack walkers where they had absolutely no control of their dogs, running up to my dog, fights breaking into their own pack (have had to help 2 walkers breaking a fight within their own pack in the Meola car park), losing their dogs (had to help a couple times someone from Fetch finding dogs that had gone missing...) I think large group of dogs should not be allowed in public spaces - it is intimidating and they are earning enough to rent some private lands in my view. I am not sure though that this 3 on 3 off would be followed I'm afraid. I think a lot would still let their 6 dogs off.
203	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because dogs love being around other dogs. And businesses that do dog walking for people will heavily suffer and collapse under these new rules. It's ridiculous, you can't form rules from one bad incident
206	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For a registered dog walking business, 6 off leash dogs is acceptable in an off leash area.
302	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are very experienced dog walkers out there who can manage multiple dogs and the new proposed bylaws are too restrictive. The key is they have to have the dogs under control at all times.
370	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog walker takes multiple, registered, vaccinated dogs out together and they take full responsibility for the well being of the dogs and any public that they may encounter. They pick up after the dogs. The discipline shown by the dogs under their control is excellent. My dog is fit and loves the interaction with other animals that I cannot offer in the days I work. The dog walking companies should not be penalised because of a few inconsiderate dog owners or members of the public that can easily avoid dog walking areas.
454	Support		This will make my 4-year old autistic daughter feel safer.
560	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 6 or had a license
642	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	People walking 6+ dogs are likely a business providing a service to people who want their animal to be safely socialised and exercised. I would prefer a licensing process for dog walkers to prevent unqualified and uninformed walkers causing harm

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645	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have a dog that goes with a walker who has been able to consistently demonstrate an excellent knowledge of dog behaviour and psychology. Her walks are done with 1-2 of her employees and the dogs follow a structured routine of drills, walk and play. The dogs are temperament tested prior to being taken on, taken to appropriate locations and looked after in a safe manner. There are many walkers like this and they should not be penalised for the idiocy of a few. Dog walking should however be regulated - not just professionally but privately as well and I believe it should be three dogs max if NOT registered dog walking professional and no more than 2 off lead with any unregistered professional walker/owner.
784	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A trained and qualified dog walker with well behaved dogs can supervise and control more than 6 dogs. Limiting them to just 6 dogs will reduce their income and either put them out of business or make dog walking services prohibitively expensive for owners. Instead of limiting the number of dogs, the council should be licensing dog walkers so that only trained and qualified walkers may provide dog walking services. That way you address the issue of ensuring dogs are under control at all times without destroying the dog walking industry through higher costs.
803	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would support 6 dogs off leash with a professional dog walker that should be 'licenced' to prove they are appropriately qualified to manage 6 dogs off-leash. My dog goes with a company that takes no more than this off-leash and I am comfortable that they have assessed the dogs before they agree to this service, that the temperament of the dogs is compatable. Some owners actually request their dog not be be 'off-leash' and that's acceptable and depending on where they go, they might all be on-leash. The decision should be made by a qualified and experienced dog-walker.
835	Support		I think those limits are fair when considering how easy it is to manage dogs

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853	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Thank you for the opportunity to have a voice in such an important matter. We use a professional dog walker who undertakes structured walks and training with her packs. She is a seasoned professional and has a strong handle on all the dogs in her care. Her approach may mean more than four dogs are off leash as she trains them, which in turn helps us when we go on extended walks to ensure wildlife remains safe our dog's presence. We highly recommend professional dog walkers are an exception to this rule, that they are instead regulated and regularly (annually) tested to determine the level of competence and therefore the amount of dogs that should be in their care and off-leash.
885	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog does go on a proffesional srviuce that goes off leash in appropriate places, and this would be prevented if the poposed change occured. The current rule requires dogs to be under control. That is sufficient to ensure safety. Is there actually a probelm requiring to be fixed with this prposal - i suggest that if there is, it is because the existing rule was breached. there is no reason to change it.
914	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It is none of the councils business if people want to walk multiple dogs at any time.
948	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	For many of us that live in the city there is no where we can walk our dogs safely at nigh t after work or before work so enlist in the help of dog walkers to help exercise our dogs which in turn improves their behavior and socialisations around other dogs.
957	Support		Limiting the number of dogs walked at once means that they are more under control and present less of a risk to other park and public area users.
1077	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dogs hunt in packs. There is no way one person can control six dogs with three off leash. I don't mind six dogs as long as none of them are off leash. Three off leash sounds terrifying depending on the type of dog of course! But the incidences of them mauling other dogs that are on their own, and for people with children coming across a person with six dogs, three off leash is pretty terrifying.
1157	Support		I think any more than 6 dogs should be managed in a private space where they are unlikely to encounter other dogs with unknown temperment.

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1212	Support		Do not believe that all dog walkers are able to control over 6 dogs at one time
1255	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are responsible for for all there dogs on lead
1335	Support		Multiple dogs can feel threatening when I'm walking my dog. She is quite timid and doesn't like other dogs pestering her.
1337	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Most dog walkers are responsible. Sending dogs with pack walkers encourages them to interact with other dogs and learn how to be well socialized. They go to areas where there usually aren't other people. It would be more beneficial to enforce harsher penalties on people who are not registered business walkers or who have any issues.
1377	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The people who walk groups of dogs professionally provide a valuable service to the dog owners of Auckland. This proposed change would impact their ability to provide this service. Consider making an exemption to this rule for professional dog walkers who have a licence, or pass some kind of certification. These professional dog walkers are NOT the problem you're trying to solve. Any issues that arise tend to be from private citizens who can't control their dogs, or unlicensed, unprofessional dog walkers who don't know what they're doing. This proposed change will not make things better.
1379	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Every day there are vans of dog walkers in my area and they pose a problem to nobody. They walk people’s pets during work hours when there is hardly anyone around. This change would however severely affect their livelihood as many are self employed.
1404	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walking businesses provide an essential service to dog owners who cannot always provide their dog with sufficient exercise. If these businesses were limited to walking only 6 dogs they would not have a financially viable business. From all reports it is not the dog walking businesses creating issues/responsible for attacks. Focus needs to be on unregistered dogs and their irresponsible owners.

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1410	Support		Dogs as a pack are often unruly and intimidating to single and smaller dogs. If allowed off- leash, they must be in control and within 1-2 metres from the dog walker. Allowing dogs off-leash to roam further than that is dangerous for other dogs and wildlife. I have often had to intervene when off-leash dogs try to bite, catch or chase birds or similar whilst the walker is oblivious or distracted by other dogs.
1425	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Restrictions on Dog Walking in Auckland To whom it may concern My name is ***, and I have been walking dogs in the Waitemata for over 50 years—both as a child and as an adult. In 2005, I founded Auckland's first commercial dog walking service. Since then, my company has walked over a thousand individual dogs and now handles over 1,000 dog walking assignments per week, employing more than 20 walkers. Today, we are part of a growing community of over 250 commercial dog walkers (CDWs) on the Auckland Isthmus, providing a crucial service to a diverse range of dog owners, from teachers to health professionals, builders, and more. Over the last 20 years, dog ownership in Auckland has risen from 30% to 50% of households, making the need for dog walking services even more critical. With the rise of apartment living and a shift in family structures, "fur babies" have become an essential part of many Aucklanders' lives. The Role of Pack Walking and its Importance Our service offers an affordable and convenient solution for dog owners who lack the time or ability to walk their dogs. Pack walking—where dogs are exercised off-leash—provides essential benefits to dogs and owners alike:
1471	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	One person managing 6 dogs is too difficult to do properly, especially when there are many other dogs in the same area.

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1473	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will impact small businesses that run dog walking services. In my experience as a dog owner the people who run these dog walking businesses are very knowledgable about dogs and behave responsibly and do have the dogs they are walking under control. Off leash pack walks are a great way of exercising and socialising dogs. These businesses often provide training to the dogs and do not take dogs or let dogs off leash that exhibit anti-social behavior. You really targetting the wrong people here. Unfortunately we have people in Auckland city who chain up their dogs in back yards and they are never walked or socialised and left outside in all weather. If you had any spine and true care for dogs and humans you would be targeting these people first with education and then with forcible uplift of the dog if the conditions do not improve. I believe with enough resource some of these dogs could be rehabilitated and rehomed but unfortunately due to negative imprinting and lack of socialising and care a number would need to be humanely euthanized. The owners should then be banned from having dogs but many of these people don't register their dogs so this is hard to check. You need to put your resource and our dog registration fees into education and dog welfare, not policing dog walking businesses in the manner this policy proposes. It makes no sense to me and you've given no rationale for it. I have already submitted my feedback via the form as I do not support the proposal that someone can walk a max of 6 dogs with 3 of the 6 being required to be on leash. I am a dog owner (2 dogs) and I have in the past used these dog
1474	Support		This seems reasonable. Anymore than 6x dogs in one persons care is not safe for any party (dogs & humans). Regulation needs to be in place for dog walkers/dog day care and similar organisations to keep both dogs and humans safe.

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1510	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I'm really cross at this suggested change which does not in any way address the core problems as I perceive them with dog ownership in Auckland. I actually wrote a piece for the 1News.co.nz website about dogs off leash and I suggest you read it. In essence, professional dog walkers in charge of large packs are the ones who will be affected by this law change but they are not causing the problems. I have seen pack walkers out with dogs frequently at beaches like kakamatua and their dogs stay together and play - they don't bother strangers. The dogs that do bother my dog are primarily dogs who are brought alone or in a pair/threesome to the beach to help socialise them because they have issues. They are the ones that need controlling but their owners lack the skill and accept that their dogs are creating risk for other people. This law change does not address the problem dogs, or the problem breeds (which is also an issue and will become a much bigger issue potentially as it already has in the UK)
1544	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What a stupid idea, if I have 10 dogs I have to walk them twice because of this dumbass regulation. Like the whole point of you having parks and beaches, and the reason why NZ is wholesome is the fact that we see dogs just running freely, like do you really think dogs kill that many native birds per year and do you really think it's going to reduce just because you put a limit on the dogs. What a stupid idea. My dogs never chases after native birds, not even pigeons, if they're not interested they're just not.
1549	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs require socialisation just like humans. Other than in the home, socialisation can occur in confined dog care centres or in pack walks. Our personal experience with confined dog care centres has been very negative (too many dogs under pressure in confined areas leads to poor behavioural traits and habits). Dogs require exercise (within prescribed areas) more than is able to be achieved on lead. Limiting the number of dogs in a pack size or those that are under control off lead limits the amount of off lead socialisation that can occur and limits the amount of true exercise each dog can achieve. Dogs that haven't been properly (and safely) exercised results in dogs that are over anxious and reactive.Our experience with professional well run dog walking companies (we've used 2 over the last 4 years) has been nothing but positive for the dog, general public and owner.
1601	Support		There are too many cases of people in public areas being injured by out of control dogs. Many people will avoid going to areas because of feeling intimidated by coming across a pack of off leash dogs.

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1651	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	My dog thoroughly enjoys his pack walks, they are an important weekly session for him to socialise with other dogs. I would support professional dog walkers needing a license to operate with more dogs, I do not support a blanket rule which would mean no professional dog walks can happen, and they miss the chance for vital socialising and training.
1659	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposal appears to be knee jerk reaction to a small number of well publicised complaints that have been given a weight disproportionate to the harm caused by this “issue” and failed to take into account the importance of the availability of affordable dog walking services to ensure the welfare of numerous dogs in Auckland. Particularly those owned by ratepayers in full time employment. Not only is this service and the proper exercising of dogs required for the dogs’’ welfare but also for the safety of those in public. Underexercised and under socialized dogs are likely to cause issues when in public spaces and that will undoubtedly increase if this proposal become law. I have owned dogs for 25 years and held a responsible dog owners certificate for the majority of that time. I have owned both small and large dogs. Exercise is vital for a dog’s wellbeing and with the rigours of my job I must use a professional dog walker. The care, control and diligence of the services I have used has been astounding (previously K9 Way and now Woofpack). They walk large packs of dogs under complete control (10 plus) screening dogs before they join, training on their outings, only allowing dogs off leash when confident of control. These types of operators need to be promoted but could not operate economically under the proposed plan. Licensing may be required not this blanket ban. I am highly concerned by the council’s approach is proposing such radical changes on the basis of a “surgery” and no apparent appropriate professional input.
1732	Support		More than six dogs is unsafe and difficult to control.
1736	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	Dogs are often walked by dog walkers/carers so this would really have a negative impact on exercise for our dogs who are well supervised by dog walkers
1910	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dogs need to run and play off lead restricting numbers will stop us from delivering a service to all our customers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1923	Support		I love dogs, but I know how hard a pack can be to control. Many of the 'pack walking' groups have their own private farms/places they can go to walk their clients dogs, but many also use public/council areas. I have witnessed many of these groups using one walker for an entire pack 6+ dogs, sometimes struggling to control them. I think if anyone has six of more dogs, they need minimum two people. You simply cannot control that many dogs alone if something were to go wrong.
2037	Support		I live near a park where dog walkers often operate and when they have a large number of dogs off leash it makes the park less usable for other people. The dogs seem out of control and run around the park in a pack, often barking. When dogs are in a pack, pack instinct takes over and I believe it is only time before there is an accident of some kind. Even three dogs together can cause issues. Even three big dogs running around together is at times menacing.
2149	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe that Professional Dog handlers and Certified trainers - should have unlimited amount of dogs on lead and off lead (the professional trainers have their dogs under control . Its the average "dog walkers" who take on many dogs at once to get more money and have no idea how dogs are in packs or to control them properly off lead. These so call dog walkers are potentially going to ruin Professional handlers and Trainers businesses with this proposed new law and for customers like me who has well trained dogs that go out in a pack ranging 5-7 dog all behaved and trained this way. There has to be a type of certification that can be carried by professional dog Trainers so they can have more than the proposed limit. It would completely ruin the industry of responsible trainers bringing this law in with out lee way for them to have a Cert. The main issue is the average person does not have their dogs trained properly or spend the money doing this. Also - de sexing and back yard breeders, not regulated dog breeding which then in turn caused masses of dogs that people don't look after properly or train how to behave in public.
2184	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support this proposed change of limitations to amount of dog walking in Auckland parks. People need to make a living.

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2232	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There needs to be a system to keep dog walkers in check but limiting numbers does not work it's not the numbers that is the problem it's the people who start a business for fun and don't want to learn more it's the money hungry idiots, not the trainers or actual professional Dog walkers
2319	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there should be a different system of checks for those who are registered to walk dogs as a business. As someone who pays for my dog to receive exercise and enrichment in a group walk by a qualified dog walker, it would be very upsetting let alone costly if these number were so severely reduced. I do understand issues with dogs being out of control and believe such businesses should have to provide or participate in a program which demonstrates compliance to only taking out non-aggressive dogs and letting only manageable dogs off leash. If I had to choose I would say 8 dogs with 4 of leash is reasonable as I have seen my skilled dog walker manage this number without incident recurrently. My dog returns happy and healthy from these walks.
2329	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are dog walking businesses who have more than this number of dogs on a walk. My own dog goes on a walk with a very responsible walker (this is her business) and this would mean this service wasn't available to me anymore. She takes them to quarries and forests and there is no risk there. How are making allowances for dog walking business owners? It's a valuable service to busy working people who want the best for their dogs.
2331	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a solution without a problem, and it overreaches. Dogs enjoy pack walks and, in my experience of several, the providers are extremely responsible and maintain excellent control. To implement this change would remove a rewarding and important leisure and exercise option for dogs.
2369	Support		Sadly not all dog walkers have full control of all of their animals and I have had instances where unleashed dogs have rushed at my two smaller dogs causing them and me some distress .
2397	Support		We live in mt Albert and when go to the summit on ōwairaka we encounter groups of dog walkers and the ones with multiple dogs in my opinion don't seem to handle them well .we have seen other dogs off the leash approach them and they can't seem to handle the situation and have to ask the owner of the dog to call there dog back .its unsettling for my children so now we don't walk up there anymore.

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2425	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think that the maximum dog limit should be higher for people with dog trainer accreditation (approximately 10-12 dogs) and the same people should have no restriction on the number of dogs off leash. I think the proposed rules are going to be crippling for good people with dog walking businesses (especially ones with professional training) and the actions of a few cowboys are costly to everyone.
2459	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of 6 off lead - help support dog waking businesses
2551	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have no issue with a private individual having a limit on the number of dogs they can walk at any given time. However, many dogs are walked by professional dog walking/minding services who have far greater expertise. The proposal is likely to impact them which will in turn impact all their customers of which I am one. I suggest a system that recognizes the professional dog handler v the private individual with different rules for each. The limits on the number of dogs walked in any given time should also account for the area the dogs are being walked in- eg urban v rural.
2587	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 4 dogs on leash only.
2605	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	As someone who uses a very responsible dog-walker, I disagree with some dogs on/some dogs off leash idea. A good dog walker will know which dogs should be on a leash and which are fine off leash. As the make-up of the walking group is changeable how many dogs who are on/off leash will change as well. I think a limit on numbers is sensible (8) as is a licence to operate, and the dog-walker should always have control of all the dogs whether on or off leash. What I have noticed when walking my dog myself, is some walkers with large groups they cannot control. I also notice that some of these walkers are using small un-marked vehicles with many dogs unrestrained in them. The difference between good responsible walkers and not is large. A provision of the licence should ensure that the dogs can be stowed safely and have adequate air conditioning. I use a dog walker because I am a responsible owner and don't want to leave my dog at home alone while I am working. I worry that limiting packs to 6 will mean the walkers would justifiably have to increase their daily (or hourly) rates, meaning many owners would not be able to afford walkers. This scenario will lead to many more dogs at home alone, which will cause more noise nuisance and anxious dogs.
2667	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dogs can be strong and can become unpredictable at times when scared etc, no single person can control so many dogs at once. 4 is more than enough dogs. I think even then you'd struggle to control them at times. Members of the public's safety should come before dog walking businesses. .

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2691	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 8 dogs with all off leash. These professional dog walkers always keep their dogs well controlled. Having fewer dogs would jeopardise their business I would think.
2698	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't believe the issue is present where well controlled groups of dog in the appropriate setting is causing a "nuisance" as the changes are intended to prevent. If there are issues with individuals that don't control multiple dogs then this is a lazy approach by the council to manage this en masse rather than targeting the individual
2780	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog is walked by an outstanding pack-walker (Fur and Forest) and the business and the service they provide would not be able to continue under these proposed changes. Fur and Forest have been a life-saver for us. We started when our dog was a 6 month old puppy and the way she interacts with other dogs and people now is completely transformed. She is a better-behaved dog because of her pack walks and is much easier for us to manage on a day to day basis. Stopping businesses such as Fur and Forest from operating and hindering the outstanding work they do has the potential to negatively impact so many dogs around Auckland. They have approximately 10 dogs in the pack per day, but the pack-leader is so extremely well-trained and keeps such impressive command of all the dogs that I know both the dogs and the public are safe. My dog is okay-behaved with me, but she is an angel when she goes with the pack walker and I have complete, unwavering confidence that Fur and Forest can look after my dog, keep her safe and manage any tricky situations. They have invested a lot in their professional development, including overseas training, and this manifests in how they walks the dogs. What's more, they do not walk in everyday public spaces but take the dogs to approved forest tracks. I would encourage decision-makers to go and observe businesses such as Fur and Forest and how safely and cautiously they operate before they make blanket rules that will impact so many dog-owners and small businesses. I support regulation because I do not believe the common man

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2855	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have had dogs all my life and frequently see dog-walkers with too many dogs. My dog was attacked at Oraki Basin last year by a dog who was part of 3 dogs off leash (with a dog-walker)along with other dogs on a leash. The dog-walker was unable to control those off leash. It is dangerous. While this was the only time my dog was attacked I've seen lots of dog-walkers with just too many to control - the new proposed limit of 6 in total with 3 off leash is still way to many. The majority of dog-walkers that I have seen are women and many simply can't control this number of dogs to ensure others who enjoy parks and walkways are safe.
2867	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I have a dog who has been doing walks with the same dog walker for the last 7 years - she is highly experienced and capable and she has never had an incident with dogs in that whole 7 years. I trust her to walk my dog while I am at work knowing that my dog will get to socialise, and get great exercise with someone I trust. To expect her to constantly have some of the dogs that she walks on leash while some are off leash is utterly ridiculous - dogs want to play and run with each other, and trying to keep 3 leashed and change over to ensure fair amount of exercise etc. is quite frankly stupid. The walker doesn't always have 6 dogs, in fact usually less, but she is incredibly capable and to expect her to follow a rule such as this would be an incredible hinderance, not to mention it would lessen the dogs ability to get good exercise and have fun! it feels like you are punishing experienced, capable people instead and making things overly complicated and unworkable, instead of dealing with the issue of people who walk their dogs off leash but can't control them - a small portion of the dog owning and dog walking population! Why punish the many for what a few do?
2943	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What is safe depends on the dogs and the environment. Hard rules, especially around limiting the number off leash will not be appropriate in every environment but will affect the cost of all dog walking.
2945	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I feel this unnecessary policy will impact on rate payers like myself being allowed to exercise my dogs, allow them to benefit from free, unincumbered access to parks and other spaces currently used by me.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2967	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I love that my dog can run around with lots of other dogs off-leash. She loves it. It's great exercise. Being on leash with other dogs frustrates her a lot. She has a great time when I take her to the park with a bunch of friends' dogs and they are all off-leash - more than 4. Thanks.
2969	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog is walked by a professional paid dog walker, the dogs are vetted first for manners and training before they are accepted to the pack, he is much less stressed after walking with a pack " offleash" ..he finds his order in the pack,. A dog that is well exercised by them 3 days a week, and us (on leash) every morning, makes for a contented, happy dog. If all dogs in the pack had to be leashed, the costs would be prohibitive, and that would make for a BIG concentration of dogs, by owners, in parks, BEFORE and AFTER work ..when humans want to relax in them.
2975	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog walking communities are well informed and supportive. My dogs local dog walker is a Professional who can handle the pack perfectly well. I have a healthy, happy, safe and social dog, she thrives from Pack walking off leash with 6 dogs
2984	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog has been going out with a well known responsible, professional dog walking service for a number of years now. I believe that these changes will negatively impact the wellbeing of the dogs on walks such as these. This would lead to reduced exercise socialisation and potential frustration and stress at being restricted by a lead. It would be difficult for this type of dog walking service to continue as it would be hard to manage dogs both on lead and off and could lead to more unsafe behavior than currently. I strongly disagree with this change and recommend that the rules stay the same.
2986	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will cause reduced exercise and socialisation, Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. This will cause increased stress and frustration. Being restricted by a lead will cause increased stress and frustration for some dogs. Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe. You are better off charging dog owners who cannot control their Dogs. This is normally one dog owner and one Dog out of control. Not a controlled good group of Dogs that are well trained you are completely missing the issue here.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2989	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The problem you are trying to solve is dog attacks. These predominantly come from 1 or 2 dogs who are uncontrolled. You already have policy and rules to address these dogs. Administer the existing rules and don't create more bureaucracy at the ratepayers expense.
2999	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Will increase the cost to working people who have their dogs walked while at work; will not benefit the rest if the public - dogs' behaviour is the issue not the number of dogs off lead; well behaved dogs off lead do not cause any identified problem.
3000	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This doesn't target the problem. Dog walkers and anyone walking multiple dogs is controlling dogs and teaching them socialization skills. These people are accountable for the safety of the animals and people in the area so as a result in control of the situation. Antisocial dogs are the issue you should be targeting and this should be the focus of controlling animal issues. You don't see these dogs in large walking groups.
3001	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is bad for dogs who get pack walked. It leads to poor socialization and frustrated dogs and can lead to problems in the community if dogs can't be free as there are already enough relegations on correct dog walking procure.
3012	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I dont think you can be prescriptive. It depends on the dogs and the walker. In some cases it may be fine to have 6 dogs off-leash. I've seen packs of dogs at our local park being walked by a professional walker, most of them being off-leash and they are all well behaved. What is the problem that these regulations are trying to fix? This will raise the cost of dog-walking services so dogs with working parents are less likely to get the exercise they need.
3018	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog really enjoys being collected and heading out for walks on days we work long hours, it means not only does he get some extra exercise but he's not home all day by himself and socialising with other dogs. The company I use took time to meet out dog and put him in another group of dogs he would get a long with. I think its more ensuring the companies follow good procedures rather than these blanket rules.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3020	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We have used a dog walking service for the past three years and I can't stress enough how important this is for our dog's wellbeing. Like it or not we live in a city and people still want to have dogs in said city and this service is invaluable for keeping our dogs sane and healthy. Consider the alternative - the increase in noise complaints and behavioural issues from the general public as a result of our friends not being able to go out walking when their owners HAVE to go to work. I take animal welfare very seriously and I think this is an animal welfare issue. Interesting that the council sees this as priority when half the bins have been removed from safe dog areas resulting in litter, bags and feral crowded bins. Most of us want to do the right thing - this is not the right thing,
3022	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As pack animals, many dogs relish the time spent with other dogs, following and playing off-leash - and free ranging exercise in a group is valuable for them as well as for owners (like myself) who cannot commit to providing such exercise on a daily basis. In my experience of over five years with my current dog and a previous one, the walking and doggy daycare companies I have used (Fetch and Barkley Manor) provide well-trained dog-walkers and have rules of care for dogs new to the experience or needing special attention. They are always mindful of all dogs and other users of parks and beaches. I regard the proposed change as unduly restrictive and likely to cause unintended consequences, such as increased likelihood of frustrated dogs at home barking (yes, I know you can fine owners, but that is not a solution, only a further problem) increased charges, limiting availability of dog-walking for responsible dog owners who provide this as an enrichment experience in caring for their animals. Like many other dog-owners I know, I mix working from home with days at the office when I know my dog will be well-cared for and having fun for a couple of hours, then rest safely until I get home. Limiting this possibility is not a good service for me as a ratepayer.
3024	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog goes out with a trained dog walker (Follow the Leda adventures) - I consider that limiting the number of dogs on and off lead is not necessary for professional dog walkers like Leda and her team. I would support licensing and managing dog walkers to ensure that safety standards are met but to limit businesses like Leda's where dogs are well trained and not allowed off lead until they can be trusted to behave in a pack and towards others is too draconian. I would encourage the council to look into businesses such as Leda's before making blanket rules covering dog packs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3025	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Ridiculous, the rule is perfectly fine as it is. Dogs need walking and for people who can't always walk their dog due to their situation. Will see a huge increase in price and the dog won't be getting the same exercise as currently.
3026	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support this. Many people across Auckland have dogs and are able to do so because dog walking services are provided that give their dogs the exercise that is needed and provide these services at a reasonable cost. If any changes are made this will increase costs making it more difficult for people to keep their dogs. If dogs aren't walked properly this could lead to behavioral issues that will cause more trouble than we're currently seeing in parks. This could also lead to more dogs being abandoned or given up for adoption. Auckland council has not thought about the unintended consequences of this type of decision. People who sign their dogs up to dog walking services actually care about their dogs welfare and know these walks are important for them. If you speak to dog walking services you'll realise they won't take on unruly dogs or dogs that disrupt the harmony of the group. Many of the issues being consulted on are not addressing the real problem, which is the need to introduce stricter regulations around the breeding and ownership of dogs. In addition, Auckland council needs to control the unruly dogs that are currently roaming around Auckland rather than wasting its time on changes like these that as mentioned above, will have many negative impact such as reduced exercise and socialization leading to increased stress and behavioral. If this proposal is taken any further me and many other local dog owners will be at the council committee meeting to protest this proposal.
3027	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Professional dog walkers require that multiple dog walkers are off lead at the same time. Any restrictions mean more cost to consumers and needless enforcement cost for Council (ie ratepayers). If non-professional dog walkers with multiple dogs are causing problems, then simply require professional dogs walkers to be certified.
3029	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Never had an issue with dog walking packs - they are good for dogs and under supervision of trained experts

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3031	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	What is the purpose of changing something that is clearly working . The fuss has come from a minority of dog hating people who don't have to be walking In the same area as the dogs are being walked
3034	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	General public limited, but allow professional dog walkers who qualify to be able to have more than this.
3044	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Having owned 4 big dogs over the last 40 years I believe the following proposed amendments aren't concentrating on the real issues & may even create more issues with dogs in public spaces. As a responsible owner who exercises our dog for 1-2 hours a day around the Auckland region,. My observation is that the processional dog walkers with the large packs have amazing control of their dogs. It is usually individual dogs of all sizes who haven't been trained & socialised who cause the issues. Even though our dog is walked we send him to a professional dog walking service for one day a week to give him time with other dogs of all sizes to socialise & exercise him with a pack of dogs off the leash. The walker has exceptional control when collecting & dropping off our dog. Prior to joining the dog walker pack, we & our dog had a personal visit to access our dogs suitability. On his first few walks he wore a GPS tracking collar & a long lead to ensure he behaved & was suitable for pack walks. Our dog absolutely loves his pack walks. Please focus on irresponsible dog owners, not the professionals. If need be focus on what qualifies a professional dog walker & monitor, but please Do Not introduce these amendments. Pack walking is a r cost effective option for owners to ensure their dogs are exercised in a safe & professional way.
3049	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	with the cost of living crisis and owning dogs, i need to work to live and have less and less time to walk my dogs so i get them walked 3 times per week buy a dog adventure group. they are responsible dog handlers, provide jobs for people and take the pressure off me so I can keep working (ie paying alot of tax for the greater good). I think more dog parks should be made accessible for dog owners to exercise their pets off leash. Dogs are part of a well functioning society and are part of ones family, just like children and need more consideration.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3055	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My elderly dog is walked twice a week by a dog walking company, and she has taken on a new approach to life! On her walk days she loves being able to run around with all the other dogs, always in a controlled and calm situation with trained dog handlers supervising. To stop her from participating and interacting in this experience would be devastating! Having some dogs off leash and others held by the dog handler is ridiculous and could be dangerous and very difficult to control.
3056	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The problem is not how many off leash dogs dog walkers can handle. These are the most well behaved dogs out there. The problem is when uneducated dog owners take their untrained unregistered dogs out to public places
3060	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walking services are essential work working pawrents. with them our does would get less exercise and socialisation as dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs and they get lead walking from their owners all the time. . Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe for the handlers and the dogs. And ultimately Auckland Dog Owners will have to pay more to have their dog walked by a Professional Dog Walker, in smaller groups and likely most of the services will go away or be unaffordable. Our dogs love love love their group walks. Don't take that away. These guys are not the problems, owners who don't train or monitor their dogs are.
3067	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as the dogs are registered and are kept under control by the walkers I see no reason why responsible dog owners should punished by being imposed with higher charges - pack walking dogs to socialise them has got to be a good thing for everyone - grumpy bored dogs who do not respond to commands will still be a menace in parks
3079	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the current rules should stay in place for professional dog walkers and dog walking organisations but the new restrictions put in place for individuals. Dog walking organisations provide an essential service to many of us allowing us to work interrupted to keep Auckland's economy going. If these rules were imposed they would have to raise their prices to a prohibitive level forcing them out of business and creating huge problems for the workforce that relies on their services. Truly a ridiculous idea Auckland Council.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3094	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog owners in urban areas need choices for dog walking service and to limit the number of dogs will limit the options for dog owners and make it a more expensive service. I have witnessed lots of dog walkers with many multiple types of dogs and they are always under control. Dog walking is a professional serivice that can regulate itself and I don't see it being a strain on council assets or public places.
3117	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The mooted change to the policy is ill considered. The dogs will have reduced exercise and socialisation which will increase poor behaviour. The change in policy should be towards those owners who do not care for their dogs properly by letting them roam without supervision.
3123	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This seems a sloppy and poorly justified proposal. The council has not made a case that dogs on group walks are disproportionately responsible for dog related injuries. An isolated anecdote is not evidence of a significant problem. To solve a problem requires accurate identification of the problem, and this seems to have been a vital step that has been overlooked. If supervised group walks are not the issue then restricting these cannot be part of the solution.
3136	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The limit of 3 dogs off leash impacts responsible dog walking businesses and is not nuanced enough. Yes there are potentially some dog walkers out there not as well managed as others, and perhaps there should be some review of there being a validation process for confirming an operator is responsible. In my personal experience, my dog walkers are very knowledgeable and responsible, and they have helped my dog and many others to improve their socialistion skills which benefits more dogs and helps create calmer dogs who are well exercised. These operators shouldn't be penalised for irresponsible operators, and there are surely better ways of weeding out the badly managed ones that don't penalise the good ones who help create more good well adjusted dogs. 3 off leash is far to few, and would make their business models unsustainable, causing many dogs to be anxious, badly exercised and socialised, creating more reactive dogs. While I would be open to a limit, it would be bigger, perhaps 8, but would also depend on the operator passing some kind of assessment to confirm if they are managed well or not. Don't penalise all businesses in this area for the odd one who is poorly run. This would just create more badly raised dogs in Auckland and create a new problem.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3140	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog is high energy and greatly benefits from his 2x weekly off leash pack walks from our dog walker. They offer him a well needed change to release energy, socialise with other dogs in a safe environment and get out and about. His quality of life would be greatly diminished and it would cost us significantly more if the number of dogs off leash were limited. We see this as unnecessary.
3153	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I believe changing this rule punishes responsible dog walking companies and would have a detrimental effect on dogs. I do think there should be regulations in the industry, like a certification process but a blanket rule that states a maximum of six dogs only with only three off lead is not the answer. Less dogs would be socialised and it would create even more problems.
3158	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed changes to dog walking policies present several significant negative implications for both dog owners and their dogs. These potential changes would not only affect the well-being of dogs but also limit the effectiveness of professional dog walking services and penalize responsible dog owners. Below are our key concerns: Exercise and Socialization LimitationsDogs thrive when they can run freely, play, and interact with other dogs. Being confined to a lead restricts these essential activities, which are crucial for their physical health and mental stimulation. The proposal would curtail these opportunities, leading to less active and less socially adjusted dogs. Increased Stress and FrustrationMany dogs experience heightened stress and frustration when restricted by a lead. The inability to explore and engage naturally with their environment can result in behavioral issues and elevated anxiety, negatively impacting their overall well-being. Safety Concerns for Dog WalkersManaging multiple dogs on leads while other dogs remain off-lead can create chaotic and potentially unsafe situations. The proposal may increase the risk of accidents or altercations, putting both the dogs and their handlers at risk. Higher Costs for Dog OwnersAuckland's dog owners may face increased expenses due to the proposed restrictions. Professional dog walkers would need to invest additional time

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3168	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog socialisation off lead is important for a dogs mental well being. Our dogs look forward to the times they are off lead and able to interact with other dogs.
3219	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I feel the problem occurs when dogs are loose and roaming the streets. This is the problem that needs addressing. By limiting to 3 dogs of leash will affect dog walkers who run their business which in turn will affect their clients. Again it is a small number of people /dogs causing problems so everyone else gets affected.
3228	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog is walked by a dog walking company. They employ trained specialists to walk the dogs. It is affordable as they walk multiple dogs at one time. If they are only able to walk a low number of dogs at one time it will become much more expensive. Dog walking is an excellent service that is provided by multiple companies, demonstrating a clear need for it. Dogs are pack animals and benefit from being walked in packs and having the opportunities for exercise and socialisation with other dogs.
3231	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs are meant to socialize; we use a walking service to augment that socialization for our dog. Off leash there is more play , socialization, excersice and overall well being. Proposed change would inhibit that significantly.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3244	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We are responsible dog owners and employ the services of a professional dog walking company to ensure our dog is well socialized and exercised. This has ensured our dog is happy, healthy, calm, well trained and socialized. Running free with his pack is a huge part of his quality of life and to do so under the supervision and guidance of trained, professional dog walkers has ensured both he, the pack and other users of the recreational spaces are all able to enjoy these areas without problem. I would be devastated to think that a change to the bylaws would put an end to this freedom for him and his pack. I would be concerned that we would see more frustrated, under-exercised and under-socialized dogs as a result. I am unclear as to why the Council feels an update of this situation is required other than it is trying to set rigid rules for all, in order to curb the bad behaviour of a minority. No doubt the same minority that also do not register their dogs, provide healthcare, train them, pick up after them or have any sort of real relationship with their dog. Our dog and all the dogs we know that use our professional dog walking service, are owned by caring, law-abiding, responsible people. People that have their dogs' best interests at heart and part of this includes giving their dogs the experience of a free run with their pack a few times a week. I would hate to see this privilege taken from my dog. Dogs on a leash are not afforded the luxury of freedom to be dogs and to play with their pack and mixing dogs on a leash with dogs off a leash is also not a solution as any dog expert will tell you, it is threatening for the dog on the leash and causes more problems than if both dogs were off leash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3258	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will impact myself, my dog and the dog walking business that I use significantly. I use an excellent, safety conscious, well regulated dog walking company to take my large dog out for 2-3 hour periods each day whilst I am at work for sometimes 11 hours. I already pay $200 a week, and there is no way i could afford to pay double (assuming there could be a maximum of 3 dogs only with the proposed new rules). It would be incredibly cruel for the dog to be at home by herself for this amount of time. She is a very large dog but is well behaved off the lead. However, on the lead, I don't think it would be safe to be walking a 2nd or 3rd dog. She also gets a little tense on the lead with dogs in close proximity but is completely comfortable with all dogs off the lead. I honestly don't know what i am going to do if these proposed changes come in. I have used my dog walking company for years and never had any issues at all. They only ever take the dogs to isolated spots away from the public anyway. If there are issues, which I have never seen in the media so they can't be that bad, then regulating the dog walking companies would be a much better idea. The one i use will pass with flying colours, I am sure.
3261	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	********** Bonkers idea Council.. You really need to understand dogs. They are as much of a human as we are.
3263	Support		Because dog walkers get overwhelmed and can't keep dogs under control. Even 6 is too many. With snakes they say you need 2 people present for a 3m snake, plus 1 extra person per extra metre. If it's 6 Chihuahuas, that's not the same as 6 Great Danes. It needs to be clarified, and maybe it can only be 2 big dogs, 4 medium dogs, or 6 very small dogs - I'm not an expert, but this would make more sense. I daresay it would be hard at times to control 1 untrained Great Dane.
3280	Support		So many inexperienced, greedy dog walkers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3284	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Unnecessary and no one has asked for it
3288	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We fully support and agree with the submission made by our daughter Gina Bartlett.
3330	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This goes totally against dog behaviour and how they function. If you remove the ability for dogs to socialise correctly in larger packs, the dogs will become aggressive. Dogs will not socilaise and pack behave when they are on leads so this will also contribute to poorer behaviour and aggression.
3364	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This potential change has several negative implications: Reduced exercise and socialisation: Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Increased stress and frustration: Being restricted by a lead can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. Difficulty managing multiple dogs on lead: Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe. Auckland's Dog Owners will have to pay more to have their dog walked by a Professional Dog Walker.
3366	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is absolutely mind blowing that such an idea has even gotten to the public consultation phase—when Animal Management and the majority of Local Council Boards said NO. My husband and I believe these changes would negatively impact the well-being of our furry friends and punishes responsible dog owners who understand the importance of having their dog pack walked and socialised.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3384	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My Wife and I believe these changes would negatively impact the well-being of our dog and limit the effectiveness of all pack walking services. As well as punishing responsible dog owners who understand the importance of having their dog pack walked and socialised. If the proposed changes go ahead it can cause a lot more issues such as reduced exercise and socialisation: Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Increased stress and frustration: Being restricted by a leash can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs leading to altercations.
3412	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This is an important service for many dog owners. Sure get professional dog walkers registered sobthis quality service is regulated and this profession is valued but don't out all these unessisary restrictions in place. The problem is bad dog owners not caring professional dog walkers.
3418	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog is apart of a dog walking community, this makes my dog and all others extremely happy. If you were to take this away it would completely take away proper exercise and socialisation for dogs causing increased stress and frustration. It’s more difficult to handle multiple dogs on lead than off.
3423	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	My dog walkers are excellent and have control of the dogs when off the lead. there are so many open spaces for them to enjoy I see no reason to change this policy and seems like a waste of time and money to consider this.
3425	Support		I have recently had a dangerous encounter with a dog walker in my area. My dog and I were walking in a Council Park, he was on lead. A walker with 10 off lead dogs arrived. One of the dog walkers dogs attacked my dog. Because of 'pack mentality' the rest of the dogs the walker was looking after (all off lead) ran over and also tried to attack my dog. I think any number beyond 3 dogs is irresponsible handling. There is not enough people in an interaction like that to control the dogs safely. You cannot possibly and safely manage the behaviour of more than three dogs off lead at one time.
3444	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I and my circle of dog friends will sometimes help out each other with dog walking which would limit us with 5 dogs off leash at our local dog park. All dogs are are used to socialising together - we would be penalised for helping each other out on occassions of necessity - we are not group dog walkers.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3497	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Have dog walkers licensed by Auckland Council and/or be members of a professional association which takes care of regulation as well as complaints. Why exactly there is so much time being wasted on dog walkers whihc comprise less than 1% of complaints to AC.. You should be concentrating on better management of loose dogs in certain areas along with lack of registration, horrendous welfare etc. Please spend your ratepayers money on these areas and not on this issue. 99% of dog walkers love their “customers” and are in it for the happiness of the dogs not to make huge profits!
3513	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walks encourage good socialization skills for our dogs, walkers will have to double or triple their staff and it will be unaffordable to continue leading to even worse socialization skills and aggressive behavious
3565	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The issue is not the dogs but the walkers. They don’t know how to control the dogs well and are often to locals (like myself) who are trying to walk their local dog in a relatively small area (the reserve snd walkway along st Mary’s bay). They show scant regard for us and their packs are very intimidating. They also are responsible for the dumping or presence of their dogs excrement along the path. Have you considered giving them a specified time (eg 90 mins) outside locals peak walking times do that we know when to stay away too?
3616	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This will most likely put professional dog walking companies out of business. They in my experience act responsibly and know how to handle a pack of dogs. The issue lies with individual owners who act irresponsibly or do not have the experience. As such professional dog walkers should be exempt.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3754	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I believe having registered/licensed dog walkers should have a place in Auckland Society. There are a huge amount of pet dogs in the greater Auckland region. And many owners who work long hours and have pets require the support of paid dog walking services. These services run by professionals who must earn certification is crucial to keep dogs well exercised, socialised which in term makes them healthier and better behaved dogs in public. If the numbers drop too low this service will be come unsustainable for both the dog walking businesses and the dog owners, resulting in more unexercised, unsocialised dogs. I am in agreement that a normal non registered person walking personal dogs should have no more than 4 dogs with no more than 2 offleash at any given time.
3765	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is just another example of Government/Council overreach on a successful business model. Like anything there will be a small minority of cowboys so clamp down on them and let the legit businesses get on with it. I would have thought council should be putting all their resources into controlling unregistered dogs and feral dog owners who do not know how to control their dogs or breed out of control dogs as guard dogs. When they have this problem sorted out satisfactorily maybe they can then look at a BIT of regulation for UNRULY dog walking businesses. Get your priorities right!!!!
3851	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This comment is based on where I live - central Auckland, Waitemata local board area. In this area, 6 dogs is a lot of dogs! So is 4. Based on the smaller sized sections and homes and apartments where most people live in my area. Surely this needs to be considered, as a blanket one size fits all across the wider Auckland region does not make a lot of sense. Urban people do not have the space to move around and live as those living in the more rural parts of Auckland.
4064	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a dog walker, I think that professionals like me should be allowed to walk up to 8 dogs all off lead (even if they should have a license for that) but the ordinary dog owner could be under 4 dogs (two off / two on).
4438	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is a few irresponsible dog walkers who have no idea or control of the dogs they are walking, unfortunately spoiling it for everyone. We use Fetch - a dog adventure company - and they have a full and thorough understanding of the dogs and have total control. If this ruling was to pass many dog owners would not be able to afford a freedom walk for our pooches.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4469	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose the proposed limit on professional dog walkers. These regulations address only 0.7% of dog-related complaints received by Auckland Council—complaints that include everyday pet owners, not just professional dog walkers. More significantly, they fail to tackle the real issues, which, according to the Council's own data, are excessive barking and roaming dogs. A free desexing program or even mandatory desexing for non-registered breeders would be a far more effective way to address these problems at their root. Professional dog walkers play a crucial role in preventing these very issues by providing dogs with mental, physical, and social stimulation. Limiting access to these services will only increase the behavioural problems the Council should be working to reduce. Despite the impact on their industry, professional dog walkers were not consulted in this decision-making process, resulting in regulations that lack understanding of effective solutions. I oppose the cap of six dogs per handler, with only three allowed off-leash at a time. Instead, I support smart, effective regulation—such as the licensing system proposed by the Professional Dog Walkers Association. Licensing would establish industry standards, ensure accountability, cover the cost of handling complaints through registration fees and remove unqualified dog walkers by revoking licenses. I urge Auckland Council to work with the Professional Dog Walkers Association to develop fair regulations that actually
4544	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I feel that the council has no right to tell a person how many dogs that they can walk. I am sure that a person is capable of walking the amount of dogs that they feel they can, it is my choice to have a dog walker and I would be well aware of their qualifications and capability. I care for my dog and would not let someone who wasn't capable to do this. I DO NOT need or want the council to interfere, I am a capable Adult!
4552	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog gets taken on walks with multiple other dogs by a very reputable dog walking company. There is no threat to the public so, why change the law.....? If the new law is introduced it will result in dog walking companies not being viable so, then what....?

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4555	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed blanket by-law that would impose severe consequences on Auckland's dog walking businesses. As a long-time resident and a dedicated dog owner (with my loyal companion, Quill the Dog, by my side), I have seen firsthand how professional dog walkers provide an invaluable service to our community. These trained professionals carefully manage multiple dogs off-lead in controlled, secluded areas, ensuring that the exercise, socialisation, and behavioural training our pets receive are of the highest standard. Such services not only contribute to the physical and mental well-being of our dogs but also play a critical role in preventing aggression and other behavioural issues. While I support the idea of regulating pack walking, I strongly believe that a licensing or permit-based system would be far more appropriate. This approach would help maintain high professional standards without adversely affecting the economy, the welfare of our pets, or the quality of life for dog owners across Auckland. I respectfully urge the Council to reconsider this blanket by-law and work collaboratively with the dog walking community to develop a balanced, mutually beneficial regulatory framework. Thank you for considering my submission.
4575	Support		I think that it is good that you are limiting the amount of dogs on a leash. I think that it should be limited to two dogs but at least there will now be limits, that is a good start.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4576	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I oppose the proposed limit on professional dog walkers. These regulations address only 0.7% of dog-related complaints received by Auckland Council—complaints that include everyday pet owners, not just professional dog walkers. More significantly, they fail to tackle the real issues, which, according to the Council's own data, are excessive barking and roaming dogs. A free desexing program or even mandatory desexing for non-registered breeders would be a far more effective way to address these problems at their root. Professional dog walkers play a crucial role in preventing these very issues by providing dogs with mental, physical, and social stimulation. Limiting access to these services will only increase the behavioural problems the Council should be working to reduce. Our dog has become a more well behaved socialised dog because of the pack walks, he's more relaxed with all different types of dog breeds, our dog walker has the dogs under strict control, far better control than I do - he comes home so we'll behaved & well socialised. Despite the impact on their industry, professional dog walkers were not consulted in this decision-making process, resulting in regulations that lack understanding of effective solutions. I oppose the cap of six dogs per handler, with only three allowed off-leash at a time. Instead, I support smart, effective regulation—such as the licensing system proposed by the Professional Dog Walkers Association. Licensing would establish industry standards, ensure accountability, cover the cost of handling complaints through registration fees and remove unqualified dog walkers by revoking
4582	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have 2 dogs who sometimes come to work with me, but a few times a week they go on a pack walk with 4-8 other dogs. They have a great time, go to locations where they dont disturb other public, make friends, learn good behaviour, and how to be part of a group. My 2 dogs are scent dogs, and im nervous sometimes about walking them on my own as they've disappeared on me before, but their walker never has any issues and they always come back happy...if not a little dirty / salty sometimes. We always get cute group shot of all the dogs sent while they are out walking...I think keeping a tab on the handler, dogs, location for the walks, is important, but it should be done on a case by case basis, not a blanket ruling. I've had to turn around with my dogs on leads when walking on some streets, because the owner of a single dog didnt have control, and ive felt worried for all our safety.
4584	Support		you could have different rules for dog walkers if gone through certain qualification for dog control obedience.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4591	Support		I think a limit is required to ensure public safety as it is difficult for one person to control multiple dogs at one time. I wonder though if 6 is still too many-it would depend on the how well trained the dogs are and if the person handling them has experience
4645	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am reaching out to share my concerns about the proposed changes to the dog walking regulations, particularly the plan to limit the number of dogs per walker. While I understand the importance of effective dog management, restricting the number of dogs does not address the underlying issues that could potentially arise. The focus should not be on the number of dogs per walker, but rather on the experience, skill, and training of the walker to ensure they can handle the dogs safely and responsibly.
4683	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed changes would have massive impacts on dog walking businesses (i.e. destroy them) and reduce the number of options available to working dog owners for care of their dogs
4715	Support		6 dogs are a lot but walkers need to make a living. They must be trained though.
4738	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There is no way that someone walking multiple dogs can exercise appropriate control over any dogs off leash. At all times a dog owner needs to be able to supervise and potentially intervene for the safety of the dogs off leash, wildlife and members of the public. Maximum walking of 6 on leash dogs is what I would prefer for safety of everyone.
4779	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As long as the person is able to control their dogs, there should not be a limit. This will improve welfare of each dog because if a person has a large amount of dogs they will still be able to take them for a walk- if there was a limit, some dogs would get less walk time than others. This also applies to people who use dog-walking as a job, so they will be able to walk their clients dogs together (as long as the dogs are able to be controlled and do well with other dogs). Also if people have many dogs for reasons such as rescue or fostering, this is better for the welfare of the dogs being able to participate in a family and having regular walks and opportunities for training and interaction with people to increase socialisation and therefore improve ability for adoption
4873	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Registration of all dog walking businesses and regulations to be agreed upon in consultations with these business. Compulsory training and designated walking areas to be agreed on.
4930	Support		Anymore than 6 dogs is a serious concern

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4942	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs are not just pets they are part of a family. They are social animals that need exercise and social interaction. Limiting the number of dogs a person can walk at any one time will significantly increase the cost of this service provided to people who own dogs but need to work or are elderly or disabled and unable to provide dogs the exercise they need. Further dogs need to be able to have off leash time to run, sniff and explore. Again, the limits you are proposing will increase the cost and make this service unattainable. Impacting the wellbeing of the dogs and causing extreme stress for their owners. How many issues have been reported regarding dog walkers that is suggesting a change is needed? I understand dog walkers are recommending licensing which would potentially drive income for the council and preserve this service at today's cost for those dog owners who are unable to provide the daily exercis dogs need.
4981	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think based on the number of people who utilise dog walk/pack walk services. It would be better to regulate the occupation so it meets a standard rather than making blanket restrictions that will have massive impacts on the businesses and customers of the services they provide
4990	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The number of dogs does not matter if: 1. A professional walker has experience, and integrity to the rules in public spaces and the safety of the community. 2. If a pack walker is in an 'off leash dog area' and 3 dogs have to be on lead, this inhibits those 3 dogs from meeting other off leash dogs in a unrestricted manner, and being able to innately socialize. If numbers are limited, the service will become too expensive and less accessible. When the community have around two thirds of households owning dogs and cats, quality affordable services must be available. Having unexercised dogs in our community is not safe, which is why we have roaming and over-population issues which need to be addressed ASAP.
5004	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am a professtional dog trainer here in Auckland and my clients rely heavily on dog walkers to give their dog off leash time in a balanced pack and the restriction on walking a maximum of six dogs, with only three allowed off-leash at a time, unfairly affects professional dog walkers and responsible multi-dog households. Many professionals safely manage multiple dogs at once, and imposing this restriction could impact their livelihoods. Instead, requiring professional dog walkers to obtain a permit or demonstrate competence could be a more reasonable solution.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5027	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The rule change won't stop bad actors, just penalize everyone.
5125	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The number of dogs can be irrelevant. It depends on the qualification/expertise of the walker. They need to be licensed.
5205	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think this rule penalises those with actual training in dog management but does not address the rogue dog walkers out there. Our dog walker is an obedience trainer. The dogs he has are always on lead or have leashes attached. They are trained in absolute recall and their safety and human safety are paramount. However the rogue dog walkers have zero control on or off lead! This is where regulation needs to be improved - you should not be able to operate a business if you have no training! This training should meet minimum standards as dictated by council and a license issued as such to all those dog walkers. The rules you propose will not stop those dogs being out of control in our parks. I say this as a dog owner and one whose dog goes on highly regulated and controlled pack walks.
5295	I don't know		I support there being al limit in general, but the off-leash limit seems too low. Also, worth considering economic/logistical impacts on business and dog owners. If this limits dog walking service providers, the impact on dog owners could mean costs increase as services become more limited.
5310	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would support a maximum of 8 dogs, but it makes no sense to keep some on the leash. Dogs are more happy and relaxed when off the leash in a group, and easier to manage. For a dog walker, they would have to focus a lot on the on-leash dogs which would make their job more difficult. I would put more focus on the quality of the dog walkers (maybe some form of certification) to ensure they are trained and supported.
5366	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum of six dogs, with no more than four off leash; provided the person responsible for the dogs is a registered dog walker. This would provide for dogs to be able to have adequate exercise and interaction with other dogs to meet their welfare needs. It would require all professional dog walkers that want to take advantage of this this to be registered with Council and to complete the responsible dog owner test.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5605	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our dog has recently begun pack walks, the positive difference it has made to his confidence is astounding. The pack walker we use requires a multiple night home stay with a dog before beginning on pack walks so she and the dog can bond, and work on training. she uses tools like long lines, carriers for tired dogs, and will never remove a leash unless she is 100% confident in the dogs recall. The care she takes with them is incredible, and we trust her work completely. She works on essential training, and is open to working on things we have been struggling with, every dog she walks are relaxed, non reactive, but confident dogs. It is incredibly valuable to us having this service, having a dog of a breed that naturally is inclined to bark and approach - we can see a huge difference. It is currently an accessible service to us, by limiting the number of dogs we know this incredible tool would become inaccessible to most people potentially including us, as pricing would need to be raised with the limited number of dogs.
5618	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If there isn't a problem don't fix it! I haven't heard of any issues other than cyclists or runners having to manouever around them which is rare.
5631	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	One rule for all doesn't reflect the fact there are likely competent professionals and cowboys. Our dog goes on guided walks with Follow the Leda. The number of dogs her team takes creates cost efficiencies. But the key issue is that her and her team are dog whisperers. They have upmost control of the dogs on and off leash. Thay can control the number of dogs they walk.
5638	Support		Six dogs are enough for one person to control. I would prefer the limit being smaller, such as four, with two off-leash dogs only. If several people are walking dogs in the same place at the same time, with only three people, with the proposal, this could mean nine off-leash dogs interacting with each other and with other people in the area. Being confronted with three off-leash dogs at one time is traumatic for some people and is enough to stop them from ever going to certain parks and other public open space areas.
5699	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It appears that this community has not been well-engaged with on these changes and that it's based on vague research.
5744	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think dog walking services should apply for licences to walk multiple dogs at once. Only safe, experienced services should be given a licence.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5788	Support		The recommended 6/3 rule makes sense. In a public space, the dog-walker attempting to control other peoples dogs would be easily out of control otherwise. We have a labrador and often grab the neighbours enroute to the park to also give it a run. For just two you need to be focused, 3 ought to be the limit for off leash
5792	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog walkers are an essential part our community. Without the ability for our dog walkers to put the dogs in a pack like environment, the behaviour of our pets won't be the same. I have seen this first hand with my dog attending a pack walking group twice a week
5812	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Objection to the Limit on the Number of Dogs Per Walker: The proposal to limit the number of dogs a person may walk to six, with a maximum of three off-leash at any one time, is restrictive and unnecessary for responsible owners and professional dog walkers. Many dog owners have more than three dogs who are well-trained and socialised, and they should not be penalised for handling multiple dogs responsibly. The proposed restriction disproportionately affects professional dog walkers, who provide an important service for those unable to walk their dogs themselves. Instead of a blanket restriction, the council should consider a licensing or competency-based system that allows experienced dog owners and professionals to walk more dogs where they can demonstrate control. Requested Amendment: Introduce a licensing or accreditation system for those who wish to walk more than six dogs or have more than three off-leash at one time.
5938	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Regulations in place so that TRAINED dog walkers can take more than 6 dogs off lead. My dog is walked by a dog behaviourist who is amazing and she has 8-10 dogs off lead on beaches, in forest. They dogs are u fee control because she trains them.... And because she is trained. STOP letting any person become a dog walker for multiple dogs..... but let those who are trained do their jobs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5973	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A qualified dog walker who has their dogs under control doesn't cause issues.
5977	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The lack of regulation in the pack dog walking industry is dangerous. I see very young people walking 5+ dogs and being pulled over by them or letting them off leash and losing all control of them. I've had one dog follow me for over an hour and I had to wait in the carpark for the pack walker to return and take the dog. They didn't notice it was even missing. I would support the proposal as is, if there's a license required. I think dog walkers should be able to apply for licences for more dogs on and off leash, because there are some who do a wonderful job of ensuring that they have control of their pack and this is an important service for dog owners in Auckland. Really there should be consultation with the dog care industry for this legislation.
6003	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Negatively affects the livelihood of professional dog walkers and behaviorists. If an exception is made for those professions I could be in support.
6133	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	six dogs are stronger than one person.
6149	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe strongly that dog walkers should be licenced and that these rules should be set in conversation with the licencing body. The issue of off leash dogs does not come from highly skilled dog handlers, of which there are numerous operating safely and effectively in Auckland.
6182	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers provide an important service to dogs and their owners. I support licensing dog walkers, having areas where more dogs can be off leash and working with this group to understand dog numbers required for a viable business.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6206	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe there should be no restriction to the numbers walked or allowed off lead but that the professional dog walkers should be licensed themselves. There are many wonderful and knowledgeable walkers who manage large packs in a more rural setting and do an amazing job at keeping larger numbers calm. These professionals should in my view be licensed to operate as they are currently. They play a crucial role in preventing issues such as roaming and barking dogs. Please do not limit access to these services as they provide mental and social stimulation as well as physical. Dog walking has brought huge benefits to my 4 year old and also 14 year old Labradors. I was unable to walk the younger dog last year following surgery and the dog walkers provided an invaluable service. My 14 year old dog is unable to walk much but joins a 'senior pack' which helps both me and her and we would be truly disadvantaged if the service could no longer be provided. Our walkers are able to effectively control a much larger number than 6 and could not possibly provide the same quality of service if such a limit were imposed. The dogs all learn most effectively good calm behaviour and are always under effective control. On the other hand I have seen single individuals with one dog cause problems.off lead. I support instead smart effective regulation such as that proposed by the Professional Dog Walkers Association.
6239	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Would prefer to see the dog walking industry regulated and/or some sort of licensing regime introduced to ensure that dog walkers have the adequate skills and are held responsible for negligence or misconduct.
6246	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Would much prefer to see regulation and/or licensing to ensure dog walkers have the necessary skills and are held responsible for negligence or misconduct.
6307	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not like the idea of a blanket prescription. I do not have a problem with some sort of restriction being put in place for private dog owners but I do not think that the same rules should apply to professional dog walking companies especially in regional park areas. I would much prefer to see regulation and/or licensing to ensure dog walkers have the necessary skills and are held responsible for negligence or misconduct. The dog walking industry definitely requires regulation and this debate is a perfect opportunity to put that in place. However all that will be achieved by putting blanket prescriptions in place is more expense for dog owners who want their dogs exercised and more dogs receiving insufficient exercise
6330	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Would much prefer to see regulation and/or licensing to ensure dog walkers have the necessary skills and are held responsible for negligence or misconduct.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6353	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People have business around dog walking. As long as all dogs are under control at the time then the responsibility is on that person
6367	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Professional dog walkers (and farmers and dog trainers) with experience of dogs and training can manage far more than three dogs off leash safely. Professional dogwalkers provide an important service to dogs and their owners. Dogs that have proper exercise and opportunities to socialise and play are happier, more healthy and less aggressive and many owners need the support of professional dog walkers at least some days a week. There are very few complaints about professional dogwalkers and these complaints are generally minor in nature. The license system is a sensible one to provide council some leverage, the community more reassurance and ensure all dogwalkers meet a certain standard. Dogwalkers invest in their business and are acutely aware of the need to walk the dogs in the care safely and without incident because the future viability of their business depends upon it.
6441	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There is zero reliable evidence that the issues reported about dogs have anything to do with the number of dogs being walked. This is all a distortion of limited data from a People's Panel Survey and the Council officers' own prejudices A separate letter will be sent by email 'see attachment (file:///U:/Governance/Democracy%20and%20Engagement/CMK/Auckland%20Insights/09%20Consultation/Dog%20Policy%20and%20Bylaw%20&%20Local%20Access%20Rules%202025/Submissions_DOGS25/Attachments/Patrick_Elliot.pdf)
6445	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I would like dog walking for larger groups of dogs, 6+, to require a license, but I would like the license cost to not be onerous. I do support GPS tracking of dogs when they are walked offleash in unfenced areas : it must be extremely traumatic for owners to lose their dogs in these circumstances. Reasoning: given the post-Covid return to work, many dogs are spending more time at home alone. Dog walkers generally assist with this, providing exercise and socialisation, making for better behaved dogs. many dog walkers have good control of their packs. There are a few professional dog-walkers that do not have good standards and there are many people who think walking dogs is an easy way to make some cash.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6484	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Four with no more than two off leash is more practical and better for the dogs (unless professional licensed dog walker who are trained I. Handling morel)
6553	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Either no restriction, or can have registered dog walkers who have a license to walk up to 12 off-leash, others can be restricted to 4x off-leash
6562	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	In my opinion:No more than one off-leash dog is allowed unless it is specially trained, such as a police dog. Because a dog can only be under control when it is on a leash, which is essential for public safety. Thank you.
6612	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. There are more pressing issues such as roaming dogs that the council should focus on not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. Our dog was attacked when he was 1 in the local park by an aggressive roaming dog which resulted in surgery and a large vet bill. It was infact our dog walker that helped to calm him, take him daily to the park to get his confidence back and show him the park was a safe place. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to our family and the community. Our dog goes out 3 days a week with a walker and has done so for 4 years. The walker has done extensive training and as an anxious dog the change in behaviour and social skills in this time is incredible. Knowing he is well looked after, loved and exercised (he is a large dog) on these days is invaluable and allows us to focus on work without worrying he is home alone.
6644	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dog absolutely loves his pack walks with his friends and I believe if he was on leash while 3 of his friends were off leash at his favourite parks, it would actually cause psychological distress in the pack. He and many others find so much joy in being in a pack of 6 off leash and are very well behaved and safe. Please do not go ahead with these proposed changes

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6679	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Pack walks by trained dog handlers are important businesses: for the owners, the dogs they take, and owners of those dogs. Limiting the number of dogs will make them not viable and causes harm to a much needed industry in Auckland. I support the monitoring / putting in place regulations for the industry - in collaboration with the experts in that industry. Noting I am not myself in this industry but i and many I know use dog walking services who are extremely well trained and skilled people. You should work with the experts in this industry to appropriately manage it.
6692	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A license for professional walkers would be much more helpful
6717	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	A license is a better solution than a limit. A licensing system would allow us to hold bad practitioners accountable by revoking their license if necessary, while still allowing good professionals to thrive. It's a fairer approach that benefits everyone, and it's a system that can be funded by the industry itself.
6828	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. The council should be focusing on issues such as roaming dogs not penalising multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. At the local park when a roaming dog approaches your dog it’s stressful, often these roamers have aggressive tendencies and you’re left trying to work out how to safely get out of the situation without your dog getting attacked. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My dog has been with the same dog walker 3 days a week for 4 years. The training they have done for him both socially and behavioural has been incredible. They care deeply about the dogs as well. Without the walker I would be required to work from home 100% of the time, I couldn’t leave the dog by himself for more than 15mins and if I did he would indefinitely be barking and crying.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6839	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The proposed changes do not address the real issues at hand. Responsible dog owners use professional dog walkers to ensure their dogs are well exercised and looked after. Looking at the council data, it appears that the recommended solution has completely missed the point and does not address the real issues at hand. Firstly only 0.7% of complaints that the council receive are dog related. How do these changes address the real issue in Auckland? Excessive barking and roaming dogs. Data shows 34% of complaints are related to roaming dogs, none of the solutions above address the problem, in fact these by laws will create new problems for the council. Professional dog walkers play a critical role providing, physical and social interaction for dogs. If adequate research had been completed by Auckland City Council, it is unlikely that the by laws would be put forward in their current form. At 0.7% of complaints, it is quite shocking that rate payer money has been spent on this proposal. Look at a licensing programme for professional Dog Walkers. Fund a desexing programme to reduce the number of dogs roaming the streets (note these dogs are walking freely, a by law will not change this.)
WHAU LOCAL BOARD			
13	Support		Public place is for all users. We must ensure it is safe for our kids and senior citizens.
47	Support		Large numbers of dogs in a group make it difficult to share the footpath with other pedestrians
52	Support		For people who don't have dogs or are not dog people, they are a nuisance and can be dangerous.
58	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The issue stems from 1. How well trained a dog is and 2. Qualifications and knowledge of the dog handler. Would encourage an education/qualification route rather than a blanket ruling with consultation with dog behaviourists and dog walking companies. Dog walkers should have to qualify to have a large number of dogs being walked.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
80	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	No real evidence that there is a problem - it's just anecdotal.
120	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For a skilled dog handler, operating a professional business, they could handle more than 8 dogs - possibly up to 12 (if they had the right mix of dogs). Your limit of 6, for a professional, licenced walker / handler is way too low
135	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Some people walk dogs for a living or in groups and this would stop these people from earning a living. Also, off leash time is essential for dogs to release their energy and be happy and healthy
292	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I have 2 dogs and walking them together is a challenge. It shocks me that people could take more than 2 alone to walk and be able to safely recall them should they come across a small child or chase a cat/bird.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
297	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are not enough Council staff to enforce the existing bylaws meaning that a limit or ban will have no impact on those who already don't follow the law. Also even if the number of dogs are reduced, regardless of the number restriction, unregulated people walking a group of even six dogs still pose a risk to not being able to handle them, so instead of focusing on numbers, we need to regulate in other ways and make sure that the people who are walking groups of dogs are qualified and registered in order to address issues currently. There is no evidence from other local councils who have limits like this that they achieve their objective (for example, Tauranga City Council has a similar limit structure and has not issued any infringement notice since this was put in place in 2018). If this change happens then it will have a substantial impact on all dog owners in Auckland. The proposed limits will mean that a large number of residents will not be able to access dog walkers, leading to more dogs being left at home all day and barking or roaming. Other dog minding services are simply not suitable for all dogs such as daycares, and it is important that dog owners can have access to other services that are appropriate for their dogs to fulfil their needs. Alternative recommendations: - All professional dog walkers must have a valid licence to be
314	Support		Too many dog walkers with multiple dogs that do not have control over the dogs
328	Support		Dogs need to be under control when out in public. Limiting the number of dogs and the number that are off leash will help, particularly when dog walkers may not necessarily be very skilled or experienced with managing a pack .
460	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Talk to the professionals. It should be a number based on professional licence. They are trained and know what they are doing. It is the non- professional groups that are the issue. Instead of punishing the many when it is the few who are an issue makes no sense. Get professional dogs walked be licensed with conditions such as qualifications and professional memberships. This is people's livelihoods with this change you will run many operators out of business.
522	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I disagree on the off-leash number. They shouldn't have any off leash is they have 6 dogs to control. 6 Dogs on leash is perfect

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
692	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	All dogs must be on a lead at all times its all about keeping all people safe
727	Support		Dogs being walked in big packs especially off leash cna be intimidating for some and can cause risk to children public and the dogs them selevs
764	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I am benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company and believe changes to the bylaws would have major impacts on business and customers. If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would affect me significantly.
774	Support		To some a large group of dogs can be intimidating and some of the dog walkers appear to be incapable of fully controlling the group should they all decide to become aggressive
850	Support		Limit the numbers
979	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This will impact professional dog walkers who are very capable of walking large groups of dogs on and off leash. There should be a licence for dog walkers who can prove their competence and ability for larger pack walks. Work with the industry as they are happy to regulate things and be governed by fair rules and by laws. It's fair that untrained people should have limits, but these dog walkers shouldn't be subjected to that.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1078	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I am writing in opposition to the current proposed change to the bylaws in respect to walking multiple dogs at once. My dog is currently walked by a professional pack walking company who perform their duties with the utmost professionalism and care ensuring all dogs are well looked after and return happy. The company that I use ensures that all dogs are under control when on or off lead and all current council bylaws are followed. I am benefitted by using the service of my pack walking company as I am not always able to walk my dog when I am at work. This is the best way for my dog to get exercise and be socialised. If my pack walking company had to make significant changes as a result of this proposed changes to the bylaw, this would affect me by potentially not being able to afford the service.
1122	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are people that own multiple dogs as apart of their family and it would be unfair on people who own 3plus dogs to be unable to have the park as a safe place to walk their dogs and give them the outdoor freedom they deserve as a right. Being a living being they deserve to be off leash in an outdoor environment.
1177	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Limiting the number of dogs walked at once will restrict dog walking services to the wealthy and dogs that really need the extra exercise will miss out. All dogs should be on leads though, unless in designated off-leash areas.
1249	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	three off lead is fine for a regular house hold owner - there should be exceptions for professional dog walkers to have more
1277	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	3 maximum off leash is not enough for people with 4 dogs which I consider a normal amount. Note only have 2 dogs
1411	Support		Since I assist in looking after dogs, I know the difficulties faced when one person is trying to walk more than 4 dogs on leash.
1447	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Owners and dog-walkers who have absolute control over their dogs should not be penalised for the few who don't. Suggestion is to enforce the maximum eight dogs (with no more than 4 off-leash) but it should be possible for owners and dog-walkers to apply for an exemption to the rule for free if they can prove they have control over their dogs.
1482	Support		Large packs being walked in public parks are stressful for dog owners with a nervous dog

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
1813	Support		It doesn't matter how well the dogs are trained, one person cannot truly be in control of large numbers of dogs while out in public. I think the maximum number of dogs in public places should be 2 per person. In an emergency situation, a person only has two hands to hold two dogs.
1831	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Allow licenced dog walkers to continue, but their licence is revoked for breaches.
2243	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There majority of pack walkers are responsible and alot of people rely on these walkers to walk their dogs. Changing the limits will make them unaffordable and leave our dogs stuck at home alone while we have been made to return to office.
2279	Support		I support this as it is intimidating walking past large groups of dogs and it is difficult to create space between the large group and my own dog. In my experience large groups of dogs, especially at dog parks are often out of control.
2289	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	My dogs attend a daycare for dogs and all the dogs under their care are trained and well behaved. That is because all dogs under their care are trained first to go out in public with their handler before they can go on adventures with the rest of the dogs. All dogs should be trained before going out in public. If dogs are aggressive they shouldn't be out in public or controlled by owners
2305	Support		It's dangerous, pure and simple, having multiple leashed dogs walked by one person. Maximum should be 4 for control and safety However, proposal is maximum 6. which I support.
2323	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Our local park has regular dog walkers with about 10 dogs and they're always well behaved. No need to limit the number dogs for everyone.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2324	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Many pet owners are walking their dogs off-leash on the street. This is dangerous to other pets, people, kids walking on the street. Please make it mandatory for pet owners to have their dogs always on leash when walking streets anytime during the day or night. I happened to drive down Dundale Ave, Blockhouse Bay at 11pm and there was a German Shepherd walking off leash crossing the road, similarly, I see many dogs offleash on the streets in Blockhouse Bay, New Windsor, New Lynn. I am really scared to take my child for a walk or take my dog for a walk on leash in fear of coming across other off leash dogs
2337	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I think professional dog walkers should be able to have more than 6 dogs on or off lead. I think the general public should be limited on how many dogs they can have on and off lead
2338	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I don't believe it is the number of dogs that is the issue. If the dog handler is properly trained and licensed, they should not have a limit on the number of dogs they have on or off leash. The problem is when dog handlers who do not have the adequate training try to handle multiple dogs - this is bound to create issues whether they have 6 dogs or 10.
2339	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	If someone is trained and has their dogs under control they should be able to let them all off least
2340	Support		I've seen people walking large groups of dogs when out with my dog, they take up heaps of space and it's quite daunting. I also wonder how that person would cope in an emergency with that many dogs
2355	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Usually, people would only exceed the number of six dogs being walked if they are professional dog minders. In this case they will most likely have the skills to manage the dogs correctly. They are providing a valuable service to the community and shouldn't have unnecessary restrictions imposed on them, as it could affect the welfare of the dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2372	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Unless there is a valid reasoning behind this decision being proposed, there is no proposal behind making these changes. There are many businesses, large and small that operate around the North Island, that support dog walking/adventures for those that have a busier than usual life and find it difficult to walk their dogs. Given the current situation New Zealand is in, with the recession, with limitations on job vacancies, are you proposing that there are to be 1 dog walker per 3 dogs off lead in a dog walking pack? Please tell me how this suggestion is sustainable? It seems rather detrimental with the lack of government support to our current climate. If your concern is around lack of safety for others and their animals, if dogs are not friendly, suggestion of a mussel if off-lead could be considered, however, if you are a dog owner yourself, you'd know that dogs operate in packs and understand one another and their behaviours, more often than humans do. So, I go back to my initial question, that we seem to be failing to get answers on, what is your reasoning behind the limitation on the amount of off-lead dog per person?
2544	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Max 10 dogs total, or max 6 off leash. Licence needs to be obtained for being a professional dog walker
2690	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are many dog-walking businesses who provide socialisation for dogs as well as ensuring dogs get exercise while owners are at work. Limiting the amount of dogs on leash will impact these services negatively
2819	Support		Not many people can control multiple dogs on or off leash and anyone who wants too can put an ad up and call themselves a dog walker, dangerous. So many posts of lost dogs from professionals so they need to limit the amount of dogs at one time. Six is still too many in my opinion.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2873	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	New Zealand is renowned for its natural beauty, and for many residents, dogs are cherished companions, often considered members of the family. Current regulations pertaining to dog ownership within Aotearoa New Zealand frequently present significant limitations for dog owners, hindering their ability to fully enjoy the country's natural environment with their canine companions. Restrictions on dog access to numerous beaches and parks, often prohibiting even leashed dogs, pose significant challenges for dog owners and their families. These restrictions not only limit recreational opportunities for residents but also present a significant barrier to tourism, deterring visitors who wish to travel with their beloved pets. Furthermore, the current framework often creates unnecessary obstacles for dog owners, hindering their ability to fully participate in community life and enjoy the natural beauty of Aotearoa. I respectfully urge a review of current dog regulations with a focus on creating a more inclusive and dog-friendly environment. This may involve: Expanding designated off-leash areas: Providing safe and controlled spaces for dogs to exercise and socialize. Implementing clear and consistent signage: Ensuring that dog owners are well-informed about local regulations.
2946	Support		Too many dogs are hard to control and may increase aggression in the pack.
3077	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Walking in big groups off is good socialisation for the dogs this keeps the dog happy and safe breads good behaviour.
3089	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Walking in an off leash pack provides good socialisation resulting in happy and healthy dogs. It is irresponsible to inhibit this in our city - dog owners want to be responsible and have dogs well socialised and exercised not barking in backyards.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3112	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dogs on leads have less opportunity to run and play, limiting their exercise and social interaction. Also of some dogs are on and some dogs arent this can lead to increased stress and frustration for some dogs. Handling multiple dogs on lead while others are off lead can be dangerous and unsafe.
3137	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I like four dogs max, 2 off leash, and a licence. Less dogs are easier to have under your control. I think the more dogs you have off leash the less you can have control if something goes wrong. It would be difficult for one person to get control back of a pack if they are attacking someone or another animal. Having a licence means you the person have been checked and you the person know what to do if things go wrong. Even experienced dog walkers can have accidents. My dog ran away when she was off leash from an experienced walker. My dog had walked twice weekly with this person for months, the dog walker did not have control of my dog. If they had have had a larger group more dogs could have run away.
3150	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dogs being able to play and walk off leash is a key part of their basic socialisation and exercise. The fundamentals of this proposed number can easily be exceeded by a single person in a day to day routine, let alone a business with professional dog walkers. For instance, I have two dogs and assist in helping to walk my neighbours dogs on occasion. All dogs are well trained, well socialised, and well behaved-yet my Saturday morning exercise would exceed your proposal of what is acceptable. My dogs for exercise, socialisation and for general adaptability partake in dog pack walks with a reputable business twice a week. In Auckland, these businesses are already highly competitive to even get on a wait list, let alone on to a regular schedule with a trained dog walker. Not to mention that the industry is so competitive, the fees mirror (and exceed that of childcare). The proposed amendments to the legislation would negatively impact the industry, and its clients for a multitude of reasons. A glimpse of these include- higher business costs/demands therefore higher more unobtainable fees for dog walkers which would result in more dogs left at home during the day, that are less socialised, more anxious and therefore would cause behavioural problems. An additional issue with the alternative proposal of number of dogs off leash that may not have been considered is that dogs can become reactive or triggered when some are on lead and some are off lead in a pack. It alters their dynamic and creates the notion of lack of defence for the dog on leash that can cause behavioural issues and mixed dynamics in the pack.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3250	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	● I oppose the proposed limit of "6 dogs on lead and 3 off-leash" at any one time. ● this change will negatively affect professional dog walkers and the services provided by them which allows many working families to have a dog but also provide them with stimulation ●An alternative solution: ○ Licencing professionals to walk larger groups ○ Having different limits for the public versus professionals ○ A license for anyone wanting to walk more than 2 dogs ○ Having different limits based on the density of the population in an area ○ Enforcing the rule ‘dogs must be under control’ no matter the number of dogs which is already in place ○ Providing more education and support to the public about what owning a pet actually entails and how they can access training and services to support them.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3269	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	The proposed limit of six dogs (with a maximum of three off-leash) fails to address the real issues affecting the dog community, such as owners/walkers with no control over their dogs, and roaming dogs. Instead, it penalizes professional dog walkers who already responsibly handle multiple dogs. Professional dog walkers play a critical role in ensuring dogs are exercised, socialized, and trained, reducing behavioural issues that might otherwise lead to complaints. Arbitrary number limits overlook the skills and training required to walk multiple dogs safely and responsibly. We need a practical, evidence-based approach that includes consultation with industry experts, such as the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA), to create effective solutions. Introduce a licensing system for professional dog walkers, allowing them to operate with higher dog limits (e.g., up to 15 dogs) based on training, certification, and adherence to a code of conduct. Licensing would: ● Ensure high standards and safe practices among professionals. ● Provide the Council with the ability to monitor and enforce compliance. ● Allow professional walkers with proven skills to continue operating without arbitrary restrictions. Explanation: A licensing system is a better solution than imposing blanket limits. It recognizes the expertise of professional dog walkers and ensures safety and accountability while addressing community concerns. This approach would also allow council resources to focus on more pressing issues like roaming and
3381	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Not set limits to the number of dogs as this does nothing to fix the problem of aggressive dogs. That can happen with one dog
3410	Support		Six is a reasonable number for a single person to handle.
3432	I don’t know		I don't have experience walking that many dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
3525	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs for a number of reasons: 1. Auckland has a roaming dog issue - the proposed changes do nothing to address this. These owners are already not following laws, and the changes you propose won't change that. 2. Dog walkers make up a small percentage of complaints. While I agree regulation is needed to control the industry and that some sort of licensing system should exist, a blanket approach like this is in no way appropriate and will likely cause more issues for Auckland dogs and the council in the long run. Many of these services are run by certified trainers who understand and work with multiple dogs on the daily. They understand how essential it is that dogs are well-trained and under control at all times. The fact that a minority are ruining this industry for all calls for better regulation, not a blanket ban. With a blanket ban you'll get more dodgy practices from people who never cared to follow the rules anyway. 3. These services, when run responsibly, provide incredible enrichment, training and create well-rounded dogs who are able to exist calmly in the public. Placing these blanket bans will mean businesses like this will no longer be able to run, and we will lose a fundamental part of training well-rounded dogs in Auckland. More dogs will be less socialised, more frustrated, and probably more likely to start roaming when they are bored - contributing to the original problem that you still aren't addressing. My dogs have attended both daycare and pack walks by certified trainers, who [illegible]
3549	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Should be Maximum 2 with no off leash dogs.
4025	Do not support		Max 6 , on Lead based on dog Temperament, 3 Off lead - location based eg regional park or bush walk -- all off lead-- but dogs have to have attended some training obedience school
4157	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	As a dog owner. I am well aware that canines become excited by sudden movement and a small child running or a darting cat will excite the most well behaved canine, resulting in a sudden pull on the leash. Three medium size dogs suddenly pulling at the leash is a recipe for disaster not only for the darting target but the dog walker themselves, unless they are built like the proverbial dunny house.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4272	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Because it penalises responsible dog owners and does nothing to stop irresponsible dog owners who don't follow the rules Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers providing a valuable service to clients It will not address any of the current issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs being walked by dog walkers It will severely hamper professional dog walkers from operating and remove a vital support avenue to responsible dog owners who care about their dogs wellbeing. It could potentially limit dog friendly walking spots within Auckland even further
4281	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	There are good dog walkers who work one on one with each dog before transitioning them into the packs. This means that for the general public a 4 dog maximum can be in place and for those who are trained to take more can obtain a licence to be able to conduct their business as they can

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4510	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Dog walkers would be negatively affected by these changes and these add an important layer to owning a dog in Auckland. Many of us are time poor and having a pack/dog walker enables our dogs to happy, socialised and excersied. Without this, these dogs are more likely to be vocal, destructive and less social with other dogs when they have the opportunity to see other people/dogs/other animals. I am not familiar with the current rules around dog walkers but if there was a registration, or liability insurance that was required to help keep 'cowboys' at bay then that is fine. I use a pack dog walker and she has amazing skills and all of the dogs under control at any one stage. I never feel like my dog is at risk, or others dogs at risk, when she has them on one of her walks. In my experience, I see far more dogs who are not under control who are only a one dog household. these dogs are often not trained or walked very much. When they are put into a dog park they are overwhelmed and that is where problems happen. The dogs who are able to be socalised and exerised regularly are far more polite and obedient. moreover, I have also used 'doggie day cares' and I personally think that the pack walk model is far more favourable for dogs. My dog was overwhelemd by being put into a big room with many other dogs. All they can do there is chase each other (or play if they are suited). By being outside and able to sniff different smells and do some exercise he is much more happy and relaxed.
4587	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The proposed change will exponentially increase the cost of these kinds of services and make it the preserve of the affluent. It will have a negative effect on a vast number of owners who rely on these services to ensure that the exercise, social & behavioural needs of their dogs are met. By effectively removing these services the negative impact upon the wider canine community can only out-way the benefits of the proposed changes. Rather than a blanket ban I would propose some form of professional license to ensure those undertaking these activities are fully resourced and equipped. Cheers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4727	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I personally think the size or the dog should correlate to the maximum number of dogs allowed under control. As a medium sized dog owner - a Swedish Vallhund - I would be comfortable with a group of 8 - 10 small to medium sized dogs but not with large dogs. Small to medium dogs have different temperaments when around similar sized friends and they play very differe tly to large dogs. If there are large dogs then 6 is a reasonable number per handler.
4845	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	risk to public as the nos of dogs to control increase.
4879	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I propose dogs should be on a leash at all times. If you don't own a property that enables a dog to get enough exercise!Then don't own one! These multiple dog rules, and off leash rules encourage shady breeders and shady people to intimidate the public!
4888	Support		Not happy with one person having control of large pack of dogs
4923	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I have seen dog walkers who cannot control a single dog, and pack walkers who have 12 dogs under perfect control. This proposed change is a blunt instrument which will punish good dog walkers. It will also increase costs for dog owners. I would prefer to see a system where dog walkers complete a simple registration online and have to display an ID when walking dogs. If dog owners encounter an irresponsible walker, they can then report them to Animal Management.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5016	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. Sadly, there are so many roaming dogs on the streets in my area- New Lynn- West Auckland. I am frightened to walk my dog in our local area- some of these dogs are scared and aggressive- I feel so sorry for the dogs and more accountability needs to be with owners. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. My fearful and nervous dog goes out with a dog walker every week and I have seen a massive improvement in their behaviour and socialisation, I love knowing that they are well looked after and exercised on the days they go out.
5023	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	What is the reasoning behind these numbers? They seem very random and where some people are capable walking 10 dogs off leash, some people can't even handle 1... It makes more sense to regulate the dog-walking industry. Make people do a course if they want to make a full-time job out of it. If a dog-walking company wants to hire a new person, this person MUST complete a course and be certified to walk x-amount of dogs.
5108	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	People need simple rules. Just give people the responsibility to choose how many dogs they can handle. Someone might control ten at once. Someone else might not be able to handle one.
5294	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Allow different cap for commercial dog walkers. Preferably introduce registration/licencing program for commercial dog walkers to allow them to walk more than proposed number of dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5806	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I don't think this is a numbers game. I think it's a licensing issue. There are a number of trained professionals looking after a huge group of dogs that would have nothing without these people. And when I say nothing, I mean dogs that have been raised by people with the best intentions, but no real clue. So these innocent dogs are saved by people who work with reactive dogs, and give these family members of ours, an outlet to go and be free, and be around other dogs without reacting, because they are with walkers and trainers that know what they are doing. Then they get to come happy, content, and just simply be loved. Personally, if I walk my dog, she is reactive, so I can't take her to a park. There are so many roaming dogs in my neighbourhood, so walking her around here is very stressful. And she feels that stress, and she gets told off, and it's not the fun she deserves. When my trainer walks our girl, she has perfect behaviour. She is non-reactive. She doesn't even go for the cat! Her behaviour is so great, and this gives her the perfect outlet to exercise well, and safely. Proper training and licensing is the best way forward. And this training should be for all types of dogs, and use all techniques available. There would be such a huge amount of dogs that people would

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5853	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I do not support the proposed change to the dog policy and bylaw, as I know that it will not achieve what is wanted and it will negatively impact multiple groups of people, making it harder for them to manage dog-ownership. The proposed change, limiting the number of dogs to six per person with only three off-leash at a time will be detrimental to the dog walking industry, and those who rely on it. Not being able to walk as many dogs at a time will cause the price of these services to skyrocket, and the availability will shrink. It will also effect multi-dog households if only three of their dogs can be exercised off-leash at once. With dog walking being harder to access this will leave many dogs who rely on these pack walks to be left under-exercised and not fulfilled. Both of these problems are well-known to cause dogs to show more destructive and nuisance behavior. This will only increase the amount of dog related issues in our community. The current dog bylaws state that you can walk as many dogs as you'd like, as long as they are all under-control. The fact that new laws are being proposed, indicates that dogs are not all under-control. Putting new, harsher laws in place will only impact and be followed by those already abiding by the current laws, and the people who weren't before aren't going to start now. I believe that the solution to this problem is making mandatory licenses before someone is allowed to walk large groups of dogs, and starting to enforce the laws we currently have in place.
6011	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are truly passionate and 'Professional Dog Walkers' currently collecting and taking multiple dogs on real adventures, working to modify their insecurities and behavior and ensuring each and every dog is content. These dog walkers really care for and understand the needs and behaviours of ALL the dogs they are responsible for. They are totally trustworthy, trained and passionate for the welfare of the dogs in their care. Unfortunately, there are others - who basically DON'T GIVE A **********' - pick up, numerous dogs, drive to an 'exercise point' allow the dogs a few moments of unsupervised exercise and then pile them back into a van and return them back home - Dollar Driven, and totally insensitive to any care and responsibility, Council need to respect the integrity of the Trained, Passionate and Professional Dog Walkers by 'weeding out' the 'cowboys' and facilitating a certification/registration and even training as a professional dog handler and walker.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6020	Support		Limiting the Number of Dogs Walked at One Time I support the proposal to limit the number of dogs a person can walk at one time. However, we suggest that dogs should be registered if they are being walked together as a pack of six or more. This registration will help ensure that responsible ownership is maintained and facilitate better management of dogs in public spaces.
6077	Do not support	Maximum eight dogs, with no more than four off-leash	The proposal limits the ability for nano businesses to function in any kind of profitable way and penalises these businesses for carrying out a positive service for dog owners who for whatever reason unable to exercise their dogs regularly every day
6249	Support		We have dealt with dog walkers in the past, and sometimes dealing with off leash out of control dogs, not responding to the walker. This change sets a reasonable limit on the number of dogs a person can walk at a time.
6423	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It makes me very sad to think pack walks might not exist, my little girl is so excited to go and spend time free with other great animals. She gets to spend time twice a week with dog friends of all breeds, gets plenty of exercise and stimulation and comes home satisfied and very happy from being able to go out with the highly skilled knowledgeable trainers. We got our girl before Covid 19 existed. But something I've noticed is a lot more people adopted dogs during the working from home era and now aren't able to give the dogs their needed exercise and outside stimulation due to working situations, these dog Walker's and trainers can fulfil these dogs needs under controlled supervision with other dogs. Also Our dog suffered a little during this period with lack of socialising, and these outings are her free time to be her dog self. I do think these professionals need to be licenced so that not just anyone can decide that's what they want to do for an income without training and proper guidelines, and give the hard working people with passion for the animals a bad wrap. The trained professionals we have met are looking after dogs that would have nothing without these people, they get to go out on an outing with other dogs with someone who can control their reactive tendencies and come happy and exercised physically and mentally fulfilled. On a lead in our neighbourhood she is reactive when passing

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6688	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	It's not about how many dogs are the issue, It's whether people have control of the dogs under their watch. I can manage my 2 dogs that I own with one being reactive. My professional dog trainer/walker can handle my reactive dog with a pack of 10 others, my dog is well behaved around new dogs under her watch, highlighting the difference between amateur and experienced. Given the lack of licensing round dog walkers we should be considering this as a solution, like we do other professions.
6697	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Licensing for the professional walkers is more beneficial for both humans and dogs.
UNDECLARED LOCAL BOARD			
226	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	This bylaw would be extremely damaging to the livelyhood of well-educated dog trainers & pack walkers. This would stop dogs being able to be taken out by their pack walkers who are well educated.
310	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	For years, the pack walking / training industry have been trying to work with the council to come up with ways to educate owners & introduce bylaws that work for everyone - professionals, dog owners, and council included. To then have these by-laws introduced, without consultation from the people who have been trying to work with the council, really sucks. We absolutely agree this industry needs to be regulated properly- ie, qualified professionals who understand dog behaviour who are licensed can operate- not just regular people. The issue here is, more dogs will be left at home - under socialised, under stimulated & no ongoing training support/up-keep. Meaning more escaping/roaming dogs, barking complaints & potential attacks due to lack of upkeep from owners. This means the animal management team will be stretched even more thin than they already are, creating more pressure.
326	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If dogs are under control there should be no limit to how many are walked together Done safely it is beneficial to their health and wellbeing and many businesses will be under immense pressure if this is passed

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349	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	The issues Auckland is facing around dog ownership in public isn't a numbers issue. It's a education and handler issue. Many amazing pack walkers also own 8 plus dogs. If the new rule comes in, these guys can't taking clients dogs, and their own out in one day. Meaning dogs miss out. These are the same people who have extra dogs for rescues as fosters. Who will no longer help adding to the over run off homeless dogs.
474	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Too inflexible. For some walkers it might be totally fine to have more than 6 dogs. Others 6 may be too many. Same with differences in locations. Rules don’t recognise nuance of situation
624	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Arbitrary limits on numbers being walked and allowed off leash will not solve the issue of some walkers having out of control dogs which have the potential to cause harm to each other, stock, or the public. Many times some professional walkers who only have 4 or 6 completely out of control dogs, are harassing and nipping livestock, rushing other dogs etc. Arbitrary limits on numbers will not affect them and will allow them continue their bad practices. The issue is commonly that the walker cannot be identified, and they have dogs which are not under control whether they be on or off leash. Obviously the potential for harm increases when the dogs are off leash, but the harm is not eradicated because the dogs are on leash or because there are less of them. The councils own data reflects just 0.57% of complaints are about multiple dogs. To effectively address the core issue of some rotten eggs operating carelessly or ignorantly, individual assessments carried out by the PDWA under the authority of the Auckland council would be much more effective. These licences would cover whether that person can have a licence and if so, how many dogs that walker can walk, how many can be off leash at a time, and establish the walkers agreement with the PDWA code of conduct and complaints procedure. Those licences will be in the form of a badge ID - similar to a
627	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Restriction of community freedom without consent

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659	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I own 12 dogs myself as personal pets and to think I couldn't walk my own family of dogs daily and only walk half of them so be forced to go on two walks everyday and not only that but have half on lead every time is crazy. This does not address the issue whatsoever maybe look at regulating pack walkers and only allowing certain peoppe with specific qualifications and training to be pack walkers
903	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Council is overreaching! Dogs need to be under control! It's already stipulated.
916	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	There are some incredible pack walkers out there, who have undergone necessary training to ensure the safety of their dogs and others at the parks. The thought of these walkers loosing business and the dog owners who work full time jobs being unable to find new walkers is concerning. There should be regulations to ensure walkers are registered and can be liable / traceable for issues when they arise however I think the tragedies you read about in the news are a vast minority and should not ruin it for everyone else.
1038	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I believe professional dog walkers should be able to walk whole packs on or off lead providing they can prove they can work with a large pack and keep them all under control. I propose some form of dog walker license be created that dog walkers can get and carry with them. Have a test they can take to earn this license. The rule changes work for individuals walking their pets but not really for professional dog walkers and trainers.
1765	Support		Keeping an eye on that many dogs would be a challenge so any more would be unsafe
1914	Support		There needs to be a limit for safety and control over leashed dogs. A weight limit may be more appropriate though, there's a difference between 6 newfoundlands and 6 chihuahuas on leash.
2102	I don't know		Something clearly needs to be done regarding the many dog attacks happening. Unfortunately, the people that are responsible for dogs attacks either aren't interested, are not registered and the dogs are left to roam by themselves. The problem with off leash dogs or owners that have no control of their dogs is that the owner might think their dog is fine but when it rushes to another dog on a lead this causes stress and anxiety for responsible dog owners walking their dog on lead. It doesn't matter if 6 dogs are on the lead and 3 off the lead if the owner has no control of any of them.

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2183	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	The impact this will have on animal support workers, businesses and public animal control optics will have a negative impact on the dog owner community. There are a multitude of reasons why people may need to have more dogs walked simultaneously and stopping this from happening is not fixing the issue of animal control but rather encouraging negative bias to rise and reduce the ability to properly and fairly care for animals in a persons control. It will cause an increase in animal neglect with restrictions needed to be introduced with small NZ business owners in this industry, negatively impacting their financial viability and encouraging neglect in owners if daytime care is unavailable due to these restrictions. Very disappointing to hear this is being considered as the option where a simple training and certification process could be developed in its place. It's not hard to solve issues if you want to actually resolve them, this seems to be a lazy option to quieten a few loud voices but doesn't actually solve the systemic issue.
2235	Support		But feel the ofleash dogs should be muzzled as the walker would have no ability to respond in an incident as they have 3 other dogs to also control.
2250	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A lot of dog walkers who do pack walks are in control of the dogs and the new law would put many dog walkers and carers out of business.
2423	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum 2 dogs per person. Beyond that some breeds of dogs are difficult to control
2652	Support		Having 3 on a lead means they have more control. It is intimidating to meet 6 off leash dogs with a single dog walker when walking ones own dog. This gives a balance - 6 dogs is should be enough to make dog walking viable -- though very hard to enforce. It also is really dependent on the dogs so 6 well behaved dogs playing is not an issue. Maybe what is needed is dog walkers to pass council certification - nothing too onerous but at least be 'responsible' dog owners.
2866	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	You need to differentiate between a professional dog walker and a dog owner. Professional dog walkers should not be included in this change because it will put many out of business. Make a separate bylaw for professional dog walkers, and propose licensing, like Wellington.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
2890	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I disagree with what Auckland council is doing. Arbitrary limits on numbers being walked and allowed off leash will not solve the issue of some walkers having out of control dogs which have the potential to cause harm to each other, stock, or the public. Many times professional walkers only have 4 or 6 completely out of control dogs, who are harassing and nipping livestock, rushing other dogs etc. Arbitrary limits on numbers will not affect them and will allow them continue their bad practices. The issue is commonly that the walker cannot be identified, and they have dogs which are not under control whether they be on or off leash. Obviously the potential for harm increases when the dogs are off leash, but the harm is not eradicated because the dogs are on leash or because there are less of them. The councils own data reflects just 0.57% of complaints are about multiple dogs. To effectively address the core issue of some rotten eggs operating carelessly or ignorantly, individual assessments carried out by the PDWA under the authority of the Auckland council would be much more effective. These licences would cover whether that person can have a licence and if so, how many dogs that walker can walk, how many can be off leash at a time, and establish the walkers agreement with the PDWA code of conduct and complaints procedure. These licences could be in the form of a [illegible]

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2892	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Why don't you do a blitz on door knocking on all properties in state housing clusters for dog registration m it is the law already but you do not enforce it . But you spend you time and money on this proposal that has minor issues with a few rogue walkers, and this proposal won't stop these rogue walkers as they don't give a toss about the proposal . All it will do is close extremely effective operators down closing business as they cannot operate under these proposal and is going to effect many dogs and owners as a result , Inwould suggest cashing more dog issues in society as a result . Why am I amazed that this unbalanced proposal has got traction within the council without sound knowledge base of the issues surrounding. You wonder why the public has little to no trust with people within the council . This is not a democracy at all, I don't trust your proposals and don't trust the people that are involved in this . If any part of this gets traction , you will be swamped with maliouse people calling and reporting when they see a group of
2895	Support		I agree with the proposed changes. I do think having a pack of six that regardless of their temperament that only one dog should be allowed off leash at any given time time.
2898	Support		Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the issue of dogs in public spaces. I have lived at the bottom of Balmain Rd since 1978. I have noticed a great increase in the traffic using this deadend street, mainly for commercial dog-walking. Packs of dozens barking mad. And several businesses operating at the same time. Parking!!! It is not three years since a runaway dog from one of these murdered Pauly an elderly cat of mine on my property. Could there not be a timetable limiting users? I certainly agree numbers need control. Also, dog owners need to understand the animal is not best housed in an apartment block. They need a back yard... even fashion-statement toy dogs.

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2899	Support		I agree with the limit on the number of dogs that can be walked at one time.
2902	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It is not possible for one individual to control 6 dogs 3 on and 3 off leads. Six on would be a stretch if they were under 10 Kg.... !! Please focus on ensuring owners have their dogs on leads in public streets and parks that do not offer off leash as an option. As pet owners we all love our furry friends, but others sometimes feel very intimidated by them.
3084	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Dog parks open area for dogs to gain their social skills. There are lots of families wont be able to afford alternative option such as daycare or doesnt have anyone that has dogs, which changing the regulations will put them in box to only social with people. This change will increase aggressive or undereducated dogs for long term
3172	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I disagree with the new ruleson dog walking. My dogs are regularly involved in Pack walks. It is great for their social interaction & pack training. My pack walker is awesome & makes my & my kurī & everyone who interacts with them's lives better
3175	Support		I would like to advise that I think the restrictions on dog walkers are a good proposal.
3202	I don’t know		Hi I strongly believe the problem with dog walkers is there are cowboys out there in it purely for the money. This industry should be regulated and each dog walkers registered with a governing body which the public can call on if any problems occur. The public should be able to view a registry to read any complaints. That way the public can be fully informed who their walkers is.

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3211	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If dogs are being walked by professional dog walkers who have the dogs under control, there should not be a limit to the amount of dogs walked at the same time or off leash. Pack walks have been an important part of my dog's development and socialisation. It is important to have opportunities like this for dogs. Day care does not provide the same opportunity, as there is often less monitoring and dogs pick up bad habits from others. Off-leash walking in a pack with a professional walker allows dogs to exercise, build confidence and develop socialisation skills to become a well adjusted and well behaved dog. If the number of dogs allowed off-leash on a pack walk changes, this service will increase in cost and become unaffordable for many.
3233	Support		In my local area there is a pack walker with 20+ dogs there has been multiple attacks & one death resulting from this pack walker. there is no way one person can be in control of 20+ dogs at once and definitely shouldn't be allowed to profit money while endangering the public! I don't feel safe walking my dog at some places in the chances we come across not responsible pack walkers.
3547	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Current rules works well, no change is required
3675	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Putting a limit will restrict the services provided and reduce flexibility for dog owners, especially sending the ones on packwalk. If dogs are under control, shouldn't be a problem. Alternative can be a higher number than the proposals presented. With growing population of people and dogs, the dog walkers need that support and flexibility. Your proposal has no supporting rational.
4150	Support		Dog are pack animals and can't be controlled well in large numbers.
4229	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In narrow city areas like walking around the orakei basin I would like to see all dogs on a leash and no more than 2 dogs at a time. It is bad enough being accosted by dogs when they are on leash let alone running loose. I go for a walk to experience nature. I do not want to be greated sniffed etc by random animals while I am out

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4241	Support		I agree that there are some employed dog walkers who take multiple dogs out and there should be safety rules in place. I would prefer walkers with 5 plus dogs either used their own premises or to take dogs to a dog park. I worry for safety when I see one person with mulitple dogs and wonder how much control they would have if the situation is out of their control.
4244	Support		Yes to limit of dogs allowed by dog walkers.
4417	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Licensed dog walkers would ensure this power was not being abused.
4468	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	As a dog owner of a working breed and the holder of n RDOL. I do not believe limiting or creating rules around the limit and control of dogs will alleviate the problem we re seeing in Auckland currently. The only thing limiting the number of dogs one person can walk at a time will do is put respected and well experienced dog walkers/ trainers out of business and affect several people's livelihoods. If these walkers go out of business, Auckland will see an increase in the dog behavioural issues due to a lack access to training and exercise. Personal experience suggests that sending your dog on a structured pack walk with a professional is much more fulfilling and beneficial for the dog and its training than sending it to a daycare establishment (which is not regulated). I have seen improvements in my dogs behaviour, manner and temperament since sending them on pack walks. All professional pack walkers have their dog under control whether they're on or off leash, many of them allow you to walk past and control, in some sense the dogs and their walkers are more considerate than most pedestrians. Auckland council should be looking at solution focused outcomes such as professional dog walking licenses, training qualifications and further eduction and training for the average dog owner.
4489	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	We are in an economic crisis and some people are walking multiple dogs (very well) for a living. I have seen people doing this with no problem. I am sick of having blanket rules put in place for responsible dog owners by Auckland Council to address problems that either don't actually exist or are caused by a small minority. If there is a problem with an individual dog owner or walker - address that individual.
4495			Council should enforce instant fines for anyone breaching dog walking rules.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
4818	Support		I've noticed that many dog walkers, both on and off-leash, are handling an excessive number of dogs at once. Since dog walking is a professional service, there should be clear policies in place to regulate it. Currently, NZ lacks any specific regulations for dog walkers, meaning virtually anyone can take up the role without oversight. When I visit parks or off-leash areas, I often encounter dog walkers with dogs that are poorly controlled, which poses a risk to both my family and me. I fully support the proposed bylaw to limit the number of dogs a walker can handle at one time, as it would help ensure safety and accountability.
4895	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	Dogs often fail to give people space and impose their presence on strangers. For people who are nervous of dogs or don't want to be bothered by dogs, their behaviour really impacts their ability to make use of the space, to enjoy it with peace of mind. Dogs also do a lot of barking and this impacts people who are sensitive to noise. In short, dogs have a significant impact on many people using the space. Dog owners often fail to recognise this. A simple eg is that they force pedestrians using the same footpath to leave it and give way to the dog they are walking with. I feel the balance of impact person v dog is too much outweighed by the dog and not enough consideration is given to more vulnerable people such as children who are using the park and are less able to cope/manage dog behaviour.
5330	Support		I do think that no matter how skilled the walker, walking 15 dogs off leesh is a risk to them, the dogs, other dogs, other walkers, and other animals using the trail. Even 10 dogs is high risk and alot of these people are out on their own with no back up plans. I have seen massive pack fights and it's not easy to deal with even with multiple people. So yes I agree with this.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5436	Support		Professional Dog Walkers/Pack-Walkers: there should be a licence required to walk multiple dogs for payment if charging a customer. This way, council is aware of those operating these pack-walking services. When complaints are lodged about a particular provider, there can be consequences. The Council should undertake consultation with professional dog walkers' to determine what is appropriate. 'First and foremost, Council and Government need to put their focus onto a major dog (and cat) desexing initiative. We must stop the excessive breeding of dogs that ultimately end up chained up in backyards or end up in shelters. Doing anything else is just an ambulance at the bottom of the cliff stuff. There also needs to be a focus on enforcing responsible dog ownership and improving our animal welfare standards- this includes enforcing owners desex their dogs (and cats), socialize and train their dogs, and reduce roaming dogs. Other suggestions include: · The point of dog sale: there should be a licence to sell dogs to reduce irresponsible 'backyard breeders'. Backyard breeders selling on trademe and on facebook (even though they are not permitted to), is leading to people who cannot afford puppies or do not care for their dogs, which in turn leads to roaming dogs and dog attacks. · Dog Ownership: focus on preventing roaming dogs,
5466	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	If you work long days and you want your active dogs to be walked by a dog walker, when some people have more than one dog, as long as your dog has good recall and behaves then there should be no limit. No dog would be off leash if you can't keep it under control. I think it's ridiculous that this has been proposed and limits our dogs who are a massive part of our life.
5540			I do not have a comment on the number of dogs that a person should be able to take on a walk but anyone walking more than two dogs at the same time (on or off-leash) needs to be registered so that there is a mechanism in place for ensuring compliance and for following up on complaints. Likewise, I don't wish to comment on beach access.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5601	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Personally I do not support these changes and the impact this could have on dog walking services; dog walking services provide much needed exercise for certain families and I believe this should be managed through professional licensing rather than sweeping changes.
5774	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I think the problem is more about how dog owners treat their dogs. The majority of owners are responsible & care for their pets. When dogs are not looked after & are allowed to run wild In packs we are going to see problems. I don't think it is as easy as counting how many dog's are walked but it's how responsible owners are. There should be more accountability as to how dogs are treated. In short I feel it is too easy to purchase a dog without any focus on care & training & socialising a dog. I have just donated to the SPCA after seeing the appalling condition of a dog left chained & starving. This is not uncommon & there should be a crackdown on cruel pet ownership.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5776	Support		See attached Summary of Attachment: Support for Responsible Dog Guardianship: CANZ supports the council's initiative to encourage responsible dog guardianship and enhance access to educational resources for dog guardians. Promotion of Microchipping and Registration: CANZ strongly promotes microchipping and registration of all dogs on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR) to increase the likelihood of reuniting lost dogs with their guardians. Use of Qualified Professionals for Behavioural Assessments: CANZ recommends using qualified and accredited professionals for behavioural assessments of dogs, emphasizing humane and ethical standards. Limiting the Number of Dogs in Public Spaces: CANZ supports the proposal to limit the number of dogs a person can walk in a council-controlled public place to ensure safety for both dogs and the public. Promotion of Longlines for Exercising Dogs: CANZ recommends allowing the use of longlines in dog exercise areas to provide dogs with more freedom while maintaining control, which benefits their physical and mental well-being. Educational Resources: CANZ offers various online resources, including articles, webinars, and videos, to educate dog guardians on responsible guardianship and the use of ethical training aids
5823	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	it's unfair and is unreasonable.
5884	Support		I feel that this is a good balance between practicality and safety. This number still allows the proficient, professional dog walkers to keep numbers up while also keeping a reasonable restriction in place for those walkers who may not be as competent.
5911	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A lot of reactive dogs benefit from pack walks as they are led by experienced dog handlers and affordable. Putting a limit would make pack walks expensive and result in more aggressive behaviors in dog parks

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5948	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I currently use a professional dog service Paws on Tour that has 8-10 dogs on lead. I feel that the current model does need change, but limits won't resolve this issue
6408	Support		Although I support this, I strongly believe that the numbers should be lower. I have been attacked by a dog whose owner was only walking it at the time. We need to reduce the limit to one off leash dog maximum. A walker cannot mind 3 dogs at the same time.
6435	Support		When I've visited Auckland with my dogs, and I've walked during the day, during the weekday. I've been rushed by large groups of dogs by walkers with zero control. Seeing how many of these walkers handle dogs, shows how little control they actually have
6544	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Changing the rules does not change the real problem which is no regulation of the industry. The number of dogs does not matter when the business is well run, the trainers gave the right level of experience and are able to understand the fundamentals of dog behaviour and do not engage in reckless behaviour. I have had more issues with the general public with only 1 or two dogs and 0 control then I have ever had coming across pack walkers. I have come across owners with one dog who would not give us space or stop their dog approaching us even when I called out asking for space with a nervous dog. Where as I have seen a pack walkers with 20 dogs note that I called my off leash dogs in to be leashed, Do the same with her pack and then give us a huge amount of space to calmly and quietly pass.
6594	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	A dog walker always has the dogs under control and/or on a leash. The know their dogs and control them. They walk during the day when most people are at work. It is their job and they do it well. It also helps with socialising dogs.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6855	Do not support		e already written something about my feelings on the subject so have not completed the form. I hope that you are able to decipher and dissect what you need for each topic of discussion from my summary below. Many thanks, Zemira Why the Proposed Dog Walking Restrictions Miss the Real Issues I strongly oppose the proposed restrictions on professional dog walkers. These regulations fail to address the actual problems in our communities and instead unfairly target responsible professionals who play a vital role in ensuring dogs get the exercise, enrichment, and socialisation they need. 1. Professional Dog Walkers Are Not the Problem Auckland Councilâ€™s own data shows that only 0.7% of dog-related complaints involve professional dog walkers. The main issues reported are excessive barking and roaming dogs, which are overwhelmingly caused by irresponsible private owners, not trained professionals.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6856	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	TÄ“nÄ□koe, I am writing to share my concerns regarding the proposed changes to the dog policy and bylaws, particularly the focus on limiting the number of dogs per walker. While I acknowledge the need for effective dog management, restricting numbers alone does not address the root causes of potential issues. The primary concern should not be the number of dogs per walker but rather the walker's experience, skill, and training in handling dogs safely and responsibly. Untrained individuals walking even a small number of large dogs with behavioural challenges can still lead to the same risks that the proposed changes seek to mitigate. The key issue is ensuring that professional dog walkers possess the necessary skills to assess a dogâ€™s suitability for pack walks, understand canine behaviour, and manage their group effectively. Similar to Wellington, introducing a licensing and training requirement for professional dog walkersâ€”ensuring they are certified in areas such as first aid and responsible dog handlingâ€”would be a far more effective measure than simply capping numbers. Furthermore, the proposed changes make no distinction between professional dog walkers and regular individuals. Professional dog walkers, who dedicate their careers to understanding and managing canine behaviour, should not be subjected to the same restrictions as casual or inexperienced dog owners. Recognising this distinction is crucial to ensuring that experienced handlers

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6857	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Ki ora, I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed changes to the dog policy, especially the restriction on the number of dogs per walker. While I understand the need for responsible dog management, simply limiting numbers does not address the root causes of potential issues. The focus should be on the experience, skills, and training of dog walkers, rather than just the number of dogs they handle. An untrained walker, even with a small group of dogs, can still pose risks. Ensuring that professional walkers are properly trained in canine behavior and group management would be far more effective than limiting dog numbers. In Wellington, for example, a licensing system requiring training and certification has proven to be successful. Furthermore, the proposed changes do not distinguish between professional dog walkers and casual owners. Professionals, who are trained in dog behavior, should not face the same restrictions as inexperienced owners. Professional walkers already follow best practices, such as assessing dogs individually before integrating them into groups. Additionally, the changes overlook the responsibility of dog owners. Many dogs roam freely in Auckland, creating safety risks and behavior issues. What steps are being taken to ensure that dogs are desexed to prevent problems linked to dogs in heat? I
6860	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	That, from the proposal to "set a limit on the number of dogs a person may walk at one time (maximum of six dogs, of which no more than three are allowed under control off-leash at any one time)" delete the following: " of which no more than three are allowed under control off-leash at any one time.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6880	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Tēnā koe, I'm writing to express my concerns about the proposed changes to the dog policy, particularly the limit on the number of dogs per walker. While I understand the need for responsible dog management, simply restricting numbers does not address the real issue—ensuring walkers have the skills and training to handle dogs safely. Untrained individuals walking even a small number of large or reactive dogs can still pose risks. A more effective approach would be to introduce licensing and training requirements for professional dog walkers, similar to Wellington, ensuring they are certified in areas such as first aid and responsible handling. The proposal also fails to distinguish between professional dog walkers and casual owners. Professionals dedicate their careers to understanding canine behaviour and already follow best practices, such as assessing dogs before integrating them into group walks. Imposing arbitrary limits could make their services less viable, reducing access to structured socialisation and exercise, which are crucial for dog welfare. Additionally, the policy does not address the issue of unregulated roaming dogs, which often contribute to safety concerns. Stronger enforcement of desexing and responsible ownership would be a more meaningful step toward reducing issues in public spaces.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6903	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	See attachment Summary of attachment: Opposition to Proposed Limit: PDWA opposes the Auckland Council's proposal to limit the number of dogs walked at one time to six, with only three off-leash. Lack of Data Support: PDWA argues that there is no data showing that walking more than three dogs causes issues, with only 0.7% of complaints involving multiple dogs. Enforcement Concerns: PDWA doubts the proposal will be effectively enforced due to already stretched Animal Management resources. Licensing Alternative: PDWA suggests a licensing system for professional dog walkers, similar to Wellington's, allowing up to 12 dogs per licensed walker. Petition: PDWA has collected 3,456 signatures opposing the proposed limit and supporting their licensing alternative. Key Arguments Against the Proposed Limit: No Evidence of Issues: The data does not support claims that multiple dog walkers cause significant problems. Enforcement Challenges: Limited resources make enforcing the proposed limit impractical. Impact on Dog Owners: The proposed limit would unfairly impact responsible dog walkers and their clients, increasing costs and reducing service availability. PDWA's Licensing Proposal: Annual Licenses: Professional dog walkers would pay an annual

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6904	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Last year, Auckland Council received thousands of complaints about dog-related issues. But here's the reality: only 0.7% of those complaints were about multi walkers, that isn't just inclusive of pack walkers its anyone with more than one dog. While over 52% were about roaming dogs—uncontrolled, untrained, and often neglected. Yet, instead of addressing this major issue, the council is proposing bylaws that will severely restrict pack walking, a service that actually helps prevent these problems. Would anyone in this room like to guess or knows this answer, how many complaints were made to council in the last 3 years about pack walkers? 10, yes 10 complaints in 3 years Auckland wide. Take, for example, a dog named Max. When his owner first brought him to a pack walker, he was anxious, reactive, and nearly impossible to control on a leash. Within weeks of structured socialization and exercise in a well-managed group, Max transformed into a confident, obedient dog. Stories like Max's are common among pack walkers, who provide essential training, socialization, and exercise for dogs whose owners struggle to meet their needs alone. By limiting pack walking, the council isn't protecting public safety—it's creating a future where more dogs are poorly trained, reactive, and likely to escape or become a nuisance. If the goal is

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6909	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Hello Auckland Council, Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to give feedback on the dog bylaws, and in particular the proposed Dog Walking maximum dogs numbers restrictions (6) that Auckland Council (AC) is suggesting through the information on line and the feedback form. I disagree with any limit on the numbers of dogs walked on lease or off lease. AC is proposing a maximum of 6 dogs per dog walker. What is this based on? I can not find any information or examples to substantiate that the number of 6 dogs maximum per walker is the correct number as per AC suggestions. What is this number based on? It would appear that AC is intending to introduce unworkable rules on an industry in order to control a minor group of offenders. There are other ways this could be dealt with. I propose that AC look at other cities policies as part of this review, as my understanding is that WCC does not set a limit but needs to approve a "permit" for someone to be a "registered" dog walker and that persons needs to satisfy WCC they are capable of doing so, before WCC will "permit" them. I propose all Dog Walkers should be certified by a set of standards agreed between Dog Walking Associations and Auckland Council. I understand certain Dog Walking Associations in Auckland have proposed a set of guidelines to AC already. There are very well trained and experienced Dog Walkers and

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6913	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	See attached Summary of attachments: Key Recommendations: Equitable Dog-Free Zones: Establish dog-free buffer zones around tamariki-priority areas. Dog Walking Limit: Reduce the maximum number of dogs walked per person in public spaces from six to two. Equity Impact Assessments: Conduct assessments on the distribution of dog-free and off-leash zones. Clear Enforcement Guidelines: Define 'under control' for off-leash dogs with clear guidelines. Community-Led Safety Committees: Introduce committees in high-risk areas. Culturally Responsive Policies: Ensure dog policy rules are translated into Te Reo Māori and Pacific languages, reflecting cultural nuances. Data and Evidence: Injury Statistics: Tamariki Māori and Pacific children face higher risks of dog-related injuries, with significant disparities in injury rates. Geographical Concentration: High injury rates in areas like Manukau highlight the need for targeted interventions. Cultural Perspectives: Māori and Pacific Views: Policies must incorporate Māori and Pacific perspectives on dog ownership and safety, ensuring
6919	Do not support		See attachment Summary of Attachment: Concerns About Professional Dog Walkers: Restricting the number of dogs a person can walk is counterproductive. Professional dog walkers provide a valuable service and should not be disadvantaged.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6926	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed changes to Auckland's dog policy and bylaws, particularly the restrictions on the number of dogs per walker. While I understand the importance of responsible dog management, these changes take a blunt and ineffective approach that does not address the root causes of potential issues. Auckland is home to some of the most unique and beautiful parks in the world—spaces that allow both people and dogs to enjoy nature, exercise, and connect with their community. Changing the rules in such a restrictive manner will not only affect professional dog walkers but will fundamentally alter the way many Aucklanders and their dogs experience these public spaces. The impact will extend far beyond limiting dog walking—it will reduce opportunities for safe socialisation, increase behavioural issues, and potentially lead to more dogs being surrendered or rehomed due to unmet needs. The real issue is not simply the number of dogs a person can walk, but rather the experience, skill, and training of the walker. A person with no experience handling dogs can struggle with even one or two, while a trained professional can safely manage a larger, well-balanced group. Instead of imposing arbitrary limits, Auckland Council should focus on ensuring that professional dog walkers meet clear, evidence-based standards—similar to Wellington's licensing system, which requires training, certification, and experience-based limits. Professional dog walkers play a crucial role in our city. They

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6931	I don’t know		I can well understand that the Council wants all members of the public visiting parks to enjoy their time in them, and not to feel threatened or overwhelmed by large numbers of dogs being walked together, either on or off lead. Is this the reason the Council is seeking to limit the number of dogs a person may walk on Council controlled public places at any one time? And to require 3 of the 6 dogs to be on a lead? Does the Council have information on the number of dog walkers in its area currently walking numbers of dogs at any one time - say 5-10-15 dogs in a pack? Are these walkers creating more dog related issues for the Council than walkers with one or a few dogs? How large have these packs been and how serious have any incidents been? What is the evidence? For me the question is to some extent one of effective control - and also maintaining the overall ambience of the park and the activities that take place there. I consider all dog walkers must be able to demonstrate they have effective control of the dog or dogs they are walking. And that they can maintain that control in the presence of other dogs - be that numbers of single dogs, or pairs of dogs, or a pack of dogs - and other people. I accept that dogs are pack animals, and that packs can in the wild, range in size from 2-20/30+ dogs. I also accept that dogs gain socialisation benefits from being in larger groups. I can see some advantages to their being walked in groups, as long as they are well socialised and under effective control. I am unclear whether the issues or concerns arise from sole or group walkers without dogs (for example, me walking alone), or dog walkers walking only 1 or 2 dogs, feeling uncomfortable with

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6935	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	It is hard to determine if the 64 beaches impacted by the proposals are in anyway changed as only examples are provided with the reader required to references Schedule 1. It is not clear whether the existing Schedule 1 rules stay the same. Hence it is difficult to provide any feedback. I am providing free form feedback as the way the questionnaire is constructed, it is directing a particular outcome. The rules set up in other regions, particularly Wellington are absent from any of the information provided and there is no ability to comment on whether these alternative options should be considered. Further, the proposal does not distinguish between professionally trained dog walkers and those who are not – this seems unreasonable considering this is taken into account in many other parts of our societal rules. Trained dog walkers are more likely to take their dogs out of the built up areas for walking. Listening to an Auckland Council representative, it seems clear their research was paper based and there was no discussion with the professional dog walkers and their industry, dog owners who use professional dog walkers or determined whether dog walker

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6940	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Please see attached submission. Maximum three dogs, with all off-leash, but only if rules in parks and beaches are changes to reduce the current extensive off-leash areas and rules are extended to all year round. Summary of Attachment: Rising Dog-Related Injuries: Increasing number of dog-related injuries in Auckland, especially among children. Statistics show a significant rise in ACC claims for dog bites and other injuries over the past five years. Policy Change Suggestions: Prioritize child protection over dog welfare. Implement stricter leash and muzzle laws for all dogs, not just specific breeds. Designate specific small off-leash areas in parks and beaches, at least 100 meters away from busy areas. Legislation and Enforcement: Improve enforcement of leash policies and provide funding for patrolling recreational spaces. Introduce mandatory sterilization of all dogs by six months of age, with exceptions for registered breeders. Education and Awareness: Increase public awareness about the risks of dog bites through campaigns. Encourage responsible dog ownership and reduce stigma around
6945	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Maximum dogs a person can walk: I understand this has been proposed after a pack attack. I do believe the council is being too hasty setting a limit. I do believe a case by case approach is needed. Walking 6 Great Danes vs walking 6 Chihuahua's would be very different. Understandably dogs can behave in packs but if the walker/trainers are experienced then this needs to be considered. Sensibly they would notice certain behaviours of dogs they walk, just like a person walking their own dog. Rather I think a certificate for dog walkers could be set up to be certified for the Auckland Region. It gives them credentials and also allows you to remove the status if they don't complete regular training, registration or have reported incidents. Creates accountability. Working with this industry would be far more beneficial for all of Auckland and its people

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6949	Support		see attached Summary of Attachment: Limit on Number of Dogs: Proposal to limit the number of dogs walked together to 6, with only 2 allowed off-leash at a time. Safety Concerns: Managing multiple dogs can lead to accidents, fights, and dogs running into traffic. Loss of Control: Difficulty in controlling a large group of dogs, especially of different sizes and temperaments. Public Safety: Uncontrolled dogs pose a danger to pedestrians, cyclists, and other animals. Legal and Liability Issues: Complex responsibility in case of injury or damage caused by a large group of dogs. Animal Welfare: Walking too many dogs at once may prevent proper attention to individual needs. Environmental Impact: Large groups of dogs can cause excessive wear and tear on public parks and trails. Disturbance to Others: Large packs of dogs can be intimidating or disruptive to other park users. Emergency Situations: Handling multiple dogs can make it harder to respond quickly in emergencies. Professional Dog Walkers: Ensures responsible operation within regulations.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6952	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	See attached Summary of Attachment: Concerns About Blanket Leash Laws Nuanced Approach: Advocates for a more nuanced approach rather than broad restrictions, emphasizing education and responsible dog guardianship. Benefits of Freedom for Dogs Physical Health: Increased physical activity and prevention of obesity. Mental Stimulation: Cognitive engagement and environmental enrichment reduce stress and anxiety. Agency and Space: Greater sense of freedom and exploration improves welfare and reduces behavioral issues. Behavioral Benefits Off-Lead Freedom: Helps address behavioral concerns and strengthens the human-dog bond. Positive Reinforcement: Promotes well-behaved and content dogs through positive training methods. Education Over Restriction Educational Initiatives: Prioritizes education on humane training techniques and responsible stewardship over restrictive laws. Integrative Approaches Dog-Friendly Spaces: Recommends creating more off-leash areas and educational campaigns to address safety concerns effectively.
6954	Support		See attached Summary of Attachment: Safety and Control: Limiting the number of dogs ensures better supervision and reduces risks. Public Safety: Large groups of dogs can pose safety concerns in busy areas.
6955			Request the uniformed paper road between Rodney Rd and Mt Tamahungo summit be designated 'controlled dog area -no access' due to the presence of protected wildlife, namely kiwi
7261	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash	I disagree with the number of 6. I think it should be 4. It of course depends on how well behaved they are which is an unknown so that is why I say 4.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
7269			Dog packs walkers o Vans often come with 20 dogs to each person – they cannot keep dogs under control and do not pick after their dogs that has created a faeces issue o Pack walkers vary – some have dogs under control and well trained and other are not and are a danger to others and themselves o especially dangerous on narrow paths with huge packs of dogs (children are especially vulnerable)
7275	I don't know		• Have encountered a multiple dog walker not having control over the 8 dogs he was walking
7294	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	• Concerned that dog sitters will be limited to 6 dogs. It's hard to keep 6 dogs under control. • Recalls seeing 2 people walking half a dozen dogs. Dogs were not under control - 2 on lead and 4 disappeared. Thinks the walkers are unconcerned about wildlife, the environment, etc. Doesn't happen all the time, but frequently. • Participant would like to limit the number of dogs being walked to 3 so that they can be under control. • As with most businesses, commercial dog walkers should be required to have a permit. • Muriwai is very popular. Commercial dog walkers invade public parks. • In general, most dog walkers are responsible. • Fully supportive of the beach as a public space. • Will be unhappy if can't have dogs off-leash. For commercial use of public spaces, how might we do permitting? Permits are only as good as the people who enforce the rules. Dog walkers should be registered and council should charge a fee. Where the funds go should be up to council.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
7296	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	•Dog walkers who's been walking dogs for 20 years •Did canine behaviour training at Unitec and learned over the years about dog behaviour •Definitely agree with licencing with PDWA so all dog walkers are monitored, weed out the bad ones if there are incidents. The profession dog walkers association can make sure members are following the rules •My dog owners would be lost without my services, some of them are like family to me. They are already worried about price going up if numbers limited •I walk 18 dogs at one time but with 3 staff support. We get to park and take dogs on a lead and only take them off lead if safe. Count dogs every 10 minutes. Train staff to ensure dogs are not nuisance to the public •All of them are off lead. I go to Waterlee Park at Mangere. It is fenced and we are always watching the area. Some dogs I pick up before 7am, and some of the staff I work with I meet at the park •Six dogs is not practical. For me, it takes me 2 hours to pick up dogs, I spend 3 hours at the park then drop them off. 6 would not work logistically due to petrol •The focus should be roaming dogs and bad dog owners – responsible dog owners should not be punished •Profession dog walkers won't be able to survive other than increasing the price •Bigger groups allow dogs to mingle and play

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
7301	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	•Take them out to Muriwai. Our dogs have amazing re-call. Dogs that don't have re-call will be on leash •If we encounter horses or unruly dogs, we will retrieve our dogs •Now only walk 3 dogs •Having gone back to Grey Lynn Park, I see 90% not following the rules and I remind them of the rules •To me, walking some dogs off leash and some on leash is not practical. It is dangerous as big dogs can pull you and you would not have control. So you should have either all on leash and all off leash. Professional dog walkers can have dogs under control •Regulate dog walkers where they have to do education and time to build experience •Wellington does 12 dogs and ensure dog walkers are competent •12 dogs is good for good dog walkers, but 6 is too restrictive and would destroy their business •Revoke their license if an issue happens •There are companies that are not good. Those are the people that need to be dealt with where they are not experienced or competent. •Set the bar high for commercial dog walkers
OUTSIDE AUCKLAND			
57	Support		Not enough room on footpaths. High risk should there be issues with one dog in controlling the others. Serious H&S issue
74	Support		I've run a dog walking business and I believe this is so sensible....This law has been passed in the UK... I lived in Beachlands where the dog was attached and killed it was terrible Even if you have control over your dogs you can't control what's around the corner (I've met cows and sheep that have got out the fields ... people who are scared of dogs... spooked horses etc
532	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Pack walkers are beneficial to so many dogs and their families. Create a licence for dog walkers with more than 3 dogs at a time. There are few uneducated dog walkers but many that are extremely knowledgeable and beneficial to society
710	Support		I am multiple big dog owner and it would be really hard to control more than this, no matter how well trained the dogs

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
795	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Having been an Animal Management Officer for nearly 5 years working withing the AMO and Barking officer space I do agree with regulating the amount of dogs that can be walked off leash or on leash by a single person, however this rule though appropriate for the general public does not distinguish between this and those in a dog walking industry. I also agree that the dog walking industry needs regulation but believe that this should be done separately to these proposed changes.
1256	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	I think that 6 dogs is too many for one person to safely handle. In a perfect situation where it was only the 6 they may be fine, but add strays, people etc & 6 dogs is too much for one person to handle!!
1671	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	Because we only have 2 hands, 2 dogs un each hand is more that enough, especially if they are big strong dogs, 2 off leash is easy to watch to pick up after, 4 would end up wit dog poo being left not picked up
2571	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This wouldn't help but a licensing system would be far more beneficial. It wouldn't penalise the people with experience
4517	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	This is going to crush the dog industry and create more behavioral issues with Auckland dogs long term
5389	Support		Fair
5426	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Personally I do not support these changes and the impact this could have on dog walking services; dog walking services provide much needed exercise for certain families and I believe this should be managed through professional licensing rather than sweeping changes. I feel that this issue is being well managed by the industry that it affects.
5670	Support		I have 4 dogs that's plenty to control with great call back i have trouble

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5842	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	There are enough restraints on dog owners already. Please do not make it harder to give our animals a fulfilled life
5871	I don't know		I support the maximum of 6 leashed, however I do not support up to 3 unleashed. A person only has 2 hands in to restrain and controll of an unleashed dog in emergency situations. Off lead should only be used in private fenced areas not open public spaces. It does not matter how well trained the unleashed dog is , there are multiple unpredictable situations a well trained unleashed dog has resulted badly.
6016	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	Look at other countries dogs are treated as part of the family
6134	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	In 2021, I was part of a collaborative effort between Wellington City Council, Animal Control and a group of leading industry professionals. Together, we created local standards that are fair and pay respect to public safety, wildlife and most importantly our beloved pups. This collaborative approach has created strong positive relationships between all parties and has worked. The standards require accountability from walkers and take into consideration that the number of dogs a person can safely manage varies greatly from person to person; with some struggling with one and others safely handling upwards of ten. I welcomed these long awaited industry standards and I urge Auckland Council to consider the success of the Wellington Commercial Dog Walking Licence. Thank you for your Consideration. Isobella Baarspul -Professional dog walker

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6180	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I support responsible professional dog walkers, and believe that the proposed numbers are too restrictive. This will have a negative impact on the ability for dogs to access competent walkers to support meeting their needs, as well as unfairly making it challenging for professionals to earn a sustainable income through their craft. I support a 12 dog maximum limit in line with the Canine Industry Standards Associations guidelines, with the potential for a licensing system or competency assessment to support responsible handlers. I'd also support encouraging education for all potential walkers through a mentorship program.
6252	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am an accredited professional dog walker and hold a licence with Wellington City Council., and walk up to 12 dogs at a time safely and under control. I participated in the workshops with council to shape the licence. I understand innately the challenges from both council and dog walkers. As we resolved with them, a limit does not determine ability to control or to keep safe the dogs in a handler's care, and does not resolve the issue of on or off leash dogs causing a nuisance to others, taking up paths, or having dogs off leash in on leash areas. This happens whether one dog is being walked or several, by both dog owners and dog walkers. The relevant issues which need to be considered are: - Better education and knowledge of responsibilities under the dog control act for both dog owners and dog walkers ie understand fully control includes not allowing dogs to approach, harass, intimidate, bully others either on or off leash and doesn't just mean dogs aren't allowed to roam or be aggressive - Better education on dog body language ie what bullying and intimidation look like, what a 'no thank you' signal looks like well-before a reaction, and 'they're just being friendly' is more often than not a dog with poor social skills - The entitled attitudes when lack of control is highlighted - The lack of consequence, fines and regular checks from Animal Control to ensure dogs are under control - more and more rules get put in place but few are actually enforced - Dog walkers without health & safety plans, risk mitigation,

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
6428	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	Because it penalises good dog owners and does nothing to stop bad dog owners who don't follow the rules. Because Auckland has a roaming dog problem not a problem with responsible dog walkers. It will not address any issues as none of these are caused by the number of dogs walkers. It will stop responsible professional dog walkers from operating and support responsible dog owners who care for their dogs.
6837	Do not support	No change to current rules (no limit on the number of dogs and all dogs must be under control at all times)	I do not support the proposed limit on walking multiple dogs. The proposed limit will only penalise responsible dog owners and will not stop irresponsible people who do not follow existing laws. Auckland has a serious issue with roaming dogs and Council should focus on this not multiple dog walkers who make up a tiny amount of reported issues. I am a professional dog walker, and i have issues with roaming dogs, we are note the problem (although like most industries there is a small number of people operating as walkers that shouldn't be, and misrepresenting our industry. I support a license being developed to regulate professional dog walkers as they have the skills to handle multiple dogs and provide a valuable service to me and the community. I am a walker, and although i never take more than maximum of 6 - i have seen and know w=of others that walk more confidently, capably and safely.
REGIONAL ORGANISATION			

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
724	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am currently employed by a pack walking company that provides a professional service to our clients that has a positive impact on their daily lives and benefits the local community. By providing a safe environment and walking all dogs responsibly and following all bylaws we allow dogs to live happy and healthy lives by being well exercised. Without our service there would be a sharp increase in the number of noise complaints and roaming dogs in Auckland suburbs. With only 0.7% of all complaints to Animal Management being in regard to multiple dogs in the same incident and no way to ascertain if these complaints are in regard to pack walkers, our industry is currently not a problem and in fact should be seen as a solution to the problem. Reducing the number of dogs able to be walked at any one time will further reduce the number of clients we can service in any one day and risk further increasing the number of dogs roaming and with noise complaints due to lack of exercise and fulfilment in their daily lives. We also believe that by mandating the number of dogs that have to remain on lead can increase the risk of injury for handlers by creating pent up energy within the dogs off lead while other dogs within the pack are able to swim and run around. Animal Management is currently stretched to the limit with current complaints on roaming dogs, it would not seem prudent to add further workload to this team and take them away from the main problem within Auckland. In fact we believe that this risks increasing the length of time between call outs and further endangering members of the public, to “police” well behaved and under control packs of dogs under the supervision of an industry professional.

Sub #	Q1A Response	Q1B If do not support response	Q1 Comment
5000	Do not support	Other (please explain below)	I am writing on behalf of the Canine Industry Standards Association (CISA) to provide feedback on the proposed new bylaw limiting dog walkers to six dogs at a time, with only three of those being off lead. We understand the importance of ensuring safety and wellbeing for both dogs and the community. However, we would like to highlight our association's code of conduct, which currently allows for a maximum of twelve dogs under professional care. Our Code of Conduct was developed based on extensive research and input from canine industry experts to ensure the highest standards of care for all dogs in professional walking settings. The limit of twelve dogs aligns with internationally recognised best practices, ensuring adequate supervision, training and safety protocols. We believe that this well structured guideline ensures that dog walkers can manage groups effectively, with the necessary resources and experience to handle larger groups of dogs. By reducing the limit to six dogs, we feel that the bylaw may inadvertently disrupt professional services, reduce available opportunities for dog owners and place unnecessary constraints on experienced dog walkers who adhere to strict safety standards. In conclusion, we respectfully ask that the council consider
6845	Do not support	Maximum four dogs, with no more than two off-leash unless licence obtained	This achieves a good balance. Professional dog walkers can then either obtain a licence or should use private land if they have more dogs. This ensures more responsible use. More than 2 dogs off lead could be difficult to call back as there is less likelihood of a pack-mentality occurring.