



ORDER MADE PURSUANT TO THE
DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994 SECTION 25 AND 26
Passed by Council Resolution, 21 April 2026

This Order revokes all previous Orders of Council by Mount Alexander Shire Council made under the **Domestic Animals Act 1994**.

In accordance with the **Domestic Animals Act 1994** from 21 April 2026 dogs and cats are to be controlled in the following manner at all time:

Pursuant to section 25 cats within the municipality are to be controlled:

Cat Curfew

All cats within the municipality must be securely confined to their owners' premises at all times (24 hours per day). This requirement replaces any previous sunset-to-sunrise curfew.

A person may exercise a cat in a public place only if the cat is kept on a chain, cord or leash held by the person and attached to the cat at all times.

Pursuant to section 26(2) dogs and cats within the municipality are to be controlled:

On-Leash

The person in control of any dog must keep the dog in effective control by means of a chain, cord, or leash held by the person and attached to the dog while the dog is in:
all **roads*** in the areas of Campbells Creek, Castlemaine, Chewton, and Maldon prescribed in Schedule 1; and

the Castlemaine Botanical Garden; and

all other parks and reserves:

- between sunset to 6 am; and
- when park maintenance is being performed; and

the principal location of an organised public meeting, sporting or community event, or festival when occurring or being prepared for; and

within five metres of a permanent barbeque or picnic area when in use; and

at any place where Council has placed signs indicating that dogs must be on a lead.

***Roads** as the meaning is ascribed to it in the **Local Government Act 1989**.

A person may exercise a cat in a public place but must keep the cat on a chain, cord, or leash held by the person attached to the cat at all times.

Off-Leash

With the exception of the above, a dog may be exercised off-lead providing the person in control actively supervises the dog and maintains a clear and unobstructed view of the dog at all times, and:

carries a chain, cord or leash sufficient to bring the dog under effective control if the dog behaves in a manner which threatens any person or animal; or
remains in effective voice or hand control of the dog so as to be able to bring the dog under effective control by placing the dog on a chain, cord, or leash if that becomes necessary; or

is in a prescribed dog park and places the dog on-lead when exiting the park.

Prohibited areas

Dogs are prohibited at all times:

- within five metres of any playground;
- from the playing surfaces of the following:
 - Camp Reserve Oval Castlemaine,
 - Castlemaine War Memorial Stadium,
 - Elsie Palmer Field Oval Castlemaine,
 - Doug Powell Oval Castlemaine,
 - Wesley Hill Recreation Reserve Castlemaine,
 - Campbells Creek Recreation Reserve Oval,
 - Chewton Soldiers Memorial Park Oval,
 - John Powell Recreation Reserve Oval Guildford,
 - Harcourt Recreation Reserve and Leisure Centre Oval,
 - Cricket Ground and Recreation Reserve Oval Newstead,
 - Bill Woodfull Reserve Oval Maldon,
 - Public Recreation Reserve Station Oval Taradale, and
- at any place where Council has placed signs indicating that dogs are prohibited.

Pursuant to section 26(2A) dogs within the municipality are to be controlled:

By Agreement with owner of private land

The person in control of any dog must keep the dog in effective control by means of a chain, cord, or leash held by the person and attached to the dog while the dog is on:

- 149 Duke Street, Castlemaine (Wesley Hill Market).

Pursuant to section 26(4) a condition as to the means of restraint of a dog does not apply to a dog in any circumstances listed in section 20(2).

Exemptions to Order of Council

A dog that is an Assistant Animal within the meaning of the **Disability Discrimination Act 1992** (Cth) that is under the effective control of the handler/patient.

A dog may be temporarily tethered to a post or pole on a short leash or chain while the person in control of the dog conducts a short-term activity provided the dog's behaviour is monitored and immediate action is taken to bring the dog under control.

An Authorised Officer may temporarily suspend or amend a provision of this Order for the purposes of facilitating a planned event or in an emergency.

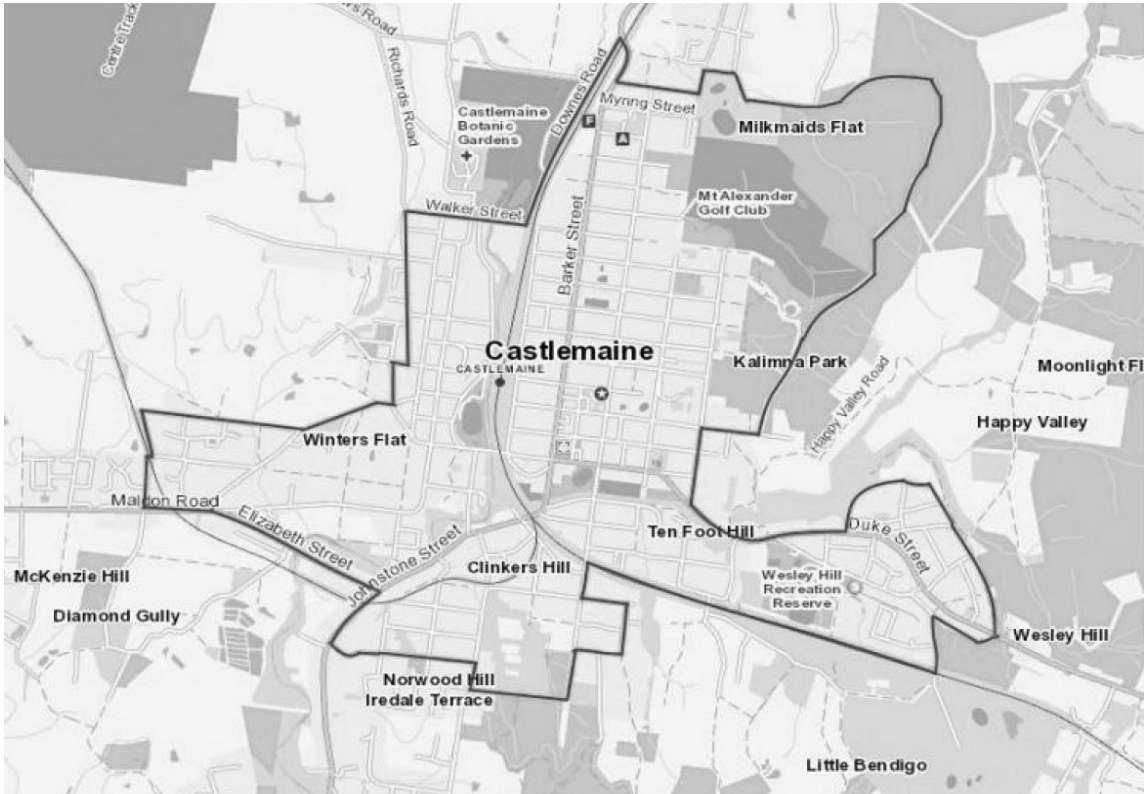
Prescribed Dog Parks

The following has a prescribed off-leash dog park:

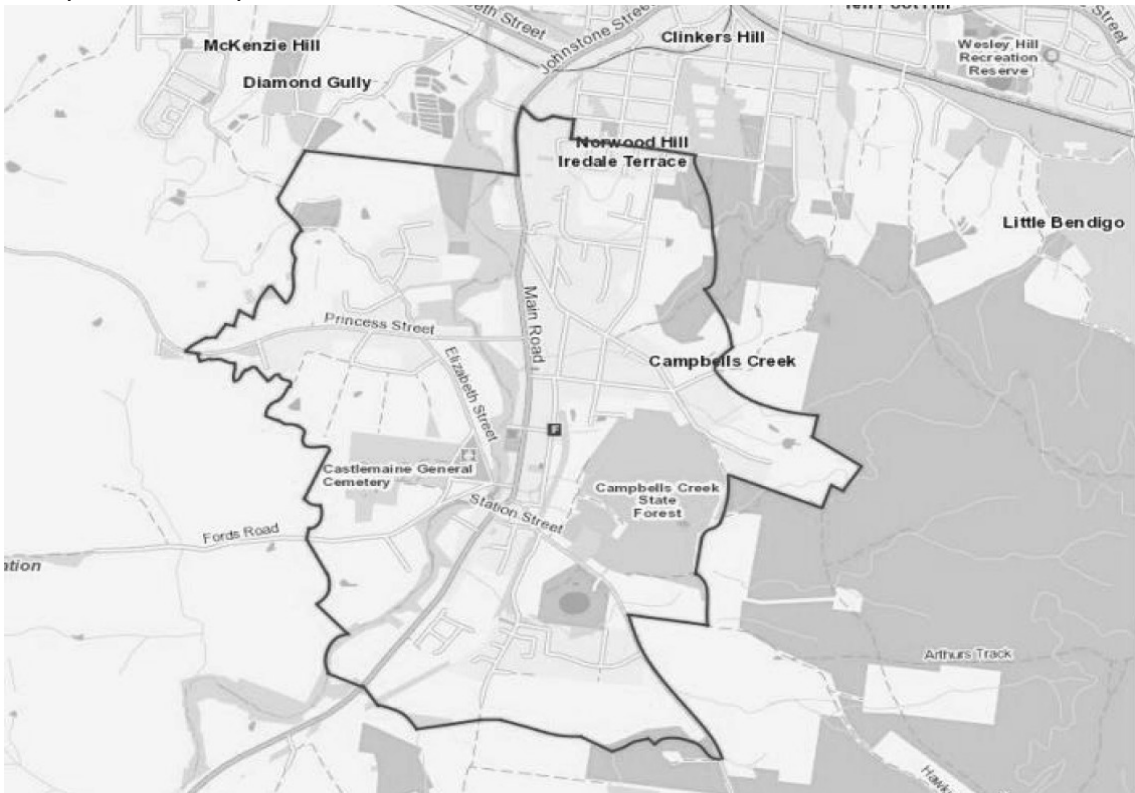
- Wesley Hill Dog Park, Wesley Hill Recreation Reserve.

Schedule 1: Maps of prescribed on-lead areas

Castlemaine prescribed on-lead area



Campbells Creek prescribed on-lead area



Chewton prescribed on-leash area



Maldon prescribed on-leash area

