

FLYING FOX COLONY MANAGEMENT

Intent: This policy is intended to outline Cairns Regional Council's position concerning Flying Fox Management within designated urban areas in accordance with relevant legislation.

Scope: The provisions of this policy apply to defined urban areas designated within Council's planning scheme as having a residential or commercial purpose including a buffer of one (1) kilometre. The defined urban areas will collectively be referred to as Urban Flying Fox Management Areas (UFFMA).

Out of Scope:

- Non-Urban areas; and
- Flying fox roosts on non-Council land.

PROVISIONS

Cairns Regional Council acknowledges that:

- Flying foxes are an important part of the natural environment and play a significant role in the pollination and seed dispersal of natural vegetation.
- A balanced approach will be taken when managing a flying fox roost which considers the needs and expectations of the community with the welfare and unpredictable behaviours of the animals themselves.
- However, the health and wellbeing of people is to be given primary consideration over the health and wellbeing of flying foxes, where there is conflict between the two;
- Flying foxes will not be culled and only non-lethal methods of dispersal will be used.

The following principles will be considered as part of every colony relocation decision:

- Location of the flying fox roost;
- Environmental impact;
- Welfare of the animal;
- Public amenity;
- Community health and safety;
- Appropriate consultation being undertaken;
- Sufficient resources and funding being available to carry out the management activity.

IMPLEMENTATION

Council will adhere to an adopted Code of Practice which focuses on how management activities will be conducted.

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This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

General Manager Responsible for Review:

Community, Sport & Cultural Services

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 18/12/2013

CURRENT ADOPTION: 21/02/2018

DUE FOR REVISION: 21/02/2022

REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:



**John Andrejic
Chief Executive Officer**