

POLICY: ENG-PR-001

CARE AND WELFARE OF KANGAROOS AND EMUS AT HAMMOND PARK

PURPOSE

To ensure adequate care and welfare of the Kangaroos and Emus held in captivity at Hammond Park through population management, public education and good practice. Ensure the environment in which the animals are enclosed is managed in a sustainable manner and to provide an aesthetically pleasing environment.

DEFINITIONS

STATEMENT

1. Population Management

- 1.1. Council will endeavour to manage the population within the combined eastern and western enclosures to 10 emus and 10 kangaroos. Of the 10 Kangaroos in the Hammond Park enclosures, a diversity of gray, red and euros shall be retained.
- 1.2. Where possible Council will arrange sterilisation of all un-sterilised male kangaroos kept at Hammond Park.
- 1.3. No additional kangaroos and emus will be accepted without written approval from the Manager of Parks and Reserves. Approval will be dependent on maintaining the recommended population.
- 1.4. The Hammond Park Caretaker shall be responsible for reporting to the Manager of Parks and Reserves any unauthorised disposal of animals at Hammond Park. Kangaroos and emus placed at Hammond Park without approval are to be relocated to a site nominated by CALM under the direction of the Manager of Parks and Reserves.
- 1.5. The Hammond Park Caretaker shall be responsible for identifying all emu nests and ensuring all eggs are removed and disposed of, so that the population is maintained.

- 1.6. Should inadvertent breeding occur within the enclosures, these animals shall be kept on site for a period allowing for adequate development prior to relocation to a suitable facility for soft release to the natural environment.

2. Vegetation Management

- 2.1 Council will endeavour to manage the holding paddocks in an environmentally sustainable manner by rotation of fauna between the eastern and western enclosures, allowing sufficient time for the plants to regenerate.
- 2.2 Supplementary water will be applied to the plants during the re-growth period to hasten the plants' recovery.
- 2.3 Where necessary, replacement planting and seeding will be undertaken to ensure plants are replaced due to natural attrition.
- 2.4 Planting will be undertaken in a manner to allow vistas from within Hammond Park and to provide a visual barrier to the adjoining streets from within the enclosures.

3. Public Education

- 3.1 Sufficient signage will be placed external to the park and at the main entrance advising people that wish to find a suitable place for native animals. Signage will direct people to either The Department of Parks and Wildlife or the Nature and Agriculture Rehabilitation Association (NARA) with the relevant contact phone numbers.
- 3.2 Signage shall be installed at the entrance and along the enclosure fencing within the park, advising the public that feeding of the animals within the park is not permitted.
- 3.3 The Caretaker of Hammond Park shall maintain a vigil on people within the park, advising them of the requirement not to feed the animals and the associated health risks to the animals by doing so.

4. Care and Welfare

- 4.1 The Caretaker of Hammond Park shall immediately notify the Supervisor of Parks and Reserves of any sick or injured wildlife at the park.

- 4.2 The Supervisor and/or the Caretaker shall arrange for the local veterinary clinic to attend Hammond Park to provide advice on the care and treatment of sick or injured animals. Should the animal be beyond assistance, the Veterinary Surgeon shall arrange euthanasia. This decision will be at the sole discretion of the Veterinary Surgeon.
- 4.3 Should there be a need to euthanise any animal at Hammond Park, the Caretaker must report the case to CALM on the monthly fauna report.
- 4.4 The Manager Parks and Reserves shall develop and introduce an operational procedure for the daily feeding and care of the kangaroos and emus, in consultation with CALM and Operational Staff.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS