



**LATE ITEMS
PLANNING AND REGULATORY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

AGENDA

13 FEBRUARY 2018

Your attendance is required at a meeting of the Planning and Regulatory Committee to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 13 February 2018 commencing at 9:00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials "CR" followed by a long horizontal stroke.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
9 February 2018

Next Meeting Date: 27.02.18

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

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8 OFFICERS' REPORTS

8.13 OVERVIEW OF THE FLYING FOX COLONY AT WESTWOOD

File No:	3247
Attachments:	1. Urban Flying Fox Management Area - Westwood Locality 2. Urban Flying Fox Management Area
Authorising Officer:	Colleen Worthy - General Manager Community Services
Author:	Steven Gatt - Manager Planning and Regulatory Services

SUMMARY

In late January 2018 Council became aware flying fox numbers in the Westwood area were beginning to increase.

Reports were received from Councillors that residents were becoming impacted and concerns were being raised regarding water supplies and the use of community facilities.

Appropriate steps to manage the issue are underway.

Officers are currently acting in accordance with the adopted Flying Fox Statement of Management Intent.

Council will work with the relevant landholder/s to manage the flying fox roost and provide assistance where available.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report Overview of the Flying Fox Colony at Westwood be received and noted.

COMMENTARY

In late January 2018 Council became aware of flying fox numbers in the Westwood area beginning to increase.

Reports were received from Councillors that residents were becoming impacted and concerns were being raised regarding water supplies and the use of community facilities.

As the area falls within a mapped Urban Flying Fox Management Area (UFFMA) officers referred to Council's Flying Fox Statement of Management Intent (SoMI) to undertake appropriate steps to manage the issue.

In this instance current actions have included:

- Provision of advice to surrounding or affected residents
- Closure of the toilet facilities at the Community Hall
- Advice and support regarding permit process and activities
- Clarification on our current position regarding dispersal of the colony.

A water drop of bottled water is to be undertaken to assist with the burden of purchasing drinking water. Additional steps are to be taken on the departure of the colony to include an appropriate cleaning of the community hall area and toilets.

The intent of the SoMI is that where a flying fox roost is on Council owned or State land placed under the control of Council pursuant to the Land Act 1994 Council will co-ordinate the management of flying fox roosts within and outside the UFFMA.

Council's intent under the SoMI is to have no involvement in the management of flying fox roosts solely on State land(s) or private land(s) or a combination of the two.

Council will work with the relevant landholder/s to manage the flying fox roost. Costs relating to the management of a flying fox roost will be negotiated prior to the application for or the implementation of any permit or action.

BACKGROUND

In November 2013, the Queensland Government introduced a new approach to Flying-Fox roost management that empowers local governments to make decisions about how to best manage individual flying-fox roosts in urban areas and authorises them to act on these decisions without the need for a permit under the Nature Conservation Act 1992.

Local Governments are now authorised as-of-right to manage, including disperse, flying-fox roosts in defined UFFMA with the as-of-right management activities limited to non-lethal methods taken in accordance with a Code of Practice – Ecologically Sustainable Management of Flying-Fox Roosts.

Local Governments wishing to conduct non-code compliant activities within a UFFMA or manage a roost outside of the UFFMA are required to obtain a Flying-Fox Roost Management Permit (FFRMP) from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. Individual property owners inside or outside a UFFMA must apply for a permit (FFRMP).

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

In August 2013 Council submitted an application for a Damage Mitigation Permit (now known as a Flying Fox Roost Management Permit) associated with a flying fox roost in proximity of the Westwood Community Hall, Westwood.

In February 2014 Council resolved to facilitate the administrative co-ordination of a FFRMP in the Kabra locality only if the following conditions are agreed prior to the lodgement of that permit:

In April 2014 council adopted a Flying-Fox Statement of Management Intent.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The exact costs associated with managing flying fox roosts is unknown and is dependent on the option adopted for each roost and associated activities.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Nature Conservation Act 1992

Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006

Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts

Code of Practice – Low Impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts.

Flying-Fox Roost Management Guideline – Queensland

Local Governments are authorised as-of-right powers to manage, flying-fox roosts including to disperse, from defined urban areas limited to non-lethal methods taken in accordance with a Code of Practice

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Adverse outcomes resulting from management practice activities.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Risks are dependent on which management option is adopted for each situation. Dispersal measures would result a higher risk rating for increased health risks as opposed to low impact vegetation management activities.

CONCLUSION

This is a natural phenomenon which while out of our control has an impact on our community members. At this time council is undertaking a considered approach to managing the situation and is prepared to act in line with the changing situation within this community.

OVERVIEW OF THE FLYING FOX COLONY AT WESTWOOD

Urban Flying Fox Management Area - Westwood Locality

Meeting Date: 13 February 2018

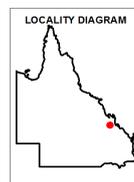
Attachment No: 1



URBAN FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT AREA

Legend

-  Lot and Plan
-  Cadastral Boundaries
-  Urban Flying-Fox Management Area



This product is projected into GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

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OVERVIEW OF THE FLYING FOX COLONY AT WESTWOOD

Urban Flying Fox Management Area

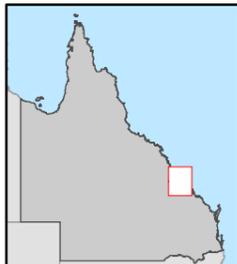
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Attachment No: 2



ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL

- Legend**
- Urban Flying-Fox Management Area
 - Local Government Area
 - Road



COORDINATE SYSTEM: GCS GDA 1994
HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

MAP PRODUCTION
29 July 2013
Nature Conservation Services
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Urban Flying-Fox Management Area

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Department of Environment and Heritage Protection 2013

