GUIDELINE - RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANIMALS ON UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE CAMPUS'S

Responsibility for animals found on the University of Newcastle Campus

Controlled by legislation :-
1. Animal Research Act 1985
2. Animal Research Regulations 2005
3. Companion Animals Act 1998
4. Companion Animal Regulation 1999
5. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979
6. National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
7. Veterinary Practice Act 2003

Is it a Research Animal?

YES

Defined by the Animal Research Act 1985.
The Animal and Care and Ethics Committee has ultimate responsibility for research animals under the Animal Research Act and Regulation NSW.
The Veterinary Manager **(16222/16220)**, Animal Services or Animal Welfare Officer **(17086)** should be contacted to treat sick or injured research animals.

NO

Is it a pest species?

YES

Pest species - Introduced animals living in the wild such as rats, mice, fish, birds, rabbits and foxes.
Pest species are the responsibility of Facilities Management (**contact Campus Environment Services 4921 7038 or 0148 627 914)** who will determine the appropriate action.
Injured pest species dropped at the Animal Services Unit facilities will be humanely euthansed by veterinary staff (16220) or ASU staff under the direction of veterinary staff

NO

Is it a Feral, Stray or Dumped Companion Animal?

YES

Companion animals - animal species as defined in the **Companion Animal Act NSW** - currently cats and dogs.
Feral animals - non native animals, adapted to living in the wild.
Stray companion animals - companion animals not under the control of an owner.
Dumped animals - animals that have been deliberately placed on the University Campus by unknown persons.

Feral, stray or dumped companion animals will be checked for a collar and tag and scanned for the presence of a microchip by Animal Services staff. If a microchip is present, the owner is identified through one of the microchip registry databases and contacted as soon as possible. If the owner is unable to be contacted within 24 hours the Newcastle City Council Impounding Facility **(4951 5555)** will be contacted for collection of the animal. If required, emergency veterinary treatment will be given to the animal whilst awaiting owner contact.

Feral, stray or dumped companion animals that have no identification will be given appropriate veterinary treatment and the Newcastle City Council contacted for advice within 24 hours. No feral, dumped or stray companion animal will be used for research.
No feral, stray or dumped companion animal will be used for research.
OHS STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR SAFE REMOVAL OF DOGS ON CAMPUS -

Restriction of Animal Pets on Campus

and **Safe Removal of Dogs on Campus**

NO

Is it a native animal?

YES

Native animals - animals native to Australia including mammals, reptiles, birds, fish and amphibians.
Healthy, adult, inappropriately located animals are the responsibility of Facilities Management - Campus Environment Services.
If the Animal Services Unit is contacted about such animals the caller will be referred to Facilities Management. If the animal is inside or outside the building **Campus Environment Services** (**4921 7038 or 0148 627 914)** will determine the appropriate means of removal.

If Facilities Management staff cannot be contacted (e.g.. After 3pm), Animal Services Unit Staff will collect or take delivery of the animal and either relocate it on campus or arrange collection by the Native Animal Trust Fund.
In the case of possums within buildings, details of the building and location are recorded. This information is passed onto Facilities Management so that appropriate nest boxes can be provided as alternate accommodation for the possum and entry holes can be blocked.

Injured native and/or animals should be delivered to the **Central Animal House (16220)** for appropriate veterinary treatment and subsequently delivered to the Native Animal Trust Fund or similar licensed body.
Juvenile native animals incapable of independent life must be referred to a licensed animal carer through the **Native Animal Trust Fund (0500 502294)**. As these animals are often dehydrated or have injuries that may not be obvious, veterinary assessment is usually required prior to the Native Animal Trust Fund.

NO

END