

Statement of Management Intent

for

Flying-fox roost management

in

***[INSERT NAME OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT]***

This Statement of Management Intent was endorsed by council on [date] and has effect from [insert date of commencement] until superseded

[Council logo or other signifier may be inserted here]

1. Authority

Under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, local governments in Queensland have an as-of-right authority to undertake roost management at flying-fox roosts in designated Urban Flying-Fox Management Areas (UFFMAs) provided they comply with the 'Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts'. An UFFMA for a local government area is defined by maps available from the website of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP).

Outside an UFFMA, a local government requires a flying-fox roost management permit (FFRMP), available from EHP. A local government also has the option to apply for a FFRMP should it wish to trial roost management techniques that are outside the *Code of Practice*. A non-council applicant requires a FFRMP irrespective of the location of the roost.

Further information on the Queensland Government's roost management framework is available at the following webpage:

< www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/livingwith/flyingfoxes/roost-management.html >.

The SoMI will articulate the approach the council intends to take with respect to roost management across the UFFMA, any rationale the council considers appropriate to declare and any specific plans council has in relation to roost management.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this SoMI is to articulate the approach that **[insert name of local government]** will take to the management of flying-fox roosts in **[name of local government area]**.

3. Location of the UFFMA in [insert local government name]

The local government may consider including a map of the UFFMA for the local government area. LGA-scale maps are available at the following webpage:

< www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/livingwith/flyingfoxes/management-areas >.

The local government may also consider directing residents who wish to view a map of their own property in relation to the UFFMA. Maps are available at the following webpage:

< www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/livingwith/flyingfoxes/management-areas/map-request.php >.

4. Council intentions and considerations

The SoMI may include a broad, general statement of management intent for all flying-fox roosts within the UFFMA.

The SoMI may also include specific statements of management intent for specified flying-fox roosts within the UFFMA.

Local governments may also wish to include a general statement for the areas outside the UFFMA.

The SoMI may include details of factors that council would consider before deciding whether to take any action at particular sites, such as:

- the well-being impacts and concerns that nearby residents are experiencing;
- whether council considers that there are any risks to human health or well-being from the roost; and
- whether the roost is on council land or private land, and if private land, whether consent for council to undertake management has been provided by all relevant landholders.

The SoMI may include details of additional factors that council would consider in deciding the most appropriate action to take at particular sites, such as:

- the cost of various management actions and who would contribute to these costs.
N.B. Potential management actions can range from minimal intervention, through to moderate vegetation modification, through to complete clearing of roost vegetation and driving flying-foxes away. Costs increase significantly with greater management interventions;
- the number of each species of flying-foxes at the roost, and what the council's intention would be should the flying-foxes be breeding or rearing their young; and
- whether good outcomes may be achieved with minimal management interventions such as community education or moderate management interventions such as 'nudging' or 'buffering' processes by which the impact of an existing roost may be managed by its reduction.

The SoMI may include details of additional factors that council might consider for the potential dispersal of a particular roost, such as:

- the number of years that flying-foxes have used a particular roost site. N.B. Flying-foxes are known to have strong affinities with roost sites, and driving flying-foxes away from an established roost may, in some circumstances, prove challenging and resource intensive;
- the likelihood of flying-foxes relocating to a site of greater conflict with the community;
- whether flying-foxes at the site are capable of independent flight at the time of year proposed for driving them away; and
- whether a proposed management action may cause harm to flying-foxes.

The SoMI may also advise residents, that if a roost is on private land(s), low impact activities may be undertaken by the landholder(s) as-of-right under the relevant code of practice. The *Code of Practice – Low impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts* is available at the following webpage:

< www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/livingwith/flyingfoxes/pdf/cp-wl-low-impact-ff-roosts.pdf >.

The SoMI may include advice to residents that, should they be dissatisfied with council's approach at a particular roost site, they may apply for a permit directly from EHP. The FFRMP application form is available at the following webpage:

< <https://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/livingwith/flyingfoxes/roost-management.html> >.

The SoMI may advise residents that anyone, council or resident, wishing to undertake roost management actions must do so in compliance with the *Code of Practice—Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts*, which is available at the following webpage:

< www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/livingwith/flyingfoxes/pdf/cp-wl-ff-roost-management.pdf >.

The SoMI may include any further information the council considers relevant to residents.

5. Further information

The SoMI may provide contact details within the council, should residents wish to discuss roost management activities with the council.

The SoMI may also refer residents to local offices of EHP or to the EHP website should residents require further information from EHP.

Approved:

Mr Lindsay Delzoppo

Acting Executive Director

Nature Conservation Services

Department of Environment and Heritage

DATE: 14 October 2016

Disclaimer

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