

POLICY NAME: DONATIONS – WASTE DISPOSAL FEES FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT DISPOSAL OF FERAL, ORPHAN ANIMALS AND NATIVE FAUNA

POLICY REF: D06

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OBJECTIVE

To provide clear policy guidelines to veterinarians to assist in the not-for-profit disposal of feral, orphaned animals and wildlife collected in applying for exemptions from waste disposal fees at the Ballina Waste Management Centre.

POLICY

Council recognises that not-for-profit collection of dead and injured orphaned animals at veterinarian practices provides the community with significant social and environmental benefits, whilst helping in the prevention of an increased risk to human health from infectious diseases.

To assist those veterinarian practices in delivering those services Council has endorsed the following guidelines for fee relief from annual waste disposal fees.

Guidelines

1. Council will provide a \$300 2022/23 credit (indexed yearly in accordance with waste management fees) at the Waste Management Centre for each bona fide veterinarian practice for the burial of cadavers that have been received free of charge due to their orphaned status within the Ballina Local Government Area.
2. To ensure adequate records are maintained of this service, eligible organisations must apply to Council in writing prior to utilising this service.

3. To ensure transparency and accountability eligible organisations must qualify for fee relief by providing proof of being a registered veterinarian practice accepting orphaned injured animals.
4. If an eligible organisation wishes to request an expansion of this service then that organisation must apply to Council in writing each year, as part of Council's annual donations exhibition process (normally conducted during May each year - refer to the Council policy titled "Donations - Financial Assistance" for further information). This will then ensure that any additional request for assistance is considered with the majority of other financial assistance requests.

BACKGROUND

This policy has been developed to assist local veterinary practices to continue to manage the humane treatment and disposal of pest animals and wildlife.

The provision of the policy is to encourage the appropriate management of orphaned animals received at the practices from a good will perspective and to ensure the disposal of cadavers is conducted in a manner that reduces the risk to human health due to certain species of animals that are known to harbor disease-causing organisms which can be zoonosis.

Council has developed this policy to provide fee relief from waste disposal charges to assist in the not-for-profit disposal of cadavers at the Waste Management Facility.

DEFINITIONS

Not for profit disposal the disposal of a cadaver that is a result of a collection of an injured orphaned animal from a member of the community free of charge.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- Council employees
- Ballina Shire Veterinarians

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

This policy applies to Veterinarians that dispose of animals that have been collected free of charge due to their orphan status. As a minimum this policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Section 356 of the Local Government Act.
- NSW Office of Environment & Heritage – Code of practice for injured, sick and orphaned protected fauna.
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979
- Companion Animals Act 1998

REVIEW

The Donations – Waste Disposal Fees for the Not-for-Profit Disposal of Feral, Orphaned Animals and Native Fauna Policy is to be reviewed every four years.