



Inquiry into the health and wellbeing of kangaroos and other macropods in New South Wales

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. That Portfolio Committee No 7 – Planning and Environment inquire into and report on the health and wellbeing of kangaroos, and other macropods, in New South Wales, and in particular:
 - (a) historical and long-term health and wellbeing indicators of kangaroos, and other macropods, at the local, bioregional and state levels, including the risk of localised extinction in New South Wales,
 - (b) the accuracy with which kangaroo, and other macropod, numbers are calculated when determining population size, and the means by which the health and wellbeing of populations is assessed,
 - (c) threats to kangaroo, and other macropod, habitat, including the impact of:
 - (i) climate change, drought and diversion and depletion of surface water sources,
 - (ii) bushfires,
 - (iii) land clearing for agriculture, mining and urban development,
 - (iv) the growing prevalence of exclusion fencing which restricts and disrupts the movement of kangaroos,
 - (d) current government policies and programs for kangaroo management, including:
 - (i) the method used for setting quotas for kangaroo culling,
 - (ii) the management of licences to cull kangaroos,
 - (iii) temporary drought relief policies and programs,
 - (e) current government policies and programs in regards to 'in pouch' and 'at foot joeys' given the high infant mortality rate of joeys and the unrecorded deaths of orphaned young where females are killed,
 - (f) regulatory and compliance mechanisms to ensure that commercial and non-commercial killing of kangaroos and other macropods is undertaken according to the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and other relevant regulations and codes,
 - (g) the impact of commercial and non-commercial killing of kangaroos and other macropods, including the difficulty of establishing numbers killed by landholders since the removal of the requirement for drop tags, and

- (h) current and alternative measures to provide an incentive for and accelerate public and private conservation of kangaroos and other macropods.
2. That the committee report by 15 October 2021.*

Committee membership

Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Mark Pearson MLC	Animal Justice Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Ben Franklin MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Rose Jackson MLC**	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Shayne Mallard MLC	Liberal Party	
Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party	

* The original reporting date was the first sitting day in September 2021 (*Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 16 March 2021, pp 1995-1996). The committee resolved on 11 June 2021 to extend the date to 14 October 2021 (*Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council 22 June 2021, p 2329), then on 8 October 2021 the committee resolved to extend the date to 15 October 2021 (*Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 12 October 2021, p 2423).

** The Hon Rose Jackson MLC replaced the Hon Mark Buttigieg as a substantive member of the committee from 21 June 2021.