

# **Animal Use and Care Policy**

## **Intent**

The University recognises the significant role played by animals in the progression of human knowledge. The University's research and teaching activities involving animals are critical to the mission of the James Cook University. In this respect the University uses animals only when their use is justified and when no alternatives are available. Activities involving animals must only be conducted in in line with university policy, compliance with relevant legislation and after approval by the

- 1.1. Promote a culture of respect and ethical conduct amongst its staff and students which will be evident in its policy framework and in the behaviour staff at all levels;
- 1.2. Ensure the health and wellbeing of all animals on university property or used by its staff for scientific or teaching purposes at field locations. It achieves this through the provision of the best possible accommodation, by providing a high level of care and husbandry practices, by ensuring those using and caring for animals are highly skilled and trained in their roles and by promoting the principles of the 3Rs;
- 1.3. Establish a well-resourced and independent AEC to oversee animal use and provide advice on matters regarding animals. All use of animals for scientific purposes must be approved by the AEC and all staff or students working with animals must also be approved to do so;
- 1.4. Employ adequate numbers of highly skilled and qualified investigators, technical staff, facility managers and animal care staff;
- 1.5. Employ an AWO to work with the AEC, facility managers, investigators and other staff

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