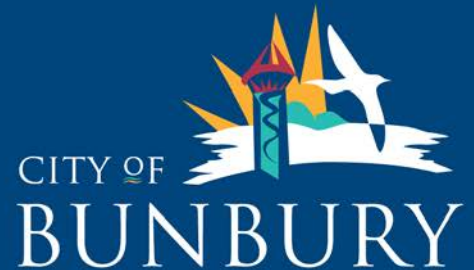


MEDIA STATEMENT



Thursday, 17 May 2018

Control of corellas to start immediately

The control of introduced corellas is due to start imminently after the City of Bunbury awarded a contract on behalf of the South West Coordinated Corella Control Group on Tuesday 15 May.

The South West Coordinated Corella Control Group comprising representatives from five local governments Bunbury, Busselton, Capel, Dardanup and Harvey, the Southern Ports – Bunbury, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and the Western Australian Local Government Association has been working together to manage the impacts of the introduced corellas across the region.

The introduced corellas cause significant negative impacts on the community through noise, chewing and fouling behaviours. They may also be causing adverse impacts on native species such as competing with threatened black cockatoos for nesting hollows. The introduced corella was declared a Category 3 pest under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* in late 2017 in view of their ongoing impacts.

The control period will run until 30 June with a further contract to be advertised later this year. The control activities will be undertaken by qualified and experienced personnel under license from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and in accordance with the requirements of the *WA Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and *WA Animal Welfare Act 2002*.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said the control program would have a positive effect on reducing the impact of the introduced corellas in the region.

“The local community and business owners have indicated they are fed up with the significant noise and ongoing destruction caused by these pests and will be relieved to know the program is due to start immediately,” Mayor Brennan said.

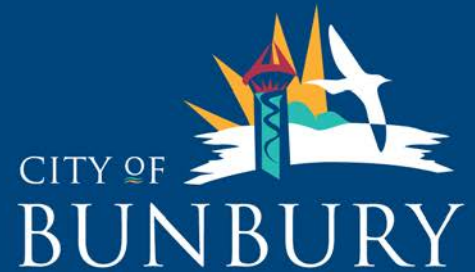
“Without managed intervention the introduced corella population and associated impacts are likely to increase.”

“We recognise that the control of corellas will take some time so in the interim we are also trialling short-term strategies to disperse them from damaging key City infrastructure such as bird-scaring kites.”

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MEDIA STATEMENT



Mayor Brennan also applauded the collaborative approach of the South West Coordinated Corella Control Group.

Many of the introduced corellas are anticipated to disperse for breeding over the winter months.

This may naturally bring some respite to community members from corella impacts; however the birds are expected to reform into large flocks during the 2018/19 summer period.

ENDS

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