## VET BILL ASSISTANCE POLICY



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- 1. <u>All vet bills are the members' responsibility</u> however, Fauna Rescue does have limited funds available to help members in certain circumstances.
- 2. The amount Fauna Rescue can help with will be determined by available funds at that time.
- 3. The committee makes the final decision on how much may be paid when vet bills exceed \$100.00.
- 4. Under \$100.00 it is up to the discretion of the species coordinators (or delegated approver/ contact) in consultation with the Treasurer to decide whether assistance is given.
  - Please refer to the Members Section under <u>Notices/Lists/Forms</u> on the Website for the Species Contacts List.
- 5. The following criteria must be followed by members and coordinators if financial assistance is required:
  - a) Always ask the vet first for a quote on any treatment they recommend before treatment is given.
  - b) If the vet bill is going to be more than the member can afford and you wish to ask Fauna Rescue for financial assistance, you must contact that Species Coordinator or Treasurer (or delegated approver/contact) for advice and approval for the treatment to be carried out.
  - c) Alternatively, if you are unable to contact a species coordinator you can contact the Chairperson or Assistant Chairperson for advice and approval.
  - d) The Treasurer must be advised of all approved financial assistance for Vet Bills via email to <a href="mailto:treasurer@faunarescue.org.au">treasurer@faunarescue.org.au</a> Details of the member and animal and cost should be included in the email.
  - e) Financial assistance will not be given if there are no animal records submitted for the said animal. The exception to this being if the animal has just come into care.
  - f) Members need to be mindful that when seeking help from specialised wildlife vets that some do not give discount to member's and you will be charged high rates. Always ask the receptionist when making an appointment if they help wildlife carers with discounted rates.
  - g) If a vet bill is submitted for assistance and the above steps have not been followed, no financial assistance will be given by Fauna Rescue.
- 6. If a member is faced with a high vet bill they cannot afford and it is a common species then euthanasia may have to be considered.
- 7. If it is an endangered or rare species then the coordinator/chairperson or Department of Environment must be contacted for assistance.
- 8. Fauna Rescue will endeavour to assist members where financially possible, however funds are limited and it will be up to the discretion of the committee if the bill is paid in full or part.