

NATIVE ANIMALS — PETS

Question without Notice 138 — Answer

HON DARREN WEST (Agricultural — Parliamentary Secretary) [5.01 pm]: On Wednesday, 13 March 2024, Hon Neil Thomson asked question without notice 138. I seek leave to have the response incorporated into *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

- (1) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' (DBCA) 'Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards and Guidelines – Management of rehabilitated wildlife that cannot be released into the wild' has been on the DBCA website since May 2020. DBCA first offers the animal to Perth Zoo, and then other suitable zoos and wildlife parks. If none of these organisations is able to take the animal, it may be offered to licensed pet dealers. The last resort for these animals would be euthanasia.
 - (2) One native animal that could not be released to the wild following rehabilitation has been sold to a licensed pet dealer since January 2024.
 - (3) There is no specified time limit on the length of time a native animal can be held while it is being rehabilitated. However, once a licensed rehabilitator has determined an individual animal cannot be returned to the wild, they must either euthanise that individual or advise DBCA via the process outlined in 'Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards and Guidelines – Management of rehabilitated wildlife that cannot be released into the wild'
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