

Meeting agenda

Koala Advisory Council

Details

Subject	Koala Advisory Council Meeting 9
Chair	Mark Townend
Meeting Type	Council Meeting
Date and location	Wednesday 17 June 2020 – Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting
Timing	1:30-3:00pm

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Mark Townend	Spinal Life Australia
Al Mucci	University of Queensland, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Bill Ellis	University of Queensland, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Chris Aston	Planning Group, Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
Kirstin Kenyon	Conservation and Biodiversity Operations, Department of Environment and Science (Proxy for Kirstin Kenyon)
Cameron Costello	Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation
Jonathan Rhodes	University of Queensland - School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science
Julie McLellan	Healthy Land and Water
Kirsty Chessher-Brown	Urban Development Institute of Australia
Kristy Gooding	Local Government Association of Queensland
Kristy Gooding	Local Government Association of Queensland
Lawrence Swan	Director of Culture, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Mick Stephens	Timber Queensland
Ramses Zietek	Program Delivery and Operations, Department of Transport and Main Roads
Revel Pointon	Environmental Defenders Office (proxy for Gemma Plesman, The Wilderness Society)
Rosie Booth	Australia Zoo

Speakers

Name	Organisation
Alex Graham	Department of Environment and Science
Geoff Lundie-Jenkins	Department of Environment and Science
Gordon Guymer	Department of Environment and Science
Catherine George	Department of Environment and Science

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Marina Vit	MOSAIC Property Group

Items

Item #	Discussion
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1 **Welcome from Chair and other business**
Mark Townend

Welcome to Country
Cameron Costello

Conflicts of interest:
Nil

Minutes from the previous meeting endorsed.

Community Pathways

Geoff Lundie-Jenkins

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- DES presented an overview of the proposed Community Pathways process for mapping revisions.
 - The Community Pathways is an avenue for members of the community and local governments to identify areas that they believe warrant consideration for inclusion as a koala habitat area. This process is in addition to the existing process to allow a landholders to make, amend or revoke koala habitat areas on their properties.
 - The proposed process utilises the existing Head of Power under the Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017 for the Chief Executive to make a map of Koala Habitat Areas based on information which is readily available (such as sightings data) and would link to the proposed annual revision of the Koala Habitat Area Map.
 - This proposal has been provided to South East Queensland local governments for feedback and the process has been reviewed iteratively in response to this feedback.
 - A Koala Technical Advisory Group will be established to support this process.
 - Council members provided feedback on the process for inclusion in the final version, including the need to simplify the flowchart for public release, the need to manage expectations of submitters, and support for amendments to be part of the annual updates to the koala habitat map.
 - Council members requested clarification on the proposed consultation process and timeframes ahead of the annual mapping review each year, specifically the role of the Planning Group (Queensland Treasury) and the Koala Advisory Council.
 - The table below outlines the resolutions on the Community Pathways proposal:

KAC:

2.1 Noted the proposed Community Pathways

Locally Refined Koala Habitat Areas (LRKHA)

Alex Graham and Gordon Guymer

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- DES and the Queensland Herbarium presented an update on the review and rationale of the LRKHA that is underway using the updated mapping for high value regrowth vegetation that is now available.
- This work is being undertaken in response to feedback from local governments and the community that there are additional areas known to contain koalas, but those areas are not included in the koala habitat map.
- Detailed work has commenced with Moreton Bay Regional Council to review the LRKHA and all South East Queensland local governments have been consulted on the update process, DES will continue to work with local governments over the coming months.
- Council members provided feedback on the need to consider how previously protected areas that are being incorporated into LRKHA revisions are to be reported against the target for a net gain in koala habitat.
- The table below outlines the resolutions

KAC
3.1 Noted the LRKHAs work to date
3.2 DES to provide clarification on the interaction between the transition of LRKHA into core habitat and the target for koala habitat

Final changes to the South East Queensland Koala Conservation Strategy and next steps including Governance

Catherine George

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- DES presented an update on changes to the Strategy since the April 2020 meeting.
- Changes include:
 - Finalised targets as agreed with KAC
 - Phased approach to delivery
 - Community Pathways (details provided in agenda item 2)
 - Strengthened governance
 - Local Government Working Group
 - Koala Technical Advisory Group
 - Minor text changes requested by Government departments
- LGAQ requested representation on the Local Government Working Group, and suggested the group should include 2 representatives from each SEQ local government (i.e. one member for each particular area of interest - planning related issues and environment related issues).
- The revised targets included in the SEQ Koala Conservation Strategy have been developed in consultation with Council members, and considered to be clear, realistic, measurable and time bound target.
- Council members supported involvement in the groups, including receiving copies of meeting minutes

KAC
4.1 Noted the changes
4.2 Requested a copy of the final South East Queensland Koala Conservation Strategy before the public release, with at least one week to review the Strategy

4.3 LGAQ to be included as a member of the Local Government Working Group

Preparing for public release of the South East Queensland Koala Conservation Strategy

Catherine George

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- DES presented an update on changes to the Strategy since the April 2020 meeting.
 - DES is now working towards the release of the Strategy that will include a collateral pack of:
 - Formatted and PDF version Strategy
 - Community Summary
 - Strategy Placemat (Summary on a page)
 - Updated mapping/regulation factsheets
 - Joint media statements
 - There will also be a number of Stakeholder information packs for:
 - Koala Advisory Council
 - SEQ local governments
 - SEQ MPs

KAC

5.1 Noted steps being undertaken in the finalisation of the Strategy
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5.2 Requested a copy of all collateral, with at least one week to review the Strategy

6 **Closing remarks**
Mark Townsend

Action

Reference	Action	Responsible	Status	Due Date
3.2	DES to provide clarification on the interaction between the transition of LRKHA into core habitat and the target for koala habitat, within the MERI framework, yet to be developed	DES		1 December 2020
4.2	Provide a final copy of the South East Queensland Koala Conservation Strategy to Council members	DES	Complete	At least one week prior to release
4.3	Amend the ToR for the Local Government Working Group	DES	Complete	1 July 2020

	to include LGAQ as a member and address the issue of numbers of representatives per council.			
5.2	Provide the collateral pack on the release of the South East Queensland Koala Conservation Strategy to Council members	DES	Complete	At least one week prior to release

Actions carried over from previous meetings

Meeting #	Action	Responsible	Status	Due Date
8	Define timeframes for completing implementation plans	DES	In progress	30 September 2020
8	Reconvene a Koala Advisory Council meeting to discuss implementation plans	DES		1 October 2020