

Terms of Reference:
Advice regarding the protection of the Campbelltown Koala population

To provide advice to the Minister for Energy and Environment and the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces about:

- The adequacy of the proposed measures for koala conservation proposed by property group Lendlease on land referred to as Mt Gilead Stage 2 (MGS2) and the consistency of these measures with the NSW Koala strategy.
- What, if any, additional conservation measures are considered necessary.
- What, if any, site specific measures for koala species should be incorporated into the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan for the Greater Macarthur Growth Area to support the long-term viability of the koala population.
- Whether east-west corridors linking the Nepean and Georges Rivers can contribute to the conservation of the Campbelltown koala population; and, if so, which east-west corridors and what measures should be taken to ensure their effectiveness.

In preparing this advice the Chief Scientist & Engineer will review existing science and relevant documentation including;

- NSW Koala Strategy
- Independent Review into the Decline of Koala Populations in Key Areas of NSW, NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer, 2016.
- Conserving Koalas in the Wollondilly and Campbelltown Local Government Areas report, Dept. Planning Industry and Environment, October 2019
- Koala Corridor Project Campbelltown City Council and Wollondilly Local Government Areas: Greater Macarthur Growth Area, Biolink Consultants, October 2018
- South Campbelltown Koala Habitat Connectivity Study prepared for Campbelltown City Council, Biolink Consultants, 2017.
- Fact Sheet CPCP Protecting Koalas on the Cumberland Plain, Dept. Planning, Industry and Environment, September 2019
- Mt Gilead Stage 1 Biodiversity Certification Agreement
- Application for biodiversity certification for Mt Gilead Stage 2, Campbelltown City Council, August 2019
- Biodiversity Certification Assessment Methodology (BCAM). Office of Environment and Heritage, 2011
- Greater Macarthur 2040: An interim Plan for the Greater Macarthur Growth Area, Department of Planning and Environment
- Section 3.25 consultation – Proposed amendments to Growth Centres SEPP to declare Greater Macarthur as Growth Area, Office of Environment and Heritage, March 2019
- Lunney, D. Close, R., Bryant, J. V., Crowther, M. S., Shannon, I., Madden, K., and Ward, S. 2010. 'The koalas of Campbelltown, south-western Sydney: does their natural history foretell of an unnatural future?' *The Natural History of Sydney*. Edited by Daniel Lunney, Pat Hutchings and Dieter Hochuli. Royal Zoological Society of NSW, Mosman, NSW, Australia.
- Phillips, S. and Callaghan, J. 2000. 'Tree species preferences of koalas (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) in the Campbelltown area south-west of Sydney, New South Wales'. *Wildlife Research*. 27: 509-516
- Any other documentation, science and previous reports that are considered relevant.

Reporting timeframe

The advice will be provided in a report by 30 April 2020.

Expert Panel

An Independent Expert Panel, chaired by the Deputy NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer, will be established to provide advice.

Support

Secretariat support will be provided by the Office of the Chief Scientist and Engineer.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment will also provide support. The agency contact is Kate Wilson, Executive Director Climate Change and Sustainability, Environment, Energy and Science.