PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO KOALA POPULATIONS AND HABITAT IN NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 24th June 2019

An Upper House inquiry has been established to inquire into and report on koala populations and habitat in New South Wales.

Chair of the committee, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC, said: "The committee recognises that there are grave concerns for the welfare of koalas in New South Wales. We want to ensure that New South Wales benefits from an effective policy framework to ensure healthy, sustainable koala populations into the future."

The inquiry will look into the current status of koala populations and their habitat and will focus on the impacts and effectiveness of existing policies relating to land management reform, forestry and the environment.

The Chair continued: "Through this inquiry, the committee aims to identify key areas of koala habitat, areas at risk from threats including logging and clearing and impacts that climate change could have on koalas and koala distribution. The committee will visit various areas, speak with local communities and experts about the plight of koalas and identify how to ensure their welfare and survival."

The committee welcomes submissions from interested stakeholders and members of the community. Submissions are due by 2 August 2019 and can be lodged via the inquiry webpage.

For further information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference, please visit the committee's website.

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For further information, please contact the office of Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC, on (02) 9230 3771 or 0487 247 960.