



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO 7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **INQUIRY INTO KOALA POPULATIONS AND HABITAT IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**17 October 2019**

On Friday 18 October 2019, Portfolio Committee 7 will hold its second hearing for the inquiry into koala populations and habitat in New South Wales.

The Chair of the committee, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC said: "The committee looks forward to hearing evidence from representatives of Ballina, Tweed and Lismore councils, Dr Stephen Phillips of Biolink and Mr David Milledge, as well as key environmental organisations, including the Australian Koala Foundation."

The Chair continued: "Given the unique challenges faced by koalas on the NSW North Coast, the committee is interested to hear from all stakeholders on potential solutions. This is particularly the case regarding habitat destruction, forest fires and car strikes – arguably some of the biggest threats to the region's koala population."

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

The hearing will commence at 9.30 am in the Spinnakers Room, Ballina RSL Club, Ballina and is open to the public.

For further information on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, and submissions received, 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.*