From:	<u>Virginia Seymour</u>
To:	Portfolio Committee 7
Cc:	Leonie Walsh; Angie Brace; Wendy Neilan
Subject:	RE: Koala populations and habitat in New South Wales - Post-hearing responses - 18 October 2019
Date:	Friday, 13 December 2019 3:48:37 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

Hi Laura,

I have taken the question "any areas that your councils have potentially identified as important to the local community or that people are calling for to be added to the park system that you know in terms of koala protection specifically" to the Environmental Strategies team here at Lismore City Council.

No specific areas as such can be nominated to answer directly to the question at this time. Most of the koala habitat in the Lismore LGA occurs on private land, some in state forests, some on land that is reserved NPWS. Some koala habitat occurs on council owned or council managed land, however they are small areas although they are considered important they are not connected to the current "park" system..

Council is not in a position to avail resources to undertake the data analysis required to discover the "best conservation investment" land parcels and then figure out which parcels are feasible or viable for conservation of koala habitat.

There is a great deal of work being done in this space for example ARC linkage program, saving our species etc. What is required by council is support and dedicated resources to curate all of the data from the various programs to inform biodiversity conservation and growth management strategies moving forward.

Regards Virginia

Virginia Seymour | Environmental Strategies Officer (DA) | Lismore City Council

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