

The international organisation dedicated to saving the Koala and its habitat

The Right Hon. G Quirk Lord Mayor of Brisbane Office of the Lord Mayor GPO Box 2287 Brisbane Qld 4001

9th March 2017

Dear Lord Mayor,

On behalf of the Australian Koala Foundation we are sending you an assessment of what we believe will be the impact on Koala habitat after the implementation of the South East Queensland Plan.

The graphs are complex but should your planners take advantage of the information contained in them, Koala habitat in the future could be protected. It is clear to see that good quality Koala habitat is being cleared faster than other vegetation types. I personally also hold grave concerns for the amount of farmland that will be given over to development. We have made that assessment too and it is quite shocking. I also attach my letter to Minister Trad with the overall assessment of the South East Queensland Plan recommendations.

It is pretty clear that if your region wants to be Koala friendly, liveable and where food production is clean and green, these maps show that is not your future. Your future will be gridlock, housing estates and an unliveable city. It is interesting to note too that there appears to be no real strategic thinking in some of the new places to be developed and in some cases could even be perceived as a favour to a mate. After such a long time in my position here at the AKF, I know such deals are made. I just wish the public knew; sadly they still have faith in the political process.

AKF calls on you to instigate a moratorium on all Koala DA's in your LGA immediately.

AKF calls on you to call a moratorium on the removal of any tree species that are needed for the long term future of the Koala in your LGA - AKF has the list of species (not the ones on our website, but a complete list).

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| Fax: 61-7-3221 0337 | Fax: 1-212-967 7292 | | |
| Email: akf@savethekoala.com | | | |



AKF calls on you to call a conference of Mayors where you pledge to work together to protect the remaining Koala habitat of South East Queensland.

To be frank I have no faith any of this will happen but I always live in hope and would be very happy to brief you on the consequences of the decisions your planners may make in the coming months.

Yours faithfully,

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Deborah Tabart OAM Chief Executive Officer Australian Koala Foundation