



Redland
CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

LATE REPORTS GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, 17 February 2021
commencing at 9.30am**

**The Council Chambers
91 - 93 Bloomfield Street
CLEVELAND QLD**

Order Of Business

14 Reports from Community & Customer Services..... 2

14.4 Update on Review of Options to Enhance the Protection of Core Habitat and
Wildlife Corridor Habitat in the Urban Footprint of the City..... 2

14 REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

14.4 UPDATE ON REVIEW OF OPTIONS TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION OF CORE HABITAT AND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR HABITAT IN THE URBAN FOOTPRINT OF THE CITY

Objective Reference:

Authorising Officer: Louise Rusan, General Manager Community & Customer Services

Responsible Officer: David Jeanes, Group Manager City Planning and Assessment

Report Author: Dean Butcher, Strategic Planner

Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

To provide Council with a status update on the review of options to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection to core habitat and wildlife corridors in the Urban Footprint as identified in the Wildlife Connections Plan 2018-2028 (WCP).

BACKGROUND

At the General Meeting on 4 November 2020, a notice of motion was moved to commence a new major amendment to provide statutory protections to the environmental corridors in the WCP using the previously draft major amendment as a basis.

Council subsequently resolved as follows:

1. To undertake an urgent review regarding options to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection to environmental corridors within the Urban Footprint as identified in the Wildlife Connections Plan 2018-2028 **(completed)**.
2. To request officers undertake the following:
 - a) Prepare a report to Council outlining the findings of the review, as well as recommended changes to City Plan by the end of February 2021 **(completed)**.
 - b) Prepare a major amendment pursuant to Part 4 of the Minister's Guideline's and Rules under the *Planning Act 2016*, if required, incorporating the proposed changes to City Plan as supported by Council by the end of May 2021 **(future step)**.
 - c) Consult with each divisional councillor regarding changes to City Plan that may be recommended **(next step)**.

ISSUES

Wildlife Connections Plan (WCP) 2018-2028

The WCP adopted by Council at its General Meeting on 21 February 2018 sets out Council's policy position in relation to the protection and enhancement of the City's most important habitat areas being core habitats and the wildlife corridor habitat that connect them.

Review of options

Officers have considered options available to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection to environmental corridors within the Urban Footprint. The recommendations relate to:

1. The methodology used to review and generate the mapping;
2. Mapping principles;
3. Approaches to mapping; and
4. Statutory changes to City including regulating the clearing of native vegetation in core and corridor habitat areas.

Consultation with Councillors

In accordance with the resolution of Council on 4 November 2020 officers will now commence a consultation exercise with Councillors to outline the potential options and recommendation that can be used to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use protection for existing core and wildlife corridor habitats. This will involve a consideration of the methodology used to review and generate the mapping, including mapping principles and approaches, as well as potential changes to the provisions within City Plan.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Legislative Requirements

There are no legislative requirements in reviewing options to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection to environmental corridors within the Urban Footprint as identified in the Wildlife Connections Plan 2018-2028.

Risk Management

Reviewing options to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection for WCP core habitat and wildlife where in the Urban Footprint is the first step to ensuring that the City Plan reflects Council's policy position to protect the City's most important urban habitat and habitat that connects them.

Financial

If Council decides to proceed with a major amendment to City Plan, the proposed amendment will be funded as part of the operating budget of the City Planning and Assessment Group.

People

The staff and resourcing to undertake the next steps will be primarily drawn from the Strategic Planning Unit of the City Planning and Assessment Group.

Environmental

Reviewing options to provide an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection to the City's most important urban habitat areas will assist in the protection of the City's biodiversity and contribute to the implementation of the broader WCP.

Social

Providing an enhanced level of statutory land use planning protection to the City's most important urban habitat also provides a social benefit. Habitat protection can provide significant social benefits such as improved open space, more shade, increased connection with nature and greater recreational value and usage of parks and reserves.

Human Rights

Providing for an enhanced level of statutory land use protection to the City's most important urban habitat supports the human right to a healthy natural environment.

Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

Providing for an enhanced level of statutory land use protection to the City's most important urban habitats supports:

- Implementation of the Wildlife Connections Plan 2018-2028
- Natural Environment Policy
- Natural Environment goal of Our Future Redlands: A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond

CONSULTATION

Consulted	Consultation Date	Comments/Actions
Legal Services	21 January 2021	Advice provided on s254(J) of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> (LCM 9402)

OPTIONS

Option One

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the current status of the review of options to enhance the protection of core habitat and wildlife corridor habitat in the Urban Footprint of the City.
2. To note that consultation with Councillors will be undertaken by the end of February 2021.

Option Two

That Council resolves to request further information.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the current status of the review of options to enhance the protection of core habitat and wildlife corridor habitat in the Urban Footprint of the City.
2. To note that consultation with Councillors will be undertaken by the end of February 2021.