



Speech By  
**Corrine McMillan**


**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### **Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee; Mount Gravatt Environment Group; Pollinator Link**

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (7.15 pm): I rise to speak about two groups and a unique project in the Mansfield electorate working towards improving our environment. The Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee, known as B4C, was established as an incorporated catchment and landcare group in 1997. The Bulimba Creek catchment is a complex network of creeks and major tributaries, extending through the suburbs of Mount Gravatt, Mansfield and Carindale. B4C provides an incredible range of programs, projects, services and events in the community. Their sustainability centre houses a nursery, community garden and ecosystems services unit depot while also delivering community workshops. It is always a pleasure working with Wayne and all the team at B4C. I commend their wonderful work in the catchment.

I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of the Mount Gravatt Environment Group. The aim of the group is the restoration and strengthening of the Mount Gravatt Conservation Reserve and linking to Bulimba Creek catchment habitats. The Palaszczuk government is supporting these great community efforts by ensuring that essential habitat for koalas is protected in the Mansfield electorate. On 7 February, Minister Enoch released new state-of-the-art koala mapping to support new koala planning regulations in South-East Queensland. These are the strongest koala protections Queensland has ever seen. Some 577,174 hectares of land across South-East Queensland is now mapped as koala priority areas. They are large, connected areas that include koala habitat as well as areas that are suitable for habitat restoration. Clearing of koala habitat areas within koala priority areas is now prohibited under these new regulations.

Contrast this with the LNP, which opposed Labor's sensible tree clearing laws. Restoring and strengthening the ecosystems on our mountain and its corridors have positive community and environmental outcomes. Wildlife does not recognise human created property boundaries or roads. Effective habitat consolidation and linking requires the cooperation of a diverse range of property owners—private, corporate, local, state and federal governments, community and sporting groups, schools, our TAFE and Griffith University. Therefore, a key part of our strategy is to identify investments in the environment that also deliver excellent community and business outcomes.

I would like to commend Michael Fox for establishing the Pollinator Link project, a not-for-profit social enterprise creating wildlife corridors for urban spaces. The concept is to use backyards, parks, school grounds and even unit block balconies to link patches of bushland habitat fragmented by our urban environment. I commend these great community leaders.