

## Question on Notice

No. 829

Asked on Thursday, 13 June 2024

**MR T WATTS** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (HON L LINARD)—

### **QUESTION:**

Will the Minister advise what strategic planning, constituent or consultation meetings, and research are being conducted to protect Redwood Park and the Escarpment to the East of Toowoomba?

### **ANSWER:**

A large portion of Redwood Park (194 hectares) on the Toowoomba escarpment is dedicated as reserve and is managed by Toowoomba Regional Council as Trustee Reserve under the *Land Act 1994*.

The remainder of Redwood Park, and neighbouring Prince Henry Drive Park (over 100 hectares), is freehold land owned by the Toowoomba Regional Council.

As the primary landholder, the Toowoomba Regional Council has lead responsibility for management and conservation of the area.

I can advise that during a meeting, held on 12 March 2024, with representatives of the Darling Downs Environment Council and officers from the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation (the department) Redwood Park was raised as a local conservation priority.

Subsequently, I asked the department to initiate officer-level discussions with the Toowoomba Regional Council to explore potential opportunities for collaboration on conservation measures. I understand the department-initiated contact in May 2024 and the next officer-level meeting is scheduled to take place before the end of July 2024, to continue to explore options for the future protection and management of these reserves. I have also written to the Toowoomba Mayor regarding this matter.