

Tea Gardens developer to pay for habitat protection

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Great Lakes Council has released details of a planning agreement for a new housing estate at Tea Gardens, which includes the protection of 42 hectares of environmentally sensitive land.



Koala habitat to be protected under a Planning Agreement for a new housing subdivision at Tea Gardens.

The draft development control plan and planning agreement for the 500 lot North Shearwater housing estate are about to go on public display.

Great Lakes Council's Manager of Strategic Planning Roger Busby says under the plan, the developer would hand over the 42 hectares of conservation land to council and fund its ongoing management.

[Map: Tea Gardens](#)

"Some of it is koala habitat, some of it is in fact quite an important movement corridor, linking with further habitat areas further west and also to areas along the Myall River," he said.

"It is really quite an important approach to preserve and enhance those fauna movement corridors.

Under the agreement, the developer will pay Great Lakes Council \$350,000 to ensure the parcel of land is protected into the future.

Mr Busby says the site will become a permanent wildlife corridor.

"The developer is going to some of the work up front, but if they elect not to do that work, the Planning Agreement requires them to fund council to undertake that work.

"They are also making a payment to council for the ongoing management of the land that's to be given over to council for conservation, that comes to \$350,000 all up."

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