

ITEM 10 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR ANDREW ANTHONY - WILDLIFE FENCING

Councillor Andrew Anthony has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that Council –

- 1 Write to the NSW Minister for Transport, calling on the State Government to urgently repair the damaged wildlife fencing along Picton Road and Appin Road.
- 2 Request the NSW Minister for Transport establish a regular maintenance program for the wildlife fencing on these roads to ensure their long-term effectiveness.
- 3 Advocate for the inclusion of wildlife crossings in all future road upgrade designs for Picton Road, Appin Road, and other regional roads in the Illawarra to reduce wildlife fatalities and improve motorist safety.”

Background provided by Councillor Andrew Anthony:

Wildlife fencing installed along Picton Road and Appin Road has been severely damaged in multiple locations, rendering it ineffective in preventing wildlife from accessing the roads.

Recent media reports highlighted a distressing incident where a koala was struck by a truck on Picton Road:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-12-12/picton-road-koala-fence-maintenance-concerns/104718726>

Not only are koalas and other wildlife at risk, but damaged fencing also endangers motorists who may swerve or collide with animals, increasing the risk of serious accidents.

Incorporating wildlife crossings, such as underpasses and overpasses, in future road designs has been proven to reduce wildlife fatalities and improve motorist safety.