



Jaclyn Symes MP

Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Agriculture  
Minister for Resources121 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia  
Telephone: +61 3 8392 2261  
DX 210074

Ref: CMIN19009698

Cr Bob Turner  
Mayor  
City of Melton  
PO Box 21  
MELTON VIC 3337

Dear Mr Mayor

**REQUEST TO LIST THE COMMON MYNA LISTED AS AN ESTABLISHED PEST ANIMAL**

Thank you for your letter dated 22 March 2019 regarding declaration of the common myna as an established pest animal under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (CaLP Act).

As you are aware, common mynas are a widespread problem in Victoria with a long history in the State. They were introduced from Asia in 1862 to control caterpillars and other insects in market gardens around Melbourne. Common mynas are an extremely adaptable species and thrive in a wide range of Australian environments. They are now so widely distributed in Victoria that they cannot be eradicated from the State.

Common mynas are not a declared pest species under the CaLP Act. If they were to be declared as an established pest animal, all landowners, including the City of Melton, would have a legal duty to prevent the spread of, and as far as possible eradicate the species from their land. As there are no practical means to efficiently and effectively control this pest on a landscape scale, it would be unreasonable to put this obligation on public and private landholders.

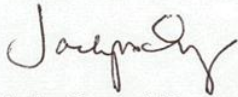
Agriculture Victoria recommends coordinated community-led action focused on the control of common mynas as the most effective means in reducing their impacts. Agriculture Victoria would be pleased to speak to Council about community-led control programs for the control of invasive species.



If you would like to discuss community engagement approaches, please contact Michael Reid, Senior Manager Communications and Engagement on (02) 6043 7975 or [michael.reid@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:michael.reid@ecodev.vic.gov.au).

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely



**Jaclyn Symes MP**  
Minister for Agriculture

Date: 1/5/2019