



# Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Local Strategic Planning Statement 2040



# Foreword

Strategic planning is necessary to properly inform the content of statutory planning instruments that are used for State, regional and local planning. This Liverpool Plains Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) delivers a holistic long-term vision that integrates economic, environmental, social and cultural factors whilst acknowledging that circumstances may change and strategies need to adapt over time. It also provides a linkage between Council's Community Strategic Plan and Local Environmental Plan.

Community input has facilitated your Council in developing a vision for the Shire that builds-on and celebrates its unique identity and provides homes and jobs to support a lifestyle that is inclusive, vibrant and welcoming.

A vast amount of work has gone into the development of this LSPS. I'd like to thank the community members, businesses and organisations that contributed through the consultation process. I'd also like to thank the Council staff who worked diligently to, wherever possible, incorporate the community vision into this robust blueprint.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Andrew Hope".

*Andrew Hope*  
Mayor · Liverpool Plains Shire Council

## Version Control

Version	Date
1.0	2 December 2019
2.0	17 January 2020
3.0	12 February 2020
4.0	14 May 2020
Final	As Adopted by Council on 27 May 2020

*Cover art source: Jeremy Buckingham*

# Acknowledgement of country

Liverpool Plains Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging. This Plan acknowledges a strong belief amongst Aboriginal people that if we care for country, it will care for us. This is supported by the knowledge that the health of a people and their

community is reliant on a strong physical and emotional connection to place.

Conserving Aboriginal heritage and respecting the Aboriginal community's right to determine how it is identified and managed will preserve some of the world's longest standing spiritual, historical, social and educational values.



*Source: Walhallow Public School*

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# About this statement

This Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) identifies Liverpool Plains Shire Council’s economic, social and environmental land use needs and visions for the next 20 years. It addresses the planning and development issues of strategic significance for the Shire through the identification of planning priorities and actions, spatial land use direction, and guidance.

The LSPS gives effect to the New England North West Regional Plan 2036 (Regional Plan) by implementing key directions and actions at a local level.

As an integrative local plan, it is also informed by other State-wide and regional policies including the *Lower North West Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2022*, *NSW State Infrastructure Strategy 2018 – 2038*, *Future Transport 2056* and the *Western Enabling Regional Adaptation New England North West region report*. Other relevant planning or related policies and strategies mentioned throughout this document have also informed preparation of this LSPS to ensure that Global, National and State strategic planning matters are considered, together with local area and site planning.

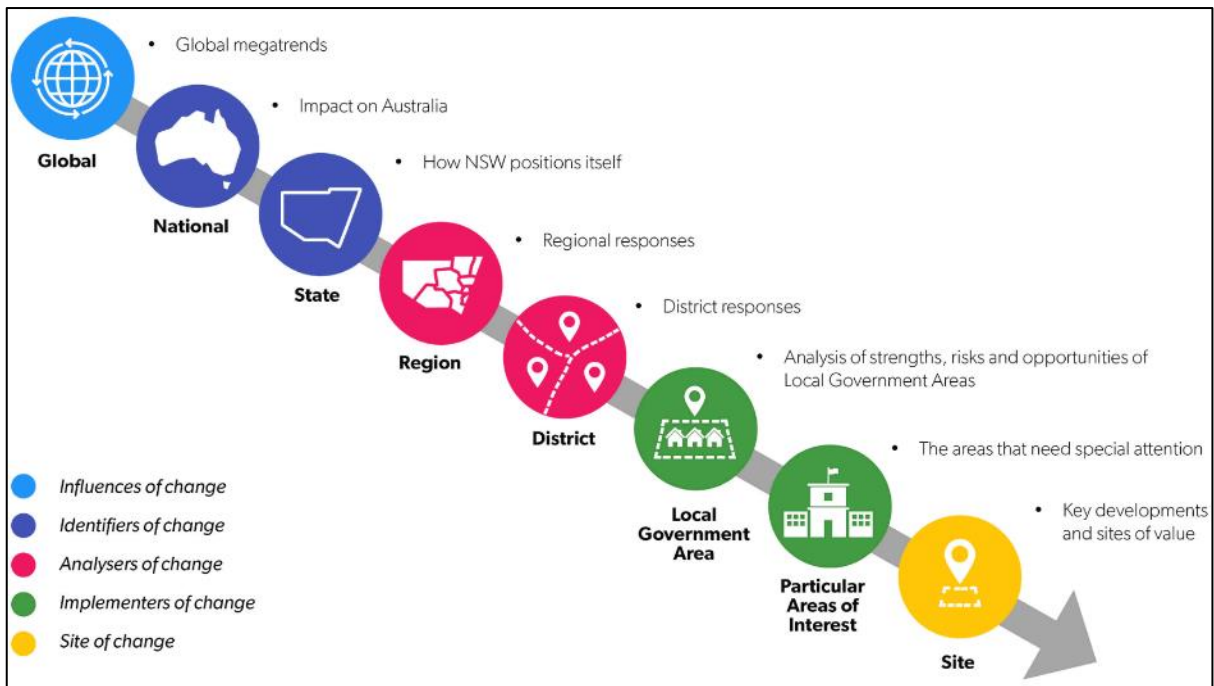


Figure 1 - Line of sight, Liverpool Plains LSPS  
 Source: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

The LSPS works concurrently with the *Liverpool Plains Community Strategic Plan 2017 - 2027* (CSP) to deliver the community's vision for the Shire. The planning priorities and actions identified in the LSPS provide the rationale for decisions about the use of land to achieve the community's broader goals and guides updates to the Liverpool Plains Local Environmental Plan

2011 and Liverpool Plains Shire Council Development Control Plan 2012.

This LSPS has been prepared in accordance with Section 3.9 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

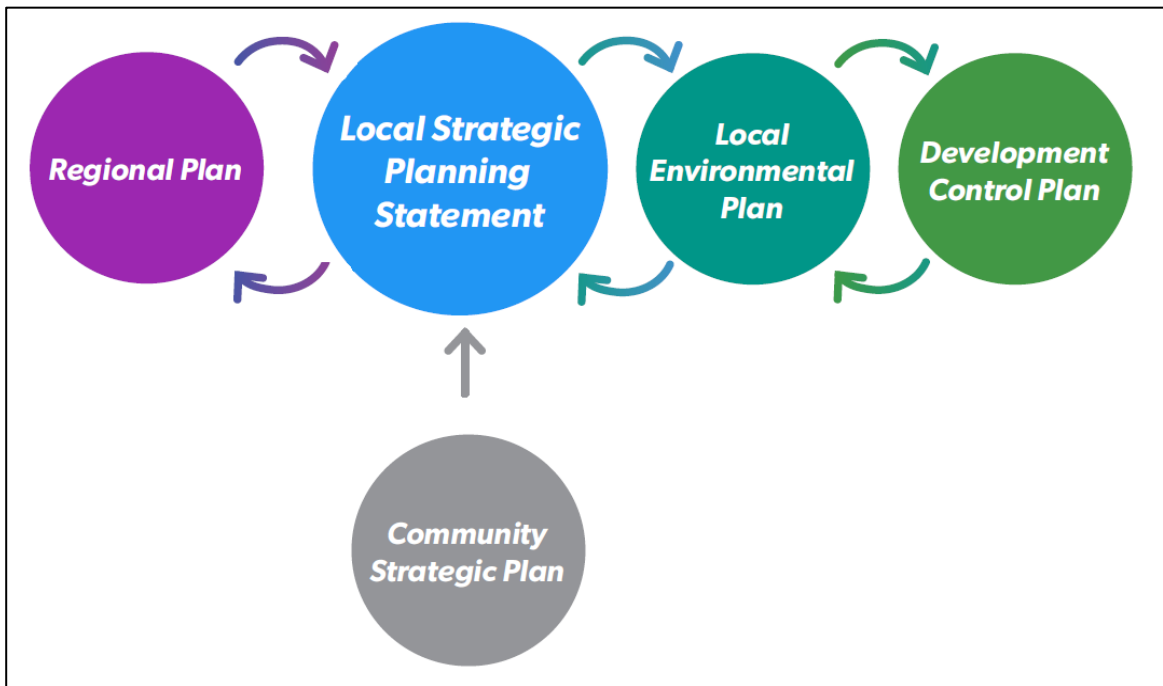


Figure 2 - Strategic-led planning

Source: Adapted from Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

# Consultation

Council has engaged extensively with a range of stakeholders in the LSPS planning process. This LSPS brings together, and builds on, community feedback received over the past two (2) and half years as a part of the review of the Local Environment Plan (LEP), drought funding workshops, and the development of the Industrial Land Use Strategy and Community Strategic Plan.

The LSPS also incorporates over 250 comments, thoughts, and ideas from people across Liverpool Plains Shire, and input and feedback obtained from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, business and community groups, and the Nungaroo and Walhallow Local Aboriginal Land Councils. All of the feedback has been considered in developing the Vision and strategies for our Shire through the LSPS.



# Strategic Context

## Regional context

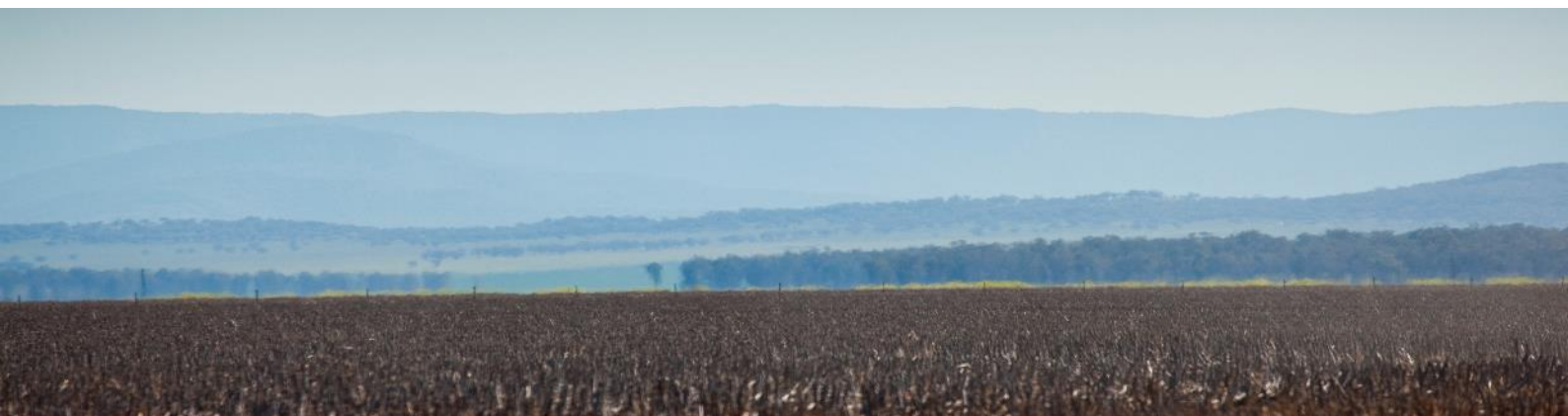
The Lower North West region of NSW accommodates the local government areas of Liverpool Plains, Gunnedah and Tamworth. Key endowments of the region include its location, accessibility and connectivity; highly productive agricultural land; significant mineral resources and strong lifestyle attributes. The region sits at the junction of three major highways (Kamilaroi, New England and Oxley) and three railway lines (the Main North Line, Mungindi Line and Werris Creek – Binnaway Line) and is traversed by several significant inter-regional link roads. The New England Highway is part of the National Road Freight Network, while the majority of the rail infrastructure is part of the National Rail Freight Network.

Air services are available from Tamworth Regional Airport to Sydney and Brisbane. Liverpool Plains Shire has a small airport 8 kilometres west of Quirindi which is licensed for general aviation and is used for recreational flying, corporate charter flights, flight training and agricultural services.

The Lower North West region has ready access to the East Coast domestic markets and to the Port of Newcastle (3 hours by road), Port Botany (5 hours) and Port of Brisbane (7–8 hours). In the future, the region will have access (via Narrabri) to the Inland Rail.

Urbanising rural centres and increasingly connected markets for resources and agricultural produce are creating a range of new opportunities for the Lower North West region. Leveraging natural assets, economic strengths and industry specialisations is key to unlocking new economic opportunities in:

- high-value agriculture and value adding in agricultural product manufacturing;
- mining and construction industries which capitalise on the region's mineral and solar endowments, particularly near existing infrastructure (transmission infrastructure, settlements or industries); and,
- tourism which focuses on the unique culture, history and environment of the region.



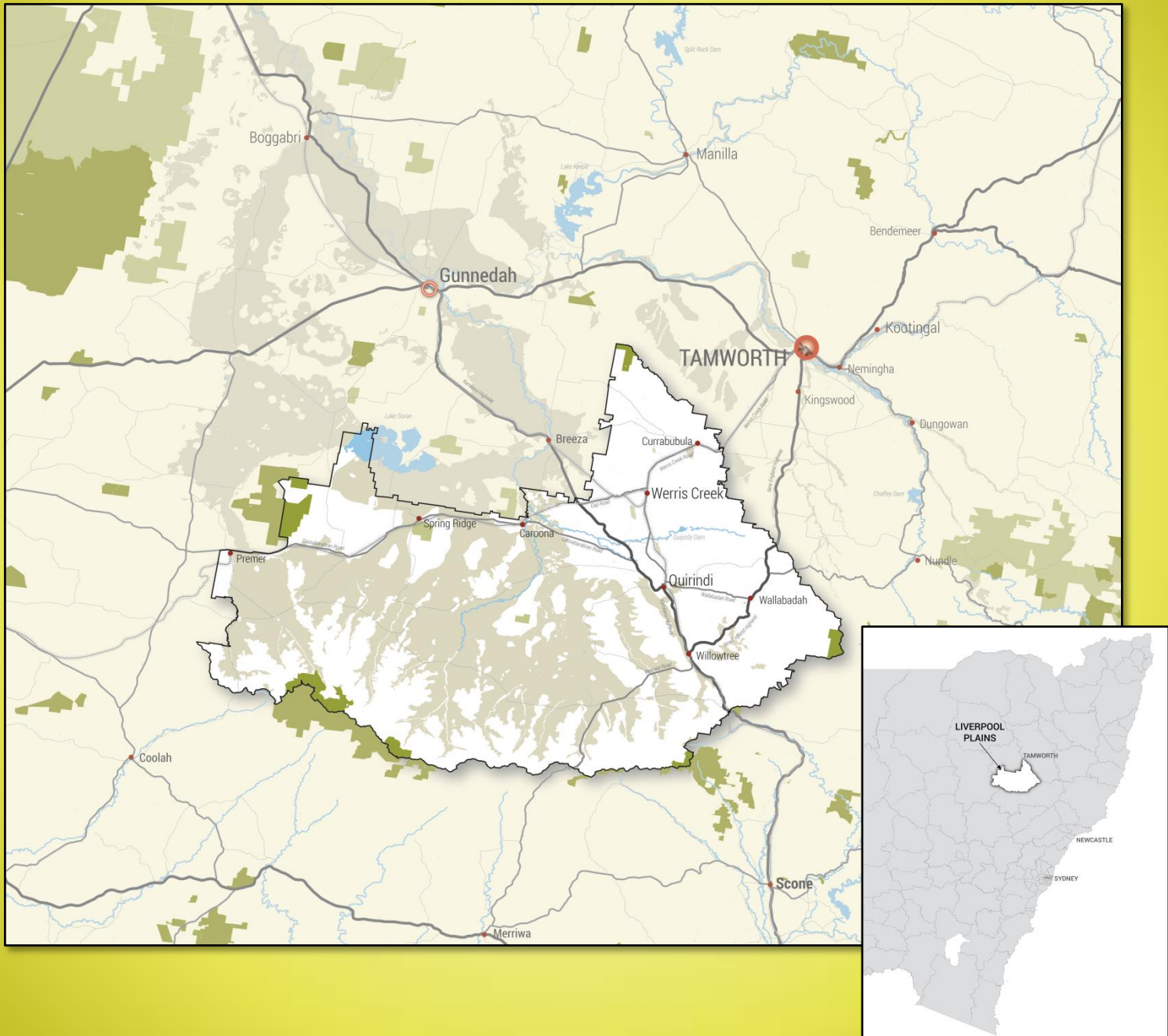


Figure 3 - The Lower North West Region & Liverpool Plains Shire  
Source: Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE) 2019



## Local context

Liverpool Plains Shire is located on the north western slopes of NSW, approximately 350 kilometres north of Sydney, 250 kilometres north-west of Newcastle and 60 kilometres south of Tamworth. It is bounded by Gunnedah Shire to the north, Tamworth Regional Council to the east, Upper Hunter Shire to the south and Warrumbungle Shire to the west. Incorporating an area of 5,082 square kilometres, the Local Government Area (LGA) extends from the Great Dividing Range in the east, west across the highly fertile and productive Liverpool Plains. The southern boundary of the Shire is marked by the Liverpool Range, which forms the drainage divide between the Hunter and Namoi River Catchment Areas. The Liverpool Plains Shire is located in the upper catchment of the Namoi River and is drained by two significant headwater tributaries, the Mooki River and Quirindi Creek. It also sits on the south-eastern edge of the Gunnedah Basin, which has extensive coal and ground resources.

The Liverpool Plains has a warm temperate climate with hot summers (average temperature range 16-33°C) and cool to cold winters (1-18°C). The average rainfall is 683mm, with rain year-round with a slight summer maximum. Frosts are prevalent in winter. The climate is conducive to cropping and grazing year-round.

The economy, livelihood, identity and history of the community are all shaped by the region's key industries of agriculture (cattle and sheep production and cropping), agri-processing, mining, transport and tourism. Through this LSPS, Liverpool Plains Shire Council is seeking to grow and diversify the Shire's economy and build sustainability and resilience. Growth can be achieved by strengthening local businesses; capitalising on opportunities arising from Government's increasing focus on agricultural production, agri-business, freight logistics, and renewable energy; growing visitation to the Shire; and attracting new residents, businesses and investment.

Quirindi, located 65 kilometres south of Tamworth, is the commercial and administrative centre of the Liverpool Plains Shire. Quirindi is located on the intersection of the Kamilaroi Highway and Werris Creek Road, approximately 17 kilometres north of the junction of the New England and Kamilaroi Highways. Quirindi has a strong rural supply and services sector and is emerging as a lifestyle centre. The town supports a strong agricultural base with related industries including freight, agricultural manufacturing, resource extraction and processing related businesses. Residential areas surround the central business district and agricultural land stretches in all directions beyond the town limits. The Quirindi and Jacob and Joseph Creeks wind through the town in a generally east-west direction.

Werris Creek is the second-largest centre in the LGA and is known as New South Wales' first railway town. It is located off the New England Highway, 19 kilometres north of Quirindi and 44 kilometres south-west of Tamworth. Werris Creek's history is closely linked with the construction of the railway, particularly as a junction was constructed allowing freight and passenger transport to either Armidale or Moree via rail. The pride held by residents in their railway history is evident throughout the town and has been preserved at the Werris Creek Railway Precinct, a state significant heritage site. A number of Victorian and Federation railway buildings have endured and represent the importance of the Werris Creek junction in the

late 19th century. The town hosts an intermodal freight terminal, major grain receipt site, as well as Pacific National and Downer EDI railway workshops. The Werris Creek coal mine is located just south of the town.

The Quirindi Hospital and Werris Creek Community Hospital serve the local community which also comprises a number of rural villages – Caroona, Currabubula, Premer, Spring Ridge, Wallabadah and Willow Tree as well as the rural localities of Ardglen, Blackville, Braefield, Bundella, Colly Blue, Mount Parry, Old Warrah, Pialloway, Pine Ridge, Tamarang, Walhallow, and Yarraman.

Each of the villages has a general store providing various services and / or a hotel, serving as a meeting place for local residents and touring travellers. Willow Tree, serving as the gateway to the LGA and accommodating the Tourist Information Centre, is known for the Willow Tree Inn and Graze Restaurant and has several cafes and lifestyle shops. Wallabadah is also developing as a popular stop on the New England Highway, and is home to the First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens, a quality landscaped park with winding pathways bordered by stone tablets engraved with the names of crews, passengers, servicemen and convicts along with histories of the ships they sailed on. Most of the villages have free camping areas, with the riverside camping area at Wallabadah being very popular with New England Highway travellers.



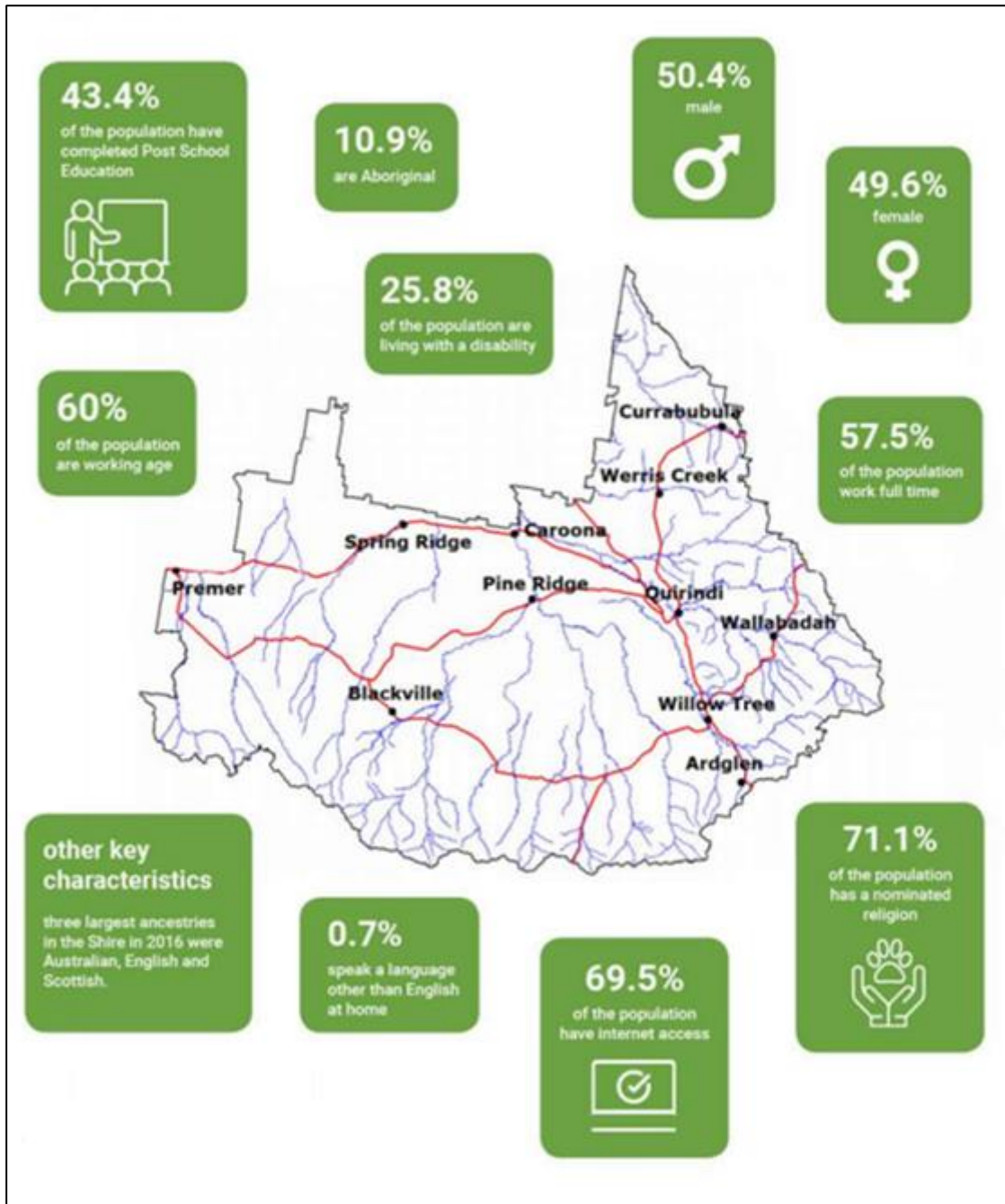


Figure 4 - Statistics, towns and communities of the Liverpool Plains Shire  
 Source: Adapted from Liverpool Plains Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2019 – 2030

Like many rural Shires in NSW, the Liverpool Plains has an ageing population as many young people seek education and employment opportunities in capital cities while older people, particularly for retirees, are attracted to the rural qualities and amenities of the Shire.

Liverpool Plains is forecast to show low growth to 2040, with an overall growth rate of 0.1% per annum. By 2040, the Shire is projected to have 7,900 residents, 29.7% of which will be aged 65 and over (DPE Population Projections).

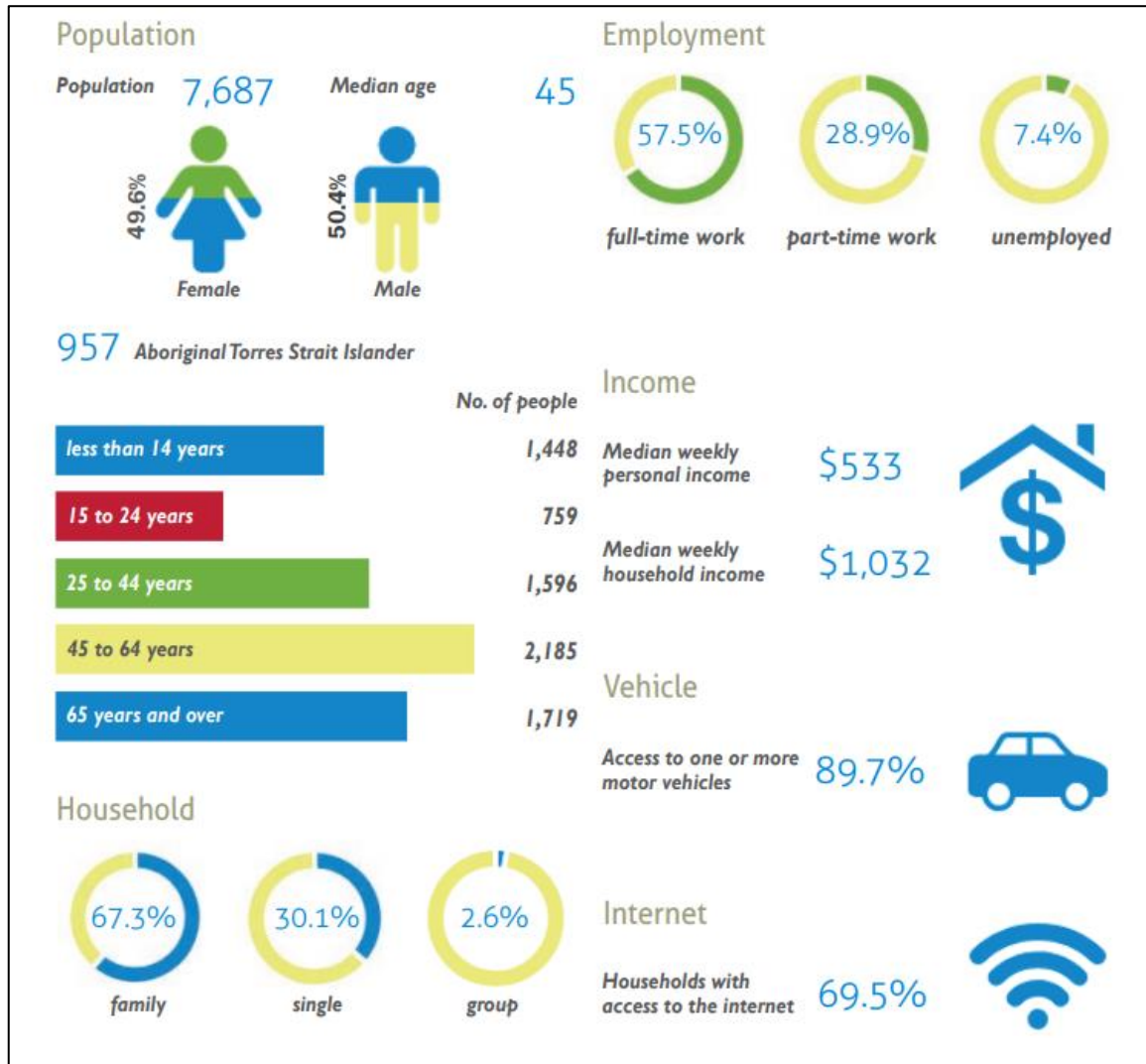


Figure 5 - Demographics of the Liverpool Plains Shire  
 Source: Liverpool Plains Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2019 – 2030

# Strategic vision and priorities

## Vision

In the Liverpool Plains Shire, we value our productive agricultural lands, rural lifestyle, and sense of community. We also value our transport linkages, rich history, picturesque beauty and economy.

The Vision for the Liverpool Plains Shire is identified in the Community Strategic Plan as ‘a great rural lifestyle with access to quality services, strong community, Council and business leadership, whilst encouraging a

thriving economy and a sustainable environment to carry us on to the future’. By 2040, the Liverpool Plains Shire will be a growing, thriving and sustainable area.

The 20 year vision in this LSPS is supported by a number of Planning Priorities that are categorised into the following broad groups:

- A sustainable Liverpool Plains Shire
- A growing Liverpool Plains; and,
- A thriving Liverpool Plains Shire.

# A Sustainable Liverpool Plains Shire

## Planning Priority 1 – Manage natural hazards and climate change risks

Drought, water security and floodplain management are essential natural hazard management priorities for Liverpool Plains Shire. Council and the community must be well informed, resilient and able to adapt and plan for future climate risks. In this regard, land use planning can contribute by reducing future carbon impacts of development as well as by improving resilience of the built environment and the population.

The *Western Enabling Regional Adaptation New England North West region report* prepared by the Office of Environment and Heritage provides a snapshot of the near future (2030) and far future (2070) climate change scenarios. In summary:

- the region is expected to experience an increase in all temperature variables (average, maximum and minimum), more hot days, and fewer cold nights for the near and far futures. Heatwaves are also projected to increase, be hotter and last longer;
- seasonality of rainfall will change. Autumn rainfall will increase in the near future and the far future. The majority of models agree that winter rainfall will decrease in the near future. Summer rainfall is projected to decrease in the near future; however, summer rainfall is projected to increase in the far future;
- fire risk will increase, with projected increases in average and severe Forest Fire Danger Index values in the near future and the far future.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework for reducing current and future impacts associated with climate change and natural disaster risk. It also gives effect to the strategic land use directions in the Regional Plan and reflects the community's aspirations

regarding water management, preparing for climate change risks and protecting assets from natural hazard.

The strategic directions to increase resilience to climate change, create healthy built environments and manage natural hazard include:

- avoid development in areas subject to natural hazards or, where natural hazards cannot be avoided, mitigation or adaptation measures are adopted.
- development should minimise exposure to flood risk and is constructed with consideration of the flood hazard and appropriate flood emergency response provisions.
- promote sustainable urban development including water sensitive urban design in new subdivision development, the planting of endemic species and drought-resilient landscaping and the use of trees to mitigate heat island effects.
- support innovative building materials and design which maximise energy efficiency, reduce water consumption and improve health and resilience outcomes for households and businesses to cope with extreme events and climate change.
- incorporate climate sensitive urban design into streetscapes embellishments such as planning for shade and increasing tree canopy cover.
- manage the impact of climate change on Council infrastructure, assets and services by embedding climate change considerations into asset and risk management.



Local governments can also play a crucial role in achieving a nation-wide climate response by demonstrating successful carbon reduction initiatives at the local level and committing to ambitious targets with timeframes to achieve these. Prior to the identification of long-term targets for renewables and / or carbon emissions in the Liverpool Plains Shire, an understanding of the type of actions required to respond to climate change will be required to ensure the aspirations are meaningful and achievable. To this end, this LSPS advocates for the preparation of a renewable energy / carbon reduction strategy to determine what measures will be required in order to achieve the community's climate change goals e.g. 100% renewable energy and net zero emissions within a certain timeframe. To achieve this, goals include:

- streetlighting LED upgrades and smart controls;
- building and parks & sporting field lighting upgrades;

## Actions

1.1 Consider the regional systems transition model as outlined in the *Western Enabling Regional Adaptation New England North West region report* when developing operational policy, undertaking strategic planning, delivering Council programs and assessing future infrastructure needs – *Ongoing*

1.2 Review the provisions of the Liverpool Plains DCP to:

- include management options for water efficiency, such as water sensitive urban design for new developments that reduce the impact of urbanisation and stormwater on water quality;
- encourage adaptable and resilient buildings; and,
- recognise the need for natural bushland, riparian vegetation buffers

- building Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) and Building Management Systems (BMS) upgrades and optimisation;
- upgrading facilities lighting systems to LED technology and controls;
- building power such as appliance selection and use, and ICT systems;
- motor systems upgrades and optimisation, for example at wastewater treatment plants;
- investigation into the requirements of small-scale renewables across the Shire, including the potential for flexible subdivision provisions in association with renewable energy projects where it does not sterilise land for future mineral extraction and agriculture purposes.

and the promotion of pervious surfaces to maintain and improve water quality in waterways through the filtration of contaminated run-off and minimising the impact of catchment development on stream hydrology – *Short term*

1.3 Review Council's floodplain management plans and update the LEP and DCP accordingly – *Medium term*

1.4 Prepare a renewable energy / carbon reduction strategy to determine what measures will be required in order to achieve the community's climate change goals – *Short term*

1.5 Review Council's bushfire risk and response plans in consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service and LEMC – *Short term*

## Planning Priority 2 – Protect and enhance areas of environmental value

The Regional Plan recognises the importance of protecting the region's natural assets. A healthy environment with pristine waterways will be achieved by taking a holistic approach to managing productive capacity while preserving water catchments and environmental values.

A major challenge for Council is to protect these areas of high environmental value for future generations while managing the potential negative consequences that may arise from land clearing, feral animals, drought, overgrazing and climate change. This requires a coordinated approach across Council's operations to recognise the important links between a sustainably managed natural environment and local economic activity, particularly in agriculture, tourism, mining and related sectors.

Challenges for the Liverpool Plains LGA include securing the future of Koalas, protecting valuable terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity from the impacts of development and adjacent land uses, protecting and enhancing local and regional biodiversity connectivity and protecting and enhancing urban vegetation.

This priority aims to deliver a healthy, resilient, protected and productive environment. This will be achieved by protecting and managing environmental assets from incompatible development that may impinge on the environmental, social or productive values, including:

- areas secured for environmental offset purposes;
- ground-water dependent ecosystems and aquatic habitats;
- strategically significant agricultural lands.

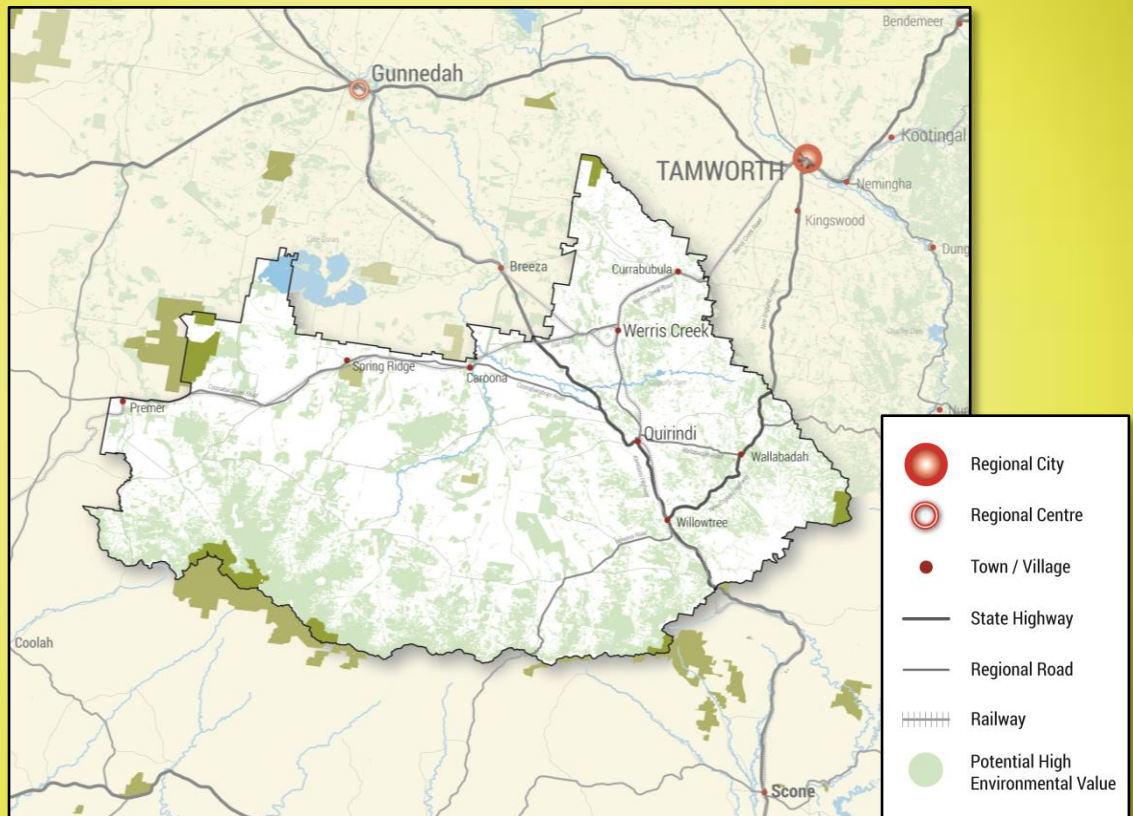


Figure 6 - Potential High Environmental Value Land

## Actions

- 2.1 Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity and implement the 'avoid, minimize, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity and areas of High Environmental Value – *Ongoing*
- 2.2 Update the Liverpool Plains Shire Council Development Control Plan 2012 consistent with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017 to regulate vegetation clearing in non-rural areas of the LGA – *Short term*
- 2.3 Undertake a biodiversity audit of Council-managed public land to identify opportunities for enhancement of biodiversity values – *Long term*
- 2.4 Review Liverpool Plains LEP 2011 controls (e.g. biodiversity mapping including freshwater rivers, creeks and streams as well as appropriate zoning of high value environmental areas) to protect biodiversity. Rezone areas of High Environmental Value to an environmental zone – *Long term*



*Source: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment*

# A growing Liverpool Plains Shire

## Planning Priority 3 – Further leverage the agricultural sector to encourage growth and diversification

Agriculture is the primary land use in the LGA. The black earth and chernozem soils found in the Liverpool Plains are recognised as some of the most fertile in Australia, and this land is classified by the Regional Plan as Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (Figure 6).

and employment (27%), and it forms the basis of 50% of ABN registered businesses in the Shire. The main activities are cattle and sheep production and cropping including wheat, barley, sorghum, maize, chickpeas, faba beans, soybeans, sunflowers and cotton.

Agriculture is the top driver of the local and regional economy in terms of output (\$162 m)

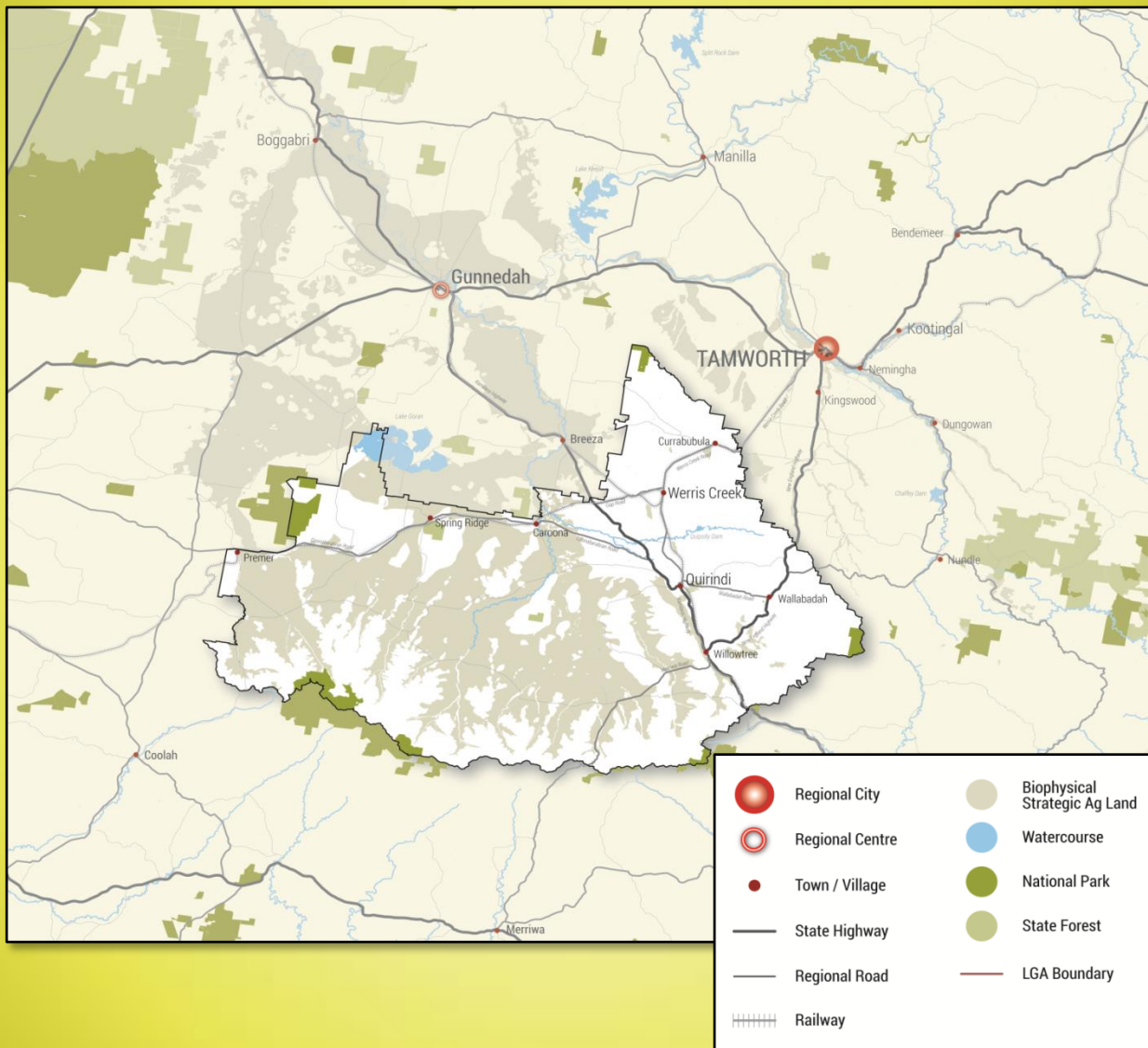


Figure 7 - Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land in the Liverpool Plains Shire  
 Source: New England North West Regional Plan 2036

The agricultural sector is continually evolving with changes in land and water management and farming practices, application of technology, introduction of new crops and crop varieties, shifting global and domestic markets and developing business practices. This creates opportunities along the length of the supply chain which will ensure the continuation of a dynamic regional economy.

Liverpool Plains can harness opportunities associated with growing global connectivity and international trade agreements through its proximity to the Ports of Sydney and Newcastle, as well as the Tamworth Regional Airport and the Inland Rail. This LSPS aims to further leverage the region’s significant agricultural advantages to increase productivity, foster emerging activities, and encourage growth and diversification of the agri-processing and services sectors.

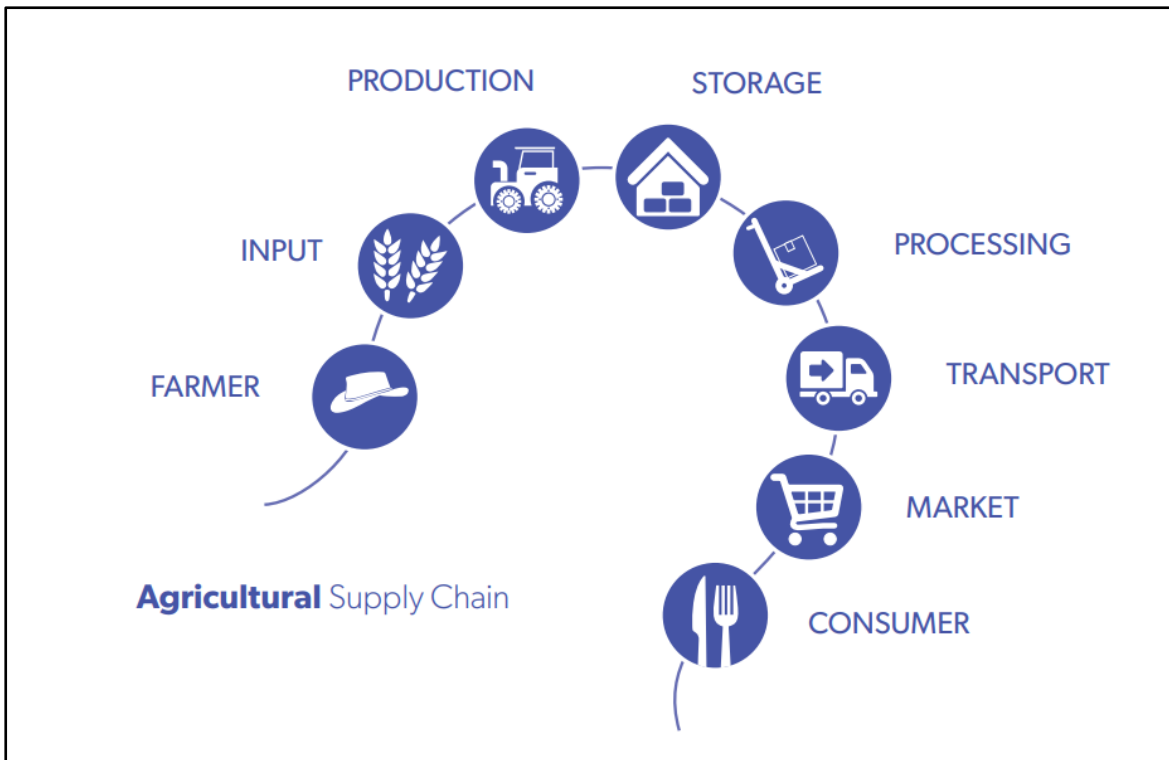


Figure 8 - Agricultural supply chain  
 Source: New England North West Regional Plan 2036

This planning priority sets in place Council’s land use planning response that aims to protect and grow new agriculture and related value-added manufacturing in the Liverpool Plains Shire in line with the *NSW Right to Farm policy*, strategic land use directions in the Regional Plan, the *Lower North West Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2022* and Council’s local evidence-base. It also reflects Council’s aspirations to support its agricultural identity and legacy and to ensure a strong local economy that leverages the favourable climate,

access to water and strategic connectivity to domestic and international markets.

Strategic directions to further leverage the agricultural sector to encourage growth and diversification include:

- maintaining a critical mass of industries through the retention of agricultural land and continued access to the agricultural supply chain: specific services, infrastructure, processing facilities and markets.

- avoiding fragmentation of agricultural land and other pressures of urban growth by setting appropriate lot sizes in agricultural areas consistent with the economics of local and regional production systems.
- avoiding the establishment of new residential development where it may be potentially affected by existing and ongoing farm operations such as spraying, early operating hours and fertilising.
- ensuring efficient and competitive transport and infrastructure connections to domestic and international markets.
- supporting the development of new and innovative development that is complementary to agriculture, such as nature and farm-based experiential tourism, restaurants, cellar door, farm-stay and eco-tourism on or near productive agricultural lands subject to not compromising the primary productive use of land for agriculture.
- prioritising new value-added manufacturing (food processing, packaging and manufacturing) and related transport facilities on land with safe and efficient access to the key regional freight routes of the Kamilaroi and New England Highways, as well as the rail network (Main North, Mungindi and Werris Creek – Binnaway lines).

## Actions

- 3.1 Partner with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Agriculture) to develop and implement biosecurity plans, risk assessments and appropriate buffer areas to avoid land use conflicts – *Short term*
- 3.2 Encourage and support diversification of agribusiness through streamlined approval processes for complimentary businesses ancillary to primary production – *Medium term*
- 3.3 Review and update the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 to support the agricultural sector and encourage growth and diversification – *Medium term*

## Planning Priority 4 – Embrace tourism

Visitors to the Shire are attracted to the rich agricultural history and picturesque beauty encompassing the foothills of the Great Dividing Range and the sweeping expanse of the fertile Liverpool Plains.

Tourism trends are evolving toward genuine and authentic experiences. Reflecting this, the local government area is experiencing strong growth in the touring caravan and recreational vehicle markets, attracted by the 'Freedom camping sites' and the Kamilaroi Highway Touring Route connecting the 'Great Divide to the Great Outback'; the pub hotels, markets and activities in the Shire's villages; social groups (e.g. car and caravan clubs) and the events market. Opportunities presented by sustainable, nature-based, cultural, and experiential tourism can enhance and diversify the economy.

The Liverpool Plains LGA has several established attractions for tourism markets, including:

- Quirindi Rural Heritage Village and Museum;
- Quirindi Village Miniature Railway;
- Quipolly Dam Recreation Area and Bird Hide;
- Australian Railway Monument and Railway Museum in Werris Creek;
- the First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens in Wallabadah;
- Liverpool Plains Visitor Information Centre in Willow Tree;
- broad-acre farming of sunflowers.



Figure 9 - First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens, Wallabadah

Source: Visit Liverpool Plains

The proposed Liverpool Plains Memorial to the Kokoda Track, from Quirindi to Werris Creek with a link to Quipolly Dam, will provide various opportunities to the communities of the Liverpool Plains once established. The goal is to build Australia's most substantial memorial to the Kokoda Track, to acknowledge and honour the soldiers who were part of the battles along the track in defence of their nation.

This will comprise a themed, shared pedestrian / cycleway approximately 20 kilometres long, 2.5 metres wide with 1.5 metre grassed and maintained areas either side of the path. 22 large storyboards will be erected along the Memorial, one for each of the villages on the actual Track. Shelter and rest stations will also be provided and may take the form of redundant, refurbished railway carriages.



It is anticipated that the Memorial will create significant opportunities to the Liverpool Plains, as it is expected to:

- comprise an iconic Australian memorial tourist attraction;
- serve as an educational tool;
- generate employment opportunities;
- provide valuable sport and recreation options;

- facilitate improved health and wellbeing for the local community;
- increase tourism numbers to the region.

To accommodate an increase in visitation to the Shire as a result of the Kokoda Track, Council intends to undertake significant upgrades to the existing camping grounds in Quirindi and Werris Creek.



Figure 10 - Route of the proposed Kokoda Memorial Track

To embrace tourism, explore new facilities and opportunities and building on current events that attract tourists, the following strategic directions are proposed:

- encourage nature-based or experiential tourism (restaurant, farm-stay and eco-tourism accommodation uses) where it benefits from the co-location with a primary production use or a rural landscape setting. Support farm stay accommodation where it is a secondary business to primary production uses on rural land.
  - encourage a range of modern contemporary visitor accommodation, services and amenities within the settlement boundaries of the Shire's towns and villages, including upgrades to the Quirindi and Werris Creek camping areas.
  - promote and encourage access between community facilities and public places in Quirindi and Werris Creek to encourage visitors to explore. Release information regarding the existing systems of paths that allow visitors and residents to walk or cycle to key destinations within town including shops, schools, sport facilities, the town pool, racecourse and showgrounds.
  - develop a network of mountain-bike and bushwalking trails in the reserve surrounding the Quipolly Dam, as well as additional visitor facilities.
- investigate aviation-related opportunities at the Quirindi Airport.
  - promote high quality public spaces that align with NSW Better Placed Design policy and the Urban Design Guide for Regional NSW.
  - deliver new or upgraded public infrastructure across the Shire that reflects the strong, vibrant and diverse Aboriginal culture and history of the land.
  - Promote and encourage boutique industries that complement the rural landscape setting and rural land uses e.g. breweries, wineries and unique dining experiences etc

## Actions

4.1 Facilitate the delivery of the proposed Kokoda Memorial Track between Quirindi and Werris Creek – *Medium term*

4.2 Prepare a local tourism strategy, aligned with the NSW Destination Management Plan, that supports and grows tourism in the Liverpool Plains – *Short term*

## Planning Priority 5 – Manage resources and renewable energy

Located at the southern end of the Gunnedah Basin, the Liverpool Plains Shire possesses high quality coal deposits. Werris Creek Coal is expected to operate until 2025, with approval granted to the Shenhua Watermark Mine near Breeza on the boundary of Gunnedah and Liverpool Plains Shires. The LGA is also afforded with hard rock aggregate resources and the largest deposit of zeolite in Australia. Liverpool Plains is only one of two localities in Australia that produce zeolite, with Zeolite Australia and Castle Mountain Zeolites supplying both the domestic and international markets. It is expected that the mining sector will continue to provide an important contribution to the local economy into the future via direct employment and flow-on benefits to the community.

As NSW transitions towards renewables, the Liverpool Plains Shire is well placed to take advantage of its wind and solar resources as well as its strategic location on the transmission network. There is also potential to explore the use of bio-mass generated by feedlots and poultry farms as well as the transition towards a ‘closed-loop’ economy, whereby all outputs become either inputs for other activities or are returned to natural systems as benign emissions rather than pollutants.

Investment in transport infrastructure to link mineral deposits and intermodal facilities that move products to export destinations is required to enable further development of these resources, including improvements to address pinch points on the Main North Line.

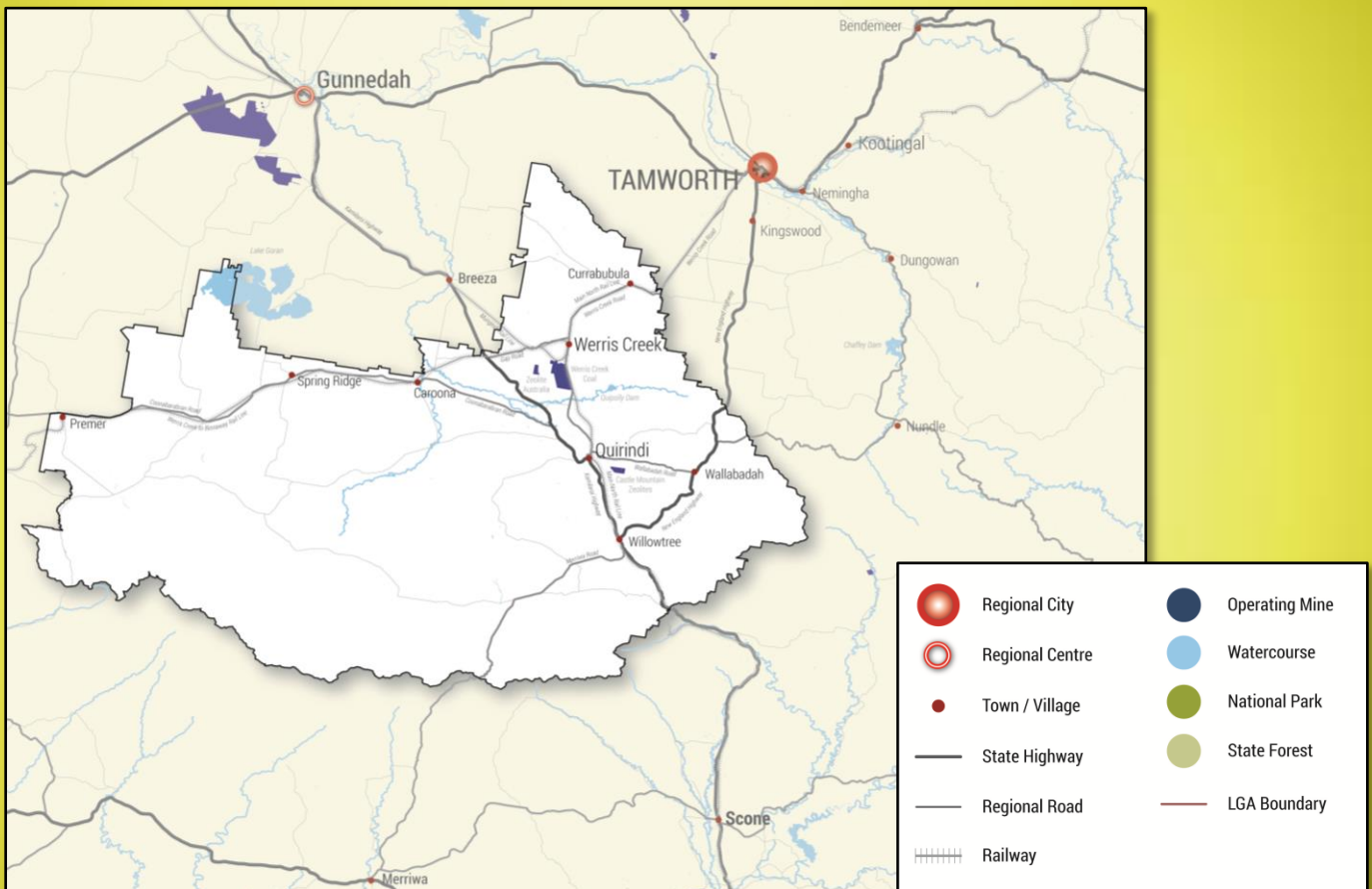


Figure 11 - Operating mines within the region

Source - © State Government of NSW and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2016

Importantly, this LSPS aims to achieve a balanced approach to land use that allows agriculture, mining and renewable energy projects to co-exist in a sustainable manner. To achieve this end, the following strategic directions are recommended:

- support the co-existence of agriculture, mining and renewables. Actively manage competing and conflicting interests in rural and resource areas to provide greater certainty for investment.
- develop strong land use strategies to ensure that key resources (including appropriate buffer areas) are considered so that future development can be planned accordingly.
- ensure the rehabilitation of mines and proposed post-mining land uses minimise the sterilisation of land and maximise beneficial economic, social and environmental outcomes.
- investigate flexible subdivision provisions in association with renewable energy projects where it does not sterilise the land for future agricultural use or mineral extraction.
- continue to facilitate the development of temporary workers accommodation associated with large infrastructure and construction and consider the impacts on temporary accommodation for seasonal agricultural workers.

## Actions

5.1 Undertake Mineral Resource Audit mapping in consultation with Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) - Resources and Geoscience to identify and protect buffers around mineral resources in the Liverpool Plains Shire – *Medium term*

5.2 Review and update the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 to ensure sustainable management of resources and renewable energy opportunities – *Medium term*



Figure 12 - Werris Creek Coal and a sunflower crop.

Source: The Family Adventure Project.

## Planning Priority 6 – Efficient transport and connectivity networks

Liverpool Plains Shire is located at the junction of the New England and Kamilaroi Highways. The New England Highway is a major interstate route, linking Sydney and Brisbane via the New England – North West region. The Highway carries high volumes of regional and interstate traffic and freight and provides the Shire with ready access to the Port of Newcastle, with freeway links south to Sydney, Port Botany and Port Kembla. The Kamilaroi Highway connects the New England Highway at Willow Tree and the Newell Highway at Narrabri, and continues west to Bourke via Walgett. The Kamilaroi

Highway is part of the National (NH37) and State (SH29) networks and is a significant freight corridor. The Shire is traversed by several regional roads which provide access through to Tamworth. The Coonabarabran, Bundella, Willewarina – Waverley – Mystery, Gap, Werris Creek and Lindsays Gap Roads are key routes in the transport of livestock, crops and timber, providing access to the Shire’s feedlots and grain receival sites, the cotton gins in Gunnedah and Narrabri Shires, the saleyards and food processing plants in Gunnedah and Tamworth and the Nundle Forests.

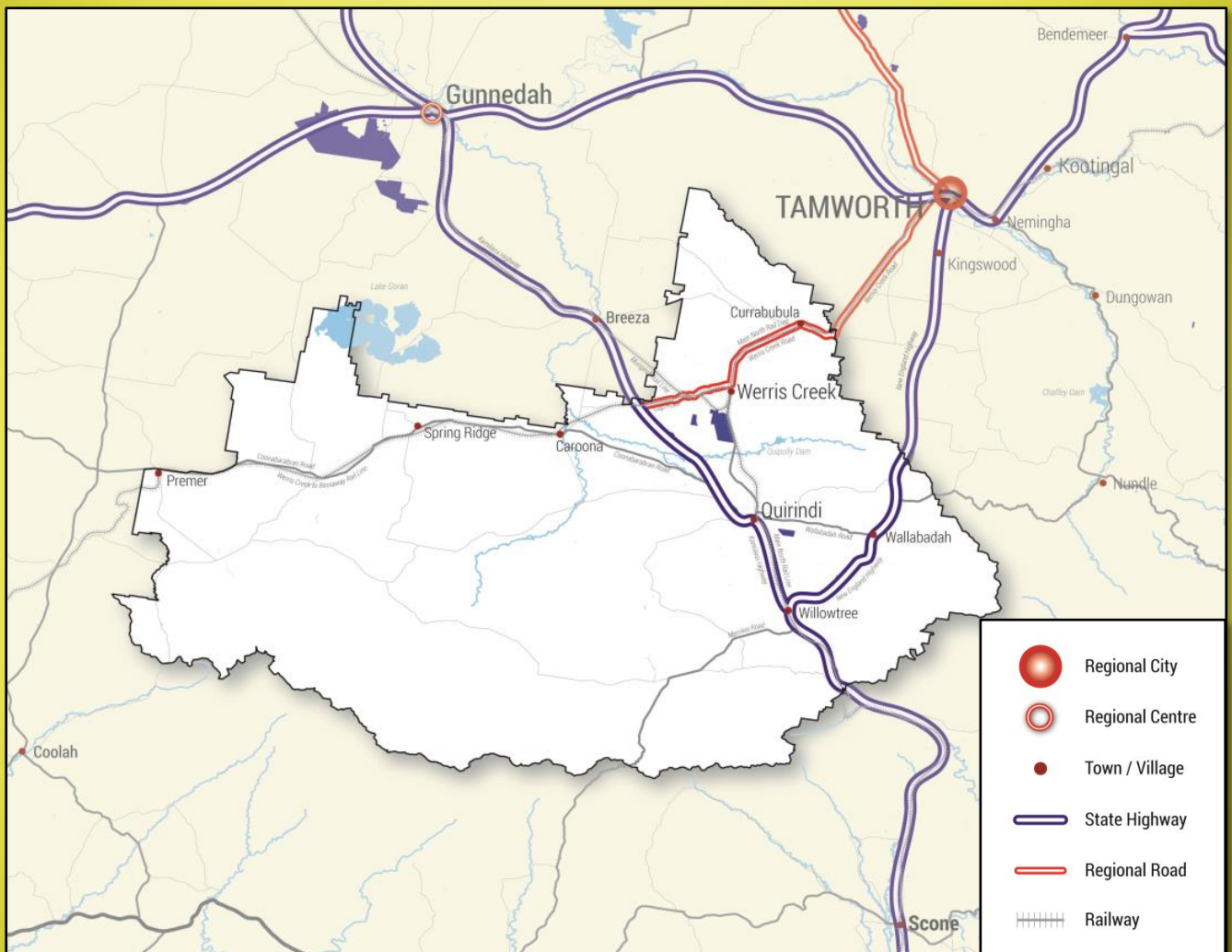
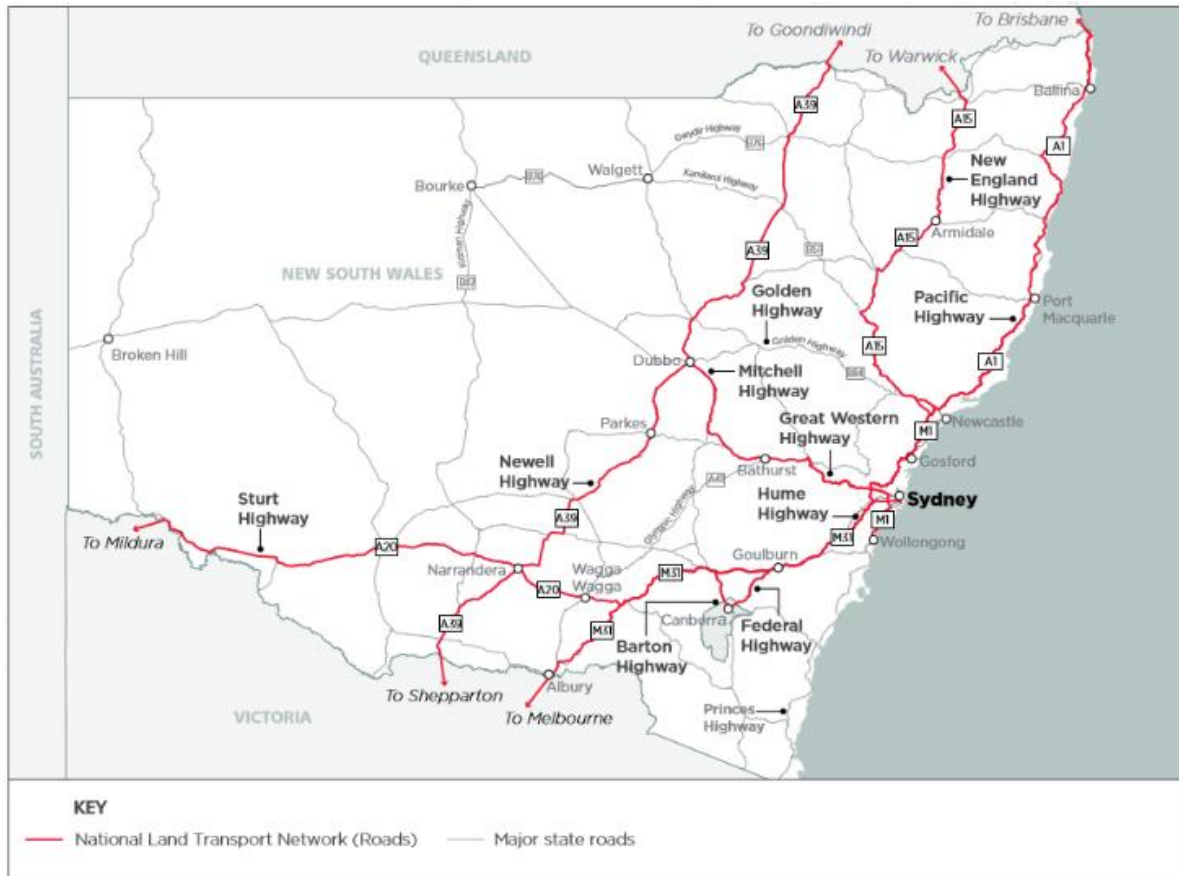


Figure 13 - Key infrastructure connections in the Liverpool Plains Shire.

Efficient transport and connectivity networks for the Liverpool Plains are important to:

- build a network for business and industry in order to connect local growers, producers and miners to domestic and international export markets.
- expand supply chains across national and global markets.
- connect residents to other communities of interest, both within and outside of the local government area.
- support new and emerging economic opportunities.
- align with the application of the *Heavy Vehicle Access Policy Framework* and the strategic direction of the *Future Transport 2056 Strategy*.



Rail infrastructure, comprising the Main North Line, Mungindi Line and Werris Creek – Binnaway Line also plays an important role in the Liverpool Plains Shire, providing an alternative to road and air into Newcastle, Sydney and Brisbane. The connections of roads to rail hubs or intermodal facilities in Werris

Creek, Tamworth and Narrabri and the development of the Inland Rail project will be important to accessing new markets inter-state and beyond. This will also align with the regional initiatives to integrate cross-border planning between NSW and Queensland, and to achieve freight network efficiencies.



Figure 15 - Werris Creek Freight Hub.

Source: Crawford's Freightlines

The Quirindi Airport is used for charter flights, emergency services, agricultural service companies, training and recreational flying, both independently and in conjunction with activities at Tamworth Regional Airport.

The main form of transport for the communities of the Liverpool Plains Shire is private car or limited bus service to access local amenities and services in townships. Many of the Shire's townships and settlements have an insufficient population base to support more regular public bus transport services.

Community facilities and public places in Quirindi are connected by an extensive network of shared pathways and footpaths. The system of paths allows residents to walk or cycle to key destinations within town including shops, schools, sport facilities, the swimming centre, racecourse and showgrounds. The compact

form of Quirindi makes walking and cycling a practical and equitable active transport alternative for the whole community.

Considering the above, key challenges facing Liverpool Plains Shire Council into the future include:

- unsealed roads, which inhibit access (particularly in wet conditions) for communities, growers, producers and visitors;
- low population base for public transport services in townships and settlements; and,
- promoting increased walking and cycling.

The *Lower North West Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2022 Supporting Analysis* identifies a number of key road upgrades to complete regional links and

facilitate efficient movement of goods, as follows:

- Werris Creek Road – Gap Road: upgrading of the route to road train – B triple standard;
- Williewarrina Road: upgrading and sealing of the route to B double standard;
- Bullunbulun – Piallaway Road: upgrade and seal;
- Waverley and Mystery Road, Caroona: upgrade and seal; and,
- Over-rail bridges, Quirindi and Werris Creek: replace level crossings with over-rail bridges. It is noted that investigation into this project has commenced, with the development of a bypass to the Gap Road in association with a new economic precinct adjacent to the Great Northern Rail Line in Werris Creek.

The strategic directions for efficient transport and connectivity networks include:

- protect the national land transport network to ensure the efficient, safe and reliable movement of people and goods.
- preserve HML access roads and seek to improve productivity gains for secondary routes.
- improve and leverage rail and airport assets – for both passenger and freight services.
- upgrade key roads to improve inter and intraregion connectivity and enable use of high productivity vehicles for freight transport.
- consider impacts on the function, identity and character of settlements when planning new or enhanced road infrastructure.
- ensure development considers the impact on the existing and future capacity of the road network.

- ensure land use, structure and master plans consider maintenance and capacity enhancements of the State and local roads, including lane and shoulder widths, intersections and crossings, bridges and other safety upgrades (such as rail crossings).
- use of development controls to ensure that sensitive land uses are located, designed and constructed to minimise potential impacts from the national land transport network.
- encourage a shift from private vehicles through:
  - new walking and cycling opportunities;
  - advocating for a new public transport bus service to connect towns to one another and to the regional city of Tamworth.
  - advocating for rail linkages with Newcastle and Sydney.

Council will plan, design and operate the road network to deliver movement and place outcomes in line with *Future Transport 2056* in order to achieve:

- road space allocation that enhances the efficiency of movement to support great and successful places; and
- street environments that support streets as destinations that people want to spend time in.

Council will also continue to work with Transport for NSW to ensure delivery of responsive, innovative services and infrastructure, particularly:

- public transport for isolated communities;
- New England Highway improvements (Willow Tree to Armidale);
- Kamilaroi Highway improvements;
- New England North West Regional Transport Plan; and
- Main North Line – improvements to address pinch points.



## Actions

- 6.1 Prioritise the implementation of the directions of the *Lower North West Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2022 Supporting Analysis* in relation to road upgrades – *Ongoing*
- 6.2 Continue to work with Transport for NSW and Namoi Unlimited to address pinch points on the Kamilaroi Highway – *Ongoing*
- 6.3 Work with Transport for NSW and other key stakeholders on implementing the Movement and Place Framework through the development of a Place Plan, integrated transport and land use plan, for key centres – *Medium term*



Figure 16 - Quirindi Railway Station.

Source: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

## Planning Priority 7 – Deliver key infrastructure as a foundation for growth

Delivery of a range of key infrastructure is essential in order to ensure a sustainable economy and to encourage new industry opportunities. Investment in infrastructure will add to the region's location, accessibility and connectivity endowment, and related enhancements to productivity and lifestyle.

It is also essential that infrastructure has the capacity to support growth. Planning and building for growth removes the time and cost 'bottlenecks' often faced in bringing greenfield sites and new projects on-line and surety of access and supply provides businesses with the confidence to plan and invest.

Water security is a major contributor to the establishment of new opportunities as it is a critical enabler for industry, business, communities, economies, agriculture, lifestyle, tourism and the environment. As such, it must be sustainably managed to ensure the continued vitality of our region. Prioritisation of projects such as the Regional Water Supply Strategy and upgrade to the Werris Creek water treatment plant will help position the LGA as a favourable, competitive location for businesses to seek and grow.

Delivery of an augmentation to the Liverpool Plains Shire power supply by Essential Energy will also be key in accommodating increased demand from residential, commercial and light industrial growth in the region.

Digital connectivity is also playing an increasingly important role in supporting social and economic development of the Shire's communities. Reliable digital connections can provide distance education and training and health services, access to customers and suppliers for growers and producers, enable improved agriculture techniques such as precision spraying, virtual fencing and optimal harvesting and support digital trends in product differentiation such as distributed ledger tracking and verification for farm-to-plate goods.

The strategic directions to ensure delivery of key infrastructure are as follows:

- facilitate the development of serviced industrial and employment land, e.g. by providing 'last mile' infrastructure to key industrial precincts.
- upgrade and augment utility services (power, water, sewerage) to meet current needs and provide the capacity for growth.
- enable and support new infrastructure investment in digital connectivity, including the National Broadband Network, as well as upgrades to existing and new telecommunication infrastructure such as mobile phone towers.

### Actions

7.1 Continue to implement the Regional Water Supply Strategy to secure the water supply for Quirindi, Werris Creek and several villages – *Ongoing*

7.2 Determine the suitability of existing infrastructure to support growth by reviewing rail and airport assets, capacity of existing utility services and digital connectivity – *Ongoing*

# A thriving Liverpool Plains Shire

## Planning Priority 8 – Sustainable & Growing Settlements

Settlements in the Liverpool Plains local government area are experiencing change as the population ages and declines. To accommodate these trends, it is important that social infrastructure is available, including a variety of housing types and forms that meet the needs of the local community. Provision of suitable support services such as usable recreation areas, a refurbished Quirindi library and development of the Quirindi Civic Square will also contribute to improved quality of life for residents.

The attraction, and retention, of new industry, workers, residents and visitors through collaborative marketing campaigns and promotions incentives is to be emphasised. This will foster generational change, with younger people bringing new ideas, skills and business practices.

In order to raise the area's profile, achieve sustainable population growth and regenerate local communities, future strategic planning will maximise existing zoned employment land, strengths and local businesses. It will also identify opportunities to facilitate new residents and economic opportunities.

New development is to be adequately serviced by local infrastructure either through existing capacity available in established townships or planned extensions. The delivery of new development in advance of planned infrastructure places unnecessary burden on the forward planning and budgeting of local infrastructure and results in ad-hoc development that may conflict with other planning priorities in this plan. The following strategic land use directions set out Council's approach to respond to the opportunities and challenges associated with new development:

- new residential and rural-residential development is contained within the existing urban growth boundaries where there is sufficient infrastructure available to meet expected short- and medium-term demand.
- adjustments to the staging and sequencing of land identified in the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 can be considered over the short- and medium-term based on:
  - the staging and sequencing of local infrastructure delivery by Council.
  - suitability for sustainable alternate utility servicing.
  - negligible impact on environmental, social, infrastructure and heritage values.
  - not inconsistent with future adjoining land uses.
  - new opportunities not foreseen by this plan, such as government investment in new region-shaping infrastructure, change in land use policy by neighbouring councils that has significant implications for Liverpool Plains Shire or large-scale private-sector investment.
- encourage alternate utility servicing for new developments to minimize the infrastructure costs.

## Actions

- 8.1 Finalise the Recreational Strategy and implement recommendations – *Short term*
- 8.2 Prioritise delivery of projects including the Quirindi library upgrade and the Quirindi Civic Square – *Short term*
- 8.3 Review and update the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 to encourage clusters of complementary land uses (including the aged care market) and examine large lot residential supply of land – *Medium term*
- 8.4 Investigate potential for land use and lot size changes that have negligible environmental impacts and provide a point of difference from current supply to encourage economic investment – *Short term*

## Planning Priority 9 – Protect and celebrate our unique sense of place

Liverpool Plains Shire maintains a strong sense of place and identity which is shaped by its places of Aboriginal cultural heritage, strong agricultural history, ties to the railway and its picturesque landscape.

Of particular Aboriginal significance is the village of Walhallow. Walhallow, located 34 kilometres west of Quirindi, is the site of a former Aboriginal Reserve. It was first gazetted in 1895 following an application made a year previously to the Aboriginal Protection Board. The initial area gazetted was 150 acres and was expanded to 230 acres in 1899. The reserve was revoked in 1962 but the residents were permitted to remain until 1973 when the land was transferred to the Aboriginal Lands Trust under the Aboriginal Act 1973. The village consists of 42 houses, the management of which is divided between two corporations: 23 houses are managed by the Walhallow Local Aboriginal Land Council and the remainder by the Walhallow Aboriginal Corporation. The village also has a community hall, church and a primary health post (clinic). Walhallow Public School is one of only five schools in New South Wales with an all-Aboriginal enrolment.

Aboriginal cultural heritage values are, and will continue to be, recognised and respected in spatial planning and community partnerships across the Shire. Collaborating with Aboriginal communities to produce updated mapping of archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance (where appropriate) will guide decision making on future development proposals.

The townships of Quirindi and Werris Creek accommodate a rich built heritage which contributes to local character. Future development in the town centres should further their unique identity and sense of place, particularly in Station and George Streets, Quirindi and Single Street, Werris Creek.

Adopting a principle of ongoing and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings and places is a precondition to increasing amenity and

vibrancy, both for investment and development of a quality-built environment for residents and visitors.



Figure 17 - Commercial heritage buildings in Quirindi.

A number of attractions have been established in the Liverpool Plains which pay tribute to the region's rich heritage. The Quirindi Rural Heritage Village and Museum, Australian Rail and Monument Museum in Werris Creek and the First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens in Wallabadah all offer unique experiences which are tied to the history, heritage and culture of the Liverpool Plains.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework to preserve and promote the heritage of the Liverpool Plains. It aims to nurture social capital to facilitate community cohesion, accommodate shared beliefs of the community and improve the connection to country via preservation of Aboriginal and European culture.

The key strategic directions for preserving and promoting heritage are:

- exercise due diligence and caution where proposed development is located in or near landscape features that are likely to indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects of or cultural significance. Generally, areas of environmental sensitivity coincide with these areas.
- ensure Aboriginal people are engaged during the planning process by establishing a consultation framework with the Local Aboriginal Land Councils for development

assessment through the Community Participation Plan (CPP).

- acknowledge and identify known key cultural sites in an appropriate and respectful way in collaboration with the local Aboriginal community to formally recognise the contribution of cultural

heritage values to the character and landscape of the region.

- manage built heritage in the Liverpool Plains Shire in accordance with the Burra Charter's best practice conservation principles, DPIE's heritage's guidelines and the Government Architect's *NSW Design Guide for Heritage*.

## Actions

9.1 Ensure proposed land use changes are informed by an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment undertaken in consultation with the local Aboriginal community to identify and protect areas of important Aboriginal cultural heritage value – *Ongoing*

9.2 Implement the Arts and Cultural Plan – *Ongoing*

9.3 Consult with the Local Aboriginal Land Councils to determine the best mechanisms for consultation and development

assessment referrals and update the Community Participation Plan accordingly – *Short term*

9.4 Finalise the Community-Based Heritage Planning Study and implement recommendations – *Short term*

9.5 Prioritise delivery of an Aboriginal Heritage Study (reviewing Aboriginal archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance) – *Medium term*

9.6 Develop a place-making strategy for the Quirindi and Werris Creek CBDs with consideration to the provision of well-designed shade (both natural and built), and the ways in which heritage and culture contribute to attractive and liveable places – *Medium term*



Figure 18 - Werris Creek Railway Station.

# Implementation, monitoring and reporting

## Implementation

This LSPS describes the long-term land use strategy for the Liverpool Plains LGA to 2040. This statement is intended to be a living document and should be revised on an ongoing, as-needs-basis so that the plan remains responsive, relevant and local. To this end, it is intended that the statement will be updated upon completion of the various actions identified throughout the document. Revisions to the LSPS may also be required in response to significant changes within the LGA, such as new infrastructure investment and employment opportunities or significant changes in projected population growth.

Council will monitor and report on progress of the LSPS priorities, actions and outcomes in an annual report. This will inform adjustments to the LSPS to ensure local planning policy is effective, responsive and delivering on local community aspirations.

Community feedback will be regularly sought. It is anticipated that this consultation will identify continuous improvement opportunities and will

ensure that the LSPS continues to reflect the community's social and economic needs as well as their vision of the future desired state of the local area.

Existing governance arrangements with Namoi Unlimited shall continue to be utilised to support effective approaches to cross boundary issues. The need to collaborate with other councils in the region recognises the wider role that Liverpool Plains Shire's strategic planning and decision-making plays in achieving the objectives of the Regional Plan. It also recognises the potential impact that strategically important decisions regarding critical infrastructure, environmental issues, housing, investment and a range of other topics covered in the LSPS may have on the plans of neighbouring communities. These valued cross boundary partnerships will also help deliver Liverpool Plains' vision by driving efficiencies in accessing government funding, attracting inward investment and accessing a wider field of expertise.

## Monitoring and reporting

Council will monitor, review and report on its LSPS to ensure that its planning priorities are being achieved. Council will use the existing Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework under the *Local Government Act 1993* for the purpose of monitoring

implementation of the LSPS. Council will commence its first full review of the LSPS in 2024 and again every four years to align the review period with Council's overarching community strategic planning and IP&R under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

# Action Plan

## Ongoing actions

Number	Action
1.1	Consider the regional systems transition model as outlined in the <i>Western Enabling Regional Adaptation New England North West region report</i> when developing operational policy, undertaking strategic planning, delivering Council programs and assessing future infrastructure needs
2.1	Focus development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity and implement the 'avoid, minimize, offset' hierarchy to biodiversity and areas of High Environmental Value
6.1	Prioritise the implementation of the directions of the <i>Lower North West Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2022 Supporting Analysis</i> in relation to road upgrades
6.2	Continue to work with Transport for NSW and Namoi Unlimited to address pinch points on the Kamilaroi Highway
7.1	Continue to implement the Regional Water Supply Strategy to secure the water supply for Quirindi, Werris Creek and several villages
7.2	Determine the suitability of existing infrastructure to support growth by reviewing rail and airport assets, capacity of existing utility services and digital connectivity
9.1	Ensure proposed land use changes are informed by an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment undertaken in consultation with the local Aboriginal community to identify and protect areas of important Aboriginal cultural heritage value
9.2	Implement the Arts and Cultural Plan

## Short term actions, 0 – 5 years

Number	Action
1.2	Review the provisions of the Liverpool Plains Shire Council Development Control Plan 2012 to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>include management options for water efficiency, such as water sensitive urban design for new developments that reduce the impact of urbanisation and stormwater on water quality;</li> <li>encourage adaptable and resilient buildings; and,</li> <li>recognise the need for natural bushland, riparian vegetation buffers and the promotion of pervious surfaces to maintain and improve water quality in waterways through the filtration of contaminated run-off and minimising the impact of catchment development on stream hydrology</li> </ul>
1.4	Prepare a renewable energy / carbon reduction strategy to determine what measures will be required in order to achieve the community's climate change goals
1.5	Review Council's bushfire risk and response plans in consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service and LEMC
2.2	Update the Liverpool Plains Shire Council Development Control Plan 2012 consistent with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017 to regulate vegetation clearing in non-rural areas of the LGA



Number	Action
3.1	Partner with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Agriculture) to develop and implement biosecurity plans, risk assessments and appropriate buffer areas to avoid land use conflict
4.2	Prepare a local tourism strategy, aligned with the NSW Destination Management Plan, that supports and grows tourism in the Liverpool Plains
8.1	Finalise the Recreational Strategy and implement recommendations
8.2	Prioritise delivery of projects including the Quirindi library upgrade and the Quirindi Civic Square
8.4	Investigate potential for land use and lot size changes that have negligible environmental impacts and provide a point of difference from current supply to encourage economic investment
9.3	Consult with the Local Aboriginal Land Councils to determine the best mechanisms for consultation and development assessment referrals and update the Community Participation Plan accordingly
9.4	Finalise the Community-Based Heritage Planning Study and implement recommendations

## Medium term actions, 6 – 10 years

Number	Action
1.3	Review Council's floodplain management plans and update the LEP and DCP accordingly
3.2	Encourage and support diversification of agribusiness through streamlined approval processes for complimentary businesses ancillary to primary production
3.3	Review and update the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 to support the agricultural sector and encourage growth and diversification
4.1	Facilitate the delivery of the proposed Kokoda Memorial Track between Quirindi and Werris Creek
5.1	Undertake Mineral Resource Audit mapping in consultation with Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) - Resources and Geoscience to identify and protect buffers around mineral resources in the Liverpool Plains Shire
5.2	Review and update the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 to ensure sustainable management of resources and renewable energy opportunities
6.3	Work with Transport for NSW and other key stakeholders on implementing the Movement and Place Framework through the development of a Place Plan, integrated transport and land use plan, for key centres
8.3	Review and update the Liverpool Plains Shire Growth Management Strategy 2009 to encourage clusters of complementary land uses (including the aged care market) and examine large lot residential and/or residential supply of land
9.5	Prioritise delivery of an Aboriginal Heritage Study (reviewing Aboriginal archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance)
9.6	Develop a place-making strategy for the Quirindi and Werris Creek CBDs with consideration to the provision of well-designed shade (both natural and built), and the ways in which heritage and culture contribute to attractive and liveable places

## Long term actions, 11 – 20 years

Number	Action
2.3	Undertake a biodiversity audit of Council managed public land to identify opportunities for enhancement of biodiversity values
2.4	Review Liverpool Plains LEP 2011 controls (e.g. biodiversity mapping including freshwater rivers, creeks and streams as well as appropriate zoning of high value environmental areas) to protect biodiversity. Rezone areas of High Environmental Value to an environmental zone

## Compliance with strategies

### A sustainable Liverpool Plains Shire

<b>Planning Priority 1</b>		
<b>Manage natural hazards and climate change risks</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 12	Adapt to natural hazards and climate change
Community Strategic Plan	3.2	We have access to affordable clean water supplies
	3.3	We actively manage the impact on our natural environment
	3.5	We actively foster and utilise renewable energy

<b>Planning Priority 2</b>		
<b>Protect and enhance areas of environmental value</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 11	Protect areas of potential high environmental value
Community Strategic Plan	1.1	We value beautiful, landscapes, dynamic towns and villages and safe communities
	3.2	We have access to affordable clean water supplies
	3.3	We actively manage the impact on our natural environment
	3.4	Our local farming is sustainable

## A growing Liverpool Plains Shire

<b>Planning Priority3</b>		
<b>Further leverage the agricultural sector to encourage growth and diversification</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 1	Expand agribusiness and food processing sectors
	Direction 2	Build agricultural productivity
	Direction 3	Protect and enhance productive lands
Community Strategic Plan	3.4	Our local farming is sustainable
	4.1	Our economy is growing and we offer a diverse range of job opportunities
	4.2	We foster new business development for our future prosperity

<b>Planning Priority 4</b>		
<b>Embrace tourism</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 8	Expand tourism and visitor opportunities
Community Strategic Plan	1.3	We celebrate local events and festivals as a cohesive community
	4.4	We embrace tourism

<b>Planning Priority 5</b>		
<b>Manage resources and renewable energy</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 3	Protect and enhance productive lands
	Direction 4	Sustainably manage mineral resources
	Direction 5	Grow New England North West as the renewable energy hub of NSW
	Direction 6	Deliver new industries of the future
Community Strategic Plan	3.1	Our infrastructure is well planned and maintained and will meet our needs now and in the future
	3.3	We actively manage the impact on our natural environment
	3.4	Our local farming is sustainable

<b>Planning Priority 6</b>		
<b>Efficient transport and connectivity networks</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 13	Expand emerging industries through freight and logistics connectivity
	Direction 14	Enhance transport and infrastructure networks
	Direction 19	Support healthy, safe and socially engaged communities
Community Strategic Plan	1.4	Our transport and telecommunications options support our business and lifestyle
	3.1	Our infrastructure is well planned and maintained and will meet our needs now and in the future

<b>Planning Priority 7</b>		
<b>Deliver key infrastructure as a foundation for growth</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 10	Sustainably manage and conserve water resources
	Direction 14	Enhance transport and infrastructure networks
	Direction 15	Facilitate air and public transport opportunities
	Direction 16	Coordinate infrastructure delivery
Community Strategic Plan	1.4	Our transport and telecommunications options support our business and lifestyle
	3.1	Our infrastructure is well planned and maintained and will meet our needs now and in the future

## A thriving Liverpool Plains Shire

<b>Planning Priority 8</b>		
<b>Sustainable settlements</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 7	Build strong economic centres
	Direction 17	Strengthen community resilience
	Direction 18	Provide great places to live
	Direction 19	Support healthy, safe and socially engaged communities
	Direction 20	Deliver greater housing diversity to suit changing needs
	Direction 21	Deliver well planned rural residential housing
Community Strategic Plan	1.1	We value beautiful, landscapes, dynamic towns and villages and safe communities
	3.1	Our infrastructure is well planned and maintained and will meet our needs now and in the future
	3.3	We actively manage the impact on our natural environment
	4.1	Our economy is growing and we offer a diverse range of job opportunities
	4.2	We foster new business development for our future prosperity
	4.3	Town planning reflects the diversity of our towns and villages

<b>Planning Priority 9</b>		
<b>Protect and celebrate our unique sense of place</b>		
<b>Enablers</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b>	
Regional Plan	Direction 22	Increase the economic self-determination of Aboriginal communities
	Direction 23	Collaborate with Aboriginal communities to respect and protect culture and heritage
	Direction 24	Protect the region's historic heritage assets
Community Strategic Plan	1.1	We value beautiful, landscapes, dynamic towns and villages and safe communities
	1.3	We celebrate local events and festivals as a cohesive community
	4.3	Town planning reflects the diversity of our towns and villages



Source: Agracom Grain Trading Company

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Making it Happen in the Regions: Regional Development Framework  
Namoi Unlimited Namoi Region Road Network Strategy 2018  
Namoi Unlimited Water for the Future Strategy  
New England North West Regional Plan 2036  
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NSW Heavy Vehicle Access Policy Framework  
NSW Right to Farm policy  
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