



# Cobar Shire

LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge and respect the traditional lands for all Aboriginal people, we respect all Elders past, present and future. We ask all people that walk, work and live on traditional Aboriginal lands, to be respectful of culture and traditions, we stand together side by side, united with respect for land for oneself and for one another.

WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are warned that this document may contain images of people who have died.

# 1 FORWARD

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Cobar Shire is situated in the centre of New South Wales at the crossroads of the Barrier Highway and the Kidman Way and has excellent road, rail and air links to most of Australia's capital cities. With an area of 45,609 square kilometres, the Shire is approximately two-thirds the size of Tasmania. It is home to approximately 4,647 people. The Shire's prosperity is built around the thriving mining - copper, lead, silver, zinc, gold - and pastoral industries, which are strongly supported by a wide range of attractions and activities, that make it a major tourist destination.

One of the most important jobs of Council is to set the strategic direction that guides our work to improve life in Cobar Shire. To assist with this, Council has prepared a Local Strategic Planning Statement.

This Statement is owned by the community of Cobar Shire. It is not a Council plan; however, Council has taken responsibility for bringing the plan together, overseeing its implementation and reporting back to the community on progress made.

As Councillors for Cobar Shire, we support this Statement and will ensure that Council projects and programs reflect the priorities of our community. We will bring this plan to life and we will report back to the community each year on progress with its implementation.

## 2 WHAT DOES THIS STRATEGY DO?

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This Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) sets the framework for the economic, social and environmental land use needs over the next 20 years. The LSPS has also taken account of land use planning in adjacent Councils. It also works with council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and Local Environmental Plan (LEP). The LSPS gives effect to the Far West Regional Plan, implementing the directions and actions at a local level. The LSPS planning priorities, directions and actions provide the rationale for decisions about how we will use our land to achieve the community's broader goals.

This LSPS has been prepared in accordance with clause 3.9 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The LSPS brings together and builds on the planning work found in Council's other plans, studies and strategies, such as the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The LSPS also gives effect to the Far West Regional Plan 2036, implementing the directions and actions at a local level. The LSPS planning priorities and actions provide the rationale for decisions about how we will use our land to achieve the community's broader land use vision.



Figure 1: Alignment of the LSPS to other strategic planning documents

## 3 MONITORING

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Council will monitor, review and report on its LSPS annually 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.

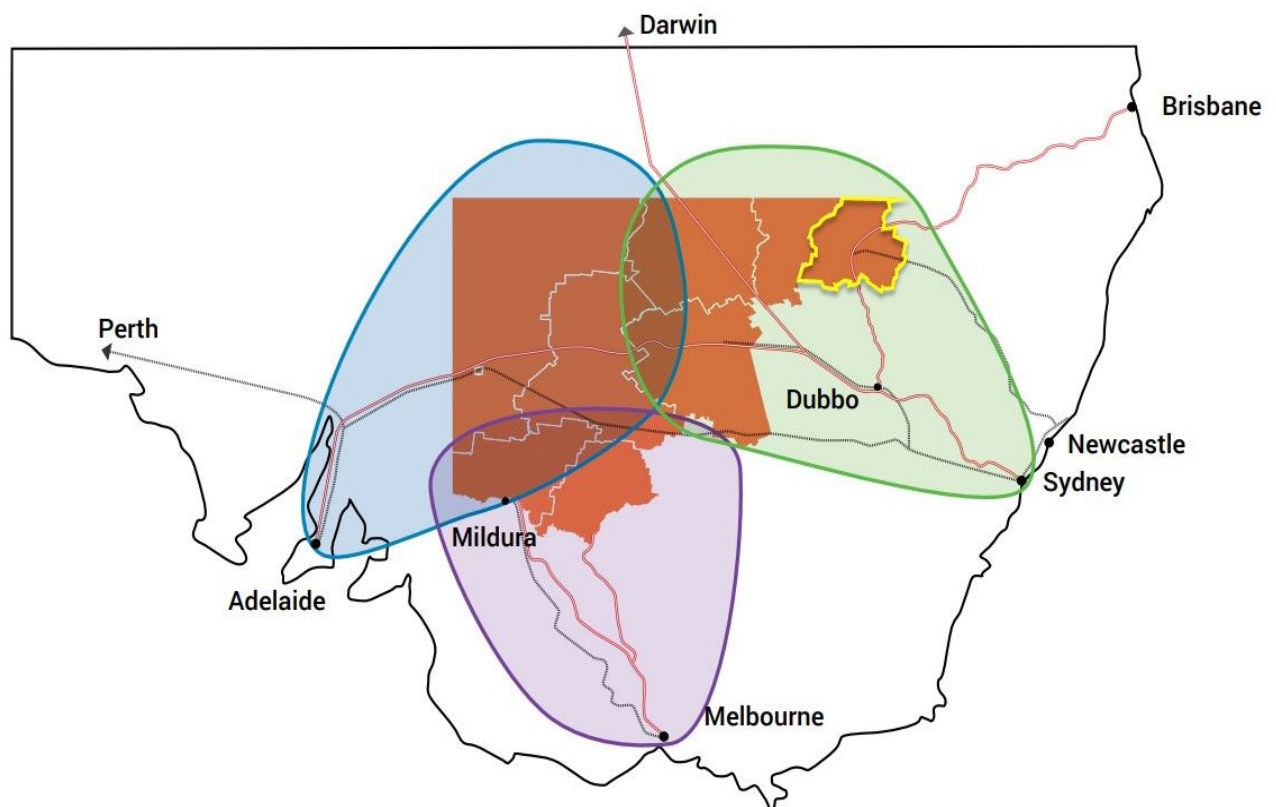
## 4 THE FAR WEST REGION

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The focus for the future of the Far West is to leverage its competitive advantages and unlock the potential for unique economic opportunities. With vast distances, small populations and challenges across government and regional boundaries, all tiers of government and the region's service providers face significant challenges.

Cobar has a strong connection to the northern area of the Far West, as well as the vast outback of Queensland. The eastern area comprises Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar and Walgett Local Government Areas and is known as the Gateway to outback NSW. It is recognised for its productive and diverse agriculture and mining sectors. The eastern area is home to approximately 34 percent of the Far West population. The local centres of Cobar, Bourke, Brewarrina, Walgett and Lightning Ridge provide business, office, retail, health, education, arts, culture, recreation and entertainment uses and support smaller settlements across the area. Euabalong and Euabalong West are serviced by the Riverina Region including Griffith and Wagga for health and other services.

This region also has a strong cross-regional relationship with the Orana region, and residents' access higher-order health, education, retail, commercial and transport services in Dubbo.



## 5 OUR UNIQUE SHIRE

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Cobar Shire is situated in the centre of New South Wales encompassing an area of around 45,600 square kilometres, about 700kms north-west of Sydney and 650kms north of Canberra. Cobar is located on the crossroads of three major highways – the Kidman Way linking Melbourne to Brisbane, the Barrier Highway linking Sydney to Adelaide via Broken Hill and the Wool Track linking the Sunraysia area to South East Queensland.

Established as a town for more than 100 years, Cobar is one of the strongest outback areas in NSW, with a population that hovers around 5,000 people and a strong mining and agribusiness industry that has supported its development as a service centre for the people of the Far West. Other villages in the Shire are Euabalong and Euabalong West, Mount Hope and Nymagee.

### 5.1 EUABALONG

Euabalong has a population of approximately 350 people and was founded in the 1870s. It was originally a police station and the town was built because of its close proximity to the Lachlan River. The main industry is cropping, cattle and sheep. The Cobar Shire Council maintains a depot in the village. There is potential demand for further supply within the village, however the current land available is adequate. The village is not serviced with key infrastructure. Council will continue to assess development on a merit basis.

### 5.2 EUABALONG WEST

Euabalong West is a small town on the Broken Hill Railway Line that was founded to serve the residents of nearby Euabalong, which was a crossing point for the Lachlan River founded in the 1870s. The town has approximately 70 people, and its main industries are cropping, grazing, and railway-related employment. The current land available is adequate. The village is not serviced with key infrastructure. Council will continue to assess development on a merit basis.

### 5.3 NYMAGEE

Nymagee has a population of approximately 100 people, the village is situated 98km south-east of Cobar. There is a hotel, police station, community hall, community school building, CWA hall, fire shed, park, airstrip and sporting facilities. Aurelia Metals employ around 50 people at their mine sites, many of the employees are fly in/fly out and stay in base camp facilities south of the village. Nymagee is unserviced and undeveloped, with a large proportion of the land already zoned for village purposes. The longevity of the village relies on current and future mining activity. Access to a secure water source is the primary issue for Nymagee, with water being trucked from Cobar during dry periods.

### 5.4 MOUNT HOPE

Mt Hope is situated 160km south of Cobar on the Kidman Way and has a population of approximately 15. The main hub of the small village is the local hotel which services the local farming community as well as the travelling public. There is a well-maintained community hall and council maintain an unsealed airstrip. There is no reason to expand the village boundary with a number of vacant undeveloped and unserviced lots currently available.

## 6 COBAR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

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Cobar's population has been reasonably steady for the past ten years at around 5,200. At the 2006 census, there were more males (53.8%) than females, with 62% of the population being aged 18-64 years (working age population). The median age of the population was 35 years, 10.5% were of Aboriginal descent, and 84% were born in Australia.

Over a third of the workforce is employed in the mining and manufacturing industries, 9.5% are employed in agriculture and retail is the next largest employer in the Shire. Due to mining, the median weekly income is higher than the national average.

There are around 2,300 dwellings in the Shire with over 36% of residents renting, and only 30% of residents owned their home at census time. The employers in town are large holders of real estate, to ensure there is adequate housing available for their workforce.

### 6.1 POPULATION

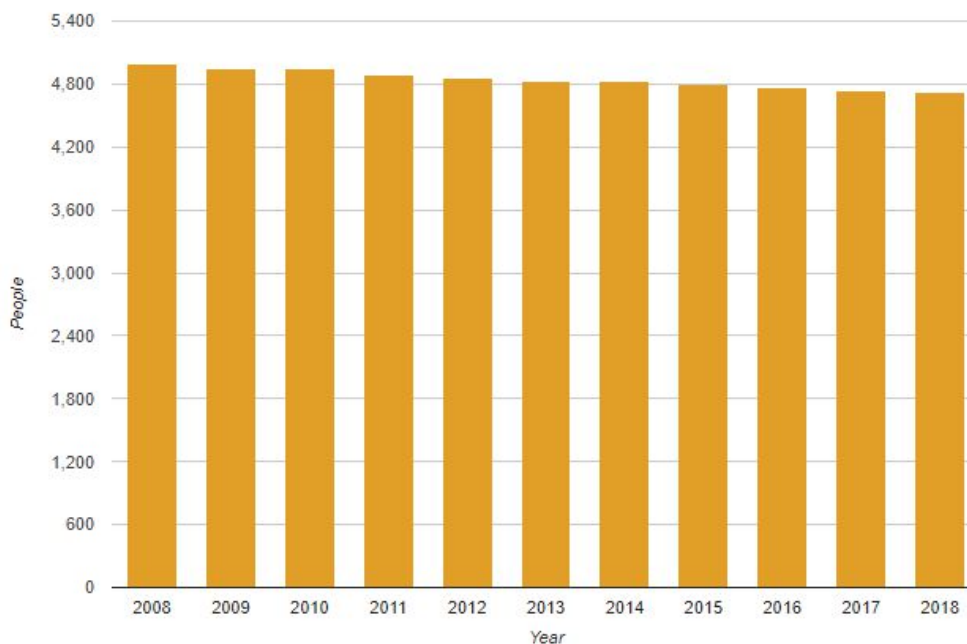
The 2016 census shows Cobar having a resident population of 4,969 which was reduced from 2006.

Some quick statistics on the population:

- 62% are aged between 18 and 64 years
- 36% of residents are currently renting
- There were 2313 dwellings in the Shire
- 46% of the population was earning an average weekly household income of \$1000 per week or more.

Cobar's population has a diverse mix of long and short-term residents, nationalities and skills. You won't find Iron Ringers anywhere else.

Cobar  
Population



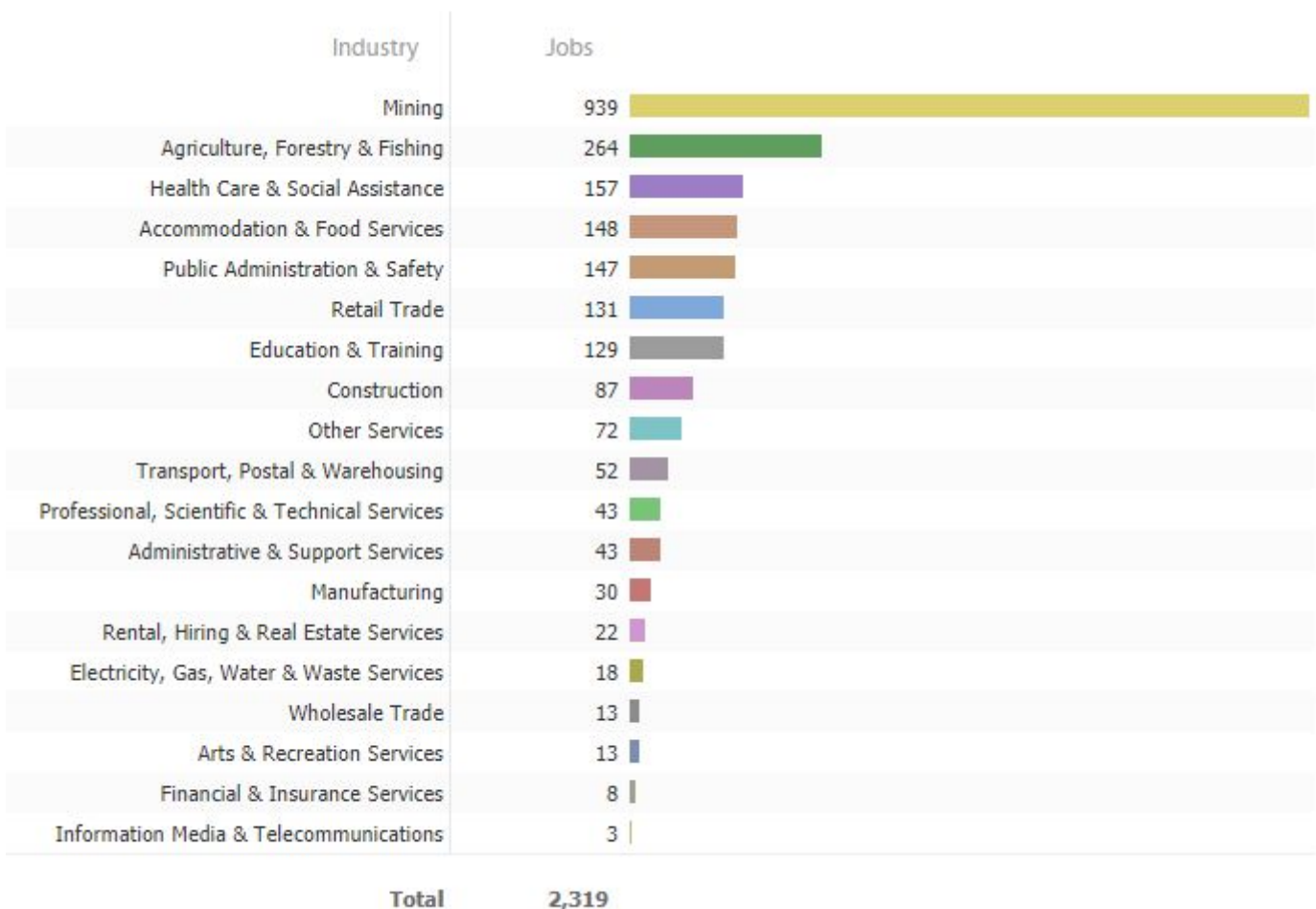
## 6.2 EMPLOYMENT

The main industries in Cobar are mining, agriculture, retail and tourism. With the recent strength of both the mining and local tourism industry, Cobar has enjoyed a relatively low unemployment rate. Around 29% of the population is not in the labour force. Of those who are, 67% are employed full time.

30% of the population is employed in the mining industry, 10% in agriculture and 8% in retail trade. An analysis of the occupations held by the resident population in Cobar Shire in 2006 shows the three most popular occupations were:

- Machinery Operators and Drivers (470 persons or 19.9%)
- Technicians and Trades Workers (457 persons or 19.4%)
- Managers (336 persons or 14.2%)

As the workforce is a key input or factor of production, it is important to ensure that the workforce is able to meet the skill and knowledge requirements of current and future industry needs. Initiatives need to consider quality education and training systems that are capable of educating, training and re-training people through their working lives.





## 7 VISION

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*Our vision is for Cobar Shire to be an attractive, healthy and caring environment to live, work and play, achieved in partnership with the community through initiative, foresight and leadership.*

We will capitalise on our natural resource and infrastructure investment to be the mining hub for the Far West, with many specialist contracting companies setting up prominent bases in town. As the mining hub we will be an established mining community that encourages community cohesion through provision of accommodation within the town centre and agitation towards a local workforce.

The exploration of mining and how it is approved in the future will be a key focus for Council. We will focus on industry and infrastructure development that will utilise or establish local workforces. Our approach to development will be agile and quick to respond to opportunities for development. We will capitalise on the investment in airfreight and inland rail for potential development opportunities. Our strategic position from Parkes and the capacity of our road network will allow us to link into the freight hub, improving out the movement of grain and livestock from the Southern part of the Shire through to Condobolin and into Parkes.

Our connection to key freight corridors, particularly the Wool Track, Kidman Way and Barrier Highway will support the growth and diversification into resilient agriculture practices. Our current agriculture sector is based on sheep and grazing operations with positive opportunities emerging in the goat industry. There are opportunities to look at harvesting natural grasses and weeds for stock feed during wet periods to build resilience during drier periods. There is a growing opportunity to support the goat industry through depots development as well as ancillary transport services.

We are integrating the tourism attributes of Cobar into a unique experience that show cases the strengths of the place, creates a strong destination profile, complements rather than competes with the wider region, diversifies the local economy and has high appeal for the community and domestic and international visitors.

We are working towards implementing strategies and promoting outcomes that see Cobar positioned as a leader in outback medicine for remote/outback locations. The opportunity lies in supporting this sector to develop and innovate, being at the forefront of “outback/remote” medicine in Australia.

## 8 INDUSTRY SUSTAINABILITY

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There are currently three major mines operating in the Shire, with several others looking to start production in the near future. All mines employ a range of contractors across a variety of trades. Consequently, Cobar supports a strong industrial sector made up of many small to medium sized businesses. Other key industries include agribusiness, tourism and retail businesses. Cobar is proud of the strength of the industrial businesses which service both Cobar and towns across Australia.

### 8.1 MINING

Mining has been the core industry in Cobar since the discovery of copper in 1870. At the time of its peak in 1912, the Great Cobar boasted 14 smelters, a 64-metre chimney stack and it employed over 2000 workers.

At the turn of the 19th century the population of Cobar was approximately 10,000. Mining had become the most important industry in the region and many small towns grew on the wealth generated by the Great Cobar Mine. These included Wrightville, Mount Drysdale, Canbelego, Shuttleton and Nymagee which all supported significant populations during the period 1870 - 1920.

Endeavor mine, is situated 47 kilometres north of Cobar. The Endeavor orebody is similar to others in the Cobar Basin in that it has the form of massive vertical pillars. It is the largest zinc, lead and silver producer in the Region. An entirely underground operation accessed by traditional shaft haulage with concentrator, drying, storage and rail facilities on the mine lease, the mine currently produces at a rate of 720,00 tonnes of ore per annum.

The Shire will agitate to be the centre of natural resources in the Far West. Cobar has an abundant of privately owned industrial and commercial land available to support the service industry that underpins the mining activity. Being agile and quick to respond to opportunities for development in this sector will allow us to take advantage of opportunities that arise in the future. In the long-term, Council recognises that there is a need to differentiate Cobar's economic structure to promote economic viability.

### 8.2 AGRIBUSINESS

Cobar Shire covers a large area and incorporates many land and soil types from flat to open plains and much more. There are many agricultural businesses in the Shire, mostly supporting sheep and goat production. Industry is diversifying into rangeland goats to capitalise on international demand and to adapt to drier climatic periods. The recent development of a small stock abattoir at North Bourke has recognised this growth industry and provides local producers with an accessible processing plant, optimising time and resources required to get stock to market. Grazing for wool production has contributed significantly to the Cobar Shire for many years. There is also cropping in the southern portion of the Shire. There have been several innovative agriculture industries set up in the Shire such as emu production, native brush and biofuel industries.

Recent changes in biodiversity legislation have opened a new market in carbon farming. Several primary producers are diversifying into this sector, committing to long term leases as part of carbon offset schemes. Sustainable land management is a key feature of agriculture in the Shire. Members of the Buckwaroon Landcare Group have enterprises covering a large section of the Shire around the township of Cobar and have taken out many awards for their sustainable land use practices. Key projects include Grazing for profit courses, Alan Savory Holistic Management training, developed a weed seeker a computerised spray unit that selectively sprays regrowth, coordinated wild dog baiting, school education days taking students from local primary schools on farm and giving them an insight into agriculture practices.

There are a number of services in Cobar supporting the agriculture industry including rural traders, livestock carriers and buyers, farm good suppliers, Livestock Health and Plant Authority and the Local Land Services.

The Council and community value the rural economy and is keen to develop this part of the economy in areas that will lead to strong local growth and employment. This is not only important from an industry development point of view but from a view of creating and maintaining an industry capable of enhancing the economy.

### **8.3 TOURISM**

Tourism is an important industry in Cobar that continues to grow. The tourism market is largely underdeveloped, and considerable opportunities exist in the industry.

Cobar continues to experience significant increases in tourists traveling through the Shire every year. There are business opportunities available to tap into and service this market. Cobar has been given RV friendly status by the caravan and campervan industry and good facilities for this market are provided in Cobar, including parking areas and dump sites. Cobar is ideally located on two major highways and is a convenient stop-over point. Cobar is serviced by a caravan park, there are several farm stays in the Shire, motels and hotels.

Cobar has excellent attractions that are well known as a stopover for people travelling east/west and north/south. Key attractions include the Great Cobar Heritage Centre, two national parks including a destination at Mount Grenfell, the Great Cobar Open Cut mine, the Golden Walk at Peak Mine, Mt Drysdale, Fort Bourke lookout and much more.

Cobar has exceptional conference facilities at the Cobar Bowling and Golf Club, the Cobar Memorial Services Club, the Library and government offices. Other unique facilities can be arranged such as shearing sheds, the showground and various outdoor venues. Council and the venue managers offer support when arranging conferences. There are several major annual events held in Cobar. These include the Festival of the Miners Ghost, agricultural show, Cobar Miners Races, Cobar Rodeo, market days, Australia Day celebrations, Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services and activities and the town street Christmas Gala Night.

The ultimate aim of tourism development is to develop a unique recreational and tourism profile for Cobar that supports and enhances the existing quality of lifestyle image and integrates the environment into everyday thinking. It needs to leverage community assets to provide a playground for the broader regional population whilst having strong appeal for emerging experiential markets such as eco-tourists and grey nomads which are prevalent in the wider area. The key challenge is to create reasons for people to visit and stay in the region by developing new experiences (events and product development) that provide broader appeal and attract markets from the wider region.

### **8.4 RETAIL**

Cobar continues to experience strong growth in new retail businesses, across a broad range of goods and services. The category of New Business is the most fiercely contended at the annual business awards. Council supports both shop front and home-based businesses.

New drainage, telecommunications and electrical infrastructure has been installed, along with the beautification of the streets – new paving, street furniture and landscaping. Outside of the CBD there are numerous retail shops offering a wide array of services, facilities and products.

All retail businesses in Cobar are small to medium sized operations. Shopping, office, community and civic uses will continue to be consolidated within the main street.

## 8.5 HEALTH

The health and community services sector in Cobar is considered reasonably strong with the community having good access to front line medical and community services, including General Practitioner's, Dentist's and community services. Health care and social services provides 6% of all jobs in the community; and with an expectation that underlying demand for services may increase as the community ages, opportunities for industry development in the sector are considerable. Whilst the sector is quite broad, key opportunities include aged care management and healthy community outcomes with a focus on families and general wellbeing.

## 8.6 INFRASTRUCTURE

The provision of both hard and soft infrastructure is becoming increasingly more important in the 'liveability' of a location, which aids its ability to attract the investment and population that is required for sustainable growth.

Major transport corridors and infrastructure, including the airport, the railway, highways and major roads, will be protected from encroachment by development which would detract from their safety or operational efficiency.

Cobar has a good airport with a sealed strip located 5km from town along the Lerida Road. The strip is suitable for large aircraft, aviation gas and jet fuel are available on-site, as is a serviced passenger terminal. Over 6kms of kangaroo proof fencing has been installed, the runway has recently been extended to allow large sized planes (or those with heavy loads) to land and take off, the runway is lit, and 24-hour access is available to the runway for aircraft. Council welcomes a wide range of users to the airport, including charter flights, sightseeing aircraft and small aircraft refuelling.

Investing in energy transmission infrastructure is required to address a critical bottleneck in the economy. Currently energy transmission lines are not adequate to meet current demand for power during peak residential demand. Some Mining operations cease during these periods, lowering the overall viability of future expansion in this sector. This action has been identified as a priority for Cobar and Bogan Shires, which represent the major Mining areas of the Region.

The proposed Wool Track provides an alternate freight and tourist road connection between Balranald and Cobar, passing through Ivanhoe and onto Queensland. This connection provides the Far West with more direct access to and from South Australia. A feasibility study was jointly commissioned by Cobar Shire Council, Central Darling Shire Council and Balranald Shire Council. The study includes a cost benefit analysis which demonstrates a viable investment in the route. The disruption to the existing north, south and local transport routes through NSW during flood events in the Lachlan River catchment highlighting the Wool Track as an important alternate transport route through NSW.

## 9 HEALTHY AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

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### 9.1 HOUSING

Cobar has a range of housing opportunities, from rural to rural residential, large sized town blocks and unit developments. In late 2006 Council released 64 lots which sold out in three days. A further Council subdivision of 47 lots is planned. There are a number of private subdivisions being undertaken around the Shire.

Two new off-road bike paths have recently been developed, servicing the Lerida Road rural residential estates and town areas, allowing safe bike access for school students and those wishing to explore bushland near Cobar. Most estates have access to town water and electricity infrastructure. Blocks of various sizes are available with excellent road access to Cobar.

Cobar will be community-based mining town. With services that support people living in town. Utilising current housing stock before any future application for temporary accommodation outside of town will be favoured. Future industry development applications that accommodate employees in town to the best of their ability to support longevity will be favoured by Council. Setting this direction for future development will provide certainty to local residents and the economy.

### 9.2 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

In some cases, the local workforce is insufficient to meet the needs of industry, such as the specialised skills required by the Mining sector. In order to attract skilled labour, a 'family-centric' approach to recruitment must be taken. When advertising jobs, businesses must be able to advertise the lifestyle available to workers' families. This strategy has been identified as a priority for Cobar Shire, which is heavily reliant on accessing the external labour market for Mining. Improving council delivery and synergies for state service deliveries in isolated communities will make it easier for people to live and work in the Region, contributing to positive economic and demographic outcomes.

Council are in the process of exploring potential for a 'Mining School' in Cobar. Following success of the initial Cobar Skills Mining Hub there is interest in securing an ongoing program that would include certificates such as "Working at Heights" or "Working in Confined Spaces". Service providers are battling to recruit trained employees into the human services industries. This model could assist address this issue in the future.

### 9.3 PROTECT OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Cobar Shire encompasses a wide range of land forms with the topography ranging from the alluvial flood plain of the Darling River, level alluvial and aeolian country to the west and south west area, undulating and hilly country to the north, east, south eastern and centre area around Cobar and to level alluvial flood plain of the southern areas adjacent to the Lachlan River. The large area of Cobar Shire and the major distances between the extreme boundaries provides for a diverse range in flora types, fauna species, soil types and climate.

### **9.3.1 Increase resilience to climate change and natural hazard risks**

Supporting projects that will increase our preparedness for seasonal fluctuations will be a core adaptation strategy. Severe heat throughout the summer periods, averaging over 35°C, is continuing to rise and extend for long periods of the year. Sustainable adaptation strategies for existing and proposed infrastructure and residential development, particularly renewable energy supply and water security, will improve our communities living standards and boost our resilience to harsh climate variations.

Cobar has suffered from lack of a reliable water supply from the time of its establishment in the 1870's. The area is arid and more than 140 kilometres from any permanent watercourse. The principal source of water is the Bogan River at Nyngan, where water is stored in a series of pools known as the Bogan Storages. Security is better assured by a connection to the Macquarie River at Warren through the Albert Priest Channel. Future proofing the availability of water during dry period is essential to support investment in Cobar and the surrounding area.

### **9.3.2 Protect and manage environmental assets**

Cobar is located within the Cobar Peneplain bioregion. The landscape of the Cobar Peneplain bioregion includes undulating low rounded ridges, rolling downs and plains. A large area of the bioregion is rangeland, and vegetation consists of poplar box woodlands, mulga communities and white cypress pine.

The north western boundary of Cobar Shire adjoins the Darling River for approximately 80km, however the Shire is not greatly affected in this area. The environment of the Darling River is severely degraded during periods of deficient rainfall in the catchments and from over utilisation of the water for agricultural and urban uses. The majority of the water that flows through this region originates far from this Shire and as a result is impacted upon by pollution sources and land uses beyond the control of Cobar Shire Council. The combination of all of these impacts results in decreased water quality, increasing riverine salinity, increased frequency of algal blooms and greater demands on the water resources. Water quality in the Darling River has remained unchanged with seasons of good rain, meaning good water quality, but in seasons of below average rainfall nearing poor water quality.

Mining is the most important land use in Cobar Shire in terms of value of production. In common with most other land uses, mining has the potential to affect the physical environment through the removal of vegetation and topsoil, displacement of fauna, release of contaminants into the air and water, production of mine overburden and wastes, and disruption caused by noise and visual pollution.

Many of the environmental issues related to mining are the legacy of past operations. While current mining practice, underpinned by stringent conditions placed on mine operators and requirements for rehabilitation of mine sites, has improved the environmental performance of modern mining, continued research is necessary to address the industry's remaining environmental management and rehabilitation problems.

## **9.4 CELEBRATE HERITAGE ASSETS**

There is evidence of aboriginal occupation over the entire area of Cobar Shire. Whilst many of these sites have been documented and noted it is emphasised that there are significant gaps in the data and that there has not been a complete and detailed archaeology study of aboriginal sites carried out. The National Park & Wildlife Service has carried out a significant amount of survey work to identify and document the aboriginal sites in Cobar Shire and the following information has been collected from the National Parks and Wildlife Service records.

Mount Grenfell Historic Site, is 71km from Cobar, in Cubba, and protects Ngiyampaa rock art. For thousands of years before Europeans settled in this part of NSW, Ngiyampaa people regularly gathered around the semi-permanent waterhole and took shelter in the overhangs of what is now Mount Grenfell Historic Site. In the

surrounding rocky ridge, you can see richly coloured paintings of human and animal figures, representations of the natural environment, and hand stencils which are of ceremonial significance to traditional owners.

Other protected sites include Buckambool Mountain, Pine Ridge, Elura Mine Area, Meadow Glen, Mount Daris, Neckarboo, Bulla, Kaleno, Iona and Marma.

Fort Bourke Hill is the historic site of the New Cobar Gold Mine, Cobar's first gold mine, which is still a working mine operated by Peak Gold Mines. The Cobar Heritage Walk provides visitors with a guided tour of the town's historic buildings, including several from the Victorian and Edwardian eras, as well as early miners' cottages. Then stop by the heritage-listed Great Western Hotel, a traditional rural Australian corner pub. Another known highlight in Cobar is the Great Cobar Heritage Centre, set inside the former administration offices of the Great Cobar Copper Mine built in 1912, visitors can take a journey through Cobar's history from the time of the local Aboriginal Ngayampaa people to the mining era.

Ensuring identified aboriginal and non-aboriginal sites across the Shire are included in schedule 5 of the Cobar LEP 2012 is essential to certify the protection of these sites.

## 10 ACTIONS FOR ACHIEVING OUR VISION

| Focus                           | Alignment with Policy                    | Strategic Outcome   | Description   |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Tourism                         | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 5     | Promote and diversify local tourism market                  | 1. Develop a unique recreational and tourism profile for Cobarr   |
| Infrastructure                  | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 4     | Diversify energy supply through renewable energy generation | 2. Facilitate small-scale renewable energy projects using bioenergy, solar, wind, small-scale hydro, geothermal or other innovative storage technologies through local environment plans.   |
|                                 | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 8     | Enhance access to telecommunications                        | 3. Identify options to improve access to shared telecommunication and internet services, including public access to services at community centres and schools.  |
| Housing                         | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 27    | Sustainably manage residential development                  | 4. Ensure any future residential development is located on land that is currently zoned and serviced.   |
| Protect our Natural Environment | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 26    | Deliver long-term water security                            | 5. Invest in alternative water sources to ensure availability during dry periods  |
|                                 | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 16+17 | Increase resilience to climate change                       | 6. Incorporate the findings of the Far West Enabling Regional Adaptation project to inform land use and planning decisions.   |
| Celebrate Heritage Assets       | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 18    | Respect and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage assets     | 7. Protect, manage and respect Aboriginal objects and places in accordance with legislative requirements.   |
|                                 | Far West Regional Plan – Direction 19    | Conserve and adaptively re-use European heritage assets     | 8. Prepare, review and update heritage studies in consultation with the community to recognise and conserve heritage assets and items and include appropriate local planning controls.<br>9. Investigate opportunities to redevelop and enhance streetscapes and entrances to all towns |