

GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL

**LOCAL STRATEGIC
PLANNING STATEMENT**

**A Strategic Land Use Vision to
2040**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Glen Innes Severn Council acknowledges the Ngorabul people as traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future. 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.

FORWARD

The Glen Innes Severn Local Strategic Planning Statement is an important and significant step in planning for the future economic, social and environmentally sustainable needs of our communities.

The Statement recognises that Glen Innes and surrounding villages are great places to live and work. It outlines our vision and our potential to be a thriving and prosperous region and identifies the framework to maximise opportunities for jobs and development. The document supports our region being a great area to raise a family with excellent education, sporting facilities, music and art centres. Importantly it highlights the significance of our regions unique character, the Celtic and Aboriginal cultures of our local area, and the diversity that makes it a special place for us all.

Cr Carol Sparks

MAYOR

Craig Bennett

GENERAL MANAGER



Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| ABOUT THE PLAN | 5 |
| CONTEXT | 9 |
| VISION | 18 |
| OUR THEMES & PLANNING PRIORITIES | 22 |
| A RENEWED ECONOMY & AUTHENTIC PLACE | 23 |
| Planning Priority 1 | 24 |
| Planning Priority 2 | 25 |
| Planning Priority 3 | 28 |
| A THRIVING VIBRANT COMMUNITY | 30 |
| Planning Priority 4 | 31 |
| Planning Priority 5 | 33 |
| STRONG AND CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURE | 36 |
| Planning Priority 6 | 38 |
| SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT & PROTECTED HERITAGE | 40 |
| Planning Priority 7 | 43 |
| Planning Priority 8 | 44 |
| Planning Priority 9 | 46 |
| Planning Priority 10 | 48 |
| IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING & REPORTING | 50 |
| REFERENCES | 67 |
| FIGURES | |
| Figure 1 – Glen Innes Severn Council Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027 | 6 |
| Figure 2 – Plan that Inform the LSPS | 7 |
| Figure 3 – Regional Context Map | 10 |
| Figure 4 – Glen Innes Severn Local Government Area | 11 |
| Figure 5 – Local Government Endowments | 13 |
| Figure 6 – Identified Heritage Items in the Glen Innes Town Centre | 17 |
| Figure 7 – Historic Population Change | 18 |
| Figure 8 – 2019 Glen Innes Severn Council Population Projections | 20 |
| Figure 9 – Strategic Agricultural Land (SAL) Identified & Endorsed by DPIE (Agriculture) | 32 |
| Figure 10 – Infrastructure Networks | 37 |
| Figure 11 – Biodiversity Map | 45 |
| Figure 12 – New England Energy Zone | 49 |

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| CSIRO | Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation |
| CSP | Community Strategic Plan |
| DCP | Development Control Plan 2014 |
| DPIE | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment |
| EDS | Economic Development Strategy |
| EP&A Act | Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 |
| GIARS | Glen Innes Agricultural Research Station |
| GLENRAC | Glen Innes Natural Resource Advisory Committee |
| IP&R | Integrated Planning and Reporting |
| LALC | Local Aboriginal Land Council |
| LEP | Local Environment Plan 2012 |
| LGA | Local Government Area |
| LG Act | Local Government Act 1993 |
| LSPS | Local Strategic Planning Statement |
| NEJO | New England Joint Organisation |
| SAL | Strategic Agricultural Land |
| UNE | University of New England |

| Version Number | Adopted | Review Date | Responsible Officer |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|---|
| Version 1 | 25 June 2020 | 12 February 2027 | Graham Price Director Development, Planning & Regulatory Services |

ABOUT THE PLAN

The Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) plans for the Glen Innes Severn community's economic, social and environmental land use needs over the next 20 years.

It sets clear planning priorities about what will be needed, such as jobs, homes, services and parks, where these should be best located and when they will be delivered.

The LSPS sets short, medium and long terms actions to deliver the priorities for the community's future vision.

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Short Term | 1 to 5 years |
| Medium Term | 5 to 10 years |
| Long Term | 10 to 20 years |

Note: Proposed timeframes to deliver actions may be subject to funding. Unfunded actions may not commence unless funding becomes available.

This LSPS has been prepared in accordance with clause 3.9 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the EP&A Act).

The LSPS brings together and builds on planning work found in Council's other plans, studies and strategies such as the Glen Innes Severn Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP), Glen Innes Severn Development Control Plan 2014 (DCP) and the 2010 Glen Innes Severn Land Use Strategy.

The LSPS will be used to revise and update where needs are identified, key components of these plans.

POLICY CONTEXT

The LSPS gives effect to the New England North West Regional Plan, implementing the directions and actions at a local level.

It is also informed by other state-wide and regional policies including *Future Transport Plan 2056*, the *State Infrastructure Strategy*, *Regional Adaption Report* and the *Northern New England High Country Regional Economic Development Strategy*.

The LSPS outlines how these plans will result in changes at the local level, such as new or improved transport connections.

The LSPS works with Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP), which has a similar but broader purpose on how Council will work to meet on the community's needs.

The LSPS's planning priorities, strategic directions and actions provide the rationale for decisions about how we will use our land to achieve the community's broader goals.

The LSPS aligns to the CSP's priorities, which is reflected in the Implementation table. It will also provide direction in the development of future CSP's.

FIGURE 1: GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2027



The LSPPS consists of descriptions, maps, diagrams and charts which provide context and direction for land use decision making in the LGA. The purpose of the plan is to:-

- Provide a 20 year land use vision for the LGA;
- Outline the characteristics which make our area special;
- Identify our shared values to be enhanced and maintained;
- Direct how future growth and change will be managed;
- Make changes to planning rules in the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plans (DCP);
Implement the *New England North West Regional Plan 2036* where relevant to our area; and
- Identify where further details strategic planning may be needed.

CONSULTATION

The Community Strategic Plan involved consultation with community and business stakeholders to inform the plan. Further consultation with the business community was conducted in developing the Economic and Destination brand Glen Innes Highlands. The community was also surveyed to measure satisfaction and prioritise council-managed facilities and services in June 2018.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation will ensure the community is a contributing voice in the future plans for our LGA.

The draft LSPS was placed on public exhibition for 28 days following endorsement at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 February 2020.

Submissions received as a result of this consultative process were considered prior to the publication of the LSPS.

FIGURE 2: PLANS THAT INFORM THE LSPS





CONTEXT

Our Place in Our Region

Glen Innes Severn is a Local Government Area (LGA) in the New England North West region of New South Wales, Australia. The council serves an area of 5,487 square kilometres and is located strategically at the intersection of two major highways – the New England Highway and the Gwydir Highway.

Our location provides direct access to the major centres of Sydney and Brisbane. It also has key links to South East Queensland markets and east coast ports of Newcastle, Brisbane and Sydney being:-

- 600km north of Sydney;
- 350km south of Brisbane;
- 300km south of Toowoomba; and
- 165km inland of the Pacific Highway at Grafton.

Glen Innes Severn LGA has afforded a stable population over the last 10 years. The current population is 8,908 with Council's Community Strategic Plan targeted to 10,000 people by 2027. The NSW Department of Planning and Environment projects the population of the Glen Innes Severn LGA is a risk of declining over the next 20 years and that by 2041, the LGA's population will continue to age with an increasing number of residents over 65 years old.

This scenario has several potential impacts on the sustainability of the local economy. In addition, it will impact on our ability to maintain and improve local service provision for the community.

Glen Innes Severn LGA's population growth is a key focus in the development of new strategies to attract those looking for a lifestyle change. There is also a need to retain or draw back youth who leave for further education and career opportunities

Ensuring that Glen Innes' population and economy can sustain growth without having a negative impact on the environment will be of importance.

Drivers of this increase will be heavily dependent on a well positioned place-based approach to economic development. It is Council's aim to deliver such a strategy by June 2020.

The region and LGA offers a relaxing rural lifestyle and spirited community. Glen Innes Highlands is packed full of adventure and experiences with distinctive seasons, gourmet foods along with its picturesque town and villages. Great for road touring, kayaking and canoeing, mountain biking, fishing for the mighty Murray Cod or meandering along its historic main street or museums.

Tourism and lifestyle attract visitors and tree changers every year. The natural beauty of our region with World Heritage National Parks, combined with a diversity of quality tourist attractions, parks, activities, accommodation, festivals and events makes for a vibrant community.

The World Heritage Washpool and Gibraltar Range National Parks, Stonehenge and the Minerama Fossicking Gem & Jewellery Show are just a few of the great attractions on offer.

Said to be one of the world's richest mineral diversity belts, sapphires are one of the many treasures to be found in the plentiful fossicking areas.

Our agricultural town has a proud Celtic Heritage and is home to the Australian Standing Stones - the National monument erected to honour all the Celtic pioneers of Australia – hosting the Australian Celtic Festival in May each year.

For a region rich in heritage we are continuing to attract a broad range of businesses and investors leveraging and capitalising on our endowments.

The next 20 years will be shaped by the development of the new Economic Development Strategy (2020-2040) which will be developed on a 'whole of place' approach to the strategy. It will be accompanied by a five (5) year action plan and will align with future strategic planning.

FIGURE 3 REGIONAL CONTEXT MAP

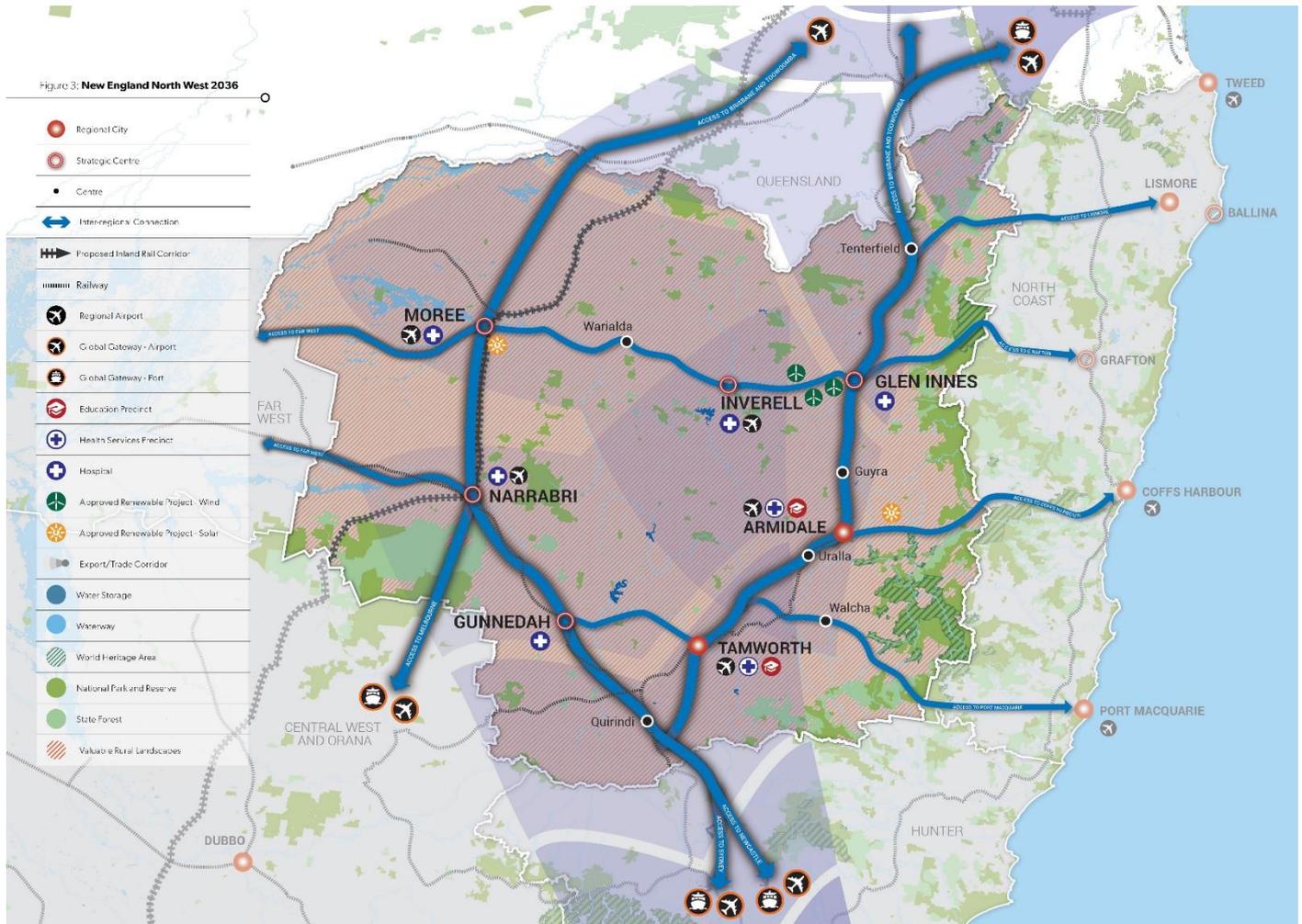


FIGURE 4: GLEN INNES SEVERN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA



- Glen Innes Severn Local Government Boundary
- National Parks
- Major Connector Road
- Regional Centre
- Village Centre

OUR LOCAL ADVANTAGES

Agriculture, Tourism, Affordable Living, Construction, Aged Care and Emerging Renewable Energy

Key drivers of the LGA's economy in terms of regional exports, employment, value added and local expenditure on goods and services are:-

- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing;
- Construction industry;
- Public Administration and Safety;
- Health Care and Social Assistance; and
- Tourism.

The Gross Regional Product for the LGA, being the total value of final goods and services produced in the region is \$466.424 million. This is over a one (1) year period and includes exports but subtracts imports.

The Glen Innes Severn LGA has a dominant Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing Sector (25.1%). Key industries, include Rangers Valley Feedlot, producing premium Black Angus and Wagyu beef and a regional honey industry with up to 35 commercial operators and hobbyists. This sector's output was \$211.927 million in 2018 of a total output of \$845.215 million and is the LGA's largest employment sector, supporting an estimated 641 jobs of a total 3,060 jobs.

Sustaining the agricultural industry is vital for maintaining Glen Innes' economy and lifestyle. Key challenges, such as climate change, water security, lack of infrastructure, conflicting or competing land uses, and developing and maintaining a skilled workforce needs to be addressed to ensure its ongoing viability.

Changes in the climate will impact on agricultural systems, particularly crops, stock and the quantity and quality of available water. Strategies and actions related to climate change scenarios need to be developed so that Glen Innes farmers and farming communities can be more resilient to the impacts. Opportunities such as the development of alternative cultivars and crops that are more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate, may be realized.

Other contributors to output include Health Care & Social Assistance which is expected to increase with the \$20 million local hospital upgrade. Recent upgrades to our aged care facilities have been driven by the need to increase services to our aging population.

Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services is the second biggest industry sector contributing 12.3% output and is mainly driven by property services. Construction contributes to 11.9% of output driven by Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction and construction services. Public Administration & Safety provides 6.1% of output and are a key employer for the LGA.

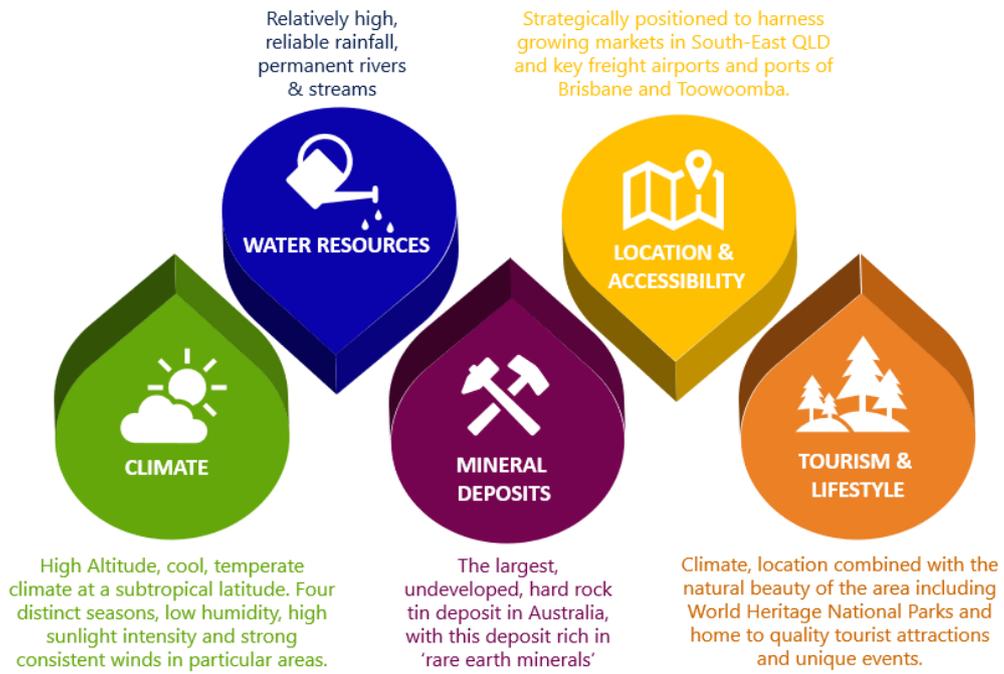
Growth has been seen from 2012 to 2018 in Tourism to 5.5% when reported as a separate sector. Output in Education and Training and Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services has likely been driven by the construction phases of White Rock and Sapphire Wind and Solar Farms. In fact Renewable Energy is an emerging industry alongside established businesses including a global photo processing innovator.

The natural environment is diverse at the top of the Great Dividing Range and is among the most beautiful highland areas in Australia. Elevations range from 100 metres above sea level, at the north-eastern boundary of the LGA, to 1,500 meters above sea level at the south-western boundary.

The historic town of Glen Innes forms the focal centre and provides essential retail, commercial and community services to local residents, including a district hospital as well as early-education, primary and secondary schools.

The villages of Deepwater, Emmaville, Glencoe and Red Range fulfil local service needs and contribute to the unique local character of the area.

FIGURE 5: LGA ENDOWMENTS





OUR LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

Lifestyle, Connectivity and Place

Glen Innes Severn's strategic position encompasses a total area of 548,7000 hectares accommodating a unique natural environment including 142,100 hectares of national park, wilderness and state forests.

An ideal tree-change and family, or active-retiree, destination to enjoy a quality lifestyle. Glen Innes Severn provides affordable housing, local health services, quality education and childcare, retail and professional services as well as opportunities for small business and remote access work.

Locational connection to the major cities of Sydney and Brisbane as well as close proximity to the expanding markets of South-East Queensland and the Northern Rivers offers opportunity across multiple industries. Glen Innes Severn will continue to position itself as the place to Visit, Live and Invest.

Digital connectivity improvements including the NBN and Mobile Blackspot program will provide further opportunity for remote working and e-commerce businesses to enjoy the rural lifestyle whilst chasing their entrepreneurial goals.

Supporting of the New England Rail Trail project will be another way for people to connect to Glen Innes Severn from the Regional City of Armidale and further boost a healthy lifestyle as well as attract tourism and other business opportunities.

Continued investment in our sporting facilities, including a new Regional Netball Facility and the Sporting Facilities Master Plan will boost Glen Innes' position as a regional centre for sport. In addition, it will contribute to the local communities' active wellbeing.

Glen Innes has over 39 Heritage listed buildings which continue to be occupied by local business. Further opportunity exists for the regeneration and repurposing of some iconic buildings and assets including the Glen Innes Railway Station.

Continued investment in key road infrastructure to improve productivity and facilitate further growth in agriculture and tourism is also anticipated. Together with embracing developing technologies, attracting renewable energy infrastructure and building on the opportunities provided by adjoining regional cities will also assist in facilitating growth.

A \$20 million upgrade to the Glen Innes and District Hospital will improve the health services for the local community and its surrounding villages. Benefits of our proximity to regional cities of Northern NSW including Tamworth, Armidale, Coffs Harbour and Toowoomba provide economic stimulus and high-quality health, education and recreation options for the entire region.

Glen Innes Highlands provides iconic visitor experiences including the Australian Standing Stones. The Australian Celtic Festival is celebrated in May each year at this iconic site and attracts almost 4,000 people. Other major events including Minerama, Gem, Jewellery & Fossicking Show and the Glen Innes Agricultural Show are key drivers of community and regional participation and culture.

Emerging opportunities across agri-business, agri-tourism, specialist manufacturing, tourism and wellbeing will need a continued focus, to balance protection of scenic landscapes and maximise the economic potential of our productive land.

Planning for maximising our major parklands, such as Centennial Parklands will provide opportunity to attract and leverage the visitor economy. It will also provide intended spaces for active recreation and events. At the same time planning will ensure that our biodiversity is protected and our natural environment remains sustainable and attractive to those seeking a rural experience or lifestyle.

Planning will ensure that opportunities are created through land management. This will enable growth in our population and investment that benefits our local economy whilst being mindful of retaining our historic strengths and unique place.

FIGURE 6 – IDENTIFIED HERITAGE ITEMS IN GLEN INNES TOWN CENTRE (SHADED GREEN)



Grey Street, Glen Innes – a Streetscape of Heritage Buildings

VISION

“Glen Innes Highlands is the place to experience a unique lifestyle with opportunity, connection and wellbeing among a cherished and sustainable environment”

- The Region’s unique identity, where its ecological and culturally significant landscapes are valued, celebrated and protected;
- The region’s urban and rural areas being efficient, liveable and mutually supportive in creating wealth for the community;
- The region’s continuance to foster a dynamic and prosperous economy and employment base; and
- The region’s development being sustainable, well designed and in harmony with the rural character of the LGA as well as balancing the competing needs of the community.

This vision is supported by a productive town centre and rural villages, nationally valued diverse landscapes and rich agricultural and sustainable energy industries. These make the area a dynamic and prosperous region that capitalises on its past and is building for the future.

Sustainability continues to be at the core of Council’s activities and community expectations for new development. Growth in agriculture, agribusiness, livestock meat production, renewable energy, health and education is providing jobs and supporting a thriving local community.

Our unique identity will drive pride, participation, shared strategic vision and a strong sense of place in our community to the envy of people looking for an alternative lifestyle. A key attraction for residents is the affordability of housing.

Glen Innes Severn will continue to position itself as the place to Visit, Live and Invest by attracting business, tourism and investment whilst providing for the needs of our aging

population and continually improving our strong sense of place.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (NSW 2019 Population Projections) shows a steady population between 2001-2016 as shown in figure 7 below. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics data the population in 2018 for the Glen Innes Severn LGA was 8,908 persons.

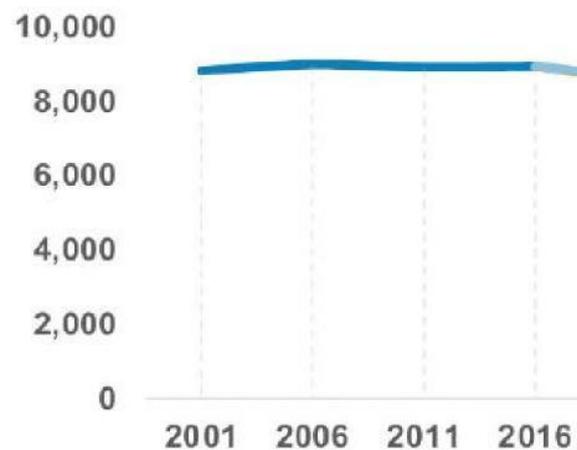


FIGURE 7: HISTORIC POPULATION CHANGE, DOPIE

Our aspirational population target will be to reach and maintain 10,000 residents by 2027 as nominated by the *Glen Innes Severn Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027*.

The New South Wales, Federal and Local Government are delivering infrastructure and capital works that may change future population patterns and growth beyond what is shown projections.



The \$4.22 million Glen Innes Regional Netball Facility will deliver new and improved sporting facilities for the region



The \$1.25 million upgrade of the Glen Innes Saleyards will invigorate the economy



The New England Highway improvements from Willow Tree to Armidale and Armidale to the NSW/Queensland border.



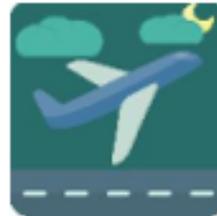
A further \$1.8 million has been spent on park and sporting facilities upgrade

- ✓ We will aim to deliver our population target assisted by unprecedented investment and focus on regional Australia by all levels of government.
- ✓ We will drive leadership and innovative capacity in our community and create an alternative education pathway to meet local and regional skills demands. We will build local human capital, innovation and partnerships.
- ✓ We will diversify our economy, manage any risks on our natural resource capacity, attract the knowledge economy, complement our existing engine industries and nurture start-ups and innovation.
- ✓ We will develop competitive advantage across safety, social connectedness, environmental sustainability and access to wellbeing, triggers including exercise, infrastructure, public spaces, health and community series, leisure and cultural activities that build a sense of place.
- ✓ We will protect our heritage buildings whilst adaptively reusing places to create unique experiences for residents and visitors to contribute to a prosperous local economy and drive public and private investment.
- ✓ We will leverage our strategic location and close links between some of Australia's fastest growing areas, such as south east Queensland and the North Coast of NSW for a strong and prosperous economy.



TOURISM OUTPUT \$845.425
Million annually in 2018

AIRPORT ready for flight school
investment NOW!



10,000 by 2027 - CSP target

By 2041 37.9 % of PEOPLE AGED
65+



In 2041 25.4 % of HOUSEHOLDS
HAVE CHILDREN

By 2040 30% more REGIONAL
EXPORTS than IMPORTS



By 2040 Industry diversification &
protection secured against CLIMATE
CHANGE impacts



OUR THEMES AND PLANNING PRIORITIES

Four related themes make up the community's vision for Glen Innes Severn LGA that are a renewed economy and authentic, a thriving and vibrant community, strong and connected infrastructure, and sustainable environment and protected heritage. These four themes will be monitored against identified measures and implemented through ten (10) planning priorities.

The planning priorities will be delivered through strategies to guide actions and land use directions to be undertaken by Glen Innes Severn Council. The actions have each been allocated a time frame for completion, in line with Council's Operational Plan (short term 1 to 5 years), Delivery program (medium term 5 to 10 years) and Community Strategic Plan (long term 10 to 20 years).

| A RENEWED ECONOMY & AUTHENTIC PLACE | A THRIVING & VIBRANT COMMUNITY | STRONG & CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURE | SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL & PROTECTED HERITAGE |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 1</p> <p>Council will develop a new Economic Development Strategy to deliver a well-positioned place-based approach to economic development and sustainable land use planning.</p> <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 2</p> <p>Encourage diversification in agriculture, horticulture and agribusiness to grow these sectors and respond to domestic and international opportunities</p> <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 3</p> <p>Expand nature-based adventure and cultural tourism by leveraging environmental and iconic assets such as World Heritage listed National Parks and the Australian Standing Stones</p> | <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 4</p> <p>Deliver a variety of housing options in Glen Innes Severn and promote development that contributes to the unique character of Glen Innes and the villages of Emmaville, Deepwater, Glencoe and Red Range.</p> <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 5</p> <p>Raise the area's profile and awareness of employment, business development and lifestyle opportunities particularly for younger people and provide services for the ageing population.</p> | <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 6</p> <p>Continue to develop service and logistics infrastructure on appropriate sites and encourage new industry opportunities.</p> | <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 7</p> <p>Protect and celebrate our unique natural and cultural heritage assets.</p> <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 8</p> <p>Protect areas of high environmental value and significance.</p> <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 9</p> <p>Adapt to natural hazard and climate change</p> <p>PLANNING PRIORITY 10</p> <p>Promote and support renewable energy production opportunities.</p> |



A RENEWED ECONOMY & AUTHENTIC PLACE

Glen Innes Severn's LGA LGA's economic base has, for a long period of time, been dominated by agriculture which has supported the local community and business sectors.

A heavy reliance on this sector requires diversification and consideration as to how to position our economy into the future to ensure the region continues to grow and prosper. As a predominant employer, the performance of this sector has flow on effects for many other businesses in the region.

More recently Council has been focused on improving liveability, providing industrial land, growing tourism, supporting the agricultural base, developing key assets (Airport), building business capability and networks and supporting improved connectivity – roads, mobile and NBN.

The following priorities will allow us to capitalise on new opportunities, while protecting the foundational elements of Glen Innes Severn's economy.

Planning Priority 1:

Support a 'whole of place' approach toward economic development and land use planning.

Planning Priority 2:

Encourage diversification in agriculture, horticulture and agribusiness to grow these sectors and respond to domestic and international opportunities.

Planning Priority 3:

Expand nature-based adventure and cultural tourism places by leveraging environmental and iconic assets such as the World Heritage listed National Parks and the Australian Standing Stones

Measures:

- Increase in jobs by industry;
- Level of employment in the LGA;
- Gross Regional Product ; and
- Visitor Numbers.

During the devastation of the drought and more severe fires seasons there has been unprecedented infrastructure investment which has strengthened connection to place and provided economic opportunities to leverage in the future.

The LSPS recognises that a whole-of-place approach to Economic Development will ensure that we focus on our strengths, embrace our opportunities and innovate solutions to continue to grow our economy, drive equality and protect our future.

Our strong economic agricultural base is expected to underpin new and emerging industries to create a dynamic regional economy. Diversifying agriculture and supporting agri-business, agri-tourism as well as attracting skilled labour and professionals through our lifestyle will be an important part of the future

PLANNING PRIORITY 1

Council will develop a new Economic Development Strategy to deliver a well-positioned place-based approach to economic development and sustainable land use planning.

Rationale

The previous Economic Development Strategy (EDS) (2012-2018) cited ten catalysts of growth to achieve its vision for economic development. Much of these were centred on improving the liveability, providing industrial land, building tourism, supporting and attracting agri-business, developing the Airport, building business capability and networks and supporting improved connectivity – roads, mobile and NBN

A new EDS (2020-2040) and a 5-year Action Plan are in development and will be delivered for adoption in 2020. Glen Innes Highlands will differentiate itself through a 'place-based' approach to Economic Development. The strategy will influence and work alongside the Planning Priorities for the LSPS to assist in achieving a population of 10,000 people by 2027 as nominated by the Community Strategic Plan.

Glen Innes Highlands key propulsive sectors - the key drivers of the Glen Innes Severn LGA's economy in terms of regional exports, employment, value-added and local expenditure on goods and services - is heavily led by the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector. This sector is followed by the Construction industry, Public Administration & Safety, Accommodation & Food Services and Health Care & Social Assistance.

Sustaining the agricultural industry is vital for maintaining Glen Innes' economy and lifestyle. Key challenges, such as climate change, water security and lack of infrastructure, conflicting or competing land uses, and developing and maintaining a skilled workforce need to be addressed to ensure its ongoing viability.

Tourism and lifestyle attract visitors and tree changers every year. The natural beauty of our region with high concentrations of World Heritage areas, National Parks, Nature

Reserves and Council Parks combined with a diversity of quality tourist attractions.

Wind and solar are joining established thriving businesses that include a global photo processing innovator, the largest producer of premium Black Angus and Wagyu beef and a regional honey industry with up to 35 commercial operators as well as hobbyists.

The new Place-based Economic Strategy will review six key areas to drive economic stability, diversification and growth:

1. Redefine Our Identity & Vision;
2. Drive Population Growth;
3. Improve Labour Force Capacity;
4. Diversify Our Economy;
5. Continually Improve Our 'Livability';
6. Local Human Capital Capacity; and
7. Transform Unused Infrastructure.

Council will:

- Facilitate research and development through local plans to identify opportunities to grow and promote innovation in the agricultural sector.
- Build relationships with SMART Regional Incubator – UNE, CSIRO, the Glen Innes Agricultural Research and Advisory Station and GLENRAC
- Encourage commercial, tourist and recreational activities that complement and promote a stronger agricultural sector, and build the sector's adaptability.

Actions:

- 1.1 Council will support the development of a new EDS to deliver a well-positioned place-based approach to economic development which will assist in achieving a population of 10,000 people by 2040.
- 1.2 Council will contribute to the outcomes agreed to be implemented in the EDS by incorporating them into the relevant plans such as the LEP, DCP and Developer Contributions Plan.
- 1.3 Council will integrate Infrastructure Plans with the vision of the EDS and assist in delivering the Actions to achieve that vision.

PLANNING PRIORITY 2

Encourage diversification in agriculture, horticulture and agribusiness to grow these sectors and respond to domestic and international opportunities.

Rationale

Glen Innes Severn has vast productive agricultural land with agriculture and related services accounting for an estimated 25.1% of the region's economy. As a predominant employer, the performance of the sector has flow on effects for many other businesses in the region.

This strong economic agricultural base is expected to underpin new and emerging industries to create a dynamic regional economy. Adoption of a range of technologies to grow production including biotechnology, sustainable agriculture, horticulture, green industries, remote farm monitoring and automation, on-farm renewables, renewable energy generation and the selection of water efficient crop species and cultivars needs to be encouraged through consultation with the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

Maintaining soil health, fertility and groundcover to support livestock, cropping and other industries is central to maintain a resilient region. Finding a balance between profitable agricultural production and the maintenance and improvement of natural ecosystems is a major challenge. Rural land areas are under pressure from climatic changes and incompatible land uses such as residential development. Crucial to the continued vitality of the agricultural sector is productive agricultural land which is unencumbered by conflicting or competing land uses.

Competing land use can, and has resulted in land use conflict and leads to permanent removal of land from production. Agricultural land is a finite resource. For agriculture to continue to grow and diversify, it is essential that food and fibre production is supported by local strategic land use planning. Subdivision of productive agricultural lands needs to be avoided to ensure existing and future rural land holdings are of a size and in a location that accommodates financially viable farming.

The Glen Innes Agricultural Research & Advisory Station (GIARAS) is the research and development base for the Northern Tablelands of New South Wales run by the NSW Department of Primary Industries. As DPI's base for the high rainfall zone in northern NSW, GIARAS provides research and development programs for eastern Australia's sheep and cattle industry based on temperate perennial pastures.

Grazing provides the mainstay agricultural activity on the Northern Tablelands. Because of high rainfall, long growing season and the adaptive potential of temperate perennial species, the Northern Tablelands is credited as the premier pasture environment in Australia for intensive grazing systems.

Research and development work at the GIARAS is directed at improving the pasture base for grazing animals, and at developing industry capability to produce livestock products to commercial specifications through:

- Building the knowledge base for pasture improvement technology;
- Managing feed-gaps to redress nutritional limitations;
- Matching livestock genetics to feed and management applications;; and
- Developing technology packages for 'best management practice.

Further, appropriate co-location of related industries (agglomeration) will maximise infrastructure, decrease supply chain costs, increase economies of scale and attract investment. Industries that co-locate also have the potential to use the by-products and waste materials of other industries to create new products and services. Glen Innes Severn is uniquely positioned to develop new supply chains to export produce to Asian markets via existing and emerging opportunities such as the Tamworth Regional Airport, Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport, the Inland Rail, the Ports of Brisbane, Newcastle and Sydney.

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Council Will:

- Promote growth and diversity in agriculture and agri-business
- Maximise innovation and efficiencies in the agricultural sector including those arising from the Glen Innes Agricultural Research and Advisory Station
- Prioritise agriculture and primary production where strategically identified and endorsed by DPIE (Agriculture). Refer to Figure 9
- Protect productive agricultural lands/intensive agriculture clusters from land use conflicts that may lead to land use conflict or fragmentation or property.
- Facilitate research and development through local plans to identify opportunities to grow and promote innovation in the agricultural sector.
- Encourage commercial, tourist and recreational activities that complement and promote a stronger agricultural section and build the sector's adaptability.
- Support opportunities to move agricultural product to market.
- Respond to impacts anticipated as a result of climate change.

Actions:

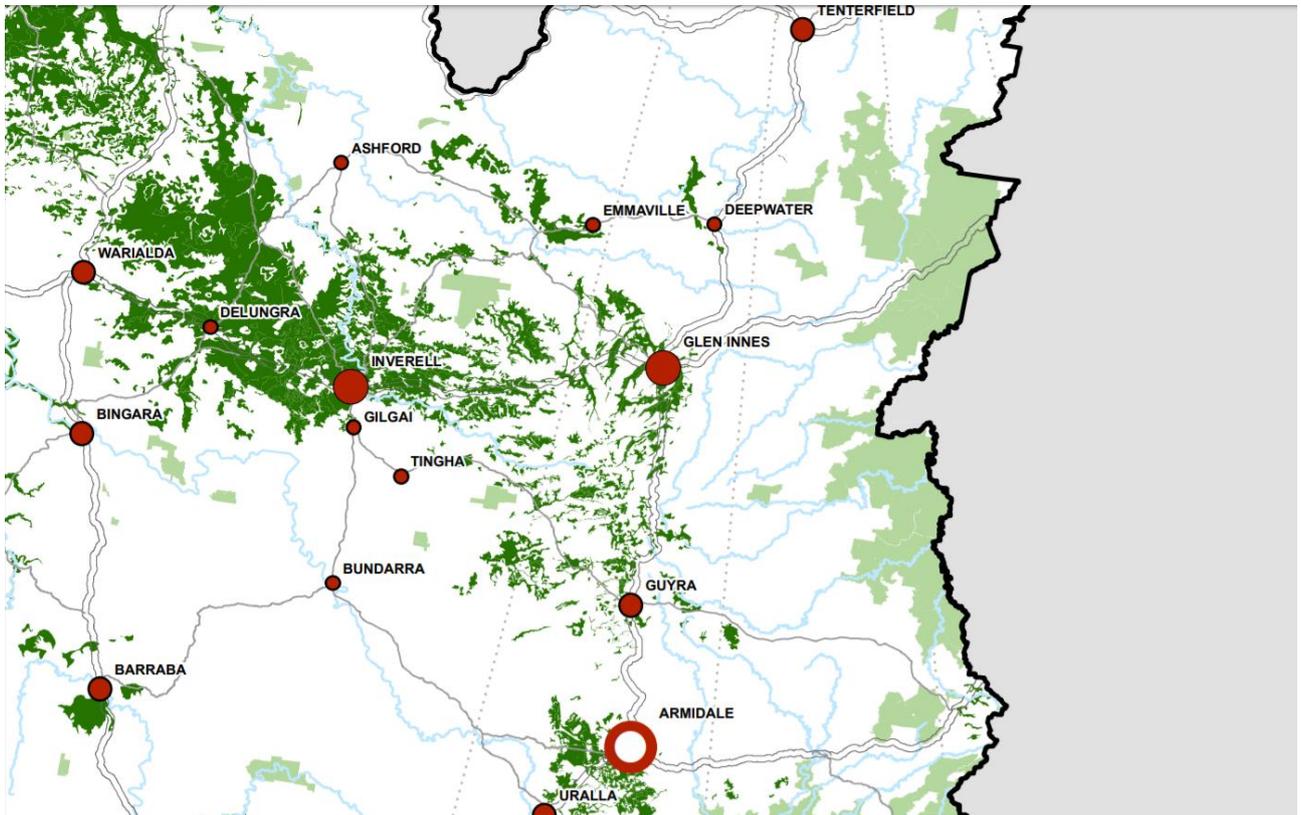
- 2.1 Support growth that fosters resilience and diversification by ensuring planning provisions accommodate the changing needs of agriculture;
- 2.2 Promote the expansion of agribusiness and associated value-adding activities through local plans and policies;

- 2.3 Promote investment in sustainable agriculture, the agricultural supply chain and niche market crops;
- 2.4 Review rural land use provisions in the LEP and DCP to ensure protection of biophysical strategic agricultural land and intensive agricultural cluster to avoid land use conflicts, particularly with rural residential expansion, in alignment with the Right to Farm Policy; and
- 2.5 Map important agricultural land identified by DPI and develop guidelines to support the implementation of the important agricultural land through local plans.



Rangers Valley Feedlot

FIGURE 9 – STRATEGIC AGRICULTURAL LAND (SAL) IDENTIFIED AND ENDORSED BY DPIE (AGRICULTURE)



Legend

-  Major Regional Centre
-  Major Town
-  Town
-  Village
-  New England North West Region
-  Highways
-  Major Roads
-  Major Rivers
-  Biophysical SAL
-  National Parks

PLANNING PRIORITY 3

Expand nature-based adventure and cultural tourism places by leveraging environmental and iconic assets such as the World Heritage listed National Parks and the Australian Standing Stones.

Rationale

Glen Innes Severn's natural environment, cultural features and visitor experiences (events) are expected to continue to attract tourists and offer diversity within a predominantly agricultural region.

The LGA offers a range of tourism opportunities including access to World Heritage listed National Parks such as Washpool and Gibraltar Range, as well as varied activities such as mountain biking, fishing and nature-based tours. Iconic visitor experiences such as the Australian Standing Stones will continue to draw domestic and international tourists, contribute to attractive lifestyles and grow the local economy.

With the emergence of 'new tourism' associated with the millennials, the 'experience' economy and active families, together with existing markets such as baby boomers (including the caravan and RV markets) and touring motorcyclists, Glen Innes Highlands is well located to optimise tourism.

Council will:-

- Encourage commercial, tourist and recreation activities that complement and promote a stronger agricultural sector and build the sector's adaptability.
- Create opportunities for community and visitors to connect to Aboriginal cultural heritage values in the landscape with collaboration with Aboriginal Elders and Local Lands Council.
- Expand tourism and visitor opportunities.
- Protect areas of High Environmental Value and enhance biodiversity as detailed in Planning Priority 8.
- Promote sustainable development and protection of our natural resources through the planning system.

Actions:

- 3.1 Prepare the destination management plan or other tourism-focused strategies that align with Country and Outback NSW Destination Management Plan prepared by Destination NSW.
- 3.2 Facilitate tourism and visitor accommodation and supporting land uses where appropriate through local plans and strategies.
- 3.3 Build relationships and support Local Aboriginal Lands Council to develop new events to cultural activities.
- 3.4 Integrate Aboriginal cultural heritage and experiences into Centennial Parklands Master Plan.
- 3.5 Review DCP to include specific control for tourist and visitor accommodation.



The Australian Standing Stones – Glen Innes



A THRIVING AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY

The structure and design of communities including streetscapes, recreation areas and community facilities can influence community health, wellbeing and social cohesion.

Glen Innes Severn LGA has afforded a stable population over the last ten (10) years. The current population is 8,908 with Council's Community Strategic Plan targeted to 10,000 people by 2027. Population growth will not be evenly distributed across demographic proportions.

It is vital that future strategic planning for the Glen Innes Severn LGA aims to reverse the current out-migration of young people and families, thereby facilitating population growth and the retention of local businesses and essential services.

The *Western Enabling Regional Adaption – New England North West Region* report identifies a number of drivers as contributing to the loss of regional youth: declining regional services and support mechanisms, an aging workforce, education, a lack of employment opportunities and of affordable housing.

To encourage new residents while also accommodating the existing community, it will

be important to deliver a mix of housing types and lot sizes.

Rural residential housing is a popular lifestyle housing option in our region. If not appropriately located, it can conflict with important agricultural, and industrial lands or increase pressure for new services and infrastructure outside existing settlements.

According to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment population projections, the LGA's population will continue to age with an increasing number of residents over 65 years old.

Greater housing diversity will address projected demand for smaller housing types, changing household needs and different household budgets.

A range of housing choices will support the increasing number of single person and couple only households. Healthy, safe and inclusive places will enhance active and inclusive lifestyles.

While providing diversity in housing is critical, Glen Innes Severn Council is committed to preserving and enhancing the distinctive character of our town and villages and the protection of biophysical agricultural land and intensive agricultural clusters to avoid land use conflicts.

The following planning priorities outline our model for sustainable growth:-

Planning Priority 4:

Deliver a variety of housing options in Glen Innes and promote development that contributes to the unique character of Glen Innes and the villages of Emmaville, Deepwater, Glencoe and Red Range.

Planning Priority 5:

Raise the area's profile and awareness of employment, business development and lifestyle opportunities, particularly for younger people and provide services for the ageing population.

Measures:

- Number of dwelling approvals by location and type;
- Net new dwellings approved and completed; and
- Household compositions.

PLANNING PRIORITY 4

Deliver a variety of housing options in Glen Innes and promote development that contributes to the unique character of Glen Innes and the villages of Emmaville, Deepwater, Glencoe and Red Range.

Rationale

The population of Glen Innes Severn LGA is aging, which will increase demand for services to facilitate 'ageing in place' as well as supported accommodation and aged care homes. To encourage new residents while also accommodating the existing community, it will be important to deliver a mix of housing types and lot sizes.

Glen Innes has an adequate supply of existing zoned residential land, including R1 General Residential, R2 Low Density Residential and Large Lot Residential zones which are provided with minimum lot sizes ranging from 450 square meters to 1 hectare. These lot sizes aim to accommodate higher density living in proximity to the Glen Innes town centre and associated infrastructure, with lifestyle allotments providing a buffer between the urban and rural landscapes.

The village centres of Deepwater, Emmaville and Glencoe consist of land zoned RU5 village to support the retention of the unique character of these settlements. Minimum lot sizes of 500 and 1000 square metres further accommodate the delivery of a diverse range of housing options that complement the existing charm of these communities.

The flexibility of the types of residential accommodation within the LEP contributes to the delivery of housing diversity and choice, assists in affordability, helps meet the needs of an aging population and creates more walkable, vibrant and accessible places.

Council will:

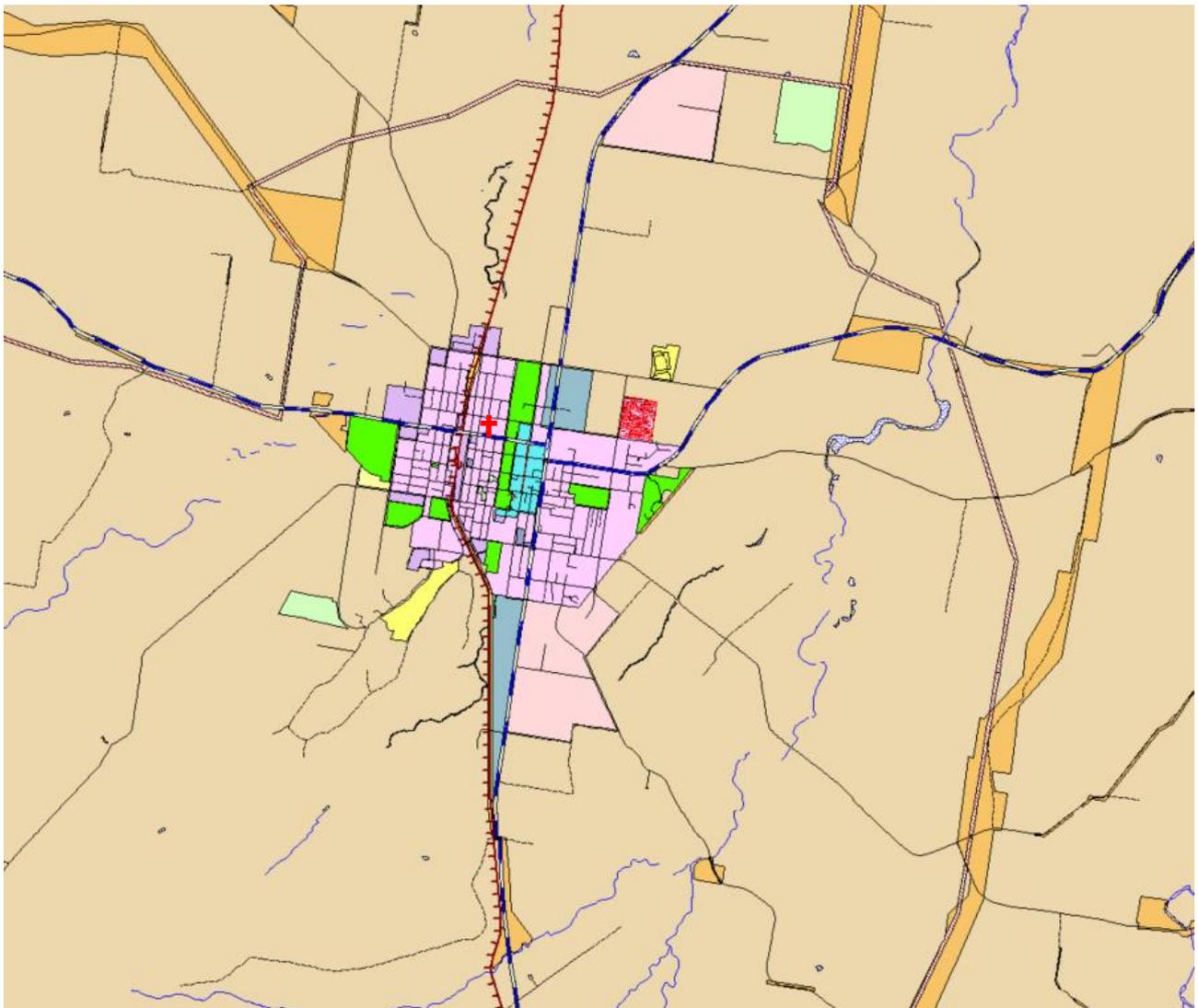
- Plan for housing to meet the needs of our changing population;
- Deliver well planned rural residential housing through applying appropriate buffers and setbacks from agricultural activities; and

- Leverage the Better Places Movement and Plan framework to ensure the network delivers (at a local level) effective and efficient movement while delivering the maximum social and economic benefits for the people of NSW through the consideration of better places.

Actions

- 4.1 Promote aging-in-place by adopting elements of Liveable Housing Australia's *Liveable Housing Design Guidelines* in development controls for housing, where possible;
- 4.2 Promote the prosperity of our urban areas by directing future residential and large lot housing to existing areas of R1, R2 and R5 land within Glen Innes and RU5 zoned land in Deepwater, Emmaville, Glencoe and Red Range whilst protecting their unique character;
- 4.3 Supporting the availability of an appropriate housing supply by responding to changing housing needs, as well as household and demographic changes (eg increased demand for independent living units and residential aged care facilities).
- 4.4 Attract regional returners and tree changers looking for affordable housing and a rural lifestyle;
- 4.5 Review and update the existing Land Use Strategy and implement any changes through the LEP and DCP; and
- 4.6 Deliver rural residential development consistent with Principles 1-5 of the interim Settlement Planning Principles included as Appendix A of the NENW Plan (Appendix A) or comprehensive framework once released.

FIGURE 9 – STRATEGIC AGRICULTURAL LAND (SAL) IDENTIFIED AND ENRSED BY DPIE (AGRICULTURE)



- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ■ Enterprise Corridor | ■ Residential Lands | — Waterway |
| ■ Local Centre | ■ Large Lot Residential Lands | + Hospital |
| ■ Public Recreational Lands | ■ Urban Release Area | ▨ Rail Line |
| ■ Private Recreational Lands | ■ Environmental Lands | - - - Major Roads |
| ■ Infrastructure Lands | ■ Agricultural Lands | — Minor Roads |
| ■ Industrial Lands | | |

PLANNING PRIORITY 5

Raise the area's profile and awareness of employment, business development and lifestyle opportunities, particularly for younger people and provide services for the ageing population.

Rationale

The attraction of new industry, workers and residents through collaborative marketing campaigns and promotions 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.

Ensuring that the infrastructure and services needed to support economic development are available is also essential, as well as services for the expanding aging population.

Council will

- Grow the population to 10,000;
- Continue to build its Economic Development and Destination brand 'Glen Innes Highlands' to attract regional returners and tree-changers as well as business and investment;
- Continue to collaborate with New England High Country Group to collectively promote the region as the destination for the active and touring markets; and
- Enrich quality of life and wellbeing of residents.

Actions

- 5.1 Leverage the development of the new Economic Development Strategy and Actions plan to guide additional planning policies and strategies – eg Glen Innes Severn Land Use Strategy.
- 5.2 Review the Glen Innes Severn Land Use Strategy, LEP and DCP to reinforce the town and village centres as the primary locations for commerce, housing, tourism, social activity and regional services.
- 5.3 Promote infrastructure and services that support healthy, active lifestyles for young families as well as the region's ageing population.







STRONG AND CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURE

As the Glen Innes Severn Region continues to grow and change, it is critical that a range of infrastructure is delivered to meet the needs of the community.

This includes services and facilities for transport, open space, health, education, utilities (water, energy, sewerage and telecommunications) and social and cultural development.

Over the next 20 years, changes to agricultural productivity, freight and transport connections, water availability, climate and economic conditions as well as population change will reshape our community.

An ageing population increase demands on health and aged care services, education and training and public and community transport.

The coordination and provision of cost effective utility and local infrastructure will support the quality and diversity of lifestyles on offer in the region.

As well as planning for local facilities and services, collaboration between Council and adjoining Council's and State Government agencies will be important to ensure state and regional infrastructure needs are provided through efficient use of existing and timely deliver of new infrastructure to support development.

Freight and logistics industries will be a focus for investment to grow social and economic ties across communities. Stronger links and relationships across LGA's and state borders will provide improved access to services and markets in the Hunter and South East Queensland contributing to successful places, a growing economy and financial and environmental sustainability.

Investment, integration and alignment of road, rail, port, utility and airport infrastructure across the New England North West will foster emerging industries.

Following planning priority will identify the key drivers of infrastructure demand and demonstrates how Council will align local infrastructure to planned growth.

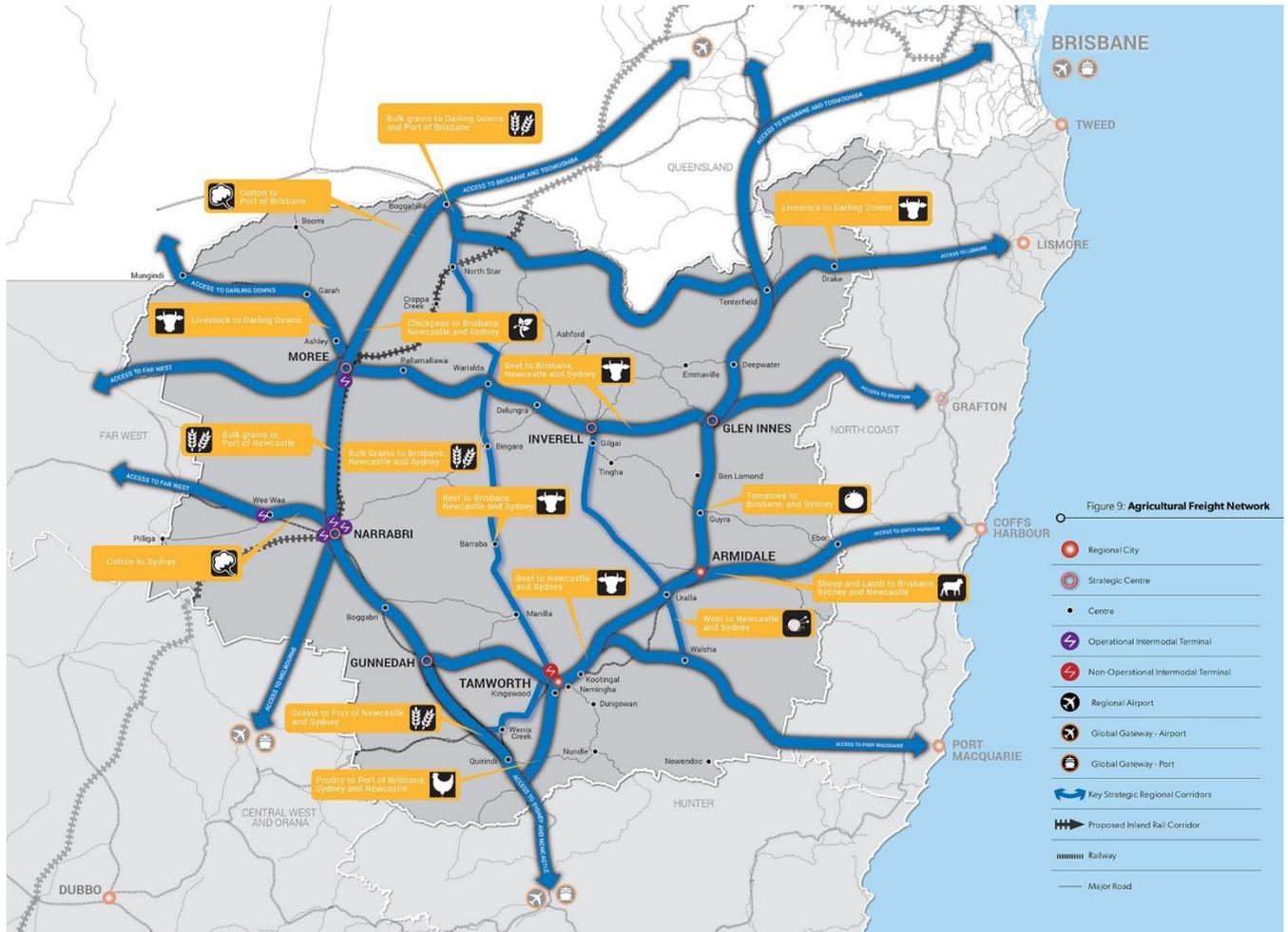
Planning Priority 6:

Continue to develop service and logistics infrastructure demand and demonstrates how Council will align local infrastructure to planned growth.

Measures

- Use of public and community transport;
- Number of new industries established;
- Population growth; and
- Completion of Infrastructure Backlog.

FIGURE 10 – INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORKS



PLANNING PRIORITY 6

Continue to develop service and logistics infrastructure on appropriate sites to encourage new industry opportunities and population growth.

Rationale

Glen Innes positioning at the junction of the Gwydir and New England Highway, provides freight access to Queensland, the Northern Rivers, North Coast, Newcastle, Sydney and western NSW

Reflecting this connectivity, Glen Innes is home to several road freight transport companies that provide livestock and general freight services to the broader NSW region. Glen Innes Severn's existing infrastructure endowments have also made it an attractive proposition for investment in renewable energy generation and transmission which may present infrastructure challenges as well as opportunities requiring further consideration

Continued State Government investment in road infrastructure (such as road widening and reconstruction of pavements on Bolivia Hill and the Gwydir Highway) will improve productivity as well as facilitate the flow of goods to market. Additionally, investment in key infrastructure that supports and facilitates growth, including mobile telephone infrastructure, electricity infrastructure and servicing of commercial and industrial land will also assist to remove barriers to growth.

Water security in the region is a major contributor to the establishment of new industry opportunities and population growth. It is a critical input that creates surety for investment not only for agriculture but also for people and the businesses

that compliment agriculture. Investment in additional off stream storage capacity that responds to predicted climate changes will help position the LGA as a favourable, competitive location for businesses and residents to seek and grow.

Council will

- Ensure water security and promote greater water conservation measures;
- Protect utility infrastructure and transport corridors through local plans and strategies from incompatible land uses or land fragmentation;
- Promote opportunities to collaborate with stakeholders to deliver new industry opportunities; and
- Provide Glen Innes with connected open space and recreation facilities.

Actions

- 6.1 Review the sustainability of physical and service infrastructure for future growth identified as a part of the new Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan and Council's revised Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan to ensure infrastructure planning with a focus on land use provisions and policy options that support development, whilst recognising the need to be financially sustainable.
- 6.2 Advocate for greater connectivity via our road network, mobile and internet to ensure connectivity is no longer a barrier to attract new industry.
- 6.3 Locate freight and logistics facilities to maximise existing infrastructure, support future industrial development and capitalise on inter-regional connections and external markets in accordance with the New England Joint Organisation (NEJO) Roads and Freight Strategy.
- 6.4 Complete Council's Infrastructure Backlog Management Plan.
- 6.5 Review LEP zoning of land where Council's Infrastructure assets are located eg Water Treatment Plant, to ensure they are appropriately identified for 'special purpose' activities.
- 6.6 Collaborate with TfNSW through the Walking and Cycling Program to promote and provide additional infrastructure and services that support healthy, active lifestyles for young families as well as the region's aging population.

- 6.7 Collaborate with TfNSW to provide advice and investigate the possibility of the New England Rail Trail.
- 6.8 Investigate how Transport owned land in the Glenn Innes Severn LGA could be utilised to support placemaking outcomes, enhance transport outcomes and contribute to economic development and sustainable land use planning outcomes including when preparing its Economic Development Strategy, Action Plan and through the LEP review process.
- 6.9 Review the Land Use Strategy taking into account major freight corridors of the New England and Gwydir Highways.
- Sensitive land uses such as residential must be located, designed and constructed to minimise potential impacts from major freight corridors.
 - include diversified housing options in Glen Innes.



SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED HERITAGE

Environmental conservation is important to the community, including both the natural and built environment.

The natural environment is a key component to the Glen Innes Highlands identity and it is incumbent on Council, in partnership with the community, to manage our environment for future generations. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and **Environment's** Conservation Division has mapped potential areas of high environmental values, including ground water-dependent ecosystems. The map showing areas of potential high environmental value will inform opportunities for biodiversity offsetting, Council planning strategies and local environment plans.

Glen Innes Highlands is recognised as having a unique climate which is seen as an attractor for new residents, particularly those seeking a tree change. Our environment is changing due to variable climate, and the way in which we position ourselves to respond is a priority consideration for Council.

Changes in the climate will impact on agricultural systems, particularly crops, stock and the quantity and quality of available water. Strategies and actions related to climate change scenarios need to be developed so that Glen Innes farmers and farming communities can be more resilient to the impacts. Opportunities, such as the development of alternative cultivars and crops that are more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate, may be realized.

Land use planning can help minimise and manage the impacts of climate change. Local environment plans can identify hazard-prone land and apply provisions to exclude these areas from development, unless hazards can be managed.

Glen Innes generally has a subtropical highland climate with cold, frosty winters (average temperatures 1-17°C) and warm, wet summers (13-27°C). Planning for a greater resilience to a changing climate is vital and the Western Enabling Regional Adaptation New England North West region report prepared by Heritage NSW provides a snapshot of the region's near and future (2003) and far future (2070) climate change scenarios. In summary:-

- the region is expected to experience increases in all temperature variables with more hot days and fewer cold nights for the near and far futures.
- Heatwaves are projected to increase, be hotter and last longer;
- Seasonality of rainfall will change, with autumn rainfall increasing in the near and far future and winter and summer rainfall likely to decrease in the near future; and
- Fire risk will increase, with projected increases in average and severe Forest Fire Danger Index values in the near and far future.

The region is projected to experience an increase in average temperatures and severe bushfires in the future. Maps of bushfire prone areas must be regularly updated by Council to reflect changes to bushfire-prone land.

The fragility of the landscape means that water resources are more vulnerable to individual and cumulative impacts.

Protecting water quality and maintaining water flows sustains healthy ecosystems. To support ecosystem health, water quality should be managed to meet the objectives of the Water Management Act 2000.

Maintaining key freshwater habitats preserves fish communities and the recreation and productivity of aquaculture industries. Key fish habitat mapped by the Department of Primary Industries will guide Council strategic planning and local plans.

The regions historic heritage assets enrich its identity and character and attract visitors to support local economies and communities. Local heritage studies, developed in consultation with the community, will identify, protect and manage heritage items. Regeneration of heritage assets through adaptive re-use can preserve and restore heritage items and deliver unique places.

The following planning priorities will allow us to capitalise on new opportunities while protecting the foundational elements of Glen Innes Severn's economy:

Planning Priority 7:

Protect and celebrate our unique natural and cultural heritage

Planning Priority 8:

Protect areas of high environmental value and significance

Planning Priority 9:

Adapt to natural hazards and climate change

Planning Priority 10:

Promote and support renewable energy production opportunities

Measures:

- Environmental Indicators (water quality, air quality etc); and
- Conservation area coverage.



PLANNING PRIORITY 7

Protect and celebrate our unique natural and cultural heritage

Rationale

Environmental conservation is important to the community, including both natural and built environment.

Protecting, enhancing and conserving places and buildings of heritage significance, including Aboriginal places and relics, is important to preserve the unique nature of the Glen Innes Severn LGA.

These places provide a sense of cultural value, identity and a connection to the past. Heritage buildings, including state listed items including the Glen Innes Showgrounds, Glen Innes Post Office, Glen Innes Railway Station and the Dundee rail bridge over the Severn River make a significant contribution to the area's distinct character.

Council will:

- Protect and maintain the character of the Glen Innes Severn Local Government Area through orderly development of the natural and built environment;
- Preserve and adaptively reuse heritage assets; and
- Collaborate with Aboriginal communities to respect and protect Aboriginal culture and heritage.

Actions:

- 7.1 Apply appropriate provisions to protect and conserve the environmental and heritage assets across the LGA, while permitting a range of land uses to assist in the preservation of the region's important assets;
- 7.2 Develop a conservation management plan for each of the Council owned heritage items listed in the LGA;

- 7.3 Review the Glen Innes Severn LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study (2010) in consultation with the local Aboriginal community to ensure appropriate processes are embedded in planning strategies and local plans to respect and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage values across the LGA.
- 7.4 Ground truth the existing mapping of important Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the region in consultation with the local Aboriginal Land Council and community and avoid impacts on areas that are confirmed as being of important Aboriginal heritage value.
- 7.5 Rezone areas of important Aboriginal cultural heritage value to an environmental zone (preferably E2 Environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management).



PLANNING PRIORITY 8

Protect areas of high environmental value and significance

Rationale

The regions natural environment is one of its distinguishing features. Environmental assets include protected ecosystems including World Heritage-listed rainforests (such as Washpool National Park) the upland wetlands of Barley fields Lagoon at Glencoe.

These natural assets sustain productive agriculture, deliver clean air and water and improve community wellbeing. Glen Innes' main industries, agriculture, forestry and fishing, are dependent on the healthy functioning of the environment. It is vital that it is protected and enhanced so that the community's lifestyle is also sustained. Strengthening regional environmental assets will also diversify opportunities for nature-based tourism and help grow the tourism sector.

Ecosystems and communities are subject to natural hazards that will be exacerbated by climate change. Building resilience, innovation and adaptation will help manage water, harness renewable energy and prepare for natural hazards. Land use and infrastructure planning must respond to these risks and opportunities.

Council will:

- Protect areas of high environmental value and enhance biodiversity;
- Protect water quality and waterway health;
- Sustainably manage and conserve water resources; and
- Consider implementing the NSW Government Architects Draft Green places Policy

Actions:

- 8.1 Focus development to areas of at least biodiversity sensitivity and implement the 'avoid minimise offset' hierarchy to biodiversity and areas of High Environmental Value.

8.2 Review native vegetation mapping for the LGA to identify areas of High Environmental value, including biodiversity, at a local scale.

8.3 Develop and implement a biodiversity strategy including a Koala Plan of Management to identify and map biodiversity corridors, land with high environmental values, threatened species and endangered ecological communities, identify and map areas that would be suitable to be rezoned for conservation purposes preferably E2 Environmental Conservation of E3 Environmental Management and facilitate a biodiversity audit of Council managed public land to identify opportunities for enhancement of biodiversity values.

8.4 Include additional local provisions with associated map overlay of High Environmental Value area and biodiversity corridors in the LEP.

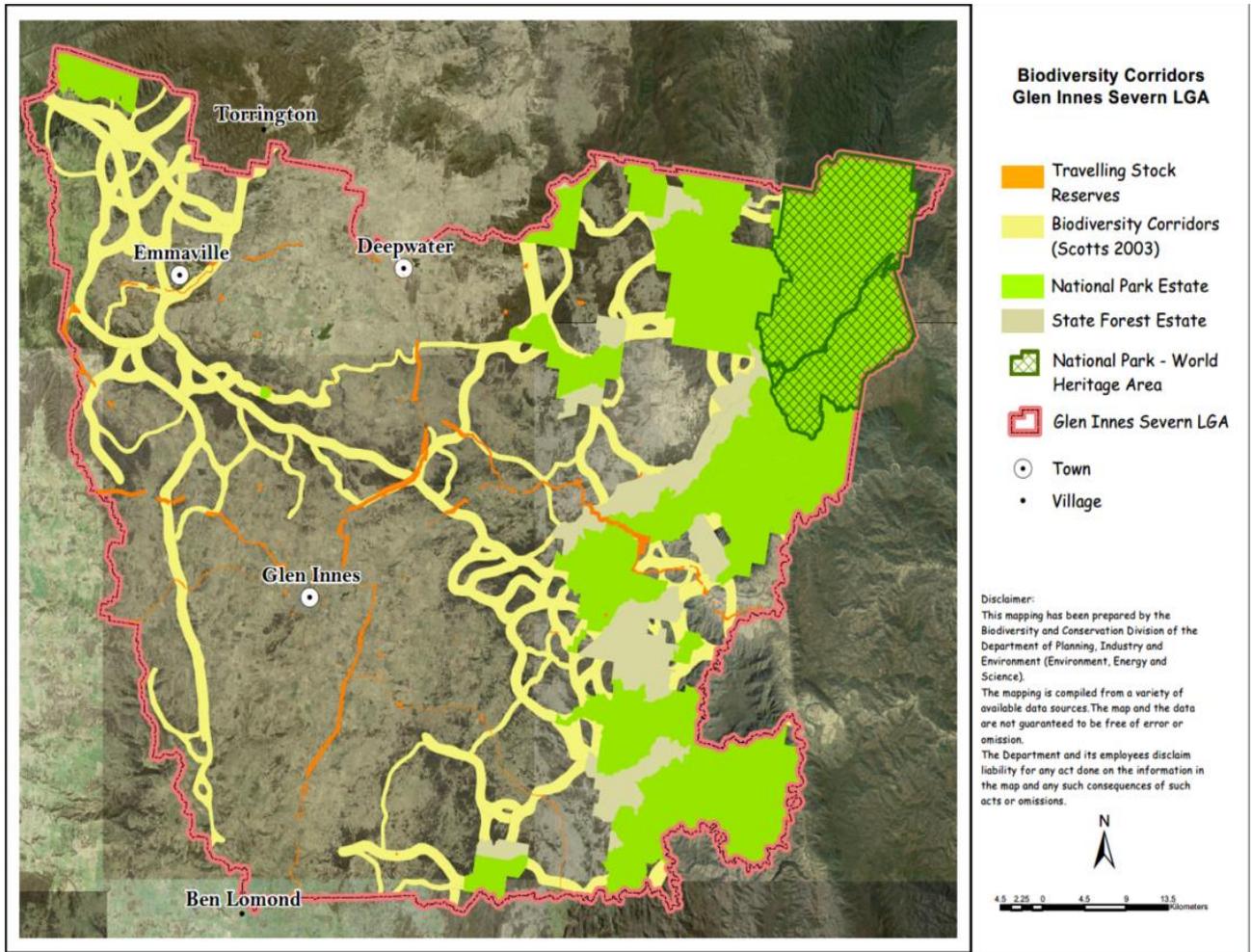
8.5 Promote enhancement of areas of High Environmental Value and biodiversity corridors on private and council managed land through biodiversity stewardship agreements and conservation agreements.

8.6 Update the development control plan consistent with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-rural Areas) 2017 to regulate vegetation clearing in non-rural areas.

8.7 Identify opportunities to collaborate with local and regional environmentally focused organisations.

8.8 Review the LEP and associated map overlays to include Additional Local Provisions to ensure the LEP managed riparian areas, water catchment areas and ground water sources to avoid potential development impacts.

FIGURE 11 – BIODIVERSITY MAP



PLANNING PRIORITY 9

Adapt to natural hazards and climate change.

Rationale

The Glen Innes Severn Council recognises the importance of mitigating and adapting to climate change and increasing the region's resilience in response to drivers of change and its capacity to adapt.

Recent droughts and bushfires have highlighted to the community the severity of natural hazards and its vulnerability to the impacts of insufficient water. It is crucial that water supplies for commercial, industrial, residential and recreational development be managed in an environmentally sustainable manner, as climate change impacts community livelihoods through more extreme weather events and changes in rainfall patterns and temperatures.

Transitioning to a regenerative culture that conserves and safeguards the natural resources on which the community relies, and using more sustainable raw materials and processes, is a vital step toward becoming more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Introducing and applying land use provisions that respond to the latest climate change projections and information will assist the move to a more sustainable future.

Growth in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is changing global climate including in our region.

Even if global negotiations succeed in achieving deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, further change to the local climate and biophysical environment is inevitable. Over the coming years, we are likely to experience higher temperatures, altered rainfall patterns and changes to natural hazards like bushfires, flooding and heatwaves. In this age of climate change, ensuring that Glen Innes' population and economy can sustain growth without having a negative impact on the environment will be of importance.

This means that:-

- Built assets, such as roads, stormwater drains and buildings, may not be able to

withstand future extreme events, such as flooding, fire and intense storms.

- Land-use patterns may change with implications for zoning and planning decisions; and
- There may be an increased demand for council services, such as water supply for community support for the elderly.

In accordance with the *NSW Government's NSW Climate Change Policy Framework (2016)*, Council supports the NSW target of net zero emissions by 2050 and planning for greater resilience to a changing climate.

By identifying climate change risks, Council will be better able to prioritise and manage these risks and plan how to adapt to them. Early investment in preparation and adaptation planning will help councils avoid or minimise climate change impacts and reduce the costs of adaptation and impacts when they occur.

Council will

- Mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Ensure water security, promote greater water conservation measures and protect water quality and waterway health.
- Minimise the risk from natural hazards and the projected effects of climate avoiding vulnerable areas, particularly when considering new urban release areas.
- Incorporate new knowledge on regional climate projections, including bushfire risk, related cumulative impacts and findings of the New England North West Enabling Regional Adaptation Project in the LEP for new development.

Actions

- 9.1 Develop a Climate Emergency Plan and Adaptation Strategy to identify and manage natural hazard risks and avoid vulnerable areas.
- 9.2 Develop an Emissions Reduction Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- 9.3 Consider the impacts of climate change addressed by the Office of Environment and Heritage in the *Western Enabling Regional Adaptation new England North West Region Report* particularly in relation to the environment, the community's health and wellbeing, infrastructure and overall water security – **ongoing**
- 9.4 Assess and manage the impacts of climate change (such as bushfires, flooding, drought, heat and storms) and population growth on Council's asset and services to enable communities and individuals to be better prepared and more resilient.
- 9.5 Consider and implement a range of urban design guidelines and land use planning controls through the LEP and DCP to reduce the risks of known environmental hazards such as bushfire, flooding, drought, heat, and storms. These may include but are not limited to Minimising the Impacts of Extreme Heat, Water Sensitive Urban Design Guidelines and the NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy.
- 9.6 Protect, enhance and increase green spaces in new residential subdivisions, urban infill projects and existing town and village centres through Council policies including the Land Use Strategy and the DCP.
- 9.7 Continue to develop a strong relationship with Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee (GLENRAC) to promote sustainable agricultural practices, including carbon farming renewal agribusiness and regenerative agriculture projects in the LGA.
- 9.8 Incorporate measures to improve water efficiency in urban and rural settings, including water sensitive urban design for new developments, into local planning policies.
- 9.9 Encourage the use of alternative water sources on local government asset, including playing fields and recreational land.
- 9.10 Review and update bushfire mapping to manage risk, particularly where urban growth is investigated to ensure land use planning minimises the risk of bushfire threat to new residential development.



Wind Turbine at White Rock Wind Farm – West of Glen Innes

PLANNING PRIORITY 10

Promote and Support the transition to renewable energy.

Rationale

The Australian Government Renewable Energy Target and the NSW Renewable Energy Action Plan reflect the transition to a more sustainable and resource-efficient economy.

These targets aim to achieve 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.

Considering the increasing importance of renewable energy, and the barrier that traditional energy costs can create, it is imperative that the LGA's natural advantages in generating renewable energy be maximised.

Glen Innes Severn is ideally located for the construction and expansion of new facilities and delivery of dispatchable power to the system. The New England Tablelands is afforded with extensive wind and solar resources, and several advantageous sites are identified within the Glen Innes Severn LGA.

Reflecting this, Glen Innes Severn LGA is included in the New England Energy Zone, a key NSW priority energy zone identified in the *NSW Transmission Infrastructure Strategy*, and will become a focus for investment and jobs in modern energy generation.

The New England region has been included as an energy zone due to its high energy potential where planned transmission infrastructure upgrades are able to connect multiple projects at a lower cost. Consideration of the impact on productive agricultural land and important view corridors will be key during the assessment of any future development applications.

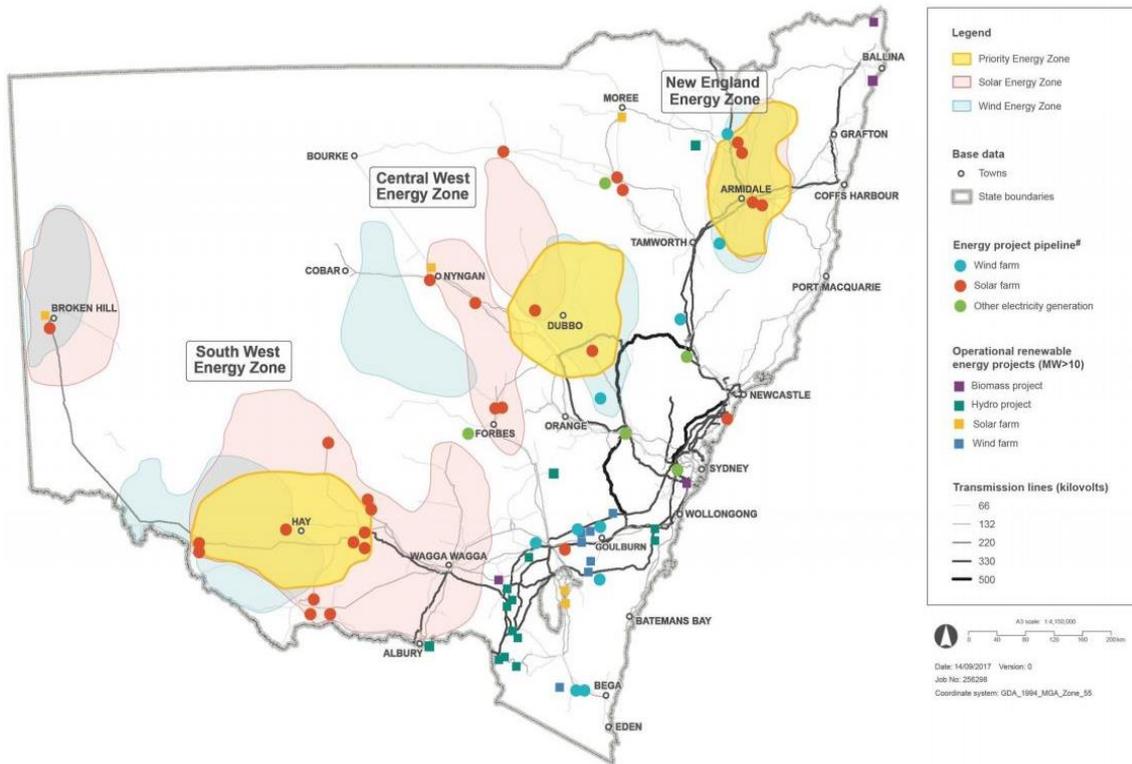
Council will

- Ensure the transition to renewable energy is environmentally sustainable
- Identify and promote renewable energy production opportunities
- Explore options for renewable energy generation in collaboration with developing the Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan.

Actions

- 10.1 Encourage the development of wind and solar farms in identified areas in appropriate areas that have available access to essential infrastructure, such as substations.
- 10.2 Avoid and manage impacts from renewable energy development and associated infrastructure on Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land, scenic rural landscapes and visitor attractions in Glen Innes Severn LGA
- 10.3 Facilitate appropriate smaller-scale renewable energy projects using biowaste, solar, wind or other innovative storage technologies.
- 10.4 Investigate the implementation of community solar projects.
- 10.5 promote the sustainable living guide including energy efficiency and the use of renewable resources across the LGA.
- 10.6 Incorporate new knowledge in regional climate projections, including bushfire risk, related cumulative impacts and findings of the New England North West Enabling Regional Adaptation Project in the LEP for new development.

FIGURE 12 – NEW ENGLAND ENERGY ZONE



* NSW Department of Planning and Environment (2018) Large-Scale Energy Project Pipeline.

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING

Implementation

The LSPS will communicate the long-term land use strategy for Glen Innes Severn LGA over a 20-year planning horizon. To realise this vision, a series of amendments to other Council plans which provide the delivery framework for Council's strategic planning will be required. These plans and their functions are described below:

- **Local Environment Plan (LEP)**
LEP's are the principal statutory document which establishes the planning controls for an LGA. Through zoning, development standards and other local provisions the LEP provides the legal framework to ensure development is appropriate and reflects the communities' vision for land use in the LGA.
- **Development Control Plan (DCP)**
DCP's are non-statutory plans that provide detailed planning and design guidelines, and development controls to support the LEP.
- **Contributions Plan**
Division 6 of Part 4 of the *EP&A Act 1979* gives Council the power to collect contributions from developers toward public infrastructure required as a consequence of their development.

LEP amendments

Proposed developments which align with the LSPS may require changes to development controls or land use zoning to occur before the development application can be submitted. In this case, an amendment to the LEP would be required.

Amendments to the LEP are subject to planning proposals in accordance with section 3.4 of the *EP&A Act 1979*. Planning proposals to amend the LEP may either be prepared by Council or by applicants. Alignment to the strategic direction within the LSPS will be a significant

consideration when determining whether an LEP amendment will proceed.

More information on amendments to the LEP can be found in DPIE's *A Guide to Preparing Planning Proposals*.

Monitoring and Review

Council will monitor, review and report on its Local Strategic Planning Statement 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 LSPS in 2023 and again every four years to align the review period with Council's over-arching community strategic planning and IP&R under the LG Act.

Regular reviews will ensure that the LSPS reflects the vision the community has for the future of Glen Innes Severn and is aligned to the latest trends and information available about the environment and the community's social and economic needs.

Funding and Investment

The LSPS will play an important role in Council's resourcing strategy, with preparation of strategies and studies required by this plan funded in the 4-year delivery program and annual operational plan.

Existing governance arrangements and partnerships

Existing governance arrangements such as reporting to the New England Joint Organisation (NEJO) of Councils will be utilised to support effective approaches to cross boundary issues. The need to work effectively with other councils in the region recognises the wider role that Councils strategic planning and decision-

making plays in achieving the objectives of the New England North West Regional Plan 2036.

It also recognises the potential impact that strategically important decisions taken by Council regarding critical infrastructure, environmental issues, housing, investment and a range of other topics covered in the LSPS may have on plans of neighbouring Councils.

These valued cross boundary partnerships will also support Council to realise its vision by driving efficiencies in accessing government funding, attracting inward investment and accessing a wider field of expertise.

The LSPS also provides a framework for the coordinated action of many other partners in delivery. Council will continue to work hard to establish effective partnerships with State government agencies and other organisations to support the realisation of the plan.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Definitions:

Short Term: 0-5 years

Medium Term: 5-10 years

Long Term: 10-20+ years



IMPLEMENTATION FOR A RENEWED ECONOMY AND AUTHENTIC PLACE

Measures:

- Increase in jobs by industry;
- Level of employment in the LGA;
- Gross Regional Product; and
- Visitor numbers.

Planning Priority 1

Support a 'whole of place' approach toward economic development and land use planning.

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 1 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- ED1: Facilitate market and business opportunities
- ED2: Develop a Strong Brand for Glen Innes Highlands
- ED3: Facilitate Growth and support business development
- ED4: Recognise and support agricultural sector as the most significant local industry within the LGA.

Planning Priority 1 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 7: Build Strong Economic Centres
- Direction 8: Expand tourism and visitor opportunities.

Actions

- 1.1 Council will support the development of a new EDS to deliver a well-positioned place-based approach to economic development which will assist in achieving a population of 10,000 people by 2040. – **short term**
- 1.2 Council will contribute to the outcomes agreed to be implemented in the EDS by incorporating them into the relevant plans such as the LEP., DCP, and Developer Contributions Plan – **short term**.
- 1.3 Council will integrate Infrastructure Plans with the vision of the EDS and assist in delivering the Actions to achieve that vision – **medium term**.

Planning Priority 2

Encourage diversification in agriculture, horticulture and agribusiness to grow these sectors and respond to domestic and international opportunities.

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 2 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- ED1: Facilitate market and business opportunities
- ED3: Facilitate Growth and support business development
- ED4: Recognise and support agricultural sector as the most significant local industry within the LGA.

Planning Priority 2 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 1: Expand agribusiness and food processing sectors
 - Direction 3: Protect and enhance productive agricultural lands
 - Direction 13: Expand emerging industries through freight and logistics connectivity
 - Direction 14: Enhance transport and infrastructure networks
-

Actions

- 2.1 Support growth that fosters resilience and diversification by ensuring planning provisions accommodate the changing needs of agriculture. – ongoing
 - 2.2 Promote the expansion of agribusiness and associated value-adding activities through local plans and policies. - ongoing
 - 2.3 Promoting investment in sustainable agriculture, the agricultural supply chain and niche market crops. – ongoing.
 - 2.4 Review rural land use provisions in the LEP and DCP to ensure protection of biophysical strategic agricultural land and intensive agricultural clusters to avoid land use conflicts, particularly with rural residential expansion, in alignment with the Right to Farm Policy. – ongoing
 - 2.5 Map important agricultural land and develop guidelines to support the implementation of the important agricultural land through local plans – **short to medium term**
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Planning Priority 3

Expand nature-based adventure and cultural tourism places by leveraging environmental and iconic assets such as the World Heritage listed National Parks and the Australian Standing Stones

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 2 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- ED1: Facilitate market and business opportunities
- ED2: Develop a strong brand for Glen Innes Highlands
- ED3: Facilitate Growth and support business development
- EH3: Improve opportunities for passive recreation around our natural and heritage assets
- CS8: To have a healthy community

Planning Priority 3 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 8: Expand tourism and visitor opportunities
- Direction 11: Protect areas of potential high environmental value

Actions

- 3.1 Prepare a destination management plan or other tourism focused strategies that align with Country and Outback NSW destination Management plan prepared by Destination NSW – **short term**.
 - 3.2 Facilitate tourism and visitor accommodation and supporting land uses where appropriate through local plans and strategies – **ongoing**
 - 3.3 Build relationships and support Local Aboriginal Lands Council to develop new events and cultural activities – **short to medium term**
 - 3.4 Integrate Aboriginal cultural heritage and experiences into the Centennial Parklands Master Plan – **short to medium term**
 - 3.5 Review DCP to include specific control for visitor accommodation – **short term**
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IMPLEMENTATION FOR A THRIVING AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Measures

- Number of dwelling approvals by location and type;
- Net new dwellings approved and completed; and
- Household compositions.

Planning Priority 4

Deliver a variety of housing options in Glen Innes and promote development that contributes to the unique character of Glen Innes and the villages of Emmaville, Deepwater, Glencoe and Red Range.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Relationship to other plans and policies</p> | <p>Planning Priority 4 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:</p> <p>CS2: Ensure that land use planning supports the vision and role of each village and town</p> <p>Planning Priority 4 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:</p> <p>Direction 18: Provide great places to live</p> <p>Direction 20: Deliver greater housing diversity to suit changing needs</p> <p>Direction 21: Deliver well planned rural residential housing</p> | |
| <p>Actions</p> | <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.3</p> <p>4.4</p> | <p>Promote aging-in-place by adopting elements of <i>Liveable Housing Australia's Liveable Housing Design Guidelines</i> in development controls for housing, where possible. - ongoing</p> <p>Promote the prosperity of our urban areas by directing future residential and large lot housing to existing areas of R1, R2 and R5 land within Glen Innes and RU5 zoned land in Deepwater, Emmaville, Glencoe and Red Range, whilst protecting their unique character. - ongoing</p> <p>Supporting the availability of an appropriate housing supply by responding to changing housing needs, as well as household and demographic changes (eg: increased demand for independent living units and residential aged care facilities). - medium to long term</p> <p>Attract Regional Returners and tree changers looking for affordable housing and a rural lifestyle. -medium to long term</p> |

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|----------------|-----|--|
| Actions | 4.5 | Review and update the existing Land Use Strategy and implement any changes through the LEP and DCP. - short to medium term |
| | 4.6 | Deliver rural residential development consistent with Principles 1-5 of the interim Settlement Planning Principles (Appendix A) or comprehensive framework once released. - ongoing |

Planning Priority 5

Raise the area's profile and awareness of employment, business development and lifestyle opportunities, particularly for younger people and provide services for the ageing population

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|--|---|---|
| Relationship to other plans and policies | Planning Priority 5 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals: | |
| | CS1: | Grow the population to 10,000 residents over the next 10 years. |
| | ED1: | Facilitate market and business opportunities |
| | ED3: | Facilitate Growth and support business development |
| | ED 4: | Recognise and support the agricultural sector as the most significant local industry within the LGA |
| | Planning Priority 5 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions: | |
| | Direction 7: | Build strong economic centres |
| | Direction 17: | Strengthen community resilience |

| | | |
|---------|-----|---|
| Actions | 5.1 | Leverage the development of the new Economic Development Strategy and Actions plan to guide review of the existing planning policies and strategies – such as the Glen Innes Land Use Strategy – short term |
| | 5.2 | Review the Glen Innes Severn Land Use Strategy, LEP and DCP to reinforce the town and village centres as the primary locations for commerce, housing, tourism, social activity and regional services – medium term |
| | 5.3 | Promote infrastructure and services that support healthy, active lifestyles for young families as well as the region's aging population – ongoing |



IMPLEMENTATION FOR A STRONG AND CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURE

Measures

- Use of public and community transport;
- Number of new industries established; and
- Population growth.

Planning Priority 6

Continue to develop service and logistics infrastructure on appropriate sites to encourage new industry opportunities and population growth.

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 6 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- ED3: Facilitate growth and support business development.
- IM1: Ensure there are optimal services.
- IM4: Strive for adequate funding for Infrastructure delivery.
- IM5: Ensure proper freight transport planning.
- IM6: Ensure continued good management of the Glen Innes Water Treatment Plant.

Planning Priority 6 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 6: Deliver new industries of the future
- Direction 7: Build strong economic centres
- Direction 10: Sustainably manage and conserve water resources

Actions

- 6.1 Review the suitability of physical and service infrastructure for future growth identified as a part of the new Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan and Council's revised Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan to ensure infrastructure planning with a focus on land use provisions and policy options that support development, whilst recognising the need to be financially sustainable.– **short term**
- 6.2 Advocate for greater connectivity via our road network, mobile and internet to ensure connectivity is no longer a barrier to attract new industry. – **ongoing**

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- 6.3 Locate freight and logistics facilities to maximise existing infrastructure, support future industrial development and capitalise on inter-regional connections and external markets in accordance with the New England Joint Organisation (NEJO) Roads and Freight Strategy – **short term**
- 6.4 Complete Council's Infrastructure Backlog Management Plan – **short term**
- 6.5 Review LEP zoning of land where Council's Infrastructure assets are located eg Water Treatment Plant, to ensure they are appropriately identified for 'special purpose' activities. – **short term**
- 6.6 Collaborate with TfNSW through the Walking and Cycling Program to promote and provide additional infrastructure and services that support healthy, active lifestyles for young families as well as the region's aging population. – **short to medium term**
- 6.7 Collaborate with TfNSW to provide advice and investigate the possibility of the New England Rail Trail.- **short term**
- 6.8 Investigate how Transport owned land in the Glenn Innes Severn LGA could be utilised to support placemaking outcomes, enhance transport outcomes and contribute to economic development and sustainable land use planning outcomes including when preparing its Economic Development Strategy, Action Plan and through the LEP review process. – **short term**
- 6.9 Review the Land Use Strategy taking into account major freight corridors of the New England and Gwydir Highways.
- Sensitive land uses such as residential must be located, designed and constructed to minimise potential impacts from major freight corridors.
 - include diversified housing options in Glen Innes. – **short term**
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IMPLEMENT FOR A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED HERITAGE

Measures

- Environmental Indicators (water quality, air quality etc)
- Conservation area coverage
- Number of Heritage listings

Planning Priority 7

Protect and celebrate our unique natural and cultural heritage.

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 7 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- EH1: Continue to be a leader in environmental sustainability.
- EH2: Support conservation efforts in relation to heritage
- EH4: Work with existing organisations to enhance the environment
- EH6: Improve the entrances to Glen Innes and villages that are representative of its proud and environmentally conscious community.
- ED2: Develop a strong brand for Glen Innes Highlands

Planning Priority 7 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 7: Build strong economic centres
- Direction 8: Expand tourism and visitor opportunities
- Direction 22: Increase the economic self-determination of Aboriginal communities
- Directions 23: Collaborate with Aboriginal communities to respect and protect Aboriginal culture and heritage
- Direction 24: Protect the region's historic heritage assets

Actions

- 7.1 Apply appropriate provisions to protect and conserve environmental and heritage assets across the LGA, while permitting a range of land uses to assist in the preservation of the region's important assets. - **ongoing**
- 7.2 Develop a conservation management plan for each of the Council owned heritage listed items in the LGA - **medium term**

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- 7.3 Review the Glen Innes Severn LGA Aboriginal Heritage Study (2010) in consultation with the local Aboriginal community to ensure appropriate processes are embedded in planning strategies and local plans to respect and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage values across the LGA **-short to medium term**
- 7.4 Ground truth the existing mapping of important Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the region in consultation with the local Aboriginal community and avoid negative impacts on areas that are confirmed as being of important Aboriginal heritage value. - **medium term**
- 7.5 Rezone areas of important Aboriginal cultural heritage value to an environmental zone (preferably E2 Environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management) – **medium to long term**
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Planning Priority 8

Protect areas of high environmental value and significance.

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 8 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- | | |
|------|---|
| EH1 | Continue to be a leader in environmental sustainability |
| EH2: | Support conservation efforts in relation to heritage |
| EH0: | Improve opportunities for passive recreation around our natural and heritage assets |
| EH3: | Work with existing organisations to enhance the environment. |

Planning Priority 8 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 10: Sustainability manage and conserve water resources
Direction 11: Protect areas of potential high environmental value
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Actions

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 8.1 | Focus on development to areas of least biodiversity sensitivity and implement the 'avoid, minimise offset' hierarchy to biodiversity and areas of High Environmental Value – ongoing |
| 8.2 | Review native vegetation mapping for the LGA to identify areas of High Environmental Value, including biodiversity, at a local scale – short term |
| 8.3 | Develop and implement a biodiversity strategy, including a Koala Plan of Management to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and map biodiversity corridors, land with high environmental values, threatened species and endangered ecological communities;• Identify and map areas that would be suitable to be rezoned for conservation purposes, preferably E2 environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management;• Facilitate a biodiversity audit of Council managed public land to identify opportunities for enhancement of biodiversity values – medium to long term |
| 8.4 | Include additional local provisions with associated map overlays for High Environmental Value area and biodiversity corridors in the LEP – medium term |
| 8.5 | Promote enhancement of areas of High Environmental Value and biodiversity corridors on private and council managed land through biodiversity stewardship agreements and conservation agreements.' – medium to long term |
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- 8.6 Update the DCP consistent with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-rural Areas) 2017 to regulate vegetation clearing in non-rural areas. – **short term**
 - 8.7 Identify opportunities for collaborate with local and regional environmentally focused organisations – **short term**
 - 8.8 Review the LEP and associated map overlays to include Additional Local Provisions to ensure the LEP managed riparian areas, water catchment areas and ground water sources to avoid potential development impacts – **short term**
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Planning Priority 9

Adapt to natural hazards and climate change

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 9 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- EH1: Continue to be a leader in environmental sustainability
- EH4: Work with existing organisations to enhance the environment.
- ED1: Facilitate market and business opportunities.
- IM6: Ensure continued good management of the Glen Innes Water Treatment Plant

Planning Priority 9 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 10: Sustainability manage and conserve water resources
 - Direction 12: Adapt to natural hazards and climate change
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Actions

- 9.1 Develop a Climate Emergency Plan and Climate Adaption Strategy to identify and manage natural hazard risks and avoid vulnerable areas. - **short term**
 - 9.2 Develop an Emissions Reduction Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. – **short term**
 - 9.3 Consider the impacts of climate change addressed by the Office of Environment and Heritage in the *Western Enabling Regional Adaptation new England North West Region Report* particularly in relation to the environment, the community's health and wellbeing, infrastructure and overall water security – **ongoing**
 - 9.4 Assess and manage the impacts of climate change (such as heat, drought, bushfires and storms) on Council's assets and services to enable communities and individuals to be better prepared and more resilient. – **short term**
 - 9.5 Consider and implement a range of urban design and land use planning controls through the LEP and DCP to reduce the risks of known environmental hazards such as bushfire, flooding, drought, heat and storms. These may include but are not limited to Minimising the Impacts of Extreme Heat, Water Sensitive Urban Design Guidelines and the NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy.– **short to medium term**
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- 9.6 Protect, enhance and increase green spaces in new residential subdivisions, urban infill projects and existing town and village centres through Council policies including the Land Use strategy and the DCP. – **ongoing**
- 9.7 Continue to develop a strong relationship with Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee (GLENRAC) to promote sustainable agricultural practices, including carbon farming, renewable agribusiness and regenerative agriculture projects in the LGA.’ - **ongoing**
- 9.8 Incorporate measures to improve water efficiency in urban and rural settings, including water sensitive urban design for new developments, into local planning policies. – **short term**
- 9.9 Encourage the use of alternative water sources on local government assets, including playing fields and recreational land. – **short term**
- 9.10 Review and update bushfire mapping to manage risk, particularly where urban growth is investigated to ensure land use planning minimises the risk of bushfire threat to new residential development. –**short term**
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Planning Priority 10

Promote and support renewable energy production opportunities.

Relationship to other plans and policies

Planning Priority 10 is consistent with Council's CSP Goals:

- EH1: Continue to be a leader in environmental sustainability.
- EH4: Work with existing organisations to enhance the environment.

Planning Priority 10 also gives effect to the New England North West Region Plan 2036 Directions:

- Direction 5: Grow New England North West as the renewable energy hub of NSW
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Actions

- 10.1 Encourage the development of wind and solar farms identified areas in appropriate areas that have available access to essential infrastructure such as substations – **ongoing**.
 - 10.2 Avoid and minimise impacts from renewable energy development and associated infrastructure on biophysical Agricultural Land scenic rural landscapes and visitor attractions in Glen Innes Severn LGA (**ongoing**)
 - 10.3 Facilitate appropriate smaller scale renewable energy projects using bio-waste, solar, wind or other innovative storage technologies (**short to medium term**)
 - 10.4 Investigate the implementation of community solar projects (**short term**)
 - 10.5 Promote the sustainable living guide including energy efficiency and the use of renewable resources across the LGA (**ongoing**)
 - 10.6 Incorporate new knowledge on regional climate projections, including bushfire risk, related cumulative impacts and findings of the New England North West Enabling Regional Adaptation Project in the LEP for new development (**short to medium term**)
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Appendix A - Interim Settlement Planning Principles – New England North West Regional Plan

| | Principles | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Land suitability | 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New land release areas are to be located adjacent to existing urban settlements to maximise the efficient use of existing infrastructure and services, including water, sewer, road and waste services. • Where new development is proposed away from existing settlements, the provision of essential infrastructure must have no cost to government. • The location, structure and layout of rural residential release areas should promote clustering to encourage a sense of community and facilitate the long-term expansion of existing centres and residential areas. |
| | 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct new land release areas to unconstrained land by avoiding areas of high environmental value, cultural, and heritage significance and/ or areas affected by natural hazards such as flooding or bushfire. |
| | 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New land release areas should avoid and manage the potential for land use conflicts with existing and likely future adjoining uses and infrastructure, including important agricultural land, and productive resource lands. |
| Development structure and form | 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require new land release areas to provide links to adjoining areas to ensure new areas are well integrated and maximise efficiency and shared use of services and facilities. |
| | 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise, protect and be compatible with any unique topographic, natural or built cultural features essential to the visual setting, character, identity, or heritage significance of the area. |
| | 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and maintain strong multi-functional central business precincts and support the viability of centres. |
| | 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide housing diversity targets to support a variety of dwelling types and a choice in location, form and affordability. |
| | 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and locate land uses to minimise the need to travel; to maximise opportunity for efficient public transport and pedestrian access options; and to encourage energy and resource efficiency. |
| | 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and locate development to maximise total water cycle management and promote passive environmental design principles. Water sensitive urban design techniques should be incorporated into the design of dwellings, streets, parking areas, subdivisions and multi-unit, commercial and industrial developments. |
| | 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create walkable communities within the hierarchy of settlement. |
| | 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for local services that meet the day to day needs of residents and areas for open space and recreation. |

REFERENCES

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013-2018 data

Future Transport Plan 2056

Glen Innes Severn Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027

Glen Innes Severn Development Control Plan 2014

Glen Innes Severn Economic Development Strategy 2012-2018

Glen Innes Severn Infrastructure Backlog Management Plan

Glen Innes Severn Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan

Glen Innes Severn Land Use Strategy May 2010

Glen Innes Severn Operational Plan 2019-2020

New England Joint Organisation Roads and Freight Strategy

New England North West Regional Plan 2036

Northern New England High Country Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018-2020

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Conservation Division Maps

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Population Projections, Regional

NSW LGA data 2016-2041

NSW Transmission Infrastructure Strategy

Regional Adaption Report

REMPAN Economy – Glen Innes Severn

State Environmental Planning Policy (vegetation in Non-rural Areas) 2017

State Infrastructure Strategy

Sustainable Living Guide

Water Management Act 2000

Western Enabling Regional Adaption – New England North West Region report

