

Central West & Orana Region Part 2

March 2022





The Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036 outlines growth for the region comprising the Local Government Areas (LGA's) of Bathurst Regional, Blayney, Bogan, Cabonne, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo Regional, Forbes, Gilgandra, Lachlan, Lithgow, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Warren, Warrumbungle and Weddin as shown in **Figure 1**.

The plan will help shape LGA's, with NSW Government working with local councils to achieve the overall goal of the plan. The priorities for Bathurst Regional, Blayney, Bogan, Cabonne, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo Regional, Forbes, Gilgandra LGA's are summarised. Part 3 will focus on remaining LGA's.



Figure 1: Two parts of Central West and Orana Region by LGA

Source: NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036



Bathurst Regional

Bathurst Regional LGA has 41,300 residents according to ABS 2016 Census. There are 10,136 families living across the region attracted to new residential areas of Abercrombie, Eglinton, Kelso North and Windrayne.

According to the Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036, Bathurst services a catchment area over 146,000 people.

The local economy primarily comprises manufacturing, public administration and safety, education and training, health care and social assistance, services (electricity, water and gas), construction, tourism and retail sectors.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Bathurst Regional (pg. 67) stated as:

- Support the delivery of residential release areas and increase the range of housing options in existing urban areas.
- Support the development of a nationally recognised automotive industry hub at Mount Panorama including the development of Velocity Park Raceway and associated infrastructure and facilities.
- Promote Bathurst as a centre of excellence for technology and education.
- Recognise and enhance cultural, heritage, rural and environmental values.



Figure 2: Bathurst Regional

Source: Google Maps ©





Blayney

Proximity to Orange and Bathurst provides significant benefits to Blayney LGA, which support local employment and economy. The main industries include mining, manufacturing and agricultural industries.

The Plan anticipates new residents will relocate to Millthorpe and Blayney residential land release areas. As at 2016 Census, the population was just over 7,250 people with almost 2,000 families based in the region.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Blayney(pp. 67-68) stated as:

 Continue to revitalise Blayney's main street and central business district.

- Continue to grow the mining, agribusiness, transport and logistics sectors and associated businesses.
- Investigate the development of a regionally significant intensified agricultural precinct for agribusinesses, leveraging existing strategic advantages and future infrastructure.
- Leverage Blayney's strategic advantages including its proximity to Bathurst, Orange, Cowra, Canberra and Sydney; the existence of major utility services; and access to transport, warehousing and freight facilities.
- Continue to grow the renewable energy industry sector.



Figure 3: Blayney

Source: Google Maps ©





Bogan

Located in the north west of Orana, Bogan LGA is underpinned by mining, while agriculture is a key source of employment. The Plan identifies Bogan has potential to grow based on global demand for protein and grain-based supplies.

As at 2016 Census, almost 2,700 people live in Bogan LGA, with the median age of 40 years old.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Bogan (pg. 68) stated as:

- Maintain and further develop Nyngan's main street as an attractive destination for local shopping and services, while enhancing and retaining its character.
- Deliver effective local health services through Council-owned facilities and the Nyngan Multi-Purpose Health Centre.
- Maintain and enhance local and regional road networks to support agriculture, mining and tourism and to give local residents safe and efficient access to services and facilities in Nyngan.
- Ensure water security through infrastructure projects including off-line storage.
- Support and develop the local economy, including agriculture and mining, leveraging the Local Government Area's strategic location.
- Promote and support a variety of tourism opportunities particularly for older or retired tourists.



Figure 4: Bogan

Source: Google Maps ©





Cabonne

Cabonne is identified in the Plan as a rapidly developing region in the Central West as a result of the agricultural sector and distance to Orange. The main employment sectors include mining, agriculture and manufacturing.

There are 13,386 people residing in Cabonne (as at 2016 Census), with over 3,500 families throughout the region. The median age is 43 years old.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Cabonne (pp. 68-69) stated as:

 Maintain and enhance the economic diversity of Cabonne's towns, villages and commercial centres.

- Support villages to attract appropriate development.
- Support the mining and agribusiness sectors and associated businesses through land use planning policies.
- Protect agricultural land from encroachment from residential development.
- Support the connectivity of the local, regional and state transport network.
- Leverage opportunities from the LGA's rural character to diversify the economy in areas such as tourism.



Figure 5: Cabonne

Source: Google Maps ©





Coonamble

Coonamble is located north of Orana and is identified as a local service centre. One in five workers are employed in the agricultural industries producing cereals, oil seed and legume crops, and livestock. The Plan has earmarked aged care opportunities for this region.

The LGA has almost 4,000 people, with 910 families and a median age of 43 years old.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Coonamble (pg.69) stated as:

- Support existing settlements.
- Preserve the main street and central business district of Coonamble.

- Support the agribusiness sector, including value-add manufacturing, transport and logistics, and associated businesses.
- Leverage opportunities from the Local Government Area's rural character to support diverse industries such as tourism.
- Protect and enhance Coonamble's cultural and historic character.
- Support the provision and continued development of major regional sports, recreation and cultural events and facilities.
- Protect important agricultural land from encroachment from residential development.

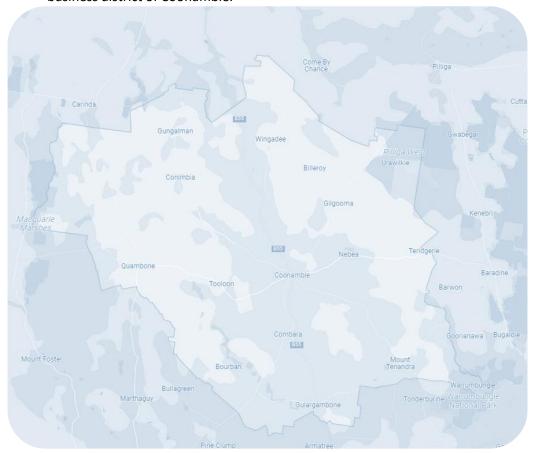


Figure 6: Coonamble

Source: Google Maps ©





Cowra

Cowra is identified as a Strategic Centre within the Plan due to connectivity to Bathurst, Wagga Wagga, Dubbo and Canberra. Cowra also services smaller centres including Woodstock, Wattamondara, Wyangala, Noonbinna, Gooloogong and Billimari.

The local economy is supported by the agricultural, manufacturing and emerging aviation sectors.

The region accommodates almost 12,500 residents including 3,291 families.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Cowra (pp.69-70) stated as:

- Support the growing agricultural sector by promoting innovation and technological advancement.
- Enhance Cowra's existing transport connections, specifically the re-opening of the Blayney–Demondrille rail line, the upgrade of Lachlan Valley Way to support the transport network to Canberra and the east coast via the Hume Highway; and the Cowra town centre.
- Promote and support the sustainable growth of Cowra's health sector.
- Continue the development of Cowra Airport as a centre for aviation-related industry and services.



Figure 7: Cowra

Source: Google Maps ©





Dubbo Regional

Dubbo Regional includes the regional city of Dubbo with an estimated population of more than 51,000 people as at 2015. The local economy is supported by health care and social assistance, public administration and safety, construction, manufacturing, retail, agriculture, transport and warehousing, and finance sectors. The Plan highlights the role of Dubbo as major NSW regional city which services over 120,000 people.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Dubbo Regional (pp. 70-71) stated as:

- Establish the regional city of Dubbo as a centre of excellence for health care, social assistance and community services to support people within and beyond the region.
- Support the growth and development of Dubbo as a mining services centre for the Orana and Western NSW.
- Plan for the infrastructure needs of an expanding population including the Newell, Mitchell and Golden highways and their relationship with continued economic development.
- Continue to grow tertiary education offerings to attract young people, while supporting established sectors in professional, government and retail services.
- Support the growing tourism industry in Dubbo and Wellington to create diverse and sustainable businesses that provide local jobs, and to recognise unique tourist assets.
- Continue to grow and develop agribusiness, transport and logistics and recognise the importance of these sectors to the regional, state and national economy.



Figure 8: Dubbo Regional

Source: Google Maps ©

- Ensure housing is affordable and a variety of housing types are available to the broader community, including seniors and people with a disability.
- Maintain the health of the Macquarie and Bell Rivers and recognise their importance to the natural environment and tourism.
- Continue to protect agricultural land from encroachment from residential development.
- Support the ongoing growth and development of Dubbo Regional Airport.





Forbes

Forbes is located south in the Central West and has a population of more than 9,500 people as at 2016 Census. The region is sustained by agricultural and manufacturing industries.

Over 2,400 families live in Forbes LGA with the median age at 42 years old.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Forbes (pg. 71) stated as:

- Attract investment in value-adding manufacturing industries.
- Enhance the agriculture sector with improved transport links and value-added

- Encourage the development of employment generating rural and agricultural industries.
- Maintain and grow agricultural, livestock and meat processing industries.
- Promote Forbes District Hospital as a regional medical training facility.
- Protect important agricultural land from residential development encroachment.
- Attract tourism-related development, capitalising on Forbes's natural and built character.

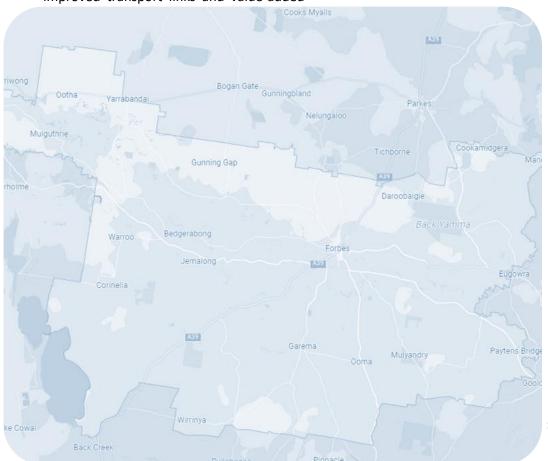


Figure 9: Forbes

Source: Google Maps ©





Gilgandra

Over 4,200 people (2016 Census) live within Gilgandra LGA, primarily employed in the agricultural sector. The Plan identifies aged care as an opportunity for this region.

Priorities

The government have identified priorities for Gilgandra (pg. 71) stated as:

- Support the existing settlements of Gilgandra and Tooraweenah.
- Grow the agribusiness sector through value-add and diversification opportunities to increase local jobs.

- Leverage opportunities from the area's rural character to support value-adding industries, tourism and energy generation.
- Support the provision and continued development of major regional sports, recreation and cultural events and facilities.
- Support the development of transport and logistics sectors and associated businesses to maximise Gilgandra's location at the junction of the Newell, Oxley and Castlereagh highways.

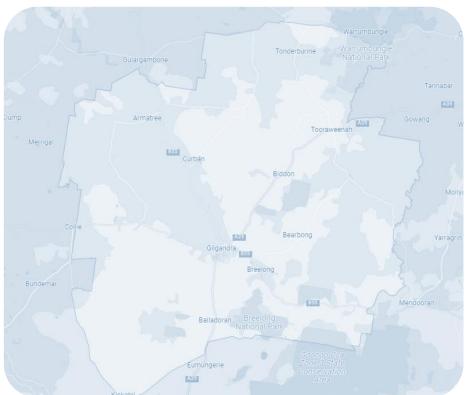


Figure 10: Gilgandra

Source: Google Maps ©

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