

11.13 LODDON MALLEE NORTH

31/03/2017
VC134

For the purpose of this Clause, the 'Loddon Mallee North region' comprises the municipal areas of Buloke, Campaspe, Gannawarra, Mildura and Swan Hill, covered in the *Loddon Mallee North Regional Growth Plan* (Victorian Government, 2014).

Policy guidelines

In considering the policy objectives and strategies for the Loddon Mallee North region, planning must consider as relevant, the *Loddon Mallee North Regional Growth Plan* (Victorian Government, 2014).

11.13-1 Planning for growth

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Objective

To align population and economic growth.

Strategies

Provide a suitable range of commercial and industrial precincts in the regional city, regional centres and towns recognising each settlement's role in their community of interest, including cross-border and inter-regional access for economic development.

Facilitate regional, cross-border and inter-regional relationships to harness emerging economic opportunities.

11.13-2 A diversified economy

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Objective

To realise opportunities to strengthen and diversify the economy.

Strategies

Support further diversification of the primary production, service, manufacturing and tourism industries.

Support growth and adaptation of agriculture.

Support emerging agribusinesses and location clusters, including intensive animal industries.

Support production and processing that adds value to local agricultural and other primary products.

Support investment in infrastructure, freight and logistics and increased availability of natural gas.

Support emerging and potential growth sectors such as nature-based tourism, mining and renewable energy generation and protect these activities from urban encroachment.

11.13-3

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Agricultural productivity**Objective**

To support and manage rural landscapes.

Strategies

Protect areas of strategic significance for agriculture.

Support adaptation of the agricultural sector to embrace opportunities and respond to the potential risks arising from climate change.

Facilitate ongoing agricultural productivity and investment in high value agriculture.

Protect and maintain productive land and irrigation assets necessary to help grow the region as an important food bowl for domestic and international exports.

11.13-4

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Environmental assets**Objective**

To manage the region's environmental and cultural heritage assets and minimise exposure to natural hazards.

Strategies

Support the establishment, protection and reconnection of ecosystems through large scale native vegetation corridors.

Protect the region's environmental assets and values, particularly those associated with significant wetlands and the Murray River.

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Sustainable communities**Objective**

To protect and provide a local sense of place.

Strategies

Facilitate growth of Mildura as the regional city, through planned development incorporating the nearby settlements of Red Cliffs, Irymple and Merbein, and encourage urban consolidation, particularly in the Central Business District.

Avoid growth and development in Mildura that may compromise the future operation or potential for expansion of Mildura Airport.

Plan for and facilitate growth of Echuca and Swan Hill as regional centres and important tourism destinations while considering population change and settlement planning in New South Wales.

Support incremental expansion of Swan Hill and the provision of infrastructure to facilitate growth, including improvements to transport infrastructure to service regional industries.

Provide opportunities for economic growth in Ouyen by supporting infrastructure improvements for the expansion of mineral sands mining, agriculture, tourism and other economic diversification opportunities.

Plan strategically for the most appropriate locations for rural residential growth in the hinterland areas of Mildura, Swan Hill and Echuca.

11.13-6

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Networked settlements

Objective

To develop a living network of towns.

Strategies

Support stronger relationships between the region and communities of interest in southern New South Wales, South Australia and adjoining Victorian regions.

Support the role of rural settlements to act as commuter towns within the wider network and for neighbouring regions.

11.13-7

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Community infrastructure

Objective

To enable healthy lifestyles.

Strategies

Protect the operation of existing and planned health and education facilities from conflicting land uses.

11.13-8

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Integrated planning

Objective

To retain, renew and build infrastructure to support growth and enable healthy and supportive communities.

Strategies

Support the supply of natural gas to Mildura and other centres and towns.

Support development that increases the use of recycled water and reduces demand for potable water.

Support opportunities for industry to develop new waste and resource recovery processes.

11.13-9 Loddon Mallee North Regional Growth Plan
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SETTLEMENT NETWORK

- ★ Regional city
- Regional centre
- Town
- Promote growth
- Support growth

ECONOMIC

- ★ Significant tourist area - includes some significant cultural heritage places and landscapes
- Solar generation facility
- ⊞ Irrigation district
- Cropping, grazing and mixed farming

CONNECTIVITY

- Highway
- ++ Active railway line
- ✕ Airport

ENVIRONMENT

- ▨ Areas containing high value terrestrial habitat
- Public land
- Lakes
- Rivers
- ▲ Urban flood considerations⁽¹⁾
- ▲ Urban bushfire considerations⁽²⁾
- ▲ Urban salinity considerations⁽¹⁾

(1) Urban flood and salinity considerations are based on existing overlays
 (2) Bushfire considerations may be based on one or more of the following: existing overlays, advice from CFA or Regional Bushfire Planning Assessments. Does not include Bushfire Prone Areas.