

# HUME



# REGIONAL GROWTH PLAN

SUMMARY

The Hume region councils are: Alpine Shire Council, Benalla Rural City Council, Greater Shepparton City Council, Indigo Shire Council, Mansfield Shire Council, Mitchell Shire Council, Moira Shire Council, Murrindindi Shire Council, Strathbogie Shire Council, Towong Shire Council, Wangaratta Rural City Council and Wodonga Council.

This document is a summary of the Hume Regional Growth Plan.

**The full plan is available at [www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans](http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans)**

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Printed by Finsbury Green, Melbourne

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format,  
please telephone 1300 366 356.

This document is also available in Word format at [www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans](http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans)

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May 2014

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## MINISTER'S MESSAGE



In 2011 the Victorian Government, through the \$17.2 million Regional Centres of the Future Program, advanced work across the state to support councils, communities and government authorities in planning for the future growth of their regions.

The Hume Regional Growth Plan is one of eight prepared across the state to help guide a coordinated regional response to population growth and regional change over the next 30 years.

In the May budget I announced a commitment of \$12.3 million for regional Victoria towards the implementation of regional growth plans and continuation of the Rural Council Planning Flying Squad that plays such a valued role in assisting councils with major projects, developments and statutory planning support.

Victoria's population has been projected to grow by around three million people between 2011 and 2041. It is projected that 20 to 25 per cent of that growth will be in regional Victoria – more than double the amount of growth over the previous 30 years.

In order to accommodate this growth, provide lifestyle choice and share job opportunities, we need to become a 'state of cities'.

In developing these growth plans, councils have worked with their regional counterparts and the State Government to identify key environmental, cultural, recreational, economic, tourism and natural resources of value, which will be preserved, maintained or developed.

The work has already assisted councils in providing strategic information and mapping. The plans will deliver immediate outcomes, while also providing a planning framework to assist rural and regional councils to plan for population growth and ensure long-term regional land supply.

The regional growth plans will be key instruments in helping to identify future infrastructure investment needs to support local education and health services and employment opportunities.

I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed to the development of the Hume Regional Growth Plan including our local government partners and the Project Steering Committee that put the plan together. I look forward to the plan helping to shape a more prosperous future for the region.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Guy' with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Hon Matthew Guy MLC  
Minister for Planning

## WHY WE NEED A PLAN

The Hume Regional Growth Plan has been developed over two years in partnership between local government and state agencies and authorities. The plan covers the municipalities of Alpine, Benalla, Greater Shepparton, Indigo, Mansfield, Mitchell, Moira, Murrindindi, Strathbogie, Towong, Wangaratta and Wodonga.

The region is forecast to experience ongoing population growth between 2012 and 2041. It has the capacity to accommodate a greater share of Victoria's growth, which needs to be carefully managed to develop liveable and sustainable communities.

The plan considers a range of land uses including agriculture, tourism, environmental assets, commercial and residential. It recommends checks and balances that need to be applied when considering future growth.

As areas change over time infrastructure and service needs also change. Long-term planning is the best way to ensure these needs are met. A regional approach to planning enables coordinated responses across municipal borders.

The plan's key land use planning directions will be implemented through the state planning system. This will provide a regional context to guide and inform councils in planning for their municipalities and support decision making at a local level.

“The Hume Regional Growth Plan provides a vision for long-term prosperity and sustainable growth.”

### **The Hume Regional Growth Plan:**

- establishes a framework for strategic land use and settlement planning that can sustainably accommodate growth
- identifies important economic, environmental, social and cultural resources to be conserved, maintained or developed
- provides direction for accommodating growth and change including residential, employment, industrial, commercial, agriculture and other rural activities
- identifies which areas of land can accommodate growth and which are to be maintained
- identifies opportunities for supporting regional level infrastructure, providing an essential contribution to the long-term sustainability of the region.



“We will maximise the growth potential of Victoria by developing a state of cities which delivers choice, opportunity and global competitiveness.”



The State Government’s new metropolitan planning strategy, *Plan Melbourne*, provides a land use and transport plan to 2050.

The regional growth plans are aligned with *Plan Melbourne* through the following directions.

***Plan Melbourne* directions:**

- 6.1. Deliver a permanent boundary around Melbourne
- 6.2. Rebalance Victoria’s population growth from Melbourne to rural and regional Victoria over the life of the strategy
- 6.3. Integrate metropolitan, peri-urban and regional planning implementation
- 6.4. Improve connections between cities

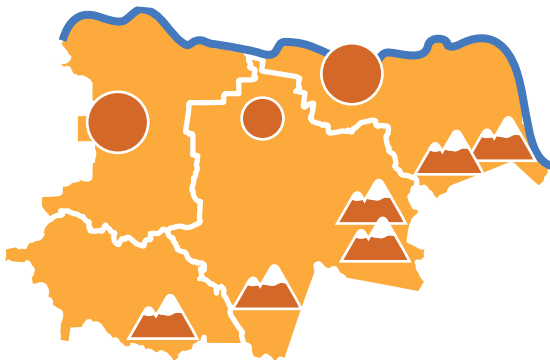


# SNAPSHOT OF THE HUME REGION

## The region

**40,700 sq km**

- ▶ extends from the northern edge of Melbourne to the Murray River in the north and the Victorian Alps in the south and east
- ▶ consists of four sub-regions: Central Hume, Goulburn Valley, Lower Hume and Upper Hume
- ▶ a multi-centred region not dominated by one large city
- ▶ the three largest cities are Shepparton, Wodonga and Wangaratta
- ▶ has 7 main river catchments – Murray, Goulburn, Broken, Ovens, King, Kiewa and Mitta Mitta Rivers.



## Employment (top 5)

**14%**  
Manufacturing

**13%**

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

**11%**

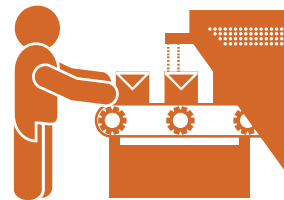
Health Care and Social Assistance

**11%**

Retail Trade

**10%**

Construction



## Employment

Over

**110,000 jobs**

Over

**60,000 jobs in Greater Shepparton, Wodonga and Wangaratta and over 4700 businesses**

## Living in the region

**Around 276,300 people live in the region**

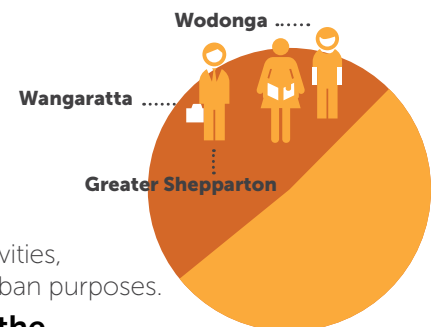
Almost 130,000 people live in the municipalities of Greater Shepparton, Wodonga and Wangaratta

354,000 people are expected to live in the region by 2041\*

56% of the region's land use comprises rural activities, 43% is public land and less than 1% is used for urban purposes.

**Culturally diverse - more than 12% of the region's population was born overseas (2011).**

\*This excludes the southern part of Mitchell Shire which is within Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary.



## Amazing fact

Along with its tributaries, the Murray River is the **third largest water catchment on earth**. Nearly 50% of the total inflows to the Murray-Darling Basin come from the region's catchments.

## Quiz questions

1. Which town is famous as the site of the Ned Kelly siege in 1880?
2. Which lake is home to one of Victoria's premier water sport facilities including a 2000 metre, fully buoyed, international standard rowing and canoeing course?

Answers page 4



## Amazing fact

After gold was discovered in the 1850s, the population of Beechworth exceeded 10,000. At the peak of the Gold Rush, more than 5000 Chinese people lived there.

Source: <http://www.beechworthonline.com.au/pages/beechworth-historic-and-cultural-precinct/>



## Environment and heritage

Over 3000 wetlands, including the Barmah Forest which is listed under the Ramsar convention as a wetland of international significance, and Winton Wetlands.

Recognised National Heritage areas include the Australian Alps National Park and Reserves, the Glenrowan Heritage Precinct, the Flora Fossil site at Yea and Bonegilla Migrant Camp.



## Tourism



**Over 2.5 million visitors are attracted to the region annually.**

Alpine resorts provide year-round nature-based activities such as skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking and bushwalking. Other key tourism attractions include lakes, rivers, food and wine, outdoor recreation (including cycling), national touring routes and historic towns.

**TOURISM GENERATED AN ESTIMATED \$1.12 BILLION IN 2011-12**

## Transport



There are 8 major highway corridors within the region: Hume, Goulburn Valley, Midland – Maroondah – Melba, Murray Valley, Great Alpine Road, Omeo, Kiewa Valley and Northern.

**AROUND 25% OF ALL TRUCK REGISTRATIONS IN VICTORIA ARE FROM THE GOULBURN VALLEY**

4 rail corridors connect the region to Melbourne, Sydney, Echuca and southern New South Wales.

Locations for key freight hubs in the region include Wodonga (LOGIC) and Shepparton (GVLink)



## Industry and business

**\$4.5 billion**

--- The value of manufacturing exports in 2011 ---

**\$1.6 billion**

the earnings from primary production and the manufacture of food and beverages in the Goulburn Valley food bowl area.



### Fruit

50% of the state's produce is grown in the Goulburn Valley.

### Wine

27% of the state's production revenue.



**20%**

of Victoria's exports

from the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sectors come from the Hume Region.

### Key primary production industries:

Broad hectare beef and sheep grazing, dairying, cropping, horticulture, viticulture, equine industries, poultry and commercial timber.

## Water



A significant reticulated network of irrigation infrastructure in the Goulburn-Broken Valley supplies water for one of Australia's major food-producing areas. A **\$2 billion investment** in the current modernisation of the irrigation network in the Goulburn Valley is the **biggest investment of its kind in Australia**. Major water storages include Lake Hume, the key operating storage of the Murray River system, and Dartmouth Dam, the largest water storage in the state.

## Energy

**3 HYDROELECTRIC GENERATORS**

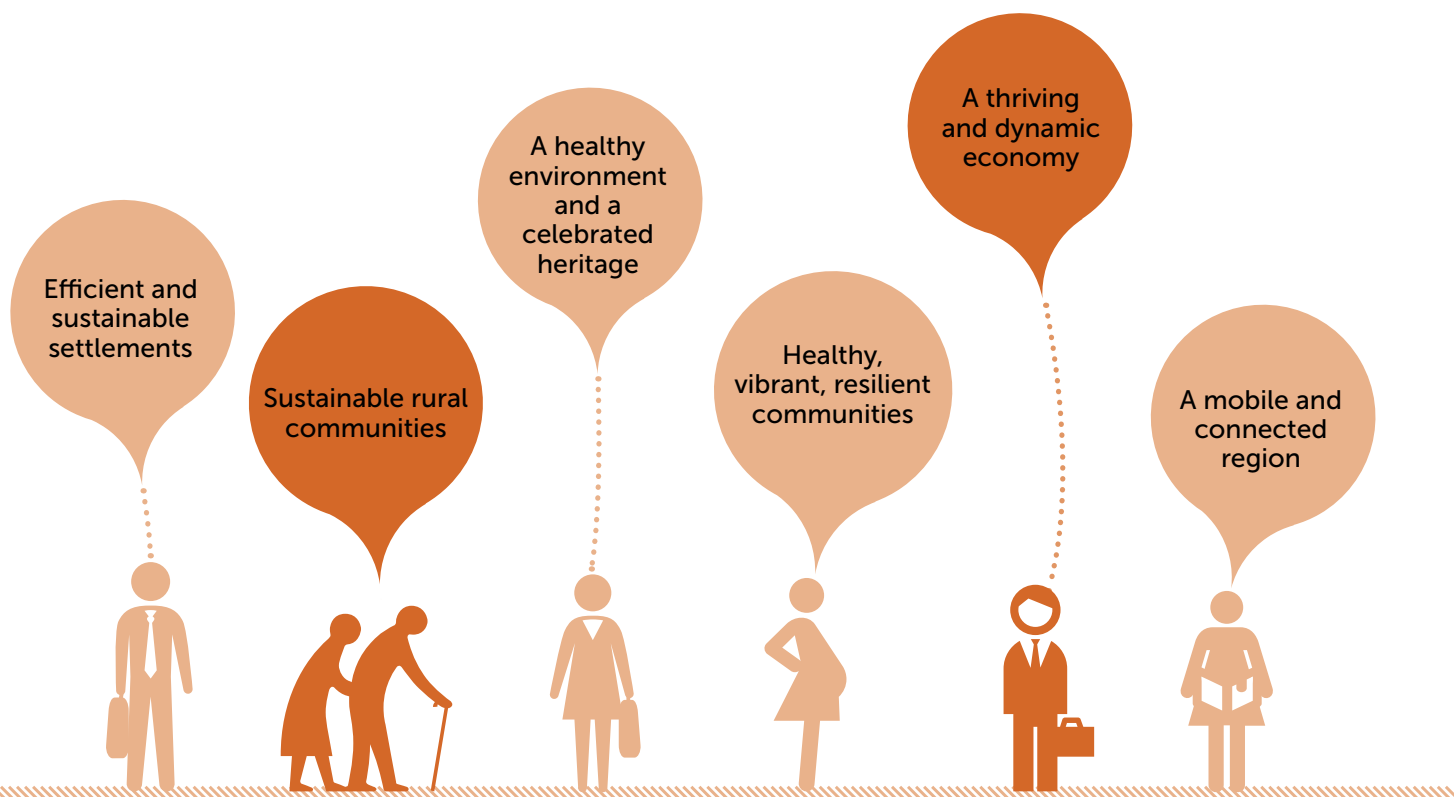
**Eildon Power Station  
Kiewa Hydroelectric Scheme  
Dartmouth Power Station**

Quiz answers: 1. Glenrowan, 2. Lake Nagambie

## THE VISION FOR THE HUME REGION

The Hume Region will be resilient, diverse and thriving. It will capitalise on the strengths and competitive advantage of the four sub-regions, to harness growth for the benefit of the region and to develop liveable and sustainable communities.

## PRINCIPLES TO ACHIEVE THE VISION



## ABOUT THE HUME REGION

Hume has a network of cities and towns, with large regional cities and centres supporting smaller settlements. It is strategically located on national transport routes that support the freight industry.

With attractions such as food and wine, tracks and trails and picturesque and valuable environments, the region attracts large numbers of visitors each year. Major attractions include the Alpine National Park, ski fields, Lake Hume, the Murray River and Lake Eildon.

Based along the Hume and Goulburn Valley highway corridors that link Melbourne and Sydney, and Melbourne and Brisbane, the region encompasses twelve municipalities in four distinct, but inter-connected sub-regions:

**Central Hume** – Wangaratta, Benalla, Alpine and Mansfield

**Goulburn Valley** – Greater Shepparton, Moira and Strathbogie

**Lower Hume** – Mitchell and Murrindindi

**Upper Hume** – Wodonga, Indigo and Towong

The region's economy encompasses manufacturing, agriculture and food processing, health and human services, defence, tourism, retail and freight and logistics.

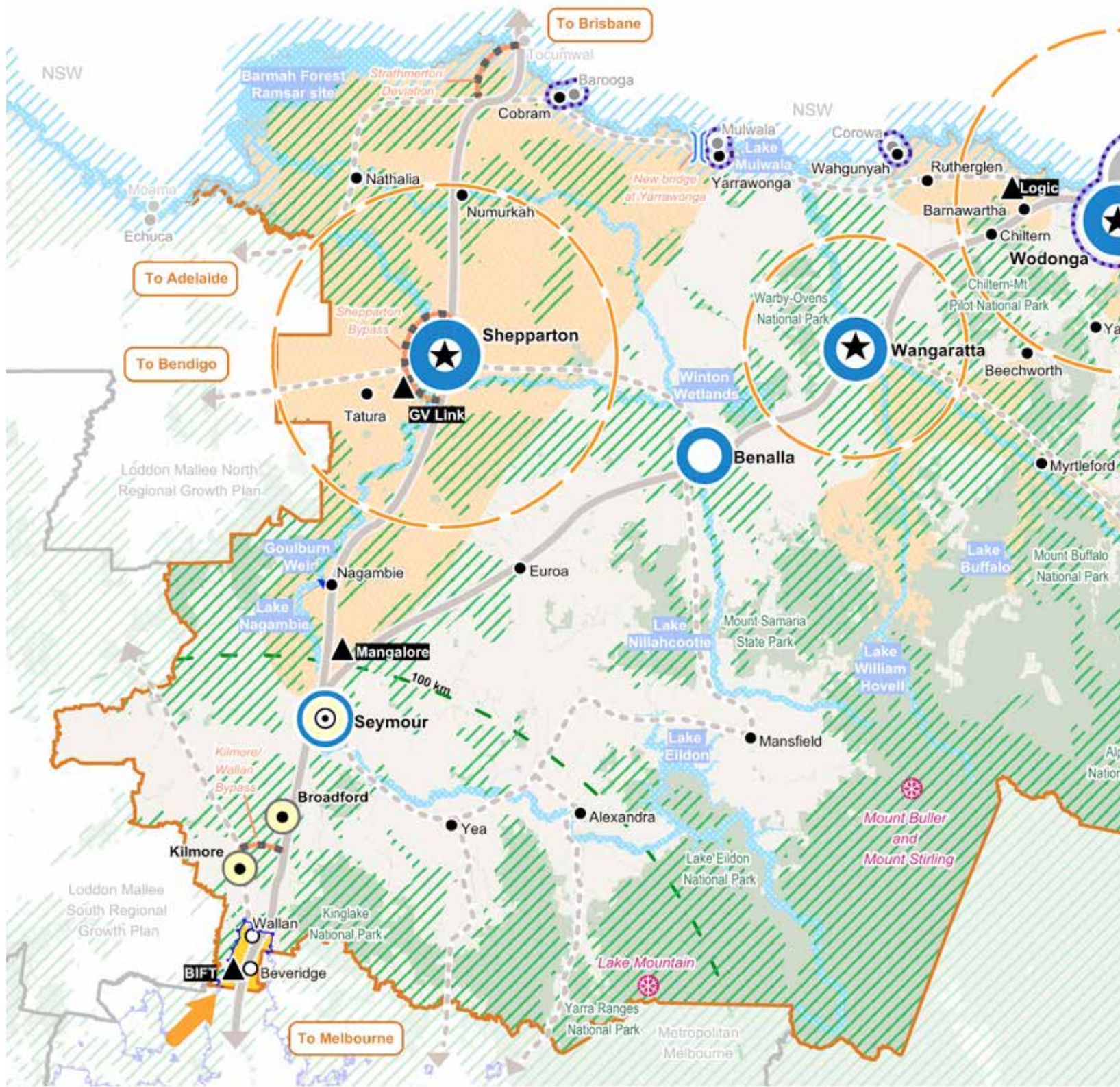
The regional growth plan seeks to address the challenges for the future by accommodating growth while protecting and building on the region's strengths.

### Key features:

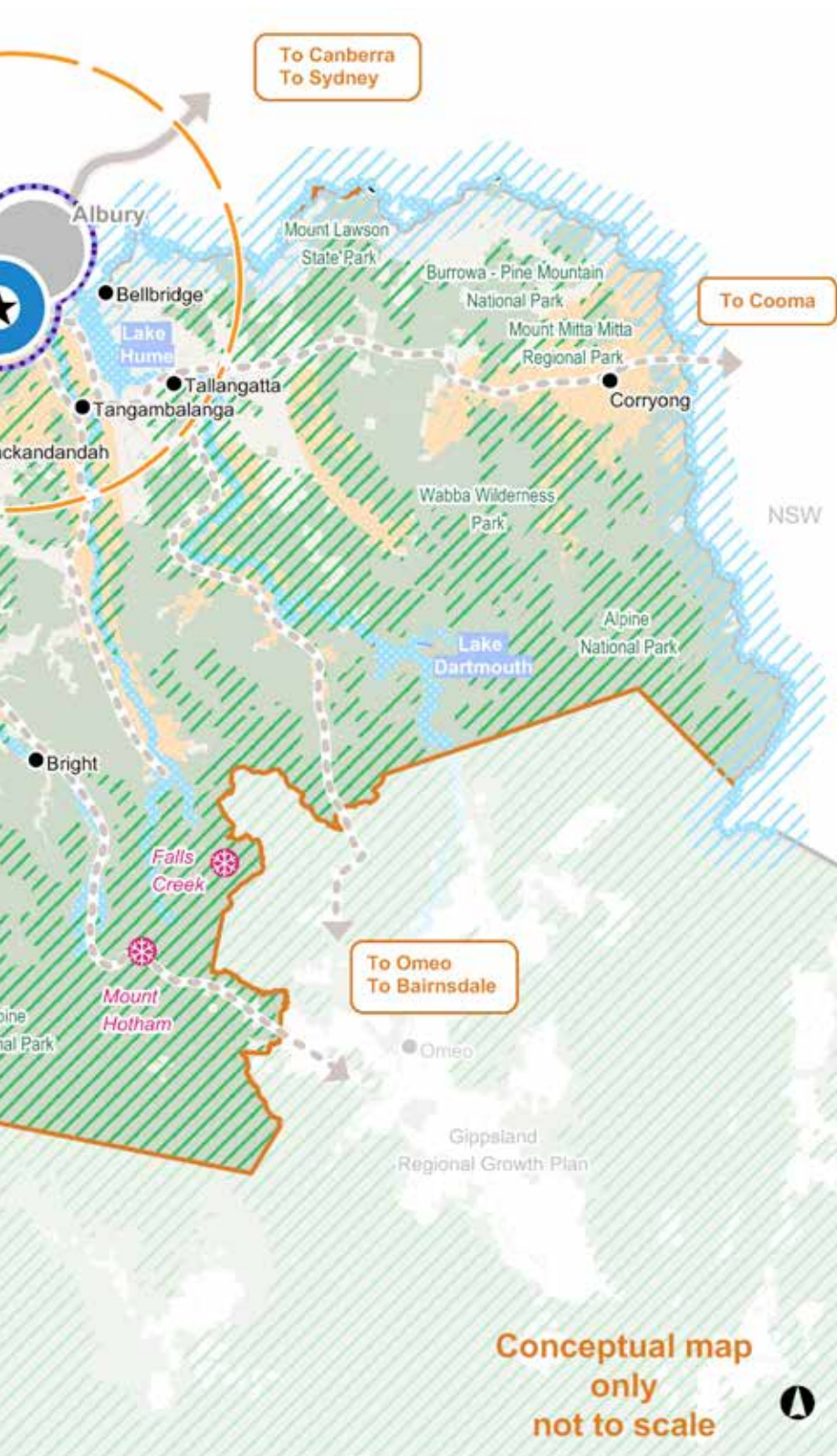
- productive land, water and associated infrastructure that provide for a variety of rural production throughout the region, contributing to the economy, including inputs into food manufacturing
- picturesque and valuable environments, landscapes and heritage assets
- high-functioning regional hubs, located along major transport routes, which support and are supported by a network of other settlements. Settlements with distinct characteristics providing attractive places to live and work
- availability of reliable, high quality water resources
- major health and learning facilities. Education is available at all levels of the learning spectrum and at key regional locations
- high performance, nationally significant interstate road and rail transport routes and airports that support regional connectivity and provide access to markets
- a growing, culturally diverse population within engaged, connected, safe and inclusive communities
- an economy built on a range of activities and industries.



# THE REGIONAL GROWTH PLAN MAP











The regional growth plan map illustrates where growth is anticipated to occur in the region and the major transport, economic and social relationships between cities, centres and towns.

## LEGEND

### SETTLEMENT NETWORK

-  Major growth location
  -  Medium to high growth location
  -  Significant change location
  -  Designated identified growth centre in Plan Melbourne<sup>(1)</sup>
  -  Locations identified as 'Regional Cities' in a statewide context
- <sup>(1)</sup>Plan Melbourne (Chapter 6 – State of Cities) identifies Broadford, Kilmore and Seymour as peri-urban towns with potential to attract housing and population growth out of Melbourne







### OTHER KEY URBAN SETTLEMENTS

-  Cross-border settlements
-  Support growth in these urban locations and lifestyle opportunities
-  Towns included within Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary
-  Settlements external to the region


### URBAN GROWTH AND HINTERLAND INFLUENCE

-  Hinterland influence
-  Areas within 100 km of central Melbourne






### CONNECTIVITY

-  National transport corridor (road and rail)
-  Other major transport link
-  Improved future transport link
-  Freight logistics precinct
-  Areas in the Hume Region within Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary
-  Melbourne metropolitan growth into the Hume Region

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

-  Strategic agricultural land

### ENVIRONMENT

-  Alpine resort
-  Areas containing high value terrestrial habitat
-  Key water and tourism assets
-  Murray River corridor
-  Public land

## WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

The regional growth plan responds to the challenges of managing significant change and meeting community and business needs to develop a resilient, diverse and thriving region.

### Challenges for growth

- ▶ climate change impacts, such as increasing temperatures, fewer and heavier rainfall days and an increase in the number and severity of events requiring emergency response
  - ▶ assist communities to meet their changing needs, including for different forms of housing and transport options, considering changing demographics, diversity and social indicators
  - ▶ ensure that residential growth areas maximise the use of infrastructure, retain urban character and avoid hazardous areas
  - ▶ support sustainable small and rural communities
  - ▶ assist agricultural industries to remain competitive in the face of climate change, industry restructuring, government policy, irrigation modernisation, economic conditions and pressure from non-agricultural uses
  - ▶ meet community and business needs for transport and infrastructure, including public transport, roads, water, energy, information and communications technology, and waste management
- ▶ protect and enhance biodiversity, reduce the potential impacts of climate change and irrigation system improvements on the natural environment and manage exposure to natural hazards, especially bushfire and flood
  - ▶ diversify the region's economy and increase accessibility to employment while adapting to changes influencing the regional economy.



“Focus growth and development to maximise the strengths of existing settlements.”

Hume contains three large regional cities and a number of smaller regional centres, as well as townships and villages, alpine resorts, rural residential locations and farming areas. The southern part of the region lies within Melbourne’s peri-urban sphere. Regional cities and centres act as hubs, providing services to networks of smaller settlements.

The regional growth plan seeks to take advantage of regional strengths and build on existing settlement networks. Major growth will be concentrated in the regional cities, but growth will also be supported in other settlements that can provide appropriate land, infrastructure and services.

### **Future directions**

- ▶ direct urban growth to those locations with the greatest capacity to accommodate it and to areas with lower risks from natural hazards
- ▶ focus growth and change in five key urban centres – the regional cities of Shepparton, Wodonga and Wangaratta, Benalla and Seymour – while supporting growth in other settlements
- ▶ identify Seymour as a key strategic opportunity for significant change, to expand its role as an economic and employment centre
- ▶ recognise and plan for settlements requiring specific approaches, such as those in areas close to the larger cities or to Melbourne and ‘cross-border’ towns along the Murray River
- ▶ maintain and enhance the distinctive characters of different settlements
- ▶ support residential development that provides a mix of housing types that respond to regional needs, while protecting heritage and environmental assets and settlement character
- ▶ encourage consolidation of settlements and support redevelopment or infill where appropriate
- ▶ foster the sustainability of small settlements
- ▶ provide a consistent approach to planning for rural residential land uses.

## KEY TOWNS – FUTURE PLANS OVER THE NEXT 20-30 YEARS

The plan recommends building on and strengthening the existing urban network by focusing growth in the regional cities of Shepparton, Wodonga and Wangaratta, and in Benalla. It also supports strong economic development in Seymour. These five urban locations form the foundation of the urban settlement network in the region and provide employment opportunities. Other growth opportunities within the existing settlement network are identified including important sub-regional networks.

### Central Hume

Growth will be focused in **Wangaratta** and **Benalla**. The links between Wangaratta and Benalla and their surrounding communities will be strengthened to improve access to employment and services. Opportunities include residential, commercial and industrial areas and potential infill and urban renewal sites. Growth is also likely in towns that have good access to Wangaratta or Benalla, including those in popular tourist areas. Key sub-regional settlements include Mansfield, Myrtleford and Bright (incorporating Porepunkah).

#### Rural City of Wangaratta

Year	Population
2011	29,000
2021	30,300
2031	31,600

#### Rural City of Benalla

Year	Population
2011	14,300
2021	15,300
2031	16,000

#### Alpine Shire

Year	Population
2011	12,900
2021	13,200
2031	13,600

#### Mansfield Shire

Year	Population
2011	8000
2021	9000
2031	10,200

### Goulburn Valley

**Shepparton** (including Mooroopna and Kialla) will be the focus of major growth. Identified growth corridors in Shepparton can accommodate up to 17,600 new residents, requiring significant investment in physical and social infrastructure and increases in employment. Shepparton will continue to develop its role as a business, retail and services hub for the region, taking advantage of new opportunities in food production and processing and in transport and logistics.

Investment in transport logistics, through the development of the GV Link project, will contribute to the state's freight and logistics capacity and contribute to the economic development of this sub-region. Redevelopment of the central business district and infill housing development will add vitality to the centre of the city. Other urban areas in the sub-region will also grow, especially those that provide lifestyle opportunities or are located near popular tourist attractions. Key sub-regional settlements include Tatura, Numurkah, Nagambie, Nathalia, Euroa, Yarrawonga and Cobram.

#### City of Greater Shepparton

Year	Population
2011	63,900
2021	71,300
2031	77,800

#### Moira Shire

Year	Population
2011	29,500
2021	33,200
2031	36,900

#### Strathbogie Shire

Year	Population
2011	10,100
2021	10,500
2031	11,100



## Lower Hume

Close to Melbourne with strong transport connections to the metropolitan area, parts of this sub-region (Beveridge and Wallan) have been included in Melbourne's urban growth boundary and will experience significant growth. **Seymour** has been identified as a strategic location for growth and economic development, to increase employment, improve access to services and take advantage of its placement on the rail line.

Other urban centres in the sub-region, including Kilmore, Broadford, Yea and Alexandra, are also expected to grow and will continue to provide services to surrounding rural areas. Initiative 6.2.1 in *Plan Melbourne* proposes that peri-urban town plans be developed in partnership with local government to increase the supply of land for housing and attract population growth out of Melbourne. Kilmore, Broadford and Seymour are identified in *Plan Melbourne* as potential towns for growth.

<b>Mitchell Shire*</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>
2011	35,400
2021	42,500
2031	45,600

\*not including Wallan and Beveridge

<b>Murrindindi Shire</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>
2011	13,600
2021	16,500
2031	17,900

## Upper Hume

**Wodonga** will be the focus of major growth. Opportunities for residential, industrial and commercial development in the city have been identified. Population growth in Wodonga will be in seven existing growth fronts and medium- to long-term developments are planned for the Leneva-Baranduda area which can accommodate up to 35,000 additional people over the next 20 to 50 years. Wodonga will continue to be a major economic driver for the region and beyond.

Wodonga's development will build on existing strengths in freight and logistics, manufacturing, defence, education, health, business services, major sporting events and arts and culture. Major industrial and commercial development opportunities will be strengthened in Wodonga including those related to the LOGIC freight logistics precinct, the redevelopment of Wodonga's central business district and new commercial developments in future growth areas.

Other urban centres in Upper Hume will continue to grow consistent with retaining their character and environment, particularly heritage townships, rural settlements and tourist localities. Key sub-regional settlements include Barnawartha, Beechworth, Bellbridge, Chiltern, Corryong, Rutherglen, Tallangatta, Tangambalanga, Wahgunyah and Yackandandah.

<b>City of Wodonga</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>
2011	37,100
2021	43,000
2031	48,400

<b>Indigo Shire</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>
2011	16,200
2021	17,200
2031	18,200

<b>Towong Shire</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>
2011	6300
2021	6400
2031	6600

“Support the development of a more diverse regional economy while managing and enhancing key regional economic assets.”

Hume’s economy relies on agriculture and manufacturing. Economic forces and policy change impact businesses in the region, providing challenges and opportunities. The regional growth plan will help develop a more diverse regional economy, while enhancing regional economic assets.

Freight and logistics are a major opportunity to build on strategic transport links. Ensuring employment land is provided near urban growth areas, and that transport and infrastructure are integrated with development, will help facilitate economic and employment growth. Public and private investment will ensure city centres are vibrant and attractive places to do business.

Recent modernisation of irrigation systems in the region provides opportunities to increase food production and attract new processing industries. Protecting strategically important agricultural land maintains options for production. Alternative energy generation, mining and extractive industries are also sectors with growth potential. The region’s key tourism assets will be supported and enhanced.

Maintaining liveability and access to transport, communications technology, education and lifestyle choices will be important to ensure the region remains attractive to businesses and individuals.

### **Future directions**

- ▶ identify Shepparton, Wodonga, Wangaratta, Benalla and Seymour as key employment locations
- ▶ encourage integrated planning to deliver well-located and serviced land for industrial and commercial development
- ▶ plan for further development of freight and logistics precincts in the region.
- ▶ identify strategic agricultural land and using planning schemes to protect it from inappropriate use, to keep open options for future agricultural uses
- ▶ build on recent investments in improvements of irrigation systems and on-farm water efficiencies to enhance the role of the Goulburn Valley food bowl as a major source of food for Australia and Asia
- ▶ encourage clustering of intensive rural industries, such as piggeries, poultry production or cattle feedlots, in locations that provide good access to transport and other infrastructure and are separated from residential areas and other incompatible uses
- ▶ build on the environmental and heritage assets of the region to further develop nature-based or heritage tourism and expand the range of opportunities for visitors
- ▶ promote renewable energy generation, including solar energy and bio-fuels, and alternative waste treatment
- ▶ protect areas with potential for mining or extractive industries and planning their development to minimise impacts on the environment and communities.

## ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

“Protect environmental and heritage assets and maximise the regional benefit from them, whilst managing exposure to natural hazards and planning for the potential impacts of climate change.”

The region contains an array of valuable environments and heritage places that also contribute to the economy and liveability of the region.

The region’s water resources are of national importance. The region has areas of high biodiversity value, with large numbers of plant and animal species found only in the region and many threatened species. Large areas of public land provide for native species and natural systems in national parks or state forests. Significant areas of native vegetation also remain along waterways and roadsides, in unused road reserves and on private land.

The regional growth plan seeks to protect environmental and heritage assets and maximise their regional benefit. Planning is needed to manage the level of exposure of communities, heritage, settlements, agricultural land and infrastructure to natural hazards and risks, such as flood and bushfire.

### Future directions

- ▶ protect, maintain and enhance the region’s environmental assets
- ▶ recognise the importance of ecosystem services provided by land, soil, vegetation and water resources, as well as their intrinsic values and their economic and social contribution
- ▶ identify opportunities to improve or establish regional vegetation links
- ▶ identify and protect the region’s significant cultural landscapes
- ▶ maintain and enhance cultural and built heritage assets
- ▶ plan for settlement growth to avoid areas of extreme risk from bushfire and flood
- ▶ plan for the potential impacts of, and opportunities arising from climate change.



## REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

“Support the improvement of people and freight movement and plan strategically for future infrastructure needs.”

The Hume and Goulburn Valley road and rail corridors form the backbone of the transport network in the region and provide the focus for future investment. East-west road linkages are also important but are generally less developed. Improving the capacity of the transport network will involve maximising the use of existing infrastructure, constructing new transport links and facilities, providing for cycling and walking, improving public transport and enhancing rail capacity. Airports in the region can play a greater role in freight transport.

Social infrastructure is also important to developing vibrant and sustainable communities. Facilities supporting education, health and community services and opportunities for leisure and recreation are considered in the growth plan.

Energy provision, supporting information and communications technology, water supply and sewerage systems, and waste disposal needs are considered and will be integrated with planning for urban growth.

### **Future directions**

- ▶ harness existing transport infrastructure in the Hume and Goulburn Valley corridors to support a strong and diverse regional economy
- ▶ support improvements to east-west transport links in the region
- ▶ facilitate further development of freight and logistics precincts including the existing facility at Wodonga (LOGIC) and a new facility at Shepparton (GV Link)
- ▶ advocate for development of a high speed rail link on the east coast of Australia via a route through the Hume Region
- ▶ identify key transport projects to support growth, such as the Strathmerton deviation, Shepparton and Kilmore/Wallan bypasses and new Murray River crossing at Yarrawonga
- ▶ advocate for upgraded passenger rail services between Melbourne and Shepparton and Melbourne and Wodonga
- ▶ identify key infrastructure that is needed to support growth, such as extending the reticulated gas network and the rapid rollout of the National Broadband Network
- ▶ support the provision of equitable, integrated and accessible social infrastructure such as schools and hospitals.



# DELIVERING REGIONAL GROWTH

The Hume Regional Growth Plan has identified a broad series of strategies and actions that, over the next 30 years, will help realise the vision for the region. Some of these things will happen almost immediately, others will evolve over time.

## Outcomes

- ▶ population and economic growth focused in the major regional cities of Shepparton, Wangaratta and Wodonga, and in Benalla – supported by infrastructure planning and investment
- ▶ the growth of Seymour as a sub-regional employment hub that capitalises on the town's strategic location, existing transport assets and encourages business precincts and greater housing diversity
- ▶ greater support to improve the sustainability and resilience of towns
- ▶ economic development to support regional growth particularly related to tourism, extractive industries and energy generation, industry clusters and agriculture
- ▶ revitalisation and redevelopment of central business districts in key urban locations such as Shepparton and Wodonga
- ▶ a regional approach to establishing and enhancing vegetation corridors, protecting and managing important landscapes and acting on the potential impacts and opportunities associated with climate change
- ▶ the development of a strategic regional infrastructure plan to identify and prioritise key regional infrastructure needed to support economic and population growth
- ▶ the development of freight and logistics precincts in strategic locations along the Hume and Goulburn Valley transport corridors
- ▶ strategic infrastructure initiatives to support regional growth such as new and improved transport links and services, extending the reticulated gas network and irrigation modernisation.







## FURTHER READING AND INFORMATION

[www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans](http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans)

Hume Regional Growth Plan  
Hume Regional Growth Plan Background Report  
The Hume Strategy for Sustainable Communities (2010)

Cover images (clockwise from top left)

1. Shepparton Civic Centre, image by Peter Charlesworth, photographer
2. Farming technology, Hume region, image courtesy of Department of Environment and Primary Industries
3. The Cube, Wodonga, image by Peter Charlesworth, photographer
4. Ovens Riverside Precinct, Wangaratta, image by Peter Charlesworth, photographer
5. Parade at Beechworth Golden Horseshoe Festival, image courtesy of [www.beechworth.com.au](http://www.beechworth.com.au)
6. Sandy Creek Bridge, Lake Hume, image by Peter Charlesworth, photographer
7. Hume Freeway, image by Peter Charlesworth, photographer
8. Manufacturing, Greater Shepparton, image courtesy of Regional Development Victoria

