

GIPPSLAND



REGIONAL GROWTH PLAN

SUMMARY



The Gippsland Local Government Network (GLGN) is an alliance of six councils: Bass Coast Shire Council, Baw Baw Shire Council, East Gippsland Shire Council, Latrobe City Council, South Gippsland Shire Council and Wellington Shire Council.

This document is a summary of the Gippsland Regional Growth Plan. **The full plan is available at 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

Unless indicated otherwise, this work is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia licence.

To view a copy of the licence, visit creativecommons.org/licences/by/3.0/au

It is a condition of this Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Licence that you must give credit to the original author who is the State of Victoria.

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you, but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

May 2014

CONTENTS

MINISTER'S MESSAGE	i
WHY WE NEED A PLAN	1
STATE OF CITIES	2
SNAPSHOT OF GIPPSLAND	3
VISION AND PRINCIPLES FOR GIPPSLAND	5
ABOUT GIPPSLAND	6
THE REGIONAL GROWTH PLAN MAP	7
WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?	9
LIVING IN GIPPSLAND	10
KEY TOWNS – FUTURE PLANS OVER THE NEXT 20-30 YEARS	11
REGIONAL ECONOMY	13
ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE	14
REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE	15
DELIVERING REGIONAL GROWTH	16
FURTHER READING AND INFORMATION	18





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 Gippsland 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 Gippsland 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 stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Guy' followed by two dots.

The Hon Matthew Guy MLC
Minister for Planning

WHY WE NEED A PLAN

The Gippsland Regional Growth Plan has been developed over two years in partnership between local government and state agencies and authorities. The plan covers the municipal areas of Bass Coast, Baw Baw, East Gippsland, Latrobe, South Gippsland and Wellington.

The region's population is projected to grow and change with some areas close to Melbourne and along the coast experiencing faster rates of population growth, creating demand for additional services and infrastructure. Urban areas and their supporting transport networks will help the economy transition to sustainable and knowledge-driven industries.

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 Gippsland Regional Growth Plan provides a vision for long-term prosperity and sustainable growth."

The Gippsland Regional Growth Plan:

- supports the priorities of the *Gippsland Regional Plan 2010*
- 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 protected, maintained or developed
- provides direction for accommodating growth and change including residential, employment, industrial, commercial, agriculture and other rural activities
- shows which areas of land can accommodate growth and which are to be preserved
- identifies opportunities for supporting regional level infrastructure, providing an essential contribution to the long-term sustainability of the region.

STATE OF CITIES

“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:

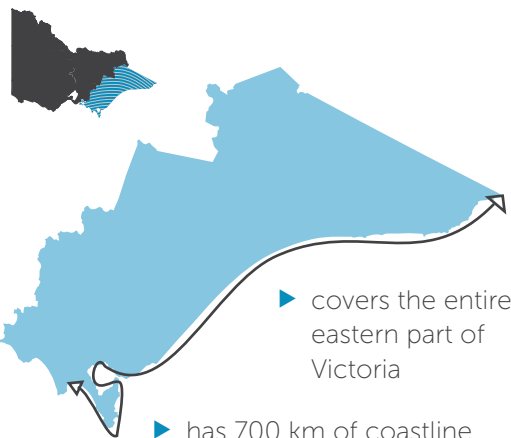
- 6.1. Deliver a permanent boundary around Melbourne
- 6.2. Rebalance Victoria's population growth from Melbourne to rural and regional Victoria over the life of the strategy
- 6.3. Integrate metropolitan, peri-urban and regional planning implementation
- 6.4. Improve connections between cities



SNAPSHOT OF GIPPSLAND

The region

41,600 sq km



- ▶ covers the entire eastern part of Victoria
- ▶ has 700 km of coastline and access to Victoria's high country
- ▶ extends from Melbourne's south-eastern boundary to Cape Howe
- ▶ has 13 major river catchments – Genoa, Thurra, Cann, Snowy, Tambo, Nicholson, Mitchell, Avon, Thomson, Latrobe, Tarwin, Bass and Bunyip rivers
- ▶ includes significant features: Ninety Mile Beach, Mt Baw Baw National Park, Dargo High Plains, Phillip Island
- ▶ features the southernmost point of the Australian mainland, Wilson's Promontory

Employment (top 5)



Employment

Over
112,500 jobs
in the region

About
23,000 small to
medium-sized
enterprises in
the region

Just over
33,000 jobs in the
City of Latrobe and
over 2000 businesses

Living in the region

Around 270,500 people live in the region

Almost 77,000 people live in Latrobe City*

Bairnsdale, Sale and Warragul are large and growing towns in the region with populations over 10,000

Around 40% of the region's population live in towns and settlements of less than 500 people, giving the region a strong series of towns with local amenity and community character.

Bass Coast and Baw Baw Shires are the 1st and 2nd fastest growing municipalities in Regional Victoria. By 2041, 386,000 people are expected to live in the region.

*Latrobe City includes Traralgon, Morwell, Moe and Churchill.

Quiz questions

1. Which nationally important tourism destination attracts over 1.7 million visitors annually?
2. What is the name of Gippsland's oldest port, established in 1841?

Answers page 4

Amazing fact

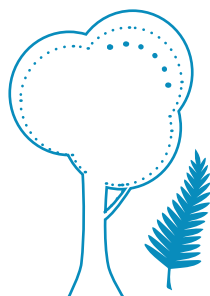
Australia has about 1000 native species of earthworm but the largest is the giant Gippsland earthworm. It has a length of 2 to 3 metres and is about 2 cm in diameter. Every year the town of Korumburra hosts the Karmai worm festival.



Images: Phillip Island Penguin Parade, Destination Gippsland / Gippsland Lakes, image ©2014 Digital Globe (Google Earth) / Tarra Bulga National Park, Gavin Hansford

Environment

60% of Melbourne's water needs are provided from Gippsland's catchments



67% of the land in Gippsland consists of publicly-owned forests, national parks and reserves and native freehold forests



Transport



A rail corridor connects Bairnsdale to Melbourne

A440	
Korumburra	14
Leongatha	28
Meeniyan	44
Foster	67
Yarram	117
Wilsons Prom.	122

There are 6 major highway corridors within the region: Princes, South Gippsland, Strzelecki, Hyland, Great Alpine Road and Bass. Monaro Highway connects Cann River to NSW.



AIRPORTS ARE LOCATED AT LATROBE CITY, WEST SALE AND RAAF EAST SALE

Industry and Business

Tourism

\$850 million generated annually by tourism

Fishing

42% of the state's fishing catch and 30% of the abalone catch. The largest commercial fishing fleet in Victoria is based at Lakes Entrance

Timber

Contains 23% of the state's timber plantation estate

Natural gas

97% of Victoria's supply

Crude oil

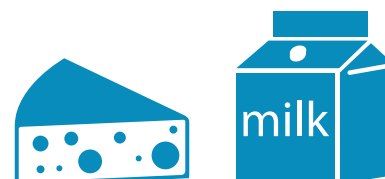
Nearly one fifth of Australia's supply comes from the Gippsland Basin

Gippsland brown coal

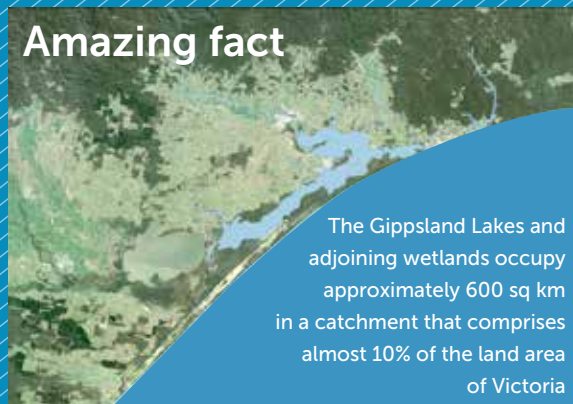
90% of Victoria's electrical power

Dairy

22% of Australia's dairy production worth \$1 billion annually



Amazing fact



The Gippsland Lakes and adjoining wetlands occupy approximately 600 sq km in a catchment that comprises almost 10% of the land area of Victoria

Amazing fact

The UNESCO Croajingolong Biosphere Reserve and National Park protects some of Victoria's most spectacular coastal environments. Large strands of warm temperate rainforests are present in the eastern part of Croajingolong. Coastal heathland and species diversity is comparable to that in the South African Heaths, which are regarded as one of the richest vegetation communities in the world, outside lowland tropical rainforests.

1. Phillip Island 2. Port Albert

Quiz answers

THE VISION FOR GIPPSLAND

By 2041 Gippsland is recognised as having attracted remarkable levels of investment in economic and urban growth through implementation of regional strategies and projects, inspired by the region’s assets and its potential.

Growth has been planned for, and attracted to, six urban centres: Latrobe City as the regional city, Bairnsdale, Leongatha, Sale, Warragul/Drouin and Wonthaggi. This approach has attracted and retained higher than projected population and employment levels as the centres have gained the critical mass to provide higher order services.

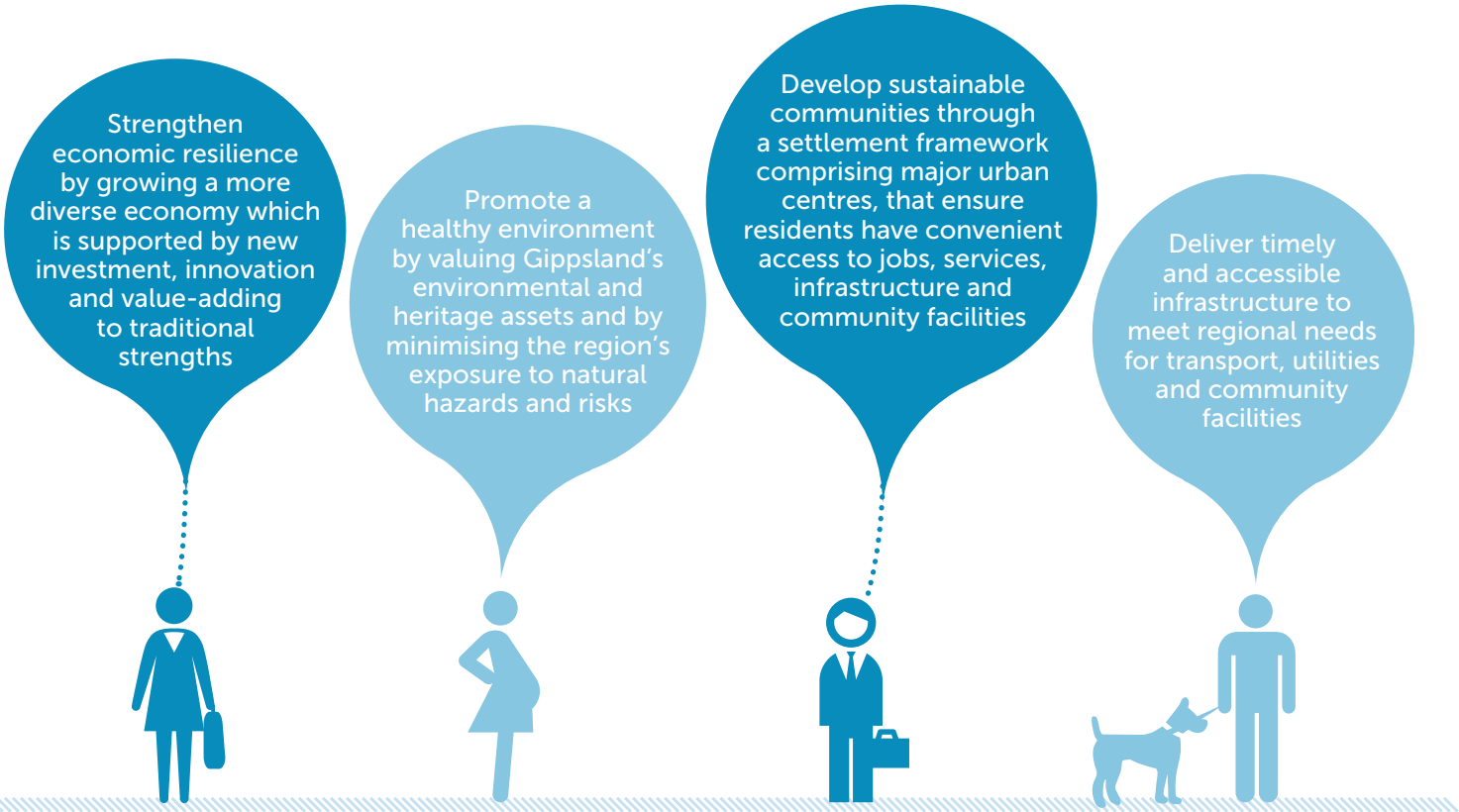
Economic growth has been sustained by the region’s traditional strengths in natural resources, energy, agriculture and forestry, manufacturing, and tourism. Investment in research and development in these and other industries has spurred on the development of new industries, higher

employment rates and resulted in Gippsland having a reputation for innovative technology. Promotion of the region’s nature-based and cultural heritage tourism assets has also attracted new investment in world-class facilities and significant increases in visitor numbers.

Careful planning of both urban and rural areas has added to the region’s valued rural and regional character and protected and replenished its environment. Ecologically sustainable development practices and the facilitation of a healthy lifestyle are now entrenched in planning practices and community values.

The region’s private and public transport connections between towns, ports, markets, Melbourne and interstate, operate efficiently to accommodate new demand.

PRINCIPLES TO ACHIEVE THE VISION



ABOUT GIPPSLAND

The region stretches from Melbourne's outskirts to Phillip Island and along the eastern coastline of Victoria and inland to New South Wales. Around three quarters of the region is national parks, forests and bushland.

Energy production, tourism, manufacturing, mining, forestry and fisheries are major employment sectors. Gippsland provides most of Victoria's energy – the region produces up to 90 per cent of the State's electricity and almost all its natural gas. The region also makes a major contribution to our food production and water supply.

Latrobe City, consisting of Moe, Morwell, Traralgon and Churchill, is Gippsland's economic and population centre. Bairnsdale, Sale, Warragul, Drouin, Leongatha, Korumburra, Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cowes are also major settlements and account for about 60 per cent of Gippsland's population.

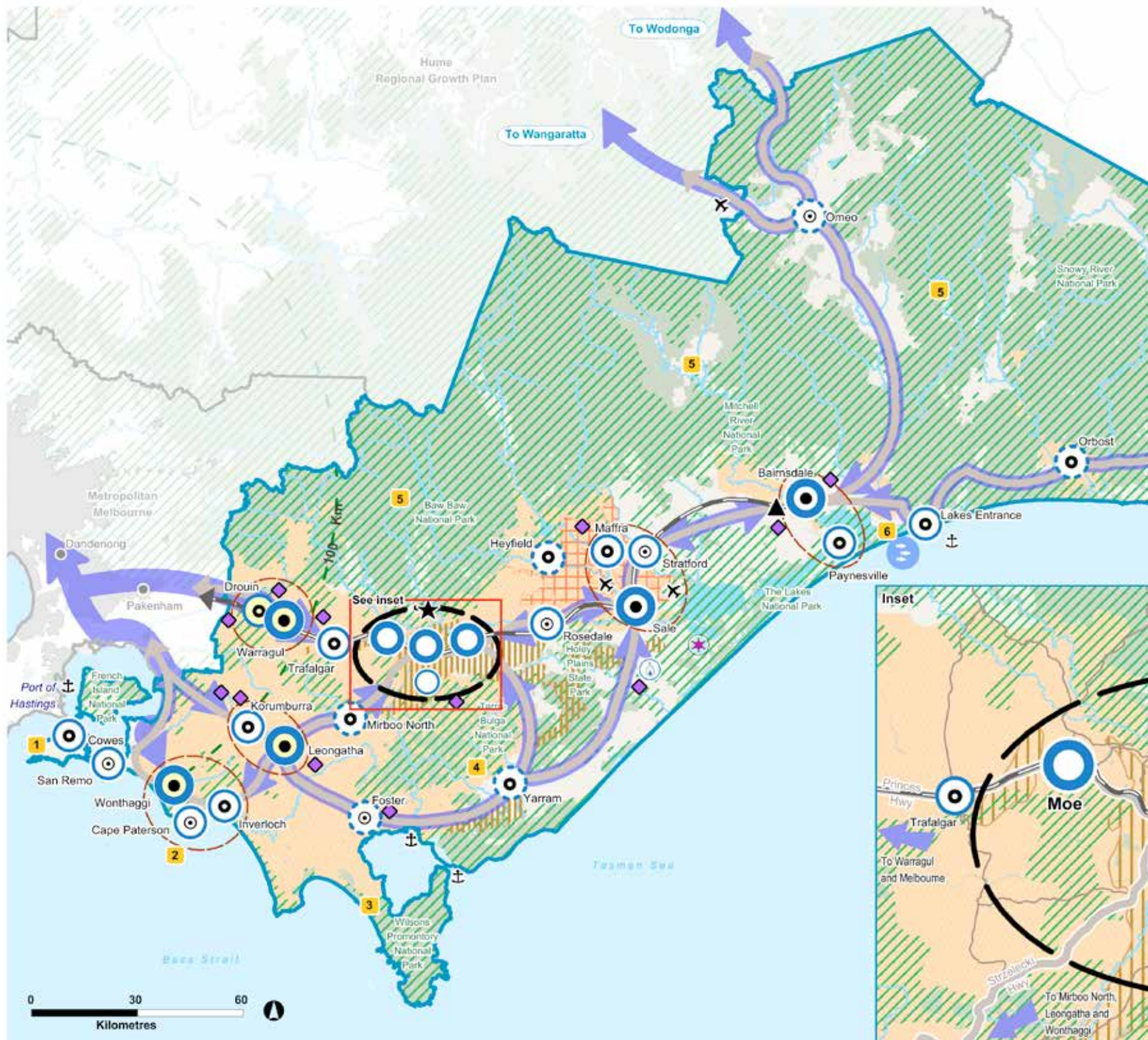
Over the next 20 to 30 years the region will be one of the state's fastest growing with high quality urban and rural environments within easy access of Melbourne's east.

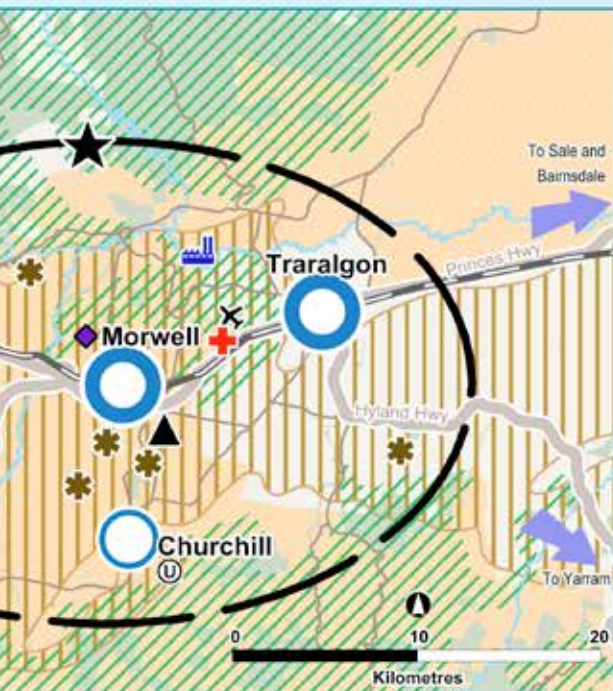
The regional growth plan seeks to address the challenges for the future by accommodating growth while protecting and building on the region's strengths.

Key features:

- significant supplier of agricultural commodities and food production including dairy, beef and horticulture
- a major commercial fishing sector with the state's largest commercial fishing fleet at Lakes Entrance
- energy resources for the state including brown coal, oil and natural gas
- water supply catchments and storage reservoirs that supply regional industries and augment urban supply for Melbourne
- the Victorian Desalination Plant at Wonthaggi
- nationally significant tourism attractions including the penguin parade at Phillip Island, Wilsons Promontory, Alpine National Park and Snowy River National Park
- coastal parks, marine parks and internationally recognised wetlands including Westernport, Corner Inlet and the Gippsland Lakes
- historic and cultural heritage sites, places and objects including Walhalla, Port Albert, Wilsons Promontory and Cape Conran
- scenic coastal and rural landscapes including Ninety Mile Beach and the Strzelecki Ranges.

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

SETTLEMENTS

- Regional city - Latrobe City*
 Regional centre
 Town
 Small town
- Promote growth
 Support growth
 Sustainable change
 Designated identified growth centre in Plan Melbourne⁽¹⁾
- Sub regional network
 Areas within 100 km of central Melbourne
 Melbourne's urban area

(1) Plan Melbourne (Chapter 6 – State of Cities) identifies Warragul/Drouin, Wonthaggi and Leongatha as peri-urban towns with potential to attract housing and population growth out of Melbourne.

CONNECTIVITY AND TRANSPORT

- Networks supporting movement and access
 Potential freight and logistics precincts
- Key road corridor
 Key rail corridor
 Arterial road (inset map only)
 Airport
 Port

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Food manufacturing hubs
 Key agriculture and forestry land
 Macalister Irrigation District
- Brown coal reserves
 Power station
 Longford gas plant
 Australian Paper Maryvale
- Organic recycling facility
 University
 Hospital
 Fishing port

STRATEGIC TOURISM INVESTMENT AREAS

- 1 Phillip Island
 2 Bunurong Coast
 3 Wilsons Promontory National Park
 4 Tarra-Bulga National Park
- 5 Australian Alps
 6 Gippsland Lakes
 7 Croajingolong National Park

ENVIRONMENT

- Areas containing high value terrestrial habitat
 Lakes
 Public land
 Rivers

* Latrobe City is the grouping of Traralgon, Morwell, Moe and Churchill

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

Climate change, economic restructuring, global economic conditions, and population change are affecting Gippsland. Warragul/Drouin and Wonthaggi in Melbourne's peri-urban hinterland are growing as new residents are settling within commuting distance of metropolitan workplaces. The population of Bairnsdale and other locations near the Gippsland Lakes is expected to grow, influenced by the area's lifestyle opportunities.

Gippsland will need to invest in innovation and technology to realise alternative opportunities for its brown coal resource based on clean coal technology, carbon capture and storage, and other derivative products such as liquid fuels, fertilisers and solid fuels. Opportunities have been identified to build on existing research and food processing capabilities in the region's agriculture sector. State initiatives such as the *Latrobe Valley Industry and Employment Roadmap* and regional projects, such as the *Gippsland Food Plan*, outline further actions.

Challenges for growth

- ▶ sustaining and expanding economic activity through a period of diversification and transition
- ▶ enhancing the resilience of the region's industries to economic restructuring and supporting business to reduce carbon emissions
- ▶ building on tourism opportunities in the region
- ▶ accommodating population growth, including managing growth with consideration of resources, environment and natural hazards
- ▶ responding to changing community profiles including an increasingly aged population
- ▶ planning and adapting settlements and infrastructure to respond to the impacts of climate change, including increased risk from natural hazards
- ▶ improving the efficiency, reliability and service levels of the region's transport network
- ▶ delivering services and communications infrastructure for community, commercial and industrial users.



LIVING IN GIPPSLAND

Gippsland's population is growing: an additional 116,000 people are anticipated to bring the region to a total population of 386,000 by 2041.

The regional growth plan seeks to maximise urban growth in six defined places: Latrobe City as the regional city and regional centres at Bairnsdale, Leongatha, Sale, Warragul/Drouin and Wonthaggi. These cities and centres will support sub-region networks of smaller towns in surrounding rural areas. These networks support opportunities to coordinate planning and investment among towns that are close to each other and can benefit from shared services and functions. This approach will help accommodate growth, attract investment, provide higher order services such as health care and education efficiently, help attract and retain skilled workers, and help protect rural and coastal landscapes and lessen exposure to natural hazards.

Initiative 6.2.1 of *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. Warragul/Drouin, Wonthaggi and Leongatha are identified in *Plan Melbourne* as potential towns for growth.

Future directions

- ▶ promote the sustainable growth and development of Gippsland through an identified network of settlements
- ▶ develop settlements that have a strong identity, value their natural and cultural heritage and are prosperous and environmentally sustainable.



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

City of Latrobe

YEAR	POPULATION
2011	76,640
2021	83,531
2031	90,741

LATROBE CITY (TRARALGON, MORWELL, MOE AND CHURCHILL)

Regional City

Promote growth – As Gippsland’s regional city, Latrobe City will be a focal point for growth, infrastructure and service investment. Growth will be planned in a way that integrates the four centres so that they function as a single urban system. This will provide a focus for future regional investment and support continued growth in the Princes Highway corridor, including the regional centres of Warragul, Sale and Bairnsdale.

To establish a connected regional city, planning across the four centres will allow for the right type of growth in the right locations for residential, industrial and commercial development. Efficient and reliable transport between the four centres will be critical to ensure access and connectivity.

East Gippsland Shire

YEAR	POPULATION
2011	44,680
2021	51,149
2031	58,808

BAIRNSDALE

Regional Centre

Promote growth – Bairnsdale will continue to grow as a regional centre providing employment, infrastructure and services for towns in the eastern part of Gippsland and along the Princes Highway corridor and the Gippsland Lakes. Its role in providing health and support services will be increasingly important to meet the changing needs of nearby communities, especially the coastal and retiree populations surrounding the Gippsland Lakes.

LAKES ENTRANCE, PAYNESVILLE

Towns

Support growth – Paynesville will support growth and provide opportunities for housing and services to complement Bairnsdale. Lakes Entrance will continue as an important service centre and hub for tourism, recreation and commercial fishing.

MALLACOOTA, OMEO, ORBOST

Towns & Small Towns

Support sustainable change – Mallacoota, Omeo and Orbost will accommodate change responsive to community needs and emerging economic opportunities.

South Gippsland Shire

YEAR	POPULATION
2011	28,452
2021	30,187
2031	32,509

LEONGATHA

Regional Centre

Promote growth – Leongatha is expected to grow and provide employment through expansion of the local business, industry, education, health, agricultural and community service sectors. Growth will be stimulated by improvements to the South Gippsland and Bass highways.

KORUMBURRA

Town

Support growth – There are opportunities to better integrate planning within Korumburra to deliver new growth in residential and commercial development and provision of services and infrastructure.

FOSTER, MIRBOO NORTH

Towns & Small Towns

Support sustainable change – Foster and Mirboo North will continue to provide services for their communities and surrounds, and accommodate change to meet local needs.

Promote growth – means the cities and towns with the greatest capacity to accommodate growth, in terms of land supply, infrastructure and services e.g. the regional cities like Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Latrobe City and Wodonga

Support growth – means the cities and towns that have the infrastructure and services that can support additional growth subject to addressing planning constraints such as bushfire and flood hazard

Support sustainable change – refers to existing towns that have capacity to support limited additional growth at a smaller scale, subject to addressing planning constraints such as bushfire and flood hazard

Wellington Shire

YEAR	POPULATION
2011	43,920
2021	46,013
2031	49,276

SALE

Regional Centre

Promote growth – Sale will be a key urban centre for central Gippsland. It will remain the main service centre for the offshore oil and gas, agriculture and forestry industries, and also build on opportunities to diversify further into defence, aviation, food processing, and packaging.

MAFFRA, ROSEDALE, STRATFORD

Towns & Small Towns

Support growth – Further growth will be supported in Maffra, Rosedale and Stratford.

HEYFIELD, YARRAM

Towns & Small Towns

Support sustainable change – Heyfield and Yarram will accommodate change reflective of their continuing service centre roles for agriculture and food production.

Baw Baw Shire

YEAR	POPULATION
2011	44,042
2021	54,439
2031	64,608

WARRAGUL

Regional Centre

Promote growth – Warragul is playing an increasingly important role as an alternative residential location on the edge of greater Melbourne. Warragul will grow and attract new services making it a regional centre for the western part of Gippsland.

DROUIN, TRAFALGAR

Town

Support growth – Drouin will continue to be a vital service centre in support of Warragul. Future planning will focus new business and retail in defined areas to drive new employment, residential and commercial development. Trafalgar has a range of services and transport connections to support local growth.

Bass Coast Shire

YEAR	POPULATION
2011	32,056
2021	40,037
2031	49,946

WONTHAGGI

Regional Centre

Promote growth – Wonthaggi will accommodate the main commercial and residential growth in southern Gippsland. It will act as a centre for this part of the region and offer a range of services for surrounding communities. Business, education and government services will support growth and will help diversify the local economy.

CAPE PATERSON, COWES, INVERLOCH, SAN REMO

Towns & Small Towns

Support growth – Inverloch and Cape Paterson offer coastal living opportunities close to Wonthaggi. Cowes will continue as an important hub for tourism and accommodation services for Phillip Island, with San Remo providing local services. Future planning will ensure land releases across southern Gippsland maintain the localised character of coastal towns.

REGIONAL ECONOMY

The Gippsland economy is predominantly driven by natural resources including productive agricultural land, and earth resources including coal, sand, oil and natural gas. Innovation and diversification of the energy sector is important to the region's future.

Rich soils, and high reliable rainfall mean Gippsland produces about a third of Victoria's total dairy production. The Macalister Irrigation District supports both horticulture and dairy production. Commercial fishing and timber (from managed native forest and plantation estates) generate significant value and employment for the region.

Investment to enhance tourist attractions, particularly for international visitors, will help support economic growth.

The region's workforce has skills in advanced manufacturing, including aircraft manufacturing, steel fabrication, and precision engineering and maintenance. It will be important to build on these capabilities as the region invests in professional services and technology to add value to its traditional strengths.

It will also be important to consolidate and enhance the region's commercial centres to support diverse retailing and reduce escape expenditure.

Future directions

- ▶ facilitate vibrant and prosperous commercial centres in the region's major urban centres that respond to changing population and market conditions
- ▶ further diversify Gippsland's service and manufacturing industries to support job creation and investment, and value-add to local products
- ▶ advance productive and innovative agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors with a focus on export markets and local food processing
- ▶ strengthen the energy sector, including renewables, subject to best practice environmental standards, and identify, protect, extract and process valued earth resources such as brown coal, oil and gas, and sand and rock
- ▶ facilitate the rejuvenation, expansion and development of regional tourism based on Gippsland's environmental and cultural heritage assets and identified strategic tourism investment areas.



ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

Gippsland has large areas of public land including forests, national parks, valuable habitat, rivers and wetlands, and significant historic and cultural heritage sites. There are also natural areas of high value habitat located on private land which contribute to waterway health and ecological functions.

The region includes numerous state and national parks including Wilsons Promontory, Alpine National Park and Cape Conran. Coastal landscapes including Ninety Mile Beach and the waterways of the Gippsland Lakes are unique attractions that contribute significantly to the environmental, cultural and economic life of the region.

Water catchments and storage reservoirs provide supply for Gippsland's urban and industrial users and make a significant contribution to Melbourne's water supply. Managing land use and development within these catchment areas will be important to protect future water quality and supply.

The regional growth plan considers the region's environmental assets and natural hazards in setting future directions for the economy, settlement and infrastructure.

Future directions

- ▶ manage risks to Gippsland's communities and economy from natural hazards
- ▶ manage Gippsland's environmental and heritage assets to achieve the best outcomes for the region's environment, economy and community
- ▶ plan for potential impacts and opportunities arising from climate change and initiatives that support national and global action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Gippsland's road and rail transport network provides access and movement of freight to markets and export hubs at the Port of Melbourne, Port of Hastings, Geelong and Melbourne Airport. These linkages are critical in enabling export of the region's agricultural commodities, paper, timber and manufactured goods.

Infrastructure projects (such as the expansion of the Port of Hastings, the Princes Highway duplication between Traralgon and Sale, and the Dandenong Rail Capacity Program) will help to improve the capacity and efficiency of the region's transport network. The region will also take advantage of the freight and logistics benefits from projects in Melbourne such as the East West Link.

The regional growth plan identifies and protects the region's important transport networks, and seeks to work with relevant agencies in planning for future utilities and social infrastructure to meet the needs of business and the community.

Future directions

- ▶ work with utility and service agencies to optimise access to gas, electricity, drainage, water, sewerage and telecommunications and cater for a growing population and economy across the region
- ▶ support road, rail and port improvements across Gippsland and beyond, particularly to markets and employment
- ▶ provide health, education, cultural and sporting facilities to meet local needs in locations that are accessible and convenient to the people who will use them.



DELIVERING REGIONAL GROWTH

The Gippsland Regional Growth Plan has identified a broad range of 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

- ▶ prosperous commercial centres in the region's major urban centres that respond to a growing population
- ▶ more diversity in service and manufacturing industries in Gippsland
- ▶ advanced innovation and production in the agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors, with a focus on export markets and local food processing
- ▶ a strengthened energy sector skilled in best practice environmental management
- ▶ a strong tourism sector that capitalises on the region's strong environmental, cultural and heritage assets
- ▶ businesses and communities that are well-prepared and protected from natural hazards and climate change
- ▶ well managed environmental, cultural and heritage assets, that are adding to the region's environment, economy and community
- ▶ major growth in population, services and facilities in and around major urban centres to ensure access to services and infrastructure
- ▶ sustainable growth and development in the region that ensures residents have convenient access to jobs and community services
- ▶ settlements that have strong regional identity, and value the region's cultural heritage
- ▶ accessible infrastructure that meets the region's growing needs for transport, utilities and community services
- ▶ road, rail and port improvements across Gippsland and beyond
- ▶ health, education, cultural and sporting facilities that meet local needs and are easy to get to.



FURTHER READING AND INFORMATION

www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/regionalgrowthplans

Gippsland Regional Growth Plan

Gippsland Regional Growth Plan Background Report

Gippsland Regional Plan (2010)

Cover images (clockwise from top left)

1. Mount Bishop, Wilsons Promontory, image courtesy of Tourism Victoria
2. Warragul Station, image by Darryl Whitaker, photographer
3. Traralgon Alfresco Dining, image courtesy of Latrobe City Council
4. Omeo streetscape, image by Darryl Whitaker, photographer
5. Federation University Australia, Gippsland Campus, image courtesy of Federation University Australia
6. Phillip Island penguins, image courtesy of Visions of Victoria
7. VegCo food manufacturing, image courtesy of VegCo
8. Marlin-Complex Bass Strait, image courtesy of Esso

