

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This summary provides a simple overview of the key findings of the Lithgow Land Use Strategy 2010-2030. Please refer to the full document for more detail and for any references in this Summary.

INTRODUCTION

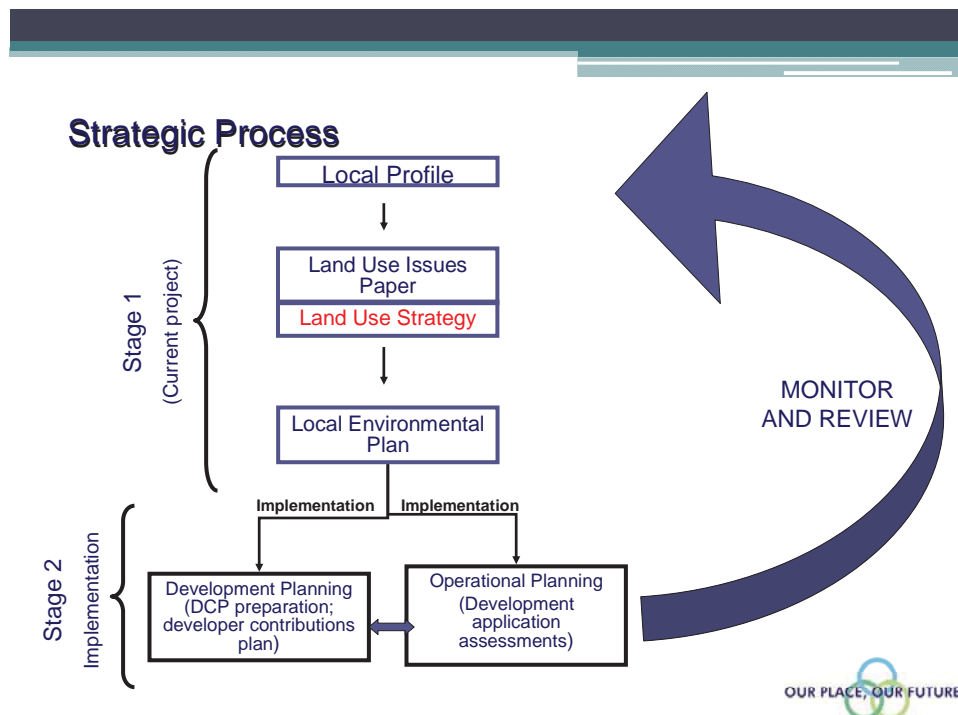
All local government authorities in NSW are required to prepare a new comprehensive local environmental plan (LEP) in accordance with the Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan as introduced by State Government Planning Reforms in March 2006.

As part of the reforms, NSW Department of Planning provided funding through the Planning Reform Fund to assist with development of the comprehensive LEPs and any necessary strategic planning and studies required to inform the new LEPs. Lithgow City Council was successful in gaining considerable funding assistance under this fund and commenced the necessary strategic planning work in late 2005.

The Lithgow City Local Profile that provides a snapshot of the social, economic and environmental profile of Lithgow LGA was completed in 2007 and in part informed the 2007 Lithgow City Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Framework for the development of the new LEP is outlined in the Figure 1.

Figure 1. Strategic Process



This Strategy, being the Lithgow Land Use Strategy 2010-2030, is a combined Land Use Issues Paper and Strategy. It explores the issues that currently face the Lithgow LGA and recommends a new planning approach to address these issues. The Strategy will be implemented through the planning system, primarily through a new Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan, as well as Council's other, policy, regulatory and governance functions.

This Strategy is significant to Council and the community because it will set directions and policy for the LGA's settlement and land use management for the next 20 years. The Strategy will be reviewed throughout this period every five years to ensure that its findings and recommendations remain relevant, are in keeping with sound planning principle and are continuing to meet the needs and expectations of the community.

STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The strategy document is presented in four parts as follows:

PART 1 - STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

This part seeks to provide:

- The background to the development of the strategy and its aims and objectives;
- The regional context of the LGA and the external factors that impact upon its future planning
- The legislative and policy framework that underpins the development of the strategy and planning tools to implement its recommendations

PART 2 - STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND PRINCIPLES

This part seeks to identify strategic directions and actions as a response to consideration of issues that affect the following factors across the LGA:

- Growth Management and Structure
- Social and Economic
- Infrastructure
- Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management
- Cultural and Built Heritage

PART 3 - LAND USE DIRECTIONS AND PRINCIPLES

This part seeks to identify strategic principles and actions as a response to consideration of the issues that affect the following land uses in the LGA:

- Rural
- Large Lot Residential
- Residential
- Employment Lands
- Open Space and Recreation

PART 4 - IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

This part seeks to bring together the findings of the Local Profile, Issues Analysis and recommendations of this Strategy for each of the planning precincts and their key settlement areas in the following way:

- A consolidated list of the recommended strategies and actions
- Summary of the key characteristics of each precinct with a SWOT analysis
- An implementation framework for each precinct presented spatially including:
 - A plan showing the existing zoning of each planning precinct
 - An LEP direction plan for each planning precinct and key settlement areas within that indicates the proposed land use changes and directions to be implemented and/or further considered in the 2012 LEP
 - A strategic directions plan that indicates the directions of the strategy that are deferred beyond the 2012 LEP. This plan represents the desired future land use and structure of each planning precinct that may be achieved in incremental stages over the 20 year life of the Strategy.

APPENDICES

The information presented in these appendices has been used to inform the identification of planning issues and the strategic responses to those issues.

Appendix 1 - Supply and Demand and Constraints Analysis

This appendix contains an analysis of supply and demand of all land use designations and the findings of a primary desktop constraints analysis.

All identified constrained lands have been removed from supply calculations to provide a more realistic supply scenario.

Appendix 2 - Community Profile by Precinct

This appendix contains a demographic profile of each planning precinct containing data taken from Council's on-line "Id community profile" considered most relevant to land use planning.

Appendix 3 - Heritage Listings

This appendix contains a consolidated list of proposed heritage items and conservation areas proposed to be listed in the 2012 LEP and a series of maps which spatially indicate the location of these conservation areas.

SUMMARY OF KEY LAND USE PLANNING ISSUES

The issues affecting land use planning within the LGA are identified and discussed within this Strategy. These key land use planning issues inform the development of the strategies and actions that will lead to the development of the new Local Environmental Plan and supporting Development Control Plan and policy framework. The key issues and their implications in each area as discussed in the Strategy are summarised in the Table1 below.

Table 1. Summary of Key Issues

DEMOGRAPHIC ISSUES	WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?
Static to Declining Population – Projected population stagnation to decline to 2031	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population decline and/or stagnation impacts heavily upon the use and viability of commercial areas, community facilities, recreational activities and day to day services. This in turn impacts on the LGA's liveability, aesthetic appearance of the urban environment and overall sense of place. Local Policy will need to respond to changes in the urban fabric as a result of diminished or changing demand to facilitate and encourage adaptable re-use of facilities and shop fronts. A declining population also impacts the confidence with which Council can plan for future land allocation and infrastructure. Target growth rates and land release programs therefore need to be approached with caution to ensure that land and infrastructure are not provided too far in advance of demand, but can reasonably absorb shifts in demand over the life of this Strategy.
Smaller Household Sizes – LGA trend to smaller household size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smaller household sizes with fewer people living in each house will have an impact on the supply and demand of dwellings. As a result of the declining household sizes, it is likely that more dwellings will be required to house the population.
Increase in Ageing Population – LGA rapidly ageing and percentages of persons over 55 significantly increasing	<p>Increased need for State and Local Policy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate inclusive balanced communities Ensure people can shift to more suitable housing within their existing community Provide for sufficient levels of adaptable and accessible housing Provide for retirement villages Provide and retain residential care facilities Provide for sufficient levels of affordable housing Provide for increased focus on planning and design to promote active ageing/walkability and range of open space and recreational facilities to meet the changing needs of the community Provide for increased focus to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Provide for public transport options Provide for commercial support services such as medical facilities, aids etc.
Increased Need for Diverse Housing – Current low percentage of medium and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the increase in lone person households and households with couples without children, there will be an increasing need for a more diverse housing structure to be provided. Currently there is a significant disproportion of

<p>high density living opportunity</p>	<p>detached dwellings. Into the future this will impact upon housing affordability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land use planning policies will need to facilitate and encourage more medium and high density living opportunities close to core infrastructure and services. A detailed housing strategy is required to better inform the LGA's response to this issue.
<p>Industry Profile – High proportion of employment in mining and retail</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LGA is highly dependant upon mining and retail as the two highest employment providers. These employment sectors are inextricably linked as a reduction in mining employment significantly affects the LGA's disposable income and demand for retail services. The diversification of the employment base will require the identification of land to cater for modern industrial land use in areas that enable clustering of like uses. Local Policy will need to address the need for adaptive reuse of commercial areas when high vacancy rates occur to stabilise and strengthen the core retail precinct.
<p>INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES</p>	<p>WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?</p>
<p>Secure and reliable bulk water supply</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of a bulk water supply is fundamentally critical to sustain any urban community. It also influences key investment decisions for prospective business and industry. The LGA water supply is available through two sources, Famers Creek and Fish River Water Supply Scheme. Lithgow City Council is the authority for only the Farmers Creek supply. This creates issues surrounding water sharing, water allocations and pricing, agreements and responsibility for water quality and delivery of service. It also creates a disparity between service levels between Lithgow and the town centres of Portland and Wallerawang, villages and rural users. The bulk water supply for the Lithgow LGA has been challenged in recent times through the effects of drought, a situation that may become more prevalent over time due to the vagaries of climate change. In periods of sustained drought it would become necessary for Lithgow City Council to back supply water to the towns and villages through the Farmers Creek supply. This supply will not meet the peak daily demand of the existing serviced population base without extensive augmentation to the Clarence Water Transfer system. Council along with its regional counterparts will need to investigate an alternative bulk water supply scheme, if the Lithgow and Oberon LGA's are to increase their population and industry base into the future.
<p>Capacity of infrastructure head works to service new development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All major Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) require augmentation to cater for future growth. The Lithgow STP upgrade is currently under construction and will provide for an additional 5,000 equivalent persons (EP) meaning that the potential growth scenarios for the existing urban zoned lands may be

	<p>accommodated, however the future urban areas identified by this Strategy are beyond the capacity of this plant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wallerawang STP upgrade has commenced and will provide an additional 1100 EP. Such will be sufficient to meet the demands of potential growth scenario of for the existing urban zoned lands; however the future urban areas identified by this Strategy may be beyond the capacity of this plant. • The Portland STP is currently at capacity and will not be upgraded prior to 2017. Growth in this town centre will be restricted to the capacity of the existing plant. Portland is not capable of absorbing any growth in real terms in the serviced areas until the STP is upgraded. This will require land allocation within this area to be restricted.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant has a current operating capacity of 12ML per day. In order to totally remove reliance on the Fish River Water Supply Scheme and to supply water to all serviced areas of the LGA, this plant will require upgrading.
Aligning development to infrastructure provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past practice in new release areas such as South Bowenfels of enabling developers to only provide infrastructure to connect development sites to services without due regard to the impact on the downstream trunk systems or key head works has led to a shortfall of infrastructure which now must be met by Council. • The timing of the provision of this infrastructure may lead to the development of some areas being delayed and continuing operating deficiencies for existing areas. • The lack of an adopted infrastructure strategy for South Bowenfels and the lack of a detailed development servicing plan may create a significant cost burden for Council and delays for further development in this area.
Dependence upon key state and regional road infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry and business development is highly dependent upon a fast and efficient road network for freight movement and visitor traffic. Upgrades to the state and regional road networks are critical to the future growth potential of the LGA and diversification of its industry base. • Upgraded road links to the Sydney Basin will encourage further residential growth in the LGA as commuting time to employment and cultural /recreational facilities will be reduced, making the LGA a very attractive and affordable alternative to city living.
Provision and Maintenance of Local Road Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current dispersed population particularly in the rural areas impacts upon Council's financial and physical resources to provide and maintain an effective local road network. • The demand being placed on Council's resources from rural areas are disproportionate to the rate base of these areas.
Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All current land fill sites are at or nearing their end life capacity. Council is planning to develop a new centralised waste management facility at

	<p>Blackmans Flat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effectiveness of a centralised facility will be challenged by the continued dispersed growth in rural living opportunities for the collection and appropriate disposal of waste. • Closure and rehabilitation of existing landfills and their future land use and compatibility with adjoining lands requires careful consideration.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES	WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?
<p>Management of land within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant percentage (18.44%) of the LGA is within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment Area. Therefore development in this area is subject to increased criteria for development to establish a neutral or beneficial effect upon water quality before such development can obtain development approval. • Impacts upon the strategic planning process include consideration of Strategic Land and Water Capability Assessments to determine land use zones, permissibility and density. Such consideration may limit or restrict development from areas where such uses are currently permissible.
<p>Cumulative impact of on-site effluent disposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site effluent disposal has the ability to impact upon both surface water and ground water quality. Not all areas of the LGA are suitable for on-site effluent disposal. • Continued uncontrolled dispersed rural settlement places pressure on the land to effectively dispose of effluent and may lead to adverse environmental impact. • An audit and inspection of existing on-site systems has revealed a high percentage of systems are failing the required performance and operating standards. • Current minimum lot sizes for the disposal of effluent in the current unserviced village areas is not effective and will need to be increased in line with current best practice. • The Cullen Bullen village is currently experiencing adverse impacts from on-site effluent disposal systems.
<p>Management of bushfire threat to settlement and areas of high biodiversity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large percentage of the LGA is bushfire prone land. Total avoidance of these areas for settlement is neither achievable nor practical. • The largest risk to increased bushfire threat is continued dispersed rural living. Fragmentation of rural lands within bush fire prone areas and intensification of development limits the ability of effective bushfire management. • A clustered planning approach and appropriate planning for high risk developments is required to minimise bush fire threat to the LGA.

<p>Impact of flooding upon settlement areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of flooding particularly along Farmers Creek in Lithgow will impact upon the planning of future land use in this area. • Current flood mitigation works will not alter the risk from rare flood events. • Council does not have a Floodplain Risk Management Plan to identify the different levels of planning for the area.
<p>Loss or reduction of environmentally sensitive land, water and biodiversity resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large percentage of the LGA has been identified as Environmentally Sensitive Areas. The largest threat to these areas is the continued increase of dispersed rural settlement. • Fragmentation of rural land for residential purposes increases the impact of land use conflict and limits the ability to achieve natural resource management outcomes.
<p>Encroachment of development on the scenic quality of landscapes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The largest threat to the scenic quality of landscapes within the LGA is from the inappropriate siting of rural and urban fringe dwellings. This development frequently interrupts the landscape and often is associated with vegetation loss and scaring due to clearing of building sites and access roads. • A future threat to landscape quality is the potential for increased alternative energy development such as wind and solar farms.
<p>Management of contaminated lands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lithgow LGA has a strong industrial heritage that had the potential to contaminate lands. • Documentation of the history of these sites is not readily available and therefore cannot be effectively dealt with at the strategic planning level. This places additional burden on land developers to address this matter on a site by site basis. • Council does not currently have a contaminated lands policy or effective development control provisions to guide identification and assessment of potential contaminated lands. Council does rely solely on State Environmental Planning Policy 55 for management of contaminated lands.
<p>HERITAGE ISSUES</p>	<p>WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?</p>
<p>Many items or places of heritage within the LGA remain unprotected by any statutory framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2000 Heritage Study recommended local listing of some 500-600 items. Only 96 items are currently listed in the Lithgow 1994 LEP. The identification of items in a community Heritage Study does not provide the necessary framework for managing the alteration, modification or demolition of these items through the force of law. • Without statutory protection Council and the community may be powerless to stop the diminishing or loss of heritage values and significance embodied in such items and places.
<p>How best to manage a significant increase in listed heritage items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The individual listing of up to 600 heritage items and places will significantly increase the resources required by both Council and the community to manage the future development of these items and properties in their

	<p>vicinity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will need to explore the use of conservation areas to more effectively manage heritage assessment.
Protection of Aboriginal Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council does not have an Aboriginal Heritage Study to guide planning of future settlement and land use intensification away from sensitive areas. • This will defer consideration of these matters to the development assessment stage with greater potential for some matters to be missed, due to being unknown.
RURAL ISSUES	WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?
Unplanned dispersed settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past and current planning provisions have retained a range of provisions to enable the subdivision of rural land and the erection of a dwelling with limited to no consideration of natural and primary production resource management and protection. • What was initially intended to be an alternative to urban living has grown significantly in that the population now living in the urban areas has fallen from 95% in 2001 to 80% in 2006. Due to the unplanned and dispersed nature of this form of settlement growth, it has not led to the sustainability of rural villages. • Increased land fragmentation • Encroachment of development into more marginal lands without regard to the carrying capacity of the land. This places onus on the development assessment process to control impacts on a site-by-site basis and this has limited potential to address cumulative impact. • Increased potential for land use conflict leading to primary production lands being limited in their capacity to operate without restriction. • Increasing infrastructure and service costs particularly in relation to provision and maintenance of rural roads and garbage services, but also in social and governance services. • Loss of critical mass in urban areas to maintain and improve services and higher order infrastructure.
Increased risk of social isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of social isolation due to lack of community structure and the impacts of ageing of the population in rural areas.
Increased environmental footprint of development and impact upon environmentally sensitive lands and rural landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced ability to achieve natural resource management objectives due to increased stakeholders with smaller parcels of land and different expectations. • Increased potential for negative impact upon natural resources such as water, soils, vegetation and biodiversity. • Increased threat of bushfire hazard. • Loss of rural landscape and rural character.
Land use conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proliferation of rural lifestyle development in primary production areas impacts upon the ability for these lands to maximise their potential in terms

<p>impact on primary production resources (agricultural land, forestry, resource lands, mining, extractive industries)</p> <p>impact on environmental conservation</p>	<p>of the natural and primary resource. Specific examples of this conflict occurs in locations such as Blackmans Flat (impact on mining and power generating developments), Clarence (impact upon underground mining), Baal Bone Colliery (impact upon underground mining and surface works), Megalong and Kanimbla Valleys (impact on agricultural management).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in security of investment for both those seeking rural lifestyle and primary producers. • Rural lifestyle development introduces matters of land stewardship in relation to weed control, bush fire hazard reduction, introduction of domestic animals, maintenance of water quality and quantity and soil management. • Conflict occurs at the interface of DECCW and forestry lands and impedes the production and management regimes of these lands.
<p>Fragmentation and conversion of primary production lands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of lands from primary production inflates land values beyond primary production value, making it difficult for entry of rural producers and resource industries to buy in. • Land once converted in many cases will never revert back to primary production use. • Land parcel isolation. Rural land interspersed with rural lifestyle development is often cut off from other major land holdings making consolidation of land difficult for farm management.
<p>LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL ISSUES</p>	<p>WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?</p>
<p>A significant proportion (22.4%) of all development applications lodged between 1996 and 2009 were in clustered rural residential areas. In the years 1996-2001 the number of dwelling approvals in clustered rural residential areas exceeded approvals for the main urban areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of large lot residential development have grown in population size disproportionately to their role in an orderly settlement hierarchy and level of service provision. • Increasing infrastructure and service costs particularly in relation to provision and maintenance of rural roads and garbage services, but also in social and governance services. • Loss of critical mass in urban areas to maintain and improve services and higher order infrastructure. • Increased risk of social isolation due to lack of community structure and the impacts of ageing of the population in rural areas.
<p>Potential for areas of clustered rural residential lands to grow in population beyond their capacity to provide services and facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of large lot residential development have grown in population size disproportionately to their role in an orderly settlement hierarchy and level of service provision. This is particularly relevant to the Hartley area. • Community expectation and demand for services may not align with Council's ability or desire to provide services and facilities.
<p>An apparent oversupply of clustered rural residential lands across LGA, based on current demand levels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The oversupply of land across the LGA will impede the effectiveness of any strategy to consolidate growth in urban areas. • Despite this supply level Council is still under pressure to release more lands for large lot residential development.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some landowners of land currently zoned for this land use appear reluctant or unwilling to develop lands and therefore the market supply level may be different from the theoretical supply.
Land use conflict within clustered areas and at the interface with adjoining lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current zone and permitted land uses create an anomaly in expectation of amenity between residential and semi rural and therefore creates land use conflict. Current development control provisions are ineffective
Potential cumulative impact upon water quality from on-site effluent disposal systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many of the on-site effluent disposal systems in these areas are failing to meet operational and performance standards. Potential for these areas to grow in population beyond a level that can reasonably be serviced with on-site systems.
RESIDENTIAL ISSUES	WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?
Limitations of existing LEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The flexibility of the current LEP, instead of encouraging development opportunity has to some degree, stifled development as a result of an uncertain investment environment. LEP does not provide a defined minimum lot size or density controls for differing residential form and types allowing market demand to dictate. The range of permissible uses in the residential zone and other zones where residential development is permitted has created land use conflict. The flexibility of the LEP is not supported by a detailed Development Control Plan.
Primary constraints impact on residential development opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presence of natural and physical constraints defines the limits of the three urban centres and has led to a lateral expansion of these centres. Primary constraints analysis may require some existing zoned areas to be back zoned or provide reduced density to avoid environmental impact. The management of constrained areas will require more detailed development standards and provisions to be implemented through the LEP and/or DCP.
Defining and maintaining residential character and amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The flexibility of the current LEP does not differentiate the desired character and amenity to be achieved in each residential neighbourhood. This creates conflict between new and existing development.
Housing choice and affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LGA has a high percentage of detached single dwellings (77.5%). This reduces the ability of the LGA to provide housing choice and affordability. The LGA has an increase in lone person household and households with couples without children, indicative of an aging population, and therefore there will be an increasing need for more diverse housing structure to be provided.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new planning approach will be required to encourage the development of a mix of housing types and forms.
Future provision of seniors' housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rapidly ageing population will increase the need for varying forms of seniors' housing. • The planning system will need to respond positively to this form of development and should provide "go to areas" to encourage and facilitate development.
Potential for urban renewal and consolidation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the flexibility of the existing LEP, urban renewal and consolidation has not been considered a viable alternative to the development of new areas. This is due in part to the relative ease and cost of development in the new release areas. • As the existing housing stock ages and the demand for smaller housing increases there will be pressure on existing areas to accommodate higher density living opportunities and the potential for some areas to experience new development and change in character. • Planning for this scenario must be considered in the development of the new LEP and DCP.
Infrastructure and Service Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to service some of the existing zoned lands will require consideration of back zoning or reduction in density to ensure all future development can be adequately serviced. • Council currently does not have a development contributions plan or development servicing plan to ensure that the costs of servicing new development is equitably shared between developers and the existing community.
Managing supply and urban release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planning system should be able to regulate the supply of land to effectively manage the provision of infrastructure and create a positive living and investment environment. Both of these outcomes can be adversely affected by the provision of too little or too much residential land supply.
EMPLOYMENT LANDS ISSUES	WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?
Challenges of the Lithgow LGA demographic profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The demographic profile of a rapidly ageing population affects the LGA's ability to attract and retain business and industry investment as well as maintaining a well balanced and skilled workforce.
Limitations of the existing LEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The flexibility of the existing LEP in relation to employment related zones has created an uncertain investment environment and led to fragmentation of lands and land use conflict. • The LEP is not supported by a robust Development Control Plan
Lack of appropriate industrial lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently an estimated 32.1ha of available industrial zoned land within the LGA. This represents a supply of 12.8 years based on an estimated demand level of 2.5ha per year.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each of the existing industrial precincts is heavily constrained and their ability to provide for modern industrial development is limited. • Some of the areas zoned industrial have a higher and better land use capability. • The lack of suitable and serviced industrial land in a clustered estate format inhibits industry and business investment and diversification of the employment base of the LGA.
Land use conflict and ability of existing precincts to meet modern industrial needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many of the existing precincts are located amongst and adjoining residential development. This restricts the ability of the lands to accommodate general industrial land use and does not provide ample areas for expansion. • The likelihood of land use conflict to severely impact upon the operational environment of industrial businesses is high and is a deterrent to large scale investment in these lands.
Catering for bulky goods retail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LGA does not have an established bulky goods retail area. The Main Street Commercial precinct cannot provide for this type of retail activity due to lack of access and loading areas and smaller floor spaces of existing business sites. • The establishment of a large out of centre bulky goods location under the current LEP zoning would have the ability to adversely impact upon the viability of the main CBD.
Fragmentation of the commercial centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing fragmentation of the commercial centre in Lithgow severely impacts upon the viability of the Main St CBD and will continue to do so if the out of centre Lithgow Valley Plaza and Pottery Plaza are able to expand without restriction.
Parking and accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability of Main St businesses to provide on-site car parking is minimal. The current practice of requiring on-site parking may stagnate redevelopment potential.
Planning and providing for tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council does not currently have a tourism strategy to inform the land use planning for this activity. • Tourism development if not appropriately located and planned may result in the loss of amenity and character of some areas.
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL ISSUES	WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?
Managing supply and demand of open space and recreational lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LGA currently has an abundance of land within the open space network with reasonable distribution in the existing urban centres. Council does not have the ability to embellish and bring all this land into functional to meet desired service levels. • A rationalisation of the supply and demand of open space is necessary as quality of land is more important than quantity.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is need to plan for the provision of new open space land in newly developing areas to ensure that it integrates and improves the open space network. • The lack of a development contributions plan that adequately identifies the need and type of open space required for new developments has led to the provision of inappropriate lands with little functional use.
Identifying and meeting changing community needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space planning needs to keep pace with and respond to the changing needs and of the community as a result of aging and other demographic indicators such as household size and income. • Trends for recreational activity also change over time and many structured sporting and recreational activities are experiencing a decline in participation rates in favour of adventure play and walking.
Managing accessibility and equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space planning needs to consider accessibility and ensure a reasonable spatial distribution within urban centres whilst providing for community meeting places in the outlying rural village and localities.
Providing a management framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council relies heavily on the community to partner in the provision and maintenance of the open space network. • The lack of formal guidance in this area may lead to inequitable access to areas and facilities and disadvantage certain groups in the community.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS OF THE LAND USE STRATEGY

The key findings of the Draft Lithgow City Council Land Use Strategy 2010-2030 are summarised below. For further detail and discussion please refer to the main body of the document and Table 1 for detailed strategies and recommended actions.

- There is a need to revise down the ambitious target annual growth rate adopted in the 2007 Strategic Plan from 1-2% to 0.5% -1% to ensure growth occurs in a sustainable manner and does not place an undue burden on the existing community to meet the costs associated with growth.
- A defined settlement hierarchy is required to establish the foundation for future planning and governance decisions. This hierarchy supported by the implementation of sound growth management and sustainability principles will facilitate sound planning outcomes across all four sustainability considerations (social, economic, environmental and governance).
- There is a need to recognise the size and structure of the towns of Portland and Wallerawang and provide appropriate land use planning and zoning in these areas commensurate with their role in the settlement hierarchy.
- There are sufficient residential, commercial and open space lands within the LGA to cater for estimated demand over the life of the Strategy. Some modification of these areas is required to reflect the findings of the primary constraints and infrastructure analysis and strategic planning studies such as the 2010 Business and Retail Strategy and Open Space and Recreational Needs Study.

- There is a need to consolidate the commercial centre of Lithgow and differentiate between the Main St commercial precinct and the out of centre Plaza development to maintain the future viability of the Main St.
- There is a lack of suitable industrial zoned lands in the LGA to accommodate an increase in modern industrial land uses. The Strategy recommends the zoning of two new significant sites being the Minerals Processing Park and land to the north of Reserve Road Marrangaroo. The Strategy also identifies further strategic industrial parcels for consideration beyond the 2012 LEP.
- The Marrangaroo Study Area remains the preferred area for future urban growth opportunities for the LGA as identified in the adopted Marrangaroo Structure Plan. Zoning of this area has been recommended to be deferred until at least the 2016 LEP review.
- The trend towards rural living is unsustainable and should be resisted. This will require a new rural planning approach designed to limit further rural living opportunities and to assist with the protection of the natural and primary resource base of the LGA.
- There is sufficient supply of lands to cater for large lot residential land use within current land zonings without the need to consider rezoning of rural lands for this purpose in the 2012 LEP.
- There is a need to statutorily protect the LGA's identified items and places of environmental heritage in the 2012 LEP through a combination of individual listing and conservation area controls.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

Table 1. Recommendations of the Lithgow Land Use Strategy 2010-2030

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LITHGOW LAND USE STRATEGY 2010-2030 GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Plan and manage growth in a sustainable manner for the future benefit of the Lithgow LGA community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider and apply the principles of Sustainable Development to all land use planning decisions Adopt the growth management and sustainability principles outlined in Chapter 4 and apply to underpin all future land use planning decisions Adopt the planning principles outlined in this Strategy and apply to all future land use planning decisions Adopt a target population growth rate of between 0.5% and 1% 	Council	Ongoing
Identify a hierarchy of settlement for the LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and apply the settlement hierarchy as detailed in Table and Figure 3 Chapter 4 and outlined below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large Town/Regional Centres Bathurst/Penrith Small Town/LGA District Centre Lithgow Small Towns Wallerawang and Portland Villages Cullen Bullen, Capertee, Rydal Hamlets Tarana, Hartley, Clarence, Dargan, Glen Davis, Glen Alice, Ben Bullen, Boguee, Hampton, Sodwalls, Lowther, Good Forest, Hartley Vale Isolated Dwellings 	Council and Government Agencies	Ongoing

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>Wider Rural Areas of North and South precincts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and apply a clustered planning approach to future growth in the Lithgow LGA aligned with the adopted settlement hierarchy as indicated in Table 5, Figure 4 Chapter 4 	Council	Short (2012 LEP)
<p>Recognise and strengthen the role of each town, village, hamlet and rural area commensurate with its place in the adopted settlement hierarchy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control the growth of settlements and rural areas by using zoning and a range of rural minimum lot sizes manage current unsustainable rural planning provisions. Minimise further rural lifestyle development opportunities outside of the defined 15km maximum outer limit, layer 3 figure 4 as outlined in Chapter 4. Identify future urban growth areas within the defined urban core as indicated in Figure 4 Chapter 4. Prepare a suite of land use zones for the towns of Wallerawang and Portland 	Council	<p>Short (2012 LEP) and ongoing</p> <p>Long</p> <p>Short (2012 LEP)</p>
<p>Provide for the economic growth of the LGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the recommendations of the 2010-2014 Economic Development Strategy Implement the recommendations of the 2010 Business and Retail Strategy Protect the primary and natural resources upon which the LGA economy relies 	<p>Council, Government Agencies and Community</p> <p>Council, Government Agencies</p>	Ongoing
<p>Provide for the social and cultural growth of the LGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide for an appropriate mix of housing opportunities and form in both urban and rural settings Provide sufficient land allocation for population growth over time Prepare and implement a LGA Housing Strategy Prepare and implement a LGA Ageing Strategy 	<p>Council</p> <p>Council and Government Agencies</p> <p>Council and Government Agencies</p>	<p>Short (2012 LEP)</p> <p>Medium and ongoing</p> <p>Short</p>

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate the findings of the Community Strategic Plan 2021 into land use planning documents and decisions. Implement the adopted Lithgow Cultural Precincts Study 	<p>Council</p> <p>Council/Government Agencies and Community</p>	<p>Medium and ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
Ensure the Lithgow Land Use Strategy remains relevant over time and gives consideration to the changing needs of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct 5 yearly reviews of the document, following receipt of Census Population and Housing data 	Council	Ongoing
Ensure that land is released in an effective and efficient manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a land monitor to track demand and take-up of all land use zones Prepare a land release program to guide the future release of urban lands 	Council and Government Agencies	Short and ongoing Medium

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LITHGOW LAND USE STRATEGY 2010-2030 LAND USE PLANNING

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Develop a new suite of land use zones to implement the planning framework of the Lithgow Land Use Strategy 2010-2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a Standard Instrument LEP with a suite of land use zones to formalise the LEP directions identified in Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 19, 20, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39 and 42 in Chapter 14 and outlined in the summary of actions in all Chapters of Part 3 Lithgow Land Use Strategy 2010-2030 	Council and Department of Planning (DoP)	Short (2012) LEP
Ensure the growth of rural lifestyle development in the primary rural zone is minimised and remains secondary to urban residential growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a variable minimum lot size in the new LEP for the erection of a dwelling in the primary rural zone of 40ha and 100ha as indicated in Figure 6 Chapter 9. Retain through a savings provision all existing dwelling opportunities for all lots less than 40ha defined as existing holdings and all allotments created by an approved subdivision under any previous planning instrument. Introduce a new existing holding savings clause in the 2012 LEP to retain dwelling opportunities in the primary rural zone for holdings between 40ha and 100ha as outlined in Option 1 Chapter 9. 	Council and DoP	Short (2012) LEP

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>Ensure that sufficient land is identified for future growth opportunity beyond the 2012 LEP</p>	<p>NOTE: These recommendations were NOT supported by Council.</p> <p>Council has resolved (Min No 11-450) to: ADOPT OPTION 3 “STATUS QUO” for rural planning directions for Council’s Draft Land Use Strategy”.</p> <p>This means that the existing minimum lot sizes of 40ha in the existing 1(a) zoned areas and 100ha in the existing 1(e) zoned areas will be retained in the new LEP along with all other provisions governing the erection of a dwelling in rural areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the Marrangaroo Study Area as the LGA’s next urban release area and defer zoning until at least the 2016 LEP review. Development of this area to occur generally in accordance with the adopted Marrangaroo Structure Plan. Carry out the further investigations required to inform the future development of the Marrangaroo Study Area as identified in Chapter 11. Identify the existing Rural (Future Urban 1(d)) lands surrounding Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland as strategic urban lands and protect from inappropriate fragmentation or land use that would diminish their future urban capability Identify lands shown in Figure 9 and 15 in Chapter 14 as strategic industrial land and protect from inappropriate fragmentation and development that would diminish their desired future use Identify the site on the corner of Great Western Highway and Castlereagh Highway and an area at Blackmans Flat as indicated in Figure 9 and 15 in Chapter 14 as strategic employment lands 	<p>Council and DoP</p>	<p>Long</p>

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>Minimise the potential for land use conflict to impact upon the social, economic and environmental quality of the LGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the corridor along the eastern side of the Great Western Highway as a strategic site for future use as an enterprise corridor Identify opportunity areas for urban and rural lifestyle development to align with the adopted Settlement Hierarchy as indicated in Figure 5 in Chapter 4. Limit living opportunities in the primary production zone Limit the range of permissible uses within the primary rural zone to those compatible with sustaining the natural primary resource base Locate large lot residential lands so as to minimise land use conflict at the interface with the primary rural or environmental land use Allow for a range of compatible uses in each zone consistent with its primary purpose Prepare land use controls to provide effective buffers from potential incompatible uses including those that hold Environment Protection licences within zones and at the interface with adjoining zones 	<p>Council and DoP</p>	<p>Short (2012 LEP)</p>
<p>Recognise and protect the biodiversity resources of the LGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider applying environmental management/conservation zoning or overlays to the significant environmentally sensitive areas of the LGA as identified in the ESA mapping to control land use Develop assessment criteria to consider the impact of development upon environmentally sensitive areas and the LGA's base biodiversity 	<p>Council and DoP</p>	<p>Short (2012 LEP)</p>
<p>Ensure that development upon flood prone areas recognise the level of flood hazard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit new development on flood liable lands so that it does not increase the existing flood risk 	<p>Council and Government Agencies</p>	<p>Short (2012 LEP)</p>

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop appropriate LEP and DCP land use control provisions to guide development upon flood liable lands Prepare a floodplain risk management plan 		Medium
Ensure that development takes into consideration the impact upon water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply the Strategic Land and Water Capability Assessment to determine land use zones, permissibility and land use controls within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment Introduce the following minimum lot sizes for the erection of a dwelling upon unserviced lands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2ha – Large lot residential 4000sq m – Village/Urban Develop appropriate DCP provisions to minimise the impact of development upon water quality 	Council and SCA	Short (2012 LEP)
Ensure that there is adequate provision for tourist facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and implement a Tourist Strategy for the Lithgow LGA Limit the development of intensive tourism accommodation such as hotel and motel accommodation and serviced apartments to urban areas where such is not directly related to eco-tourism Identify area of agglomeration of tourist development or potential for such development and consider introducing a tourist zone in 2012 LEP and/or specific controls in 2012 DCP. Ensure that the rural villages provide a range of tourism support land uses such as accommodation, restaurants/cafes/service stations etc that does not detract from the rural character and amenity of the area 	Council Council and DoP	Short Short (2012 LEP) & 2012 DCP
Ensure that the LGA has an efficient and effective open space network providing for both passive and active recreational activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the adopted recommendations of the 2010 Open Space and Recreational Needs Study Apply appropriate land use zones to identify, protect and appropriately manage the LGA's open space network having 	Council and Community	Short (2012 LEP)

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>regard to its primary classification/function.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassify identified public lands identified as surplus to the open space network • Prepare and overarching Community Lands Plan of Management for all public community lands within the open space network including recreational parks. 		Short
Prepare detailed management guidelines for land use within the LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a Development Control Plan to support the LEP through the provision of appropriate land use management guidelines and best practice • Adopt and implement all key planning actions identified in the chapters of Part 2 and 3 of this Strategy 	Council Council and Government Agencies	Short (2012 DCP) Ongoing
Ensure that the LEP and DCP remain relevant over time and meet changing community needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a five yearly review of the LEP and three yearly review of the DCP 	Council	Medium and Ongoing

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LITHGOW LAND USE STRATEGY 2010-2030 INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Ensure the LGA is provided with essential infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to investigate a reliable and secure bulk water supply for the Lithgow LGA to reduce dependency on the Fish River Water Supply Scheme • Identify and protect the catchment of Farmers Creek Dam from land degradation and inappropriate land use. • Continue to lobby State and Federal Governments for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway and development of the Bells Line Expressway • Continue to work closely with Sydney West Area Health Service to retain and attract medical services and facilities 	Council and Government Agencies	Short and ongoing Short (2012 LEP) Ongoing

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	
Align future growth and development with the provision of both social and physical infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure development does not occur at a rate, or within locations that would be to the detriment of the existing community 	Council	Ongoing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and implement a Land Monitor to review the take-up of urban areas against infrastructure capacity 	Council	Short and ongoing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare an servicing/infrastructure strategy for the Marrangaroo Study Area and Minerals Processing Park 	Council	Short	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pull back the supply of urban lands within the town of Portland to align with the capacity of the Sewage Treatment Plant 	Council	Short to Medium	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stagger the release of subdivision certificates within the South Bowenfels Study Area to the provision of water and sewer infrastructure augmentation works 	Council	Short	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a Development Servicing Plan for the provision of water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure for the LGA 	Council	Short	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a Development Contributions Plan that includes provision of community facilities, urban and rural roads, pedestrian and cycling transport infrastructure 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a LGA transport strategy to consider existing and future transport needs including, regional and local roads, pedestrian and cycling and public transport needs 			
	Ensure that all development is adequately serviced with water and effluent disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all new urban development within Layers A and B of the Settlement Hierarchy are connected to reticulated water and sewer 	Council	Ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop appropriate policies and development standards to regulate the provision of adequate on-site provision of water and effluent disposal 	Council	Short (2012 LEP and DCP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a road hierarchy to support the adopted LGA Settlement Hierarchy 		Council	Short	
Limit development in the primary rural zones to areas with adequate road access				

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Consider the environmental impacts of infrastructure provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that there are adequate levels of access to the villages and rural localities commensurate with their role in the settlement hierarchy 		Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a land use separation distance (buffer) from all sewage treatment plants, sewage pumping stations, water treatment plants, water reservoirs and landfill sites 	Council	Short (2012 LEP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to prepare the 2010 Waste Management Strategy to transition to a centralised waste disposal facility at Blackmans Flat 		Short

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LITHGOW LAND USE STRATEGY 2010-2030 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Recognise and protect the biodiversity values of the LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct settlement and rural living opportunities away from identified environmentally sensitive areas Consider applying environmental management/conservation zoning or overlays to the significant environmentally sensitive areas of the LGA as identified in the ESA mapping to control land use Limit land use permissibility in areas of environmental sensitivity to minimise loss or reduction in value Apply the appropriate environmental conservation zone to all National Parks, State Conservation Parks and Nature Reserves within the LGA Prepare a biodiversity strategy for areas identified by Environmentally Sensitive Areas mapping as moderate to high biodiversity 	Council and DoP	Short (2012 LEP)
		Council/Government Agencies in partnership with the community	Medium to Long as resources permit Ongoing

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Provide appropriate resources to increase awareness and involvement in identifying, protecting and enhancing biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the actions of the relevant Recovery Actions Plans that apply within the LGA that list Lithgow City Council as the responsible body Prepare fact sheets identifying the LGA's biodiversity to be included in development application kits Prepare development control provisions to assist the community to prepare Assessments of Significance as required by the Threatened Species Conservation Management Act 	Council and Government Agencies	Short and ongoing Short (2012 DCP)
Ensure development contributes to achieving the water quality and river flow objectives of the relevant catchment management authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure new development is located so it does not have a detrimental impact upon nearby watercourses and incorporates measures to protect the riparian areas All development is to utilise best practice for soil and water management to minimise impact both on and off the development site Development within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment is to achieve a neutral or beneficial effect on water quality Ensure domestic and other forms of effluent disposal does not have an adverse impact upon water quality and is in accordance with the NSW Environment and Health Protection Guidelines for On-site Sewage Management for Single Households 	Council and Government Agencies	Short (2012 LEP and DCP)
Ensure bush fire risk is considered in all land use planning decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the intensification of settlement and rural living opportunities in bush fire prone areas Ensure that all future development adheres to the principles and requirements of Planning for Bushfire legislation Ensure the community is aware of the bushfire risk of the LGA Provide information on the Emergency Services Disaster Management and Response Plan 	Council Council, Rural Fires Service Council	Short (2012 LEP) Ongoing Ongoing

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Identify the flooding of land as a constraint to future development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to identify flood liable land as the 1% flood level identified in the Kinnhill Flood Study 1991 Develop a flood policy and development control provisions to guide future development upon flood liable lands Ensure that localised flooding is taken into account when assessing DA's on sites affected by watercourses or have access over watercourses Prepare a flood plain risk management plan to accord with the 2005 Floodplain Development Manual and NSW Flood Prone Land Policy and modify land use controls accordingly Provide information on the Emergency Service Disaster Management and Response Plan 	<p>Council</p> <p>Council/Government Agencies</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Short (2012 LEP and DCP)</p> <p>Short to Medium as determined by progress of current flood mitigation works and resources</p>
Avoid inappropriate development on areas of land contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the identification and development of contaminated land in accordance with the principles and requirements of State Environmental Planning Policy 55 Managing Land Contamination Prepare a register of known contaminated sites and sites that are potentially contaminated due to past land use 	<p>Council and Government Agencies</p> <p>Council and DECC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
Ensure development has a minimal impact on the natural and modified scenic landscape of the Lithgow LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate the preservation of landscape as an objective of land use zones and controls Develop development control provisions to guide the siting and design of development and/or buildings on the rural landscape and interface with the urban centres Undertake a landscape assessment study to identify the scenic protection areas and landscape values within the LGA Ensure that all development that may have a significant impact on the landscape quality and values prepares a detailed cultural landscape assessment as part of the Statement of Environmental Effects 	<p>Council</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Council and proponents</p>	<p>Short (2012 LEP and DCP)</p> <p>Short to Medium as resources permit</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LITHGOW LAND USE STRATEGY 2010-2030 HERITAGE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Strategy	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Ensure that items of heritage significance are identified and protected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the recommendations of the City of Lithgow Heritage Study (1996-2000) except as modified by the 2010 Heritage DCP Study Implement the recommendations of the 2010 Heritage DCP Study Provide planning controls to list items of individual heritage significance and a number of small heritage conservation areas as identified by the two aforementioned studies Provide detailed development guidelines within a Development Control Plan to facilitate heritage management and development assessment 	Council	Short (2012 LEP and DCP)
Identify and protect cultural landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a cultural landscape assessment study of the LGA 	Council	Short to Medium as resources permit
Provide incentives to protect heritage values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide a Heritage Advisory Service and Local Heritage Fund 	Council and DoP	Ongoing
Identify and protect the Aboriginal Heritage Significance of Lithgow LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake an Aboriginal Heritage Study and implement recommendations Continue to identify items of Aboriginal Heritage significance through the use of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System and consultation with the local aboriginal groups as determined by Council's Aboriginal Consultation Policy 	Council and DECC	Short to Medium as resources permit
Provide appropriate resources to increase awareness and involvement in identifying, protecting and enhancing heritage values in the LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Local Heritage Committee Prepare fact sheets and handouts for community and interested groups Promote local heritage through cultural tourism 	Council in partnership with the community	Ongoing