

Mid-Western Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN)

19 May 2025

Version Control

Version	Date	Change/s	Author
1.0	31 July 2023	Full update and review completed	A Gleeson
1.1	10 August 2023	Endorsed by LEMC	A Gleeson
1.2	27 September 2023	ABC Radio Comms Site updated	A Gleeson
1.3	18 October 2023	Ulan Public School details updated	A Gleeson
1.4	30 October 2023	Orica Site Map updated to include 1000m exclusion zone	A Gleeson
1.5	4 December 2023	DPI to AASFA, Alternate Health Facilities for Mudgee and Gulgong, EOC/FCC Location details updated	A Gleeson
1.6	8 March 2024	Neighbourhood Safer Places updated	A Gleeson
1.7	5 June 2024	Update to Mid-Western Regional Council Water and Sewer Infrastructure	A Gleeson
1.8	19 May 2025	CMG number updates	A Gleeson

Part 1 – ADMINISTRATION

Authority

The MID-WESTERN REGIONAL Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) has been prepared by the Mid-Western Regional Local Emergency Management Committee in compliance with the State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989.

APPROVED



.....

Chair

Mid-Western Regional Local Emergency Management Committee

Date: 14 August 2023

ENDORSED



B.R. Greentree, APM
Assistant Commissioner
Western Region
10 February 2024

.....

Chair

Central West Regional Emergency Management Committee

Date: 10 February 2024

Official: Sensitive



Central West Region Emergency Management Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday 30th November 2023
Commencing at: 1300hrs

Location: NSW Rural Fire Service
Orana Fire Control Centre
8 Judy Jakins Drive
DUBBO NSW

MINUTES

ITEM 12 – GENERAL BUSINESS – REGISTERED PRIOR –

12.1 Members received the following in business papers:

- Mid-Western EMPLAN

Recommendation / Motion:

That the Central West REMC **endorse** the Mid-Western EMPLAN as submitted.

Comments: The Mid-Western EMPLAN was submitted for feedback and comment. All requests for change and comment have been received and implemented. No further changes suggested by the room. No objections to the endorsement of the EMPLAN.

Move: That the Mid-Western EMPLAN be endorsed

Moved: Annabelle Watson

Seconded: Rod Coombes

Carried / ~~Not Carried~~

Contents

Version Control	2
Part 1 – ADMINISTRATION	3
Authority.....	4
Purpose.....	7
Objectives	7
Scope.....	7
Principles	8
Test and Review Process	8
Part 2 – Community Context.....	9
Annexure A – Community Profile	10
General.....	10
Landform and Topography	11
Climate	12
Land Use.....	12
Population and People	17
Transport Routes and Facilities.....	20
Economy and Industry.....	23
Annexure B – Hazards and Risk Summary.....	26
Annexure C – Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies.....	32
Part 3 – Restricted Operational Information.....	33
Annexure D – Community Assets	34
Key Resources and Locations.....	34
Key Infrastructure	47
Annexure E – Vulnerable Facilities List.....	54
Annexure F – Maps.....	58
Annexure G – Mines Emergency Meeting Points.....	60

Purpose

Details arrangements for, prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies within the Local Government Area(s) covered by this plan.

It encompasses arrangements for:

- emergencies controlled by combat agencies;
- emergencies controlled by combat agencies and supported by the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON);
- emergency operations for which there is no combat agency; and
- circumstances where a combat agency has passed control to the LEOCON.

Objectives

The objectives of this plan are to:

- define participating organisation and Functional Area roles and responsibilities in preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies;
- set out the control, co-ordination and liaison arrangements at the Local level;
- detail activation and alerting arrangements for involved agencies; and
- detail arrangements for the acquisition and co-ordination of resources.

Scope

The plan describes the arrangements at Local level to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and also provides policy direction for the preparation of Sub Plans and Supporting Plans:

- Arrangements detailed in this plan assume that the resources upon which the plan relies are available when required; and
- The effectiveness of arrangements detailed in this plan are dependent upon all involved agencies preparing, testing and maintaining appropriate internal instructions, and/or standing operating procedures.

Principles

The following principles are applied in this plan:

- a) The Emergency Risk Management (ERM) process is to be used as the basis for emergency planning in New South Wales. This methodical approach to the planning process is to be applied by Emergency Management Committees at all levels.
- b) Responsibility for preparation, response and recovery rests initially at Local level. If Local agencies and available resources are not sufficient they are augmented by those at Regional level.
- c) Control of emergency response and recovery operations is conducted at the lowest effective level.
- d) Agencies may deploy their own resources from their own service from outside the affected Local area or Region if they are needed.
- e) The Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) is responsible, when requested by a combat agency, to co-ordinate the provision of resources support. LEOCONs would not normally assume control from a combat agency unless the situation can no longer be contained. Where necessary, this should only be done after consultation with the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) and agreement of the combat agency and the appropriate level of control.
- f) Emergency preparation, response and recovery operations should be conducted with all agencies carrying out their normal functions wherever possible.
- g) Prevention measures remain the responsibility of authorities/agencies charged by statute with the responsibility.

Test and Review Process

The Mid-Western Regional Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) will review this Plan every three (3) years, or following any:

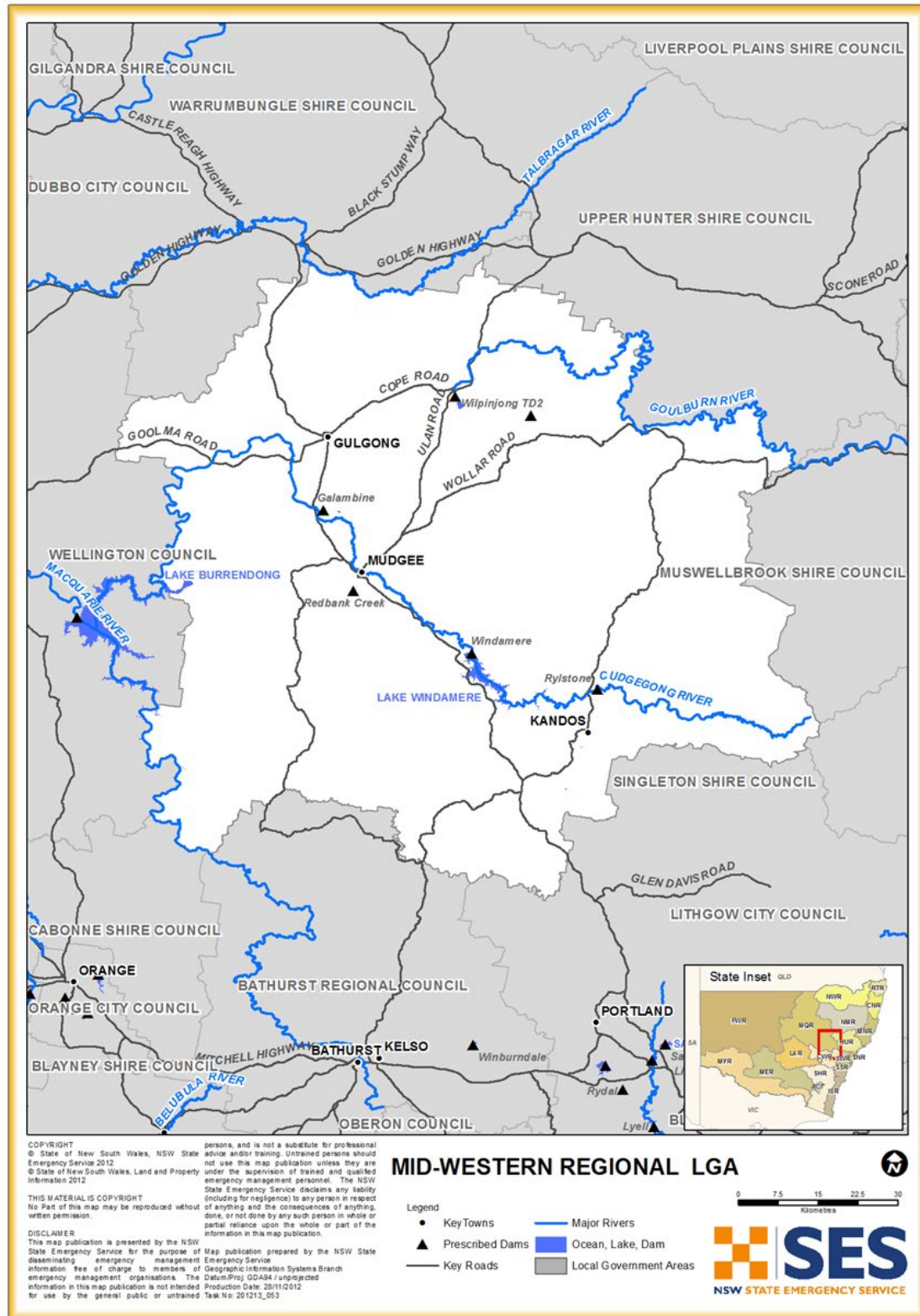
- activation of the Plan in response to an emergency;
- legislative changes affecting the Plan; and
- exercises conducted to test all or part of the Plan.

Part 2 – Community Context

Annexure A – Community Profile

General

The area of the Mid-Western Regional Council covers 875,225.9ha (approximately 8,752 sq. kms)



The major populated centres are:

- Mudgee
- Gulgong
- Kandos
- Rylstone
- Plus, numerous Villages and rural localities.

Village settlements located within the area:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| • Birriwa | • Lue |
| • Bylong | • Olinda |
| • Cooyal | • Pyramul |
| • Clandulla | • Running Stream |
| • Charbon | • Tambaroora |
| • Goolma | • Turill |
| • Grattai | • Ulan |
| • Hargraves | • Windeyer |
| • Ilford | • Wollar |

and intervening rural areas.

MUDGEE is the major centre in the local government area and Administrative centre for Mid-Western Regional Council.

Mudgee is located 261 kilometres North-West of Sydney.

The Mid-Western Regional area is located within the WEATHER FORECAST District (BOM) of: CENTRAL TABLELANDS.

The Mid-Western Regional area is located within the NSW FIRE AREA (RFS) of: CENTRAL RANGES.

The Mid-Western Regional area is bounded by the following Local Government areas;

LGA Name	EM Region	LGA Name	EM Region
Dubbo Regional	Central West	Bathurst Regional	Central West
Warrumbungle Shire	Central West	Upper Hunter Shire	Hunter
Cabonne Shire	Central West	Muswellbrook Shire	Hunter
Lithgow City	Central West	Singleton Shire	Hunter

Landform and Topography

The area is predominantly rural with areas of heavy timber through to open grassland.

The landform ranges from 1,070 metres elevation at Baldy Peak to 350 metres at Burrendong Dam foreshore.

There are approximately 1,055 sq. kms of Protected Lands (including National Parks and Reserves) and 8,757.86 sq. kms of catchment areas.

The main catchment area in the local area is associated with the Cudgegong River system. The catchment forms on the western side of the Great Diving Range.

The Cudgegong River travels from the Catchment areas into the water storage facility of Windamere Dam. Windamere Dam and its storage area is located up-stream of Mudgee. The Cudgegong River flows down-stream of Windamere Dam through the township of Mudgee and some 98 kilometres through the local government area to finish in Burrendong Dam. The Burrendong Dam Wall is located within the local government area of Dubbo Regional Council.

Four (4) rivers form part of the Mid-Western Regional local government boundaries. These being: Macquarie, Crudine, Goulburn and the Talbragar Rivers.

Variations in landscape, soils and climate across the area have given rise to a great diversity of flora and fauna. There is a vague north – south line of demarcation between eastern and western species of both plants and animals. This roughly follows the line of the Great Divide and forms a limit of distribution for a number of species. The wandering nature of the Great Divide and it's dissection by deep, penetrating valleys from east and west blur the line and create unique natural communities.

There are extensive coal resources underground across the area.

Mining is the major industry within the local area, with both open-cut and underground mining operations.

Climate

The varied land forms and altitudes over the LGA mean that there are many localised variations to the weather patterns. The climate can vary considerably across the area's length and breadth.

In the more extreme eastern areas temperatures can vary from as low as –12°C in winter to the high 30s and low 40s in summer. In the higher altitude areas, snow falls can occur in winter.

Generally, the area has a climate of warm to hot summers and cool to cold winters.

The hottest months are: November to February.

The coldest months are: June and July.

At MUDGEE:

- Average HIGH Temperature: 22.6°C
- Average LOW Temperature: 8.2°C
- Rainfall is slightly summer dominant, ranging from 65.0mm in January to 33.3mm in May.
- Average Rainfall for the area is: 670.3mm
- Average Rainy Days: 98.7 days.

Morning winds are predominately from the south – east throughout the year.

Afternoon winds vary from the south – east during summer and autumn months to the north – west during winter and spring months.

Land Use

The advent of European settlement saw the introduction of changes in land management. As the demands of agricultural pursuits increased, clearing, particularly on the lower slopes and accessible hills and ridges, resulted in extensive areas supporting only grass communities with scattered, individual trees.

There are extensive coal mining operations within the local area, with both open-cut and underground mining operations. There is a history of gold mining in the southern portion of the shire centred on the villages of Windeyer and Hargraves have resulted in many abandoned underground workings.

LAND USE ZONING

Land Use Zone	Area (ha)	% of LGA
C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves	96069.04	10.970480%
C3 Environmental Management	85163.16	9.725097%
E1 Local Centre	12.1	0.001382%
E2 Commercial Centre	32.79	0.003744%
E3 Productivity Support	47.18	0.005388%
E4 General Industrial	260.97	0.029801%
E5 Heavy Industrial	22.5	0.002569%
MU1 Mixed Use	17.38	0.001985%
R1 General Residential	1008.9	0.115210%
R2 Low Density Residential	1064.25	0.121531%
R3 Medium Density Residential	161.57	0.018450%
R5 Large Lot Residential	28739.98	3.281925%
RE1 Public Recreation	487.71	0.055693%
RE2 Private Recreation	77.44	0.008843%
RU1 Primary Production	622687.85	71.107032%
RU3 Forestry	4620.77	0.527663%
RU4 Primary Production Small Lots	14822.43	1.692628%
RU5 Village	915.25	0.104516%
SP1 Special Activities	27.28	0.003115%
SP2 Infrastructure	19454.33	2.221562%
SP3 Tourist	12.14	0.001386%
	875705.02	100%
Source: Mid-Western Regional Council 2023		

LAND MANAGERS

Land Manager	Approximate % of LGA
National Parks & Wildlife Service	11.5
Forestry Corporation NSW	1.9
Department of Lands (Crown Lands)	10.1
Local Government	0.1
Private	76.4
All other	2.0
Source: RFS – Cudgegong BFMC Bushfire Risk Management Plan 2020	

The Cudgegong BFMC area has on average 217 bush fires per year of which one on average can be considered to be a major fire.

The main sources of ignition in the Cudgegong BFMC area are lightning and accidental ignitions by machinery, equipment and vehicles.

WATERWAYS

The areas main waterways are:

- Capertee River
- Cudgegong River
- Macquarie River
- Nile River
- Carwell Creek
- Lawson Creek
- Pipeclay Creek
- Meroo Creek
- Tongbong Creek
- Wyaldra Creek

Most of the land in the East and South of the local area is undulating or hilly in nature, creek gradients are relatively steep and flood warning times and duration of inundation are short.

In the North-West and North, the terrain is flatter, floodplain areas are more extensive and warning times and duration of inundation are longer.

The Cudgegong River, an important tributary of the Macquarie River, rises east of Rylstone and Kandos in the Great Dividing Range at Mt Coricudgy (1,274 metres). In its upper reaches the river passes through comparatively rugged country until it reaches the section downstream from the site of Windamere Dam.

The local area has a previous history of Flooding. The highest recorded flood on the Cudgegong River occurred in February 1955.

Rylstone is located in mountainous and undulating country, west of the Great Dividing Range. Its numerous creeks and streams are fast flowing and steep, and flooding occurs with little warning. Floodplain areas are narrow and of limited extent, and floods tend to be short duration and cover relatively small areas. Flooding periodically covers public reserves and playing fields located on a narrow floodplain. But houses are generally not affected. It is possible that an extreme flood event could inundate and damage a small number of houses in and near Rylstone.

Generally, in the Mudgee area, the extent of inundation in major floods is little different from that in lesser events. Around Mudgee, extensive river flats have been developed along both the Cudgegong River and Lawson Creek upstream from their confluence with Pipeclay Creek. The valley floor then narrows as the river flows in a loop, north, west and south through undulating country en-route to Burrendong Dam, being joined by major tributaries Wyaldra and Meroo Creeks on the way. The lower portion of the Cudgegong River valley forms a sizeable arm of Lake Burrendong.

DAMS / WATER STORAGE

There are four (4) major water stores, Windamere Dam, Dunns Swamp and Rylstone Dam which largely serves the area for flood mitigation and Burrendong Dam which lies on the areas western border and is fed by the Macquarie River.

Storage Area	Location	River System
Windamere Dam	15km south east of Mudgee	Cudgegong River
Dunns Swamp	30km east of Rylstone	Cudgegong River
Rylstone Dam	1km north east of Rylstone	Cudgegong River
Burrendong Dam	70km west of Mudgee	Cudgegong / Macquarie Rivers

Storage Area	Location	River System
Moolarben Dam	50km north of Mudgee	Goulburn River
Redbank Creek Dam (no longer in use and only a façade remains)	4km south of Mudgee	Avisford Reserve Catchment

DAM OWNERS

Dam	Owner
Windamere	NSW Water
Burrendong	NSW Water
Redbank Creek	NPWS & Mid-Western Regional Council
Rylstone	Mid-Western Regional Council
Dunns Swamp	NPWS and Private Lease
Moolarben	Private property

DAM PROFILES

Dam	Construction Type / Details	Comments
WINDAMERE	<p>Earth & Rock Fill embankment 69 metre high. Rock Wall embankments at each end. Completed in 1984 Catchment size: 1,030 square kms Capacity: 368,000 megalitres at 552metres.</p> <p>The reservoir is ungated. Once it is filled its overflow is uncontrolled.</p>	<p>Located on Cudgegong River. Located 19km south-west of Rylstone. Located 22kms upstream of Mudgee. Constructed to supplement Burrendong Dam storage; Water supply for Mudgee; downstream irrigators.</p> <p>The Dam is very seldom filled to capacity. Regular transfers of water downstream to Burrendong occur.</p>
RYLSTONE	<p>Concrete Arch Dam with earth fill embankments at each end.</p> <p>The reservoir is ungated. Once it is filled its overflow is uncontrolled.</p> <p>The Dam is a “declared dam” under the NSW Dams Safety Act (2015) and associated Dams Safety Regulation (2019, with a Consequence Category High C.</p>	<p>Located on Cudgegong River. Located approximately 1.5 kilometres above Rylstone.</p> <p>Provides water supply to Rylstone, Kandos Charbon and Clandulla.</p> <p>Dam could fail in an extreme flood of a magnitude which would be likely to occur only very rarely. An event that would be more severe than any flood so far experienced in Rylstone’s history.</p> <p>If the Dam were to fail, a large volume of water would be released and would travel down the valley as a flood wave</p>

Dam	Construction Type / Details	Comments
		inundating large areas close to the river.
REDBANK	<p>Concrete Arch Dam with earth fill embankments at each end. This dam has had a large section removed so that it is unable to be filled and is no longer a storage facility.</p> <p>The dam has subsequently been removed from the Dam Safety NSW list of declared dams.</p>	<p>Located approximately 2 kilometres south of Mudgee. Located in Avisford Nature Reserve on Redbank Creek.</p> <p>Originally constructed to provide water supplies to Mudgee.</p>

Population and People

The population of the local government area is 25,713* people. 50.3% are males and 49.7% (Males: 50.3% / Females: 49.7%)

Population density (Persons / square km): 2.9

The population is centred in the towns (and Village / Rural Areas) of:

Centre / Town	Population <i>Source: ABS – 2021 Census</i>
MUDGEES	11,563**
GULGONG	2,057
KANDOS	1,208
RYLSTONE	624
Non-Urban Areas	10,261
TOTAL	25,713*
<i>Source: ABS – 2021 Census</i>	

*As at June 2022, the ABS estimate the total population is 25,760.

**As at 30 June 2022 the Significant Urban Areas (SUA) population was estimated at 12,559 which includes the Bombira and Putta Bucca areas.

KEY POPULATION INFORMATION

- ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER: 6.8%
- BORN OVERSEAS: 8.1% (Highest percentage are from England at 2.4%)
- LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH spoken at home: 3.3%
- POST SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS: 45.6% of population (15 years and over)
- UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: 1.8% (December Quarter 2022)
- MAIN INDUSTRY is Mining: 14.7% of working population work in this Industry.
- INTERNET ACCESS: 74.4% of occupied Private Dwellings have Internet.

[Source: ABS 2021 Census / Small Area Labour Markets (Jobs and Skills Australia)]

POPULATION – AGE GROUPS

The average age for the local area is: 42 years. (National Average is: 38)

Age Group	Population (%)
Age 0 – 4	5.9
5 – 9	7.1
10 – 14	6.8
15 – 19	5.6
20 – 24	4.2
25 – 29	5.4
30 – 34	6.1
35 – 39	6.0
40 – 44	5.6
45 – 49	6.0
50 – 54	6.9

Age Group	Population (%)
55 – 59	6.9
60 – 64	6.7
65 – 69	5.9
70 – 74	5.6
75 – 79	4.3
80 – 84	2.6
85 plus	2.3
TOTAL	25,713
59.9% of population at Working Age (15 - 64)	

Source: ABS 2021 Census

FAMILIES

Family Type	Number	Percentage (%)
Couple Family without children	3,000	44.1
Couple Family with children	2,204	39.6
One parent families	1,025	15.1
Other Family	86	1.3
TOTAL	6,800	
Average Family 2.9 people		
Source: ABS – 2021 Census		

HOUSEHOLDS

Type	Number	Percentage (%)
Family households	6,641	68.9
Lone Persons households	2,724	28.3
Group households	267	2.8
TOTAL	9,638	
Average Household Size: 2.4 people		
Source: ABS – 2021 Census		

HOUSING AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD MONTHLY

Rent Payment: \$330 (weekly)

Mortgage Payment: \$1,773 (monthly)

REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES

Type Of Vehicle	Number	Percentage (%)
1 motor vehicle	2,887	30.0
2 motor vehicles	3,635	37.7
3 motor vehicles or more	2,485	25.8
None	418	4.3
Source: ABS – 2021 Census		

MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK

Type Of Travel	Number	Percentage (%)
Car, as driver	7,378	64.6
Car, as passenger	553	4.8
Walked only	436	3.8
Truck	120	1.1
Public transport	41	0.4
Worked at home	1,201	10.5
Source: ABS – 2021 Census		

GOVERNMENT PENSION, ALLOWANCES PAYMENTS

Type	Number of Recipients
Age Pension	3,261
Family Tax Benefit	1,477
Carer Payment/Allowance	1088
Disability Support Pension	1,000
JobSeeker Payment	991
Single Parent Support Allowance	341
Youth Allowance	165
DVA Income support supplement/service pension	129
Source: ABS – 2021 Census	

PROPERTY NUMBERS

Property Type	Number
Rateable properties in LGA	14,413
Residential properties in major centres	Mudgee: 5,620 Gulgong: 925 Kandos: 860 Rylstone: 340
Total residential properties	11,774
Number of rural properties	Farmland: 1,936 Residential Rural: 4,029
Source: MWRC May 2023	

DWELLING TYPES

Type	Number	Percentage (%)
Total private dwellings	11,342	
Total occupied private dwellings	9,638	85.0
Separate house	8,811	91.4
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, town house etc.	609	6.3
Flat or apartment	84	0.9
Other dwelling	110	1.1
Unoccupied private dwellings	1,704	15.0
Source: ABS – 2021 Census		

TENURE TYPE (occupied private dwellings):

Type	Number	Percentage (%)
Owned Outright	3,749	38.9
Owned with a Mortgage	3,108	32.2
Rented TOTAL	2,351	24.4
Other Tenure Type	211	2.2
Tenure Type Not stated	216	2.2

Transport Routes and Facilities

RAIL

Western to Northern Rail link, travels Muswellbrook via Ulan through Gulgong to Dubbo transporting freight. This line is part of the national rail system.

This line services:

- Coal trains from Ulan Mines transporting coal to Newcastle.
- Super Freighter Trains that operate from Brisbane / Queensland and Newcastle on route to South Australia and Western Australia.

A rail line travels from Lithgow to Kandos / Rylstone to service coal mines in the south-east area of the local government area.

ROAD NETWORK

The main transport route through the area is the Castlereagh Highway (leads to Sydney), whilst the Golden Highway (leads to Newcastle) transverses the area in the far north – east section.

The Castlereagh Highway (TR55) traverses the area in a south-east to north direction and passes through Mudgee, Gulgong, Ilford and Birriwa. The road carries extensive traffic including heavy commercial transport and a high volume of tourist traffic year-round.

The Ulan Road (MR214) travels from Mudgee to join with the Golden Highway between Dunedoo and Denman. This road is used extensively by freight and passenger vehicles that service the Ulan Mines and logistic systems based on Newcastle. This includes Hazardous Materials, Inflammable fuels and hazardous materials.

Bathurst to Ilford Road (MR 54), Bylong Valley Way (MR 215 & 208), Lue Road (Rural Road – Rylstone to Mudgee), Gulgong to Goolma (Wellington Road MR 233) and Gulgong to Ulan Road (Cope Road MR 598) also carry extensive traffic movements.

The major road network comprises both Main Roads and State Roads:

Road / Highway Name	Transport Route
Gollan Road (MR7512) Golden Highway (State Road 84)	Goolma to Dubbo
Cope Road (MR 598)	Gulgong to Ulan
Wellington Road (MR 233)	Gulgong to Goolma
Castlereagh Highway (State Road 86 –TR55) / Golden Highway (State Road 84)	Gulgong to Dunedoo
Sofala Road. (MR 54)	Ilford to Sofala
Castlereagh Highway (State Road 86 -TR55)	Mudgee to Lithgow
Castlereagh Highway (State Road 86 -TR55)	Mudgee to Dunedoo
Castlereagh Highway (State Road 86 -TR55) MR 233 and MR 565	Mudgee to Wellington
Castlereagh Highway (State Road 86 -TR55)	Mudgee to Rylstone
MR 214, Golden Highway (State Road 84)	Mudgee to Cassilis
Wollar Road (MR 208)	Mudgee to Wollar
Hill End Road (MR 216)	Mudgee to Hill End
Bylong Valley Way (MR 215)	Rylstone to Ilford
Glen Davis Road, Glen Alice Road	Rylstone to Capertee
Bylong Valley Way (MR 215)	Rylstone to Bylong

AIR

Mudgee has a secured airport which is used extensively for commercial and general aviation operations. An aero club, helicopters and charter flights operators are located on and utilise the Mudgee Airport. Mudgee Airport has navigational aids located on ground which is used for both military and commercial flight paths. Major Domestic and International air routes traverse the area.

Mudgee is serviced by a daily commercial passenger aircraft operated by Fly Pelican. This operation operates six days per week to Sydney and return utilising a J32 Jetstream 19 passenger turbo prop aircraft service with two crew members.

The Defence Force regularly use the Mudgee Airport for Exercises and Training purposes. Main aircraft are: Herculeses, Falcon 7X and KingAir.

Private aviation companies regularly use the Mudgee Airport for and regularly training activities, especially landing “touch and go’s”. Largest aircraft would be: King Air and Citation Jet or Falcon 7X

Largest size aircraft that use the airport on a regular basis are: Falcon 2000, Challenger (24,000kg), occasionally SAAB 340 Aircraft and Falcon 7X

NSW Rural Fire Service contracted fire-fighting aircraft are regularly pre-positioned at Mudgee Airport on stand-by for quick deployment operational duty, or when operational for water supply re-filling or fuel re-filling during the designated Bushfire Season. It is used by the NSW Rural Fire Service as a base during the time of a bushfire event and training purposes.

Ambulance NSW, Royal Flying Doctors and Toll Rescue Helicopters utilise the airport on a regular basis for emergency patient transfers.

There are between 5000 and 5500 aircraft movements each year. The main sealed runway is 1,739m in length and has a Code C3 rating, the grass runway strip is 1,075m in length and has a Code 2C rating.

Aviation fuel is stored at Mudgee Airport. This includes 20,000L of Jet A1 and 20,000L of Avgas.

Rylstone has a grass airstrip that is used by private light aircraft operators, and is NOT operated by Mid-Western Regional Council.

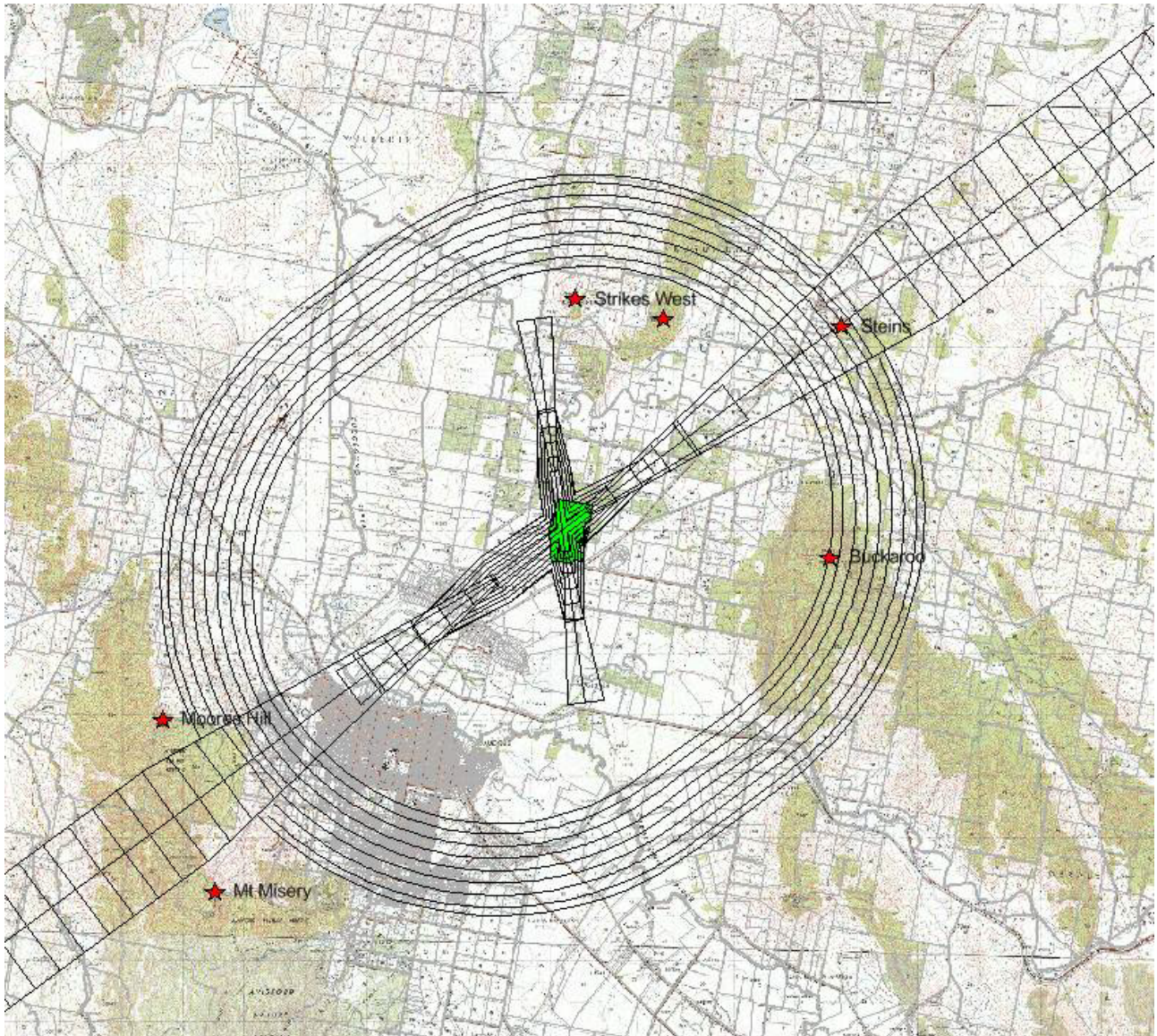
A landing strip and associated Gliding Club, located approximately 12kms north of Gulgong caters for local, national and international Gliding operations and competitions.

There are numerous private air strips throughout the area.

There is extensive use of Ultra-Light and Recreational Aircraft (single and twin person aircraft) within the local area.

Mudgee Airport Beacon Lighting

There are six beacon lights, two flashing and two steady red located at the following points:



Economy and Industry

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Biggest employment industries by percentage of population are:

- Coal Mining: 14.7%
- Primary Education: 2.8%
- Supermarket and Grocery Stores: 2.6%
- Aged Care Residential Services: 2.5%
- Other Social Assistance Services: 2.5%

Source: ABS – 2021 Census

AVERAGE WEEKLY INCOME: \$703 (personal), \$1,966 (family), \$1,486 (household).

Source: ABS – 2021 Census

LABOUR FORCE

Classification	Number	Percentage
Employed	11,427	96.0%
Unemployed	470	4.0%

Source: ABS – 2021 Census

NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES

Classification	Number
Number of Businesses that employ 1-19 employees	1,076
Number of Businesses that employ 20 or greater employees	48
Number of Businesses that are non-employing	1,732
TOTAL	2,856

Source: ABS – Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, June 2018 to June 2022

Classification	Number
Total number of business (active ABN's)	7,484

Source: Australian Business Register as at 31 March 2023

OCCUPATIONS

Classification	Number	Percentage
Technicians and Trade Workers	1,998	17.5%
Professionals	1,607	14.1%
Managers	1,591	13.9%
Machinery Operators & Drivers	1,473	12.9%
Labourers	1,298	11.4%
Community & Personal Service Workers	1,261	11.0%
Clerical & Administration	1,110	9.7%
Sales Workers	893	7.8%

Source: ABS – 2021 Census

NUMBER OF BUSINESSES BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Number
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	968
Mining	30
Manufacturing	117
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	5
Construction	433
Wholesale Trade	50
Retail Trade	155
Accommodation and Food Services	161
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	109
Information Media and Telecommunications	14
Financial and Insurance Services	51
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	193
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	183
Administrative and Support Services	95
Public Administration and Safety	4
Education and Training	26
Health Care and Social Assistance	86
Arts and Recreation Services	32
Other Services	143
Currently Unknown	0
TOTAL	2,855
Source: ABS – June 2018 to June 2022	

EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Number	Percentage
Mining	2,217	18.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,306	11.1%
Retail Trade	1,105	9.4%
Construction	1,031	8.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	959	8.2%
Education & Training	914	7.8%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	877	7.5%
Manufacturing	533	4.5%
Other Services	467	4.0%
Public Administration & Safety	455	3.9%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	412	3.5%
Administrative & Support Services	380	3.2%
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	271	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	239	2.0%
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	156	1.3%
Arts & Recreation Services	124	1.1%
Financial & Insurance Services	111	0.9%
Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	107	0.9%
Information Media & Telecommunications	52	0.4%
TOTAL	11,716	100%
Source: ABS – June 2018 to June 2022		

MINING

The main employing industry is MINING. This industry employs 18.9 % of the working population.

- Production and transport of export coal from the Ulan area, approximately 45km north of Mudgee town (Ulan, Wilpinjong & Moolarben Coal Mines).
- Ulan Mining Operations consist of Ulan West, Ulan No. 3 and Ulan Surface Operations.
- Moolarben Open Cut, Coal Handling Plant and Underground Mine commenced in 2016.
- Wilpinjong Coal Mine is located approximately 64 km north east of Mudgee Town.
- Ulan and Moolarben Coal Mines all have expansion plans either underway or in the planning stages which will increase the production of coal in the Region.
- Bowdens Silver Mine is currently in the project optimisation stage and has an expected project life of 17+ years. This project has a construction workforce of 320 and an ongoing workforce of 228.
- Clay mining at various locations in the southern area.
- Magnetite mining, north of Gulgong to service Ulan Coal.
- Dolomite lime is mined at Buckaroo, North of Mudgee.
- History of gold mining in the southern portion of the area centred on the villages of Windeyer and Hargraves resulting in many abandoned underground workings.
- History of gold mining and abandoned under-ground workings surround Gulgong.

RURAL INDUSTRY

Agriculture has long played a major role in the district's economy.

Production includes beef, prime lambs, meat goats, wool, goat fibres, alpacas, cereal production, pasture hay, lucerne, and honey. Horticulture plays an important role with fruit production; viticulture and olives recently becoming major contributors, as do their associated industries of wine and oil produce.

The area contains an extensive number of hobby farming on 25-acre rural subdivisions.

There is a large number of absentee landowners associated with these small hobby farm and 25-acre rural properties.

Many rural residential estates are HIGH risk to BUSHFIRE due to large numbers of small blocks in areas of dense vegetation, with limited access.

TOURISM

Tourism is now an established industry. There are 691,000 visitors to the Mid-Western Region LGA per annum. Tourism produces an annual economic output of \$139.8million (2% of the regions output) Tourism is based on the encompassing rural, urban and natural landscapes; wine industry and boutique cottage and accommodation sectors.

There are regularly large events, sporting, cultural and exhibitions that are held in the region that can attract significant numbers of visitors that can impact on local resources.

Major Events in Mid-Western Regional area:

Refer to the following Mid-Western Regional Council webpage

<http://www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au/community--recreation/Events/>

Annexure B – Hazards and Risk Summary

A Local Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Study has been undertaken by the Mid-Western Regional LEMC identifying the following hazards as having risk of causing loss of life, property, utilities, services and/or the community's ability to function within its normal capacity.

The likelihood and consequence of each of these hazards impacting the Mid-Western LGA has been assessed using the below matrix.

LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE LEVEL				
	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC
ALMOST CERTAIN	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
LIKELY	Low	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
UNLIKELY	Low	Low	Medium	High	Extreme
RARE	Very low	Low	Medium	High	High
VERY RARE	Very low	Very low	Low	Medium	High
EXTREMELY RARE	Very low	Very low	Low	Medium	High

Hazards that are considered Medium to Extreme have had Consequence Management Guides (CMGs) developed which are considered GUIDES for Emergency Operation Controllers and Combat Agency – Incident Controllers / Commanders.

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Agricultural Disease (Animal)	An agriculture incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation.	Likely	Moderate	High	Animals and Agriculture Functional Area (AAFA)
Agricultural Disease (Plant)	A horticulture incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation.	Likely	Moderate	High	AAFA
Building Collapse	Collapse of building owing to structural failure or impact from external/internal event of other hazards /incidents.	Rare	Minor	Low	Fire + Rescue NSW
Communicable Disease (Human)	Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human or animal population	Likely	Major	Extreme	NSW Health
Dam Failure	A dam is compromised that results in localised or widespread flooding.	Unlikely	Catastrophic	High	NSW SES / Water NSW / MWRC
Earthquake	Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage.	Rare	Minor	Low	LEOCON
Fire (Bush or Grass)	Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands impacting on residential properties or environment.	Likely	Major	Extreme	NSW RFS

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Fire (Industrial or commercial)	Serious industrial or commercial fire in office complexes, shopping centres, aged persons units, nursing homes, hospitals, warehouses and the Orica explosives facility.	Likely	Moderate	High	Fire + Rescue NSW NSW RFS
Fire (Residential)	Serious residential fire in medium/high rise apartments.	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Fire + Rescue NSW NSW RFS
Flood (Flash)	Heavy rainfall causes excessive localised flooding with minimal warning time	Likely	Moderate	High	NSW SES
Flood (Riverine)	River flows exceed the capacity of normal river systems resulting in flood waters escaping and inundating river plains	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	NSW SES
Hazardous Materials Release (ROAD)	Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident results in environmental damage and major recovery operation.	Likely	Moderate	High	Fire + Rescue NSW
Hazardous Materials Release (RAIL)	Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident results in environmental damage and major recovery operation.	Likely	Moderate	High	Fire + Rescue NSW

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Hazardous Materials Release (Commercial Storage Facilities)	Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident results in environmental damage and major recovery operation.	Likely	Moderate	High	Fire + Rescue NSW
Landslip	Landslip/landslide resulting in localised or widespread damage.	Unlikely	Minor	Low	LEOCON
Storm	Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localised flooding (includes tornado)	Likely	Moderate	High	NSW SES
Transport Emergency (AIR)	Aircraft crashes in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Rare	Major	High	LEOCON
Transport Emergency (ROAD) Human	A major accident in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Rare	Major	High	LEOCON (TfNSW / MWRC)
Transport Emergency (ROAD) Animals	A major accident in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Rare	Major	High	LEOCON / LLS

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Transport Emergency (RAIL)	A major accident in LGA resulting in damage to property and environment. [Coal Trains]	Rare	Minor	Low	LEOCON / John Holland Rail / ARTC
Utilities Failure (Electricity)	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Likely	Moderate	High	LEOCON / Endeavour Energy / Essential Energy
Utilities Failure (Water)	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Likely	Moderate	High	LEOCON / MWRC
Utilities Failure (Sewerage)	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	LEOCON / MWRC
Utilities Failure (Telecommunications)	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Rare	Minor	Low	LEOCON
Mines Emergency	Major incident at a mine (open cut or underground) that results in serious injury or death, entrapment requiring rescue coordination, environmental, transportation or structural impacts that either affect mining operations or the community.	Unlikely	Catastrophic	Extreme	LEOCON / Mines Safety – Trade & Investment

Consequence Management Guides

The “Consequence Management Guides” (CMGs) are GUIDES for Emergency Operation Controllers and Combat Agency – Incident Controllers / Commanders.

The CMGs have been prepared from a “Checklist” foundation for use by emergency service agencies; functional area coordinators; Emergency Operation Controllers and Combat Agency – Incident Controllers / Commanders.

Decisions and actions undertaken in operational conditions by Emergency Operation Controllers and Combat Agency – Incident Controllers / Commanders may be different to or conflict with information contained in the CMGs as a result of specific factors and limitations experienced or exposed to during emergency operations. Operational actions will always take precedence over “Guideline” information recorded in the CMGs.

The following CMGs relate to hazards that are rated MEDIUM to EXTREME according to the risk matrix, and/or or require significant coordination are:

CMG Number	Source of Risk	Risk Level
MWR-01	Fire (Bush or Grass)	Extreme
MWR-02	Mines Emergency	Extreme
MWR-03	Flood (Flash)	High
MWR-04	Storm	High
MWR-05	Hazardous Materials Release (Rail)	High
MWR-06	Biosecurity (Animal and/or Plant) Emergency	High
MWR-07	Utilities Failure	High
MWR-08	Transport Emergency (Air)	High
MWR-09	Fire (Industrial or Commercial)	High
MWR-10	Dam Failure (Windamere Dam)	High
MWR-11	Transport Accidents Involving Animals	High
MWR-12	Communicable Disease (Human - Pandemic)	Extreme
MWR-13	Flood (Riverine)	Medium
MWR-14	Hazardous Materials Release (Hazmat)	High
MWR-15	Transport Emergency (Passenger Coach/Bus)	High

Annexure C – Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies

Responsibility for the preparation and maintenance of appropriate sub and supporting plans rest with the relevant Combat Agency Controller or the relevant Functional Area Coordinator.

The sub/supporting plans are developed in consultation with the Mid-Western Regional LEMC and the community.

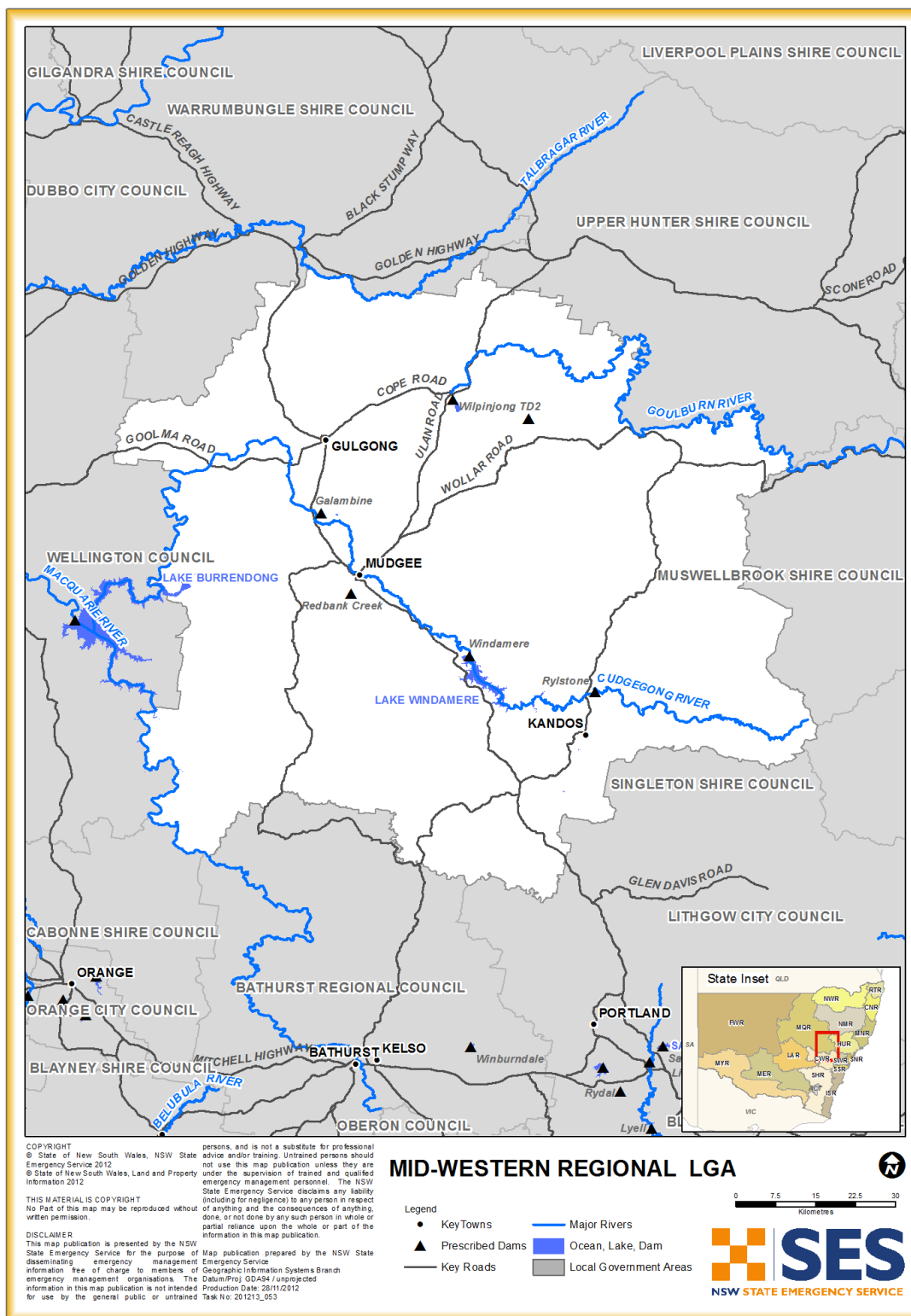
The plans listed below are supplementary to this EMPLAN. The sub/supporting plans have been endorsed by the LEMC and are determined as compliant and complimentary to the arrangements listed in this EMPLAN.

These plans are retained by the LEMO on behalf of the LEMC.

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
NSW RFS CUDGEGONG DISTRICT OPERATIONS PLAN	Bushfire operations	NSW Rural Fire Service
NSW SES LOCAL FLOOD PLAN MID-WESTERN REGIONAL	Flood operations	NSW State Emergency Service
MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL AIRPORT EMERGENCY PLAN	Airport operations	MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Annexure F – Maps

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MAP: Mid-Western Regional Council



ORICA EXPLOSIVE SITE

This map shows the 1000m exclusion zone radius.



Annexure G – Mines Emergency Meeting Points

Point Id	Northing	Easting	RL	Mine Site
GATE A	6424938.2	759088.5	428.3	Ulan Surface Operations
GATE B	6425719.3	761026.0	423.8	Moolarben Coal Operations
GATE C	6429170.1	761032.2	403.0	Ulan Underground & Ulan West Operations
GATE D	6434173.5	762880.5	423.0	Ulan Complex - Bobadeen Rd
GATE E	6438166.4	763985.2	471.6	Ulan Complex - Maingate 29 entrance
GATE F	6417860.0	770519.0	TBA	Wilpinjong Operations

Grid is MGA94

RL's are Australian Height Datum (AHD)