

# Central West & Orana Agricultural Development Strategy

## Fact Sheet #4

May 2016

The NSW Government has released the draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan (draft Plan) to guide sustainable growth in the region over the next 20 years.

It outlines a vision to grow and diversify the economy by supporting jobs growth, sustainably managing its agricultural, mining and natural resources and strengthening the region's cities, centres, towns and villages.

You can have a say on the draft Plan which is now on exhibition.

### What does the draft Plan say about agriculture?

- The draft Plan identifies agriculture as one of the major economic drivers in the region. The Central West and Orana generated 18 per cent of the total NSW gross regional product for agriculture in 2011. Additionally, in 2011, agriculture, forestry and fishing employed over 10,980 people (11 per cent of the workforce).
- Agricultural production supports a large part of the region's manufacturing sector, including the processing and manufacturing of raw agricultural produce and also generates significant freight flows.
- Opportunities for productivity growth across the agriculture and associated agribusiness and manufacturing sectors will be supported by defining and coordinating investment in higher capacity freight networks.

### What does the draft Plan propose for agriculture?

- The draft Plan proposes that a Regional Agricultural Development Strategy be prepared.
- This strategy will:
  - map regionally important agricultural land;
  - identify emerging regional opportunities;
  - give guidance and direction for local planning of agricultural development; and
  - complement the existing Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (BSAL) mapping (this is the most productive agricultural land).
- The draft Plan also proposes the development of an updated policy framework to recognise the importance of agricultural land, protect important agricultural industries from potential land use conflict, and consider the impacts of climate change and guide council planning.

### How will the final Plan be implemented?

- A Coordination and Monitoring Committee will be established to oversee the implementation of the final Central West and Orana Regional Plan, comprising State agencies, councils and other representatives.

### Further information

- To find out more about what is in the draft Plan and to make a comment visit:  
[www.planning.nsw.gov.au/centralwestandorana](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/centralwestandorana)