

## NSW Planning and Environment – DRAFT South East and Tablelands Regional Plan – ACT Government Response

Covers five regional landscapes:

- Alpine - Snowy-Monaro Regional Council (previously Cooma-Monaro, Bombala, Snowy River)
- Far South Coast – Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shire Councils
- Greater Capital – Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council and Yass Valley
- Hilltops – Hilltops Regional Council (previously Young, Boorowa and Harden)
- Southern Highlands and Tablelands – Wingecarribee, Upper Lachlan and Goulburn Mulwaree

Vision – build a resilient and sustainable communities by balancing growth opportunities with protecting the region’s diverse environment and lifestyles

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
<p><b>Goal 1 – Sustainably manage growth opportunities from the ACT</b></p>	<p>1.1 Provide well-located and serviced land for housing in the Greater Capital to meet demand</p>	<p>1.1.1 Coordinate infrastructure delivery to support release areas in the Greater Capital</p>	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – Chief Minister, Treasury &amp; Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD); Environment &amp; Planning Directorate (EPD).</li> <li>- The upcoming review of the ACT Planning Strategy and Transport for Canberra due in 2017 will provide an opportunity to progress this action.</li> <li>- Current developments such as South Tralee/South Jerrabomberra and West Belconnen/Riverview highlight the requirement for close coordination between the ACT and NSW Governments.</li> <li>- This action should consider planning controls that should be applied in residential developments that adjoin incompatible land uses.</li> <li>- This action should refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the Draft ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework (June 2014).</li> <li>- Consistent with the intent and actions of the <i>ACT and Region Catchment Strategy (Catchment Strategy)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Action 11: in regard to the implementation and management of sustainable water quality infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of development on regional water bodies, streams and rivers.</li> <li>o Action 12: Secure long term water supplies for the ACT and Region – which looks at investigating the opportunities for securing the regions water resources in terms of water quality and quantity.</li> <li>o Action 15: Develop a better understanding of groundwater resources (quantity and quality) within the region – which looks at the role of groundwater as a viable water resource mainly for the surrounding villages in the ACT and region. NOTE we have recent analysis on groundwater quantity – see Ray Evans report etc</li> </ul> </li> <li>- There are significant efficiencies that can be obtained by progressing these actions in collaboration with the ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group (Coordination Group) .</li> <li>- As secretariat to the Coordination Group, the Catchment and Water Policy Branch of the Environment and Planning Directorate is the appropriate ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the actions. This would be conducted in conjunction with EPD Planning, CMTEDD and Icon Water.</li> <li>- Note the action that has already occurred under the Coordination Group in facilitating a “best for region” solution to the ACT/Queanbeyan City Council sewerage treatment plant issue</li> </ul>

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
		1.1.2 Develop principles to guide the development of a cross-border infrastructure funding model to support cross border development	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD / EPD.</li> <li>- This was an initiative proposed in the C + 1 draft report.</li> <li>- In preparing the Draft <i>ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework</i>, a set of settlement principles were prepared to inform development of the NSW Regional Plan and the future review of the ACT Planning Strategy and Transport for Canberra.</li> <li>- The upcoming review of the ACT Planning Strategy and Transport for Canberra due in 2017 will provide an opportunity to progress this action.</li> <li>- The Health Reform Agreement arrangements for cross-border payments between States really only cover recurrent costs and do not adequately address the infrastructure implications of this use.</li> <li>- Some CGC infrastructure assessments fully capture the cross-border impact eg: roads – for which road use is a key driver of assessed needs.</li> <li>- Urban public transport may be fairly well covered as it doesn't have much cross-border impact (except maybe for Queanbeyan in our case) – and is partly covered by user charges.</li> <li>- National network infrastructure has clear cross-border impacts – there is some user charging element here, but may not be adequate to cover cross-border impacts (given 50% quarantining of related C'W payments from CGC assessments), and in any case tolling is not used in the ACT and other small jurisdictions.</li> <li>- Social infrastructure (public hospitals, public schools etc) has minimal user charging and we rely on CGC assessments – infrastructure impacts are captured in the Other Services component of the Infrastructure assessment (about 11.5% of the Investment)</li> </ul>
		1.1.3 Develop a cross-border land monitoring program	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD/EDD/EPD.</li> <li>- Existing ACT government work in this area includes an ACT housing demand model developed to inform the development of the ACT Indicative Land Release Program. The ILRP is a 4-year program of land releases across sectors (residential, commercial, mixed use, industrial and community &amp; non-urban land).</li> <li>- Beyond the 4-year program of releases is a 10-year strategy for land release. Monitoring demand and supply is based on ED's 30-year dwelling occupations forecast, which informs timing of the need to investigate and release new greenfield development areas.</li> <li>- Economic Development Directorate (EDD) hosts sector Advisory committees for the residential and commercial sectors to monitor activity in the markets, industry and close jurisdictions. These advisory committees are attended by peak industry organisations, ACT agencies with planning and land development interests as well as Queanbeyan Council.</li> <li>- There is potential to expand the invitation to EDD's Residential Advisory Committee to include councils in the Greater Capital Region to facilitate land monitoring and building/development activity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o This was an initiative proposed in the C +1 draft report.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The upcoming review of the ACT Planning Strategy and Transport for Canberra due in 2017 will provide an opportunity to progress this action.</li> </ul>

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		1.1.4 Support the development of local housing strategies in the Greater Capital	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD/EPD.</li> <li>- Consistent with the ACT's <i>Business Development Strategy - Confident and Business Ready : Building on our Strengths (Our Region)</i></li> <li>- This was an initiative proposed in the C +1 draft report.</li> <li>- The upcoming review of the ACT Planning Strategy and Transport for Canberra due in 2017 will provide an opportunity to progress this action.</li> </ul>
	1.2 Improve cross-border transport connectivity	1.2.1 Work with the ACT Govt to make travelling to and from Canberra easier and more convenient	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD</li> <li>- This is the area where there is most urgency and most opportunity for cross border collaboration, including in the areas of public transport, community transport, cycling, park and ride, freight and tourism transport.</li> <li>- The ACT Government was part of the Steering Committee for the Barton Highway Improvement Strategy project led by NSW Roads and Maritime Services. However, there is a need for ongoing coordination in terms of implementation. The ACT Freight Strategy also recognises the Barton Highway as a key freight route from and to the ACT, with other roads going to and from the region including the Monaro Highway and Kings Highway. The strategy identified taking an integrated regional approach to connect freight infrastructure across the ACT and southeast NSW region, including identifying existing infrastructure on a 'whole of region' basis.</li> <li>- Improving cross border public transport should be progressed as a matter of urgency between the jurisdictions, particularly for Canberra-Queanbeyan. The Draft <i>ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework</i> (June 2014) indicated that resolving cross border public transport issues should be given a high priority by both jurisdictions due to the large daily influx of people from NSW to the ACT.</li> <li>- In 2011, 27,800 people indicated that they worked in the ACT but lived elsewhere. Over 23,000 people or 84% of these were residents in the South East and Tablelands region (page 20). That is a significant number of people using ACT roads and less sustainable modes of travel, and does not account for school and vocational training travel. Approx 5,000 residents from the ACT travelled to NSW for work.</li> <li>- EPD supports the draft Request for Quote (RFQ) prepared by CMTEDD to undertake a Cross Border Public Transport Issues and Options study.</li> <li>- Priorities should include public transport integration for those areas within an approximate one hour commute of the ACT (Queanbeyan, Yass, Goulburn, Cooma, Bungendore, Braidwood) [note ACT Government is commissioning study MRCagney].</li> <li>- The draft Regional Plan needs to specify that the NSW Government will ensure that collaboration with the ACT Government occurs on this action and what form this takes. Will any existing ACT/NSW committees be superseded or replaced by a new committee? There is minimal detail and no timeframes for working with the ACT on this action.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – Transport and City Service.</li> </ul>

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		1.2.2 Improve sharing of transport data between the ACT and NSW, including the development of a cross-border transport model	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT Government maintains the Canberra Strategic Transport Model as a tool to analyse land use and transport relationships, develop and assess transport infrastructure options, and identify likely future network conditions and performance. The model assists in making informed transport planning decisions on future transport infrastructure needs and the impact of strategic land use decisions on the transport network. It is based on predictions of land use data such as population, employment, retail floor space and enrolments and other transport cost assumptions. The model covers transport zones in the ACT and Queanbeyan areas and consists of existing and likely future road, public transport and shared path networks, with inclusion of the freight network planned in the future.</li> <li>- This action needs to recognise the importance of data sharing to firm up evidence base capability in making informed decisions. Strategic Planning Division has been liaising with Queanbeyan City Council in updating the land use dataset. Collaboration with Yass Valley Council needs to be facilitated to expand the Canberra Strategic Transport Model to include Yass township.</li> <li>- In addition, while the ACT has a strategic road network modelling capability, it does not have a freight model because of limited data. Transport for NSW however has a Strategic Freight Model, which includes the ACT as a region and which models and forecasts freight flows from both NSW and Victorian regions into the ACT. This is a potential resource that could offer strategic analytical insights for cross-border freight planning.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – Transport Canberra/EPD/ CMTEDD.</li> </ul>
		<i>ACT Suggested Initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- With respect to Action 1.1 above, the Catchment Strategy Action 10: Provide an integrated catchment management planning approach for determining growth and settlement patterns in the ACT and Region - The intent of this action is for ACT and NSW to formulate similar planning principles (without prejudice to each jurisdiction's approval processes) to ensure that developments are designed and implemented to similar standards; and adequately take into account factors that may inadvertently impact on catchment health and identify agreed mitigation strategies.</li> <li>- Again significant efficiencies that can be obtained by progressing this action in collaboration with the ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group (Coordination Group).</li> <li>- As secretariat to the Coordination Group, the Catchment and Water Policy Branch of the Environment and Planning Directorate is the appropriate ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the actions. This would be done in conjunction with EPD Planning</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Goal2 – Protect and enhance the region’s natural environment</b></p>	<p>2.1 Protect the region’s diverse environmental values</p>	<p>2.1.1 Avoid, minimise and offset the impact of development on significant environmental assets</p>	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD/EPD.</li> <li>- This action should also refer to areas of landscape and scenic quality, not just high environmental values. Refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the Draft ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework.</li> <li>- This is consistent with Action 17 of the Catchment Management Strategy: Develop a regional approach to strategic land and biodiversity management practices. The intent of this action is (amongst other things) is to promote opportunities for cross border offsetting of the impacts of development.</li> <li>- Again this action can be enhanced via the Coordination Group with the lead directorate likely to be EPD – Nature Conservation Policy.</li> <li>- Also see comment in “Suggested ACT initiatives” in Goal One.</li> <li>- The mapping of significant environmental values needs to include the ACT. Intensive development such as small lot rural subdivision in adjoining areas of NSW is likely to be incompatible with conservation reserves or maintaining high environmental values within adjacent areas of the ACT. With agreement from NSW Planning, EPD is willing to provide a map of ACT’s areas of high environmental value using the criteria detailed in the Draft South East and Tablelands Regional Plan.</li> <li>- It is also unclear how the Plan can meet this goal within a planning context that allows within Yass Shire for 40 ha rural allotments with possibly two dwellings on these lots, abutting or within areas of high environmental value including regional corridors and some of ACT’s nationally significant woodland reserves. Rural residential development is a poor neighbour for conservation as the generally more intensive living and often poor or lack of management results in significant weed, feral animal and vegetation clearance issues. In this context the Regional Plan becomes a somewhat meaningless document. Provisions that relate to ensuring proper planning for rural residential development should apply to all subdivision less than 80ha.</li> </ul>

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
		2.1.2 Protect the region's biodiversity corridors in local planning controls	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD/EPD.</li> <li>- Relegating the protection of the region's biodiversity corridors in 'local planning controls' is unlikely to deliver the continuous corridor planning required for the region, including NSW and the ACT. This is because each Council will only have planning controls for land inside their own jurisdictional boundary. A more holistic approach which includes relevant Councils in NSW, as well as the ACT is required.</li> <li>- The ACT and Region Catchment Strategy 2016-46 (particularly Action 17) could be the vehicle to deliver this action but does not include all of the areas covered in the Draft South East and Tablelands Regional Plan. Nevertheless, it is a useful start.</li> <li>- The Catchment Strategy is not referred to at all in the Regional Plan. The Catchment Strategy 2016-46 is accompanied by a Catchment Action Implementation Plan 2016-21.</li> <li>- It should be noted that the ACT and NSW work together to enhance wildlife corridors at larger landscape scales. ACT and NSW partners collaborate for example on the Kosciusko to Coast (K2C) and the Great Eastern Ranges (GER) initiatives. ACT Government, represented by ACT NRM and Conservation Research, also participated in development of the Greater Capital 1st Draft Corridors Mapping in October 2015. This exercise is being led by NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and included extensive consultation with South East Local Land Services and relevant local councils (Yass, Palerang, Queanbeyan, Cooma). "Work with NSW partners to identify regional wildlife corridors" is a commitment in implementation of the ACT Nature Conservation Strategy 2013-23.</li> <li>- The ACT's regionally significant corridors should also be included in the map of high environmental value. Maintaining the links of the ACT corridors to the NSW regional corridor system will be an important aspect of this action, as the ACT and NSW corridors are just components of the same national linkages.</li> <li>- As recognised in discussion between ACT and NSW environment and planning officials, it is desirable for ACT biodiversity corridor and High Conservation Value information to occur within the <i>NSW Draft South East and Tablelands Regional Plan</i>, rather than the ACT appearing to be a "hole in the information donut". There is an obvious advantage for planners in neighbouring shires to be cogniscent of where significant conservation values are in adjacent areas of the ACT, while the maintenance of those values in the ACT will be reliant on compatible adjoining land uses. Wildlife also migrate and move across NSW and ACT lands, with conservation aims in the ACT being reliant on links being maintained in NSW. The mountain areas are well catered for through the Alpine National Parks co-ordinated and agreements. Lowland areas of the ACT contain relatively large and biologically diverse temperate woodland patches. In recognition of the importance of these woodlands the ACT and Commonwealth government has spent several million dollars enhancing the size, condition and connection of these remnants. This has included much activity in NSW, particularly in the neighbouring Greater Goorooyarroo area linking into the Southern Tableland Flyway, identified by OEH field work.</li> <li>- The Southern Tableland Flyway appears to be particularly important for the movement of nomadic and migratory threatened woodland birds into and out of the ACT such as the Superb Parrot, Regent Honeyeater, White-winged Triller and Swift Parrot. The ACT Government requests that this linkage is included in the regional plan along with the continuation of NSW regional corridors within the ACT.</li> <li>- The ACT has mapped corridors across the ACT and neighbouring NSW, according to the same methodology as employed by OEH in NSW. Albeit at a finer scale. Biodiversity corridors information supplied shows key core regional habitat areas and linkages.</li> </ul>
		2.1.3 Prepare a comprehensive koala plan of management for the Cooma-Monaro Local Government area	N/A for the ACT
	2.2 Manage development to protect the Far South Coast environment	2.2.1 Focus urban growth on the Far South Coast in existing urban growth areas	N/A for the ACT

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		2.2.2 Protect sensitive estuaries on the Far South Coast	N/A for the ACT
		2.2.3 Review and update coastal management plans	N/A for the ACT
		2.2.4 Create a consistent approach to protecting important riparian areas in planning and development controls	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT and Region Catchment Strategy will facilitate this work across the Greater Capital Region.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD.</li> </ul>
		2.2.5 Investigate opportunities to integrate the marine estate and adjacent coast land uses	N/A for the ACT
	2.3 Build the region's resilience to natural hazards and climate change	2.3.1 Apply contemporary risk management to flooding and other hazards	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work is occurring on this through ACT Emergency Services Agency and includes Cross Border Emergency Services and Disaster Recovery Working Group and Regional Bushfire Management Committee.</li> <li>- This is consistent with the Catchment Strategy Action 8: Develop an integrated catchment emergency response plan – which looks to increase community resilience and preparedness in respond to extreme events. EPD currently has funding under the National Disaster Resilience Fund program for this action.</li> <li>- Efficiencies may be achieved by implementing this action in conjunction with the Coordination Group</li> <li>- This action can be managed via the Coordination Groups secretariat within EPD (Catchment Management)</li> </ul>
		2.3.2 Build on regional understanding of projected climate impacts and implement opportunities to respond	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD.</li> <li>- This is consistent with the Catchment Strategy Action 4: Continue to inform a catchment wide assessment of vulnerability to climate change.</li> <li>- Efficiencies can be achieved by implementing this action in conjunction with the Coordination Group</li> <li>- This action can be managed via the Coordination Groups secretariat within EPD (Catchment Management) in conjunction with the Climate Change Division and the NARCLIM work undertaken for both NSW and the ACT</li> </ul>
	2.4 Protect and secure the region's water resources	2.4.1 Finalise water sharing plans for rivers and groundwater systems in the region	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT's participation in the Murray Darling Basin initiatives could be an input to these plans.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD.</li> <li>- This can be undertaken through the development of water resource planning undertaken as required for the Murrumbidgee River and its tributaries by both NSW and the ACT (for both surface water and groundwater.</li> <li>- This is also consistent with the Catchment Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Action 12: Secure long term water supplies for the ACT and Region.</li> <li>- Action 13: Improve water quality, protect and restore aquatic ecosystem health and reduce nutrient, sediment and pathogen loads at key sites across the catchment.</li> <li>- Action 14: Ensure Indigenous and other values are recognised.</li> <li>- Action 15: Develop a better understanding of groundwater resources (quantity and quality) within the region.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Efficiencies can be achieved by implementing this action in conjunction with the Coordination Group</li> <li>- This action can be managed via the Coordination Groups secretariat within EPD (Catchment Management)</li> <li>- There is emphasis in the document regarding the protection of the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment but it is silent on protection of Googong Dam, part of the ACT and Queanbeyan's water source.</li> </ul>

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		2.4.2 Prepare integrated water cycle management strategies	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT's participation in the Murray Darling Basin initiatives and the ACT and Region Catchment Strategy could be an input to these strategies.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD.</li> </ul>
	2.5 Protect the region's cultural heritage	2.5.1 Conserve heritage sites when preparing local planning controls	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The action does not go far enough. The ACT and NSW Government's do not currently have a high level of engagement on heritage issues, but there is a willingness and desire amongst the ACT Heritage Council and the ACT Government EPD for a stronger, more collaborative relationship. The NSW Plan seeks to 'protect the region's cultural heritage' but then relegates this to the responsibility of each local Council in the preparation of their local planning controls. These controls stop at the border of each Council area. There is no true regional or collaborative response to heritage which often traverses council and jurisdictional (NSW/ACT) borders. Suggested initiatives to enhance the Plan are provided below.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD (ACT Heritage).</li> </ul>
		<i>ACT Suggested Initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data sharing – Understanding the regional context is critical when determining heritage values. We should recommend to NSW that an action be included to investigate opportunities for heritage data sharing between jurisdictions and councils. This builds awareness of the representation of different heritage values in the wider region, and can assist in understanding aspects such as the rarity of a particular item or feature.</li> <li>- Liaison and discussion – Provide formal opportunities for forums or meetings of heritage personnel from both jurisdictions and surrounding councils. These forums would provide an opportunity to discuss regional conservation pressures and opportunities, cross border development proposals, best practice approaches and conservation planning initiatives being undertaken in the region.</li> <li>- Joint conservation planning – Some heritage values traverse jurisdictional boundaries such as travelling stock routes and Aboriginal cultural landscapes. We should suggest that the document include an action to investigate opportunities for joint conservation planning.</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 3 Strengthen the economic opportunities of the region</b>	3.1 Support and promote the growth of the tourism industry	3.1.1 Improve tourism related transport services	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT Government has enhanced transport capabilities through the establishment of ride-sharing framework and the introduction of a free tourism related city bus loop service.</li> <li>- Further opportunities for growth include enhanced regional and international flight connectivity. The ACT Government is supporting the establishment of direct international flights to increase the accessibility of the CBR Region.</li> <li>- A strategic approach for the Canberra Region through collaboration by DestinationNSW and VisitCanberra is supported. Tourism is important to the ACT and regional NSW economies.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – VisitCanberra, CMTEDD.</li> </ul>
		3.1.2 Develop a stronger marine-based tourism industry capitalising on the region's numerous small ports	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VisitCanberra is taking a regional approach to supporting tourism activity in the CBR Region. This includes taking South Coast tourism operators on international tourism missions and trade events.</li> </ul>

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	3.2 Enhance the productivity of primary industries	3.2.1 Identify regionally important agricultural lands and reflect the outcomes in local planning controls	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This action should refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the Draft ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework.</li> <li>- This is consistent with the Catchment Strategy Action 17: Develop a regional approach to strategic land and biodiversity management practices and Action 18: Mitigate soil erosion at priority sites.</li> <li>- Efficiencies can be achieved by implementing this action in conjunction with the Coordination Group</li> <li>- This action can be managed via the Coordination Groups secretariat within EPD (Catchment Management)</li> </ul>
		3.2.2 Manage biosecurity risks to protect current and future industries	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A coordinated approach to biosecurity across the ACT and region is appropriate.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPA, Transport and City Service.</li> <li>- The ACT Government released the <i>ACT Biosecurity Strategy 2016-2026</i> on 28 June 2006. Outcome two of the strategy is that “Biosecurity protects the environment and community and contributes to sustainable economic growth. The strategy identifies developing collaborative working relationships with its counterparts in other jurisdictions (states, territory and Commonwealth) and relevant industries as one of its key actions. This translates in actions to establishing an MOU with NSW Biosecurity on collaboration in biosecurity emergency responses and joint training in biosecurity response preparedness. Outcome 2 of the strategy is ‘Biosecurity is underpinned by a responsive and consistent legislative framework, risk management framework, business systems and training’. Actions under this outcome include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developing a risk management framework that will help determine the risks associated with identified threats to biosecurity and to inform decisions about allocation of resources</li> <li>- Developing and implement an Emergency Response and Preparedness Training Strategy; and</li> <li>- Conduct regular biosecurity response simulation exercises as part of staff training and accreditation requirements.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- This is consistent with the Catchment Strategy Action 16: Implement an approach to biosecurity planning and risk management.</li> <li>- Efficiencies can be achieved by implementing this action in conjunction with the Coordination Group</li> <li>- This action can be managed via the Coordination Groups secretariat within EPD (Catchment Management) in conjunction with Parkes and Services</li> </ul>
	3.3 Support the productivity and capacity of the region’s mineral and energy resource lands	3.3.1 Implement the NSW Renewable Energy Action Plan to increase renewable energy generation	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT sources renewable energy from locations in NSW as well as other jurisdictions.</li> <li>- The ACT is part of a knowledge sharing committee (South East Region of Renewable Energy Excellence – SEERREE) which has members from business, research, government and community sectors in the south east NSW/ACT region.</li> <li>- The draft Regional Plan should be updated to reflect the commitment by the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change (29 April 2016) to the ACT having 100% (not 90%) of its electricity needs met by renewable energy by 2020.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD.</li> </ul>
		3.3.2 Identify energy and mineral resource lands to support sustainable growth of mining industries and diversification of NSW energy supplies	N/A for the ACT
		3.3.3 Protect valuable mineral and extractive resources in the region	N/A for the ACT

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		3.3.4 Plan for the ongoing productive use of mineral and energy resource lands	N/A for the ACT
		3.3.5 Implement a robust assessment process to consider social, economic and environmental implications of mining activities and manage these throughout the life of the project	N/A for the ACT
	3.4 Grow regional strategic assets to support economic growth across the region	3.4.1 Deliver the breakwater wharf extension at the Port of Eden	N/A for the ACT
		3.4.2 Protect the role of the Canberra Airport to service the south east through relevant local planning controls	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canberra Airport is briefly mentioned on page 58-59 of the draft Regional Plan. It could be expanded further to talk about the opportunities for the airport to be a major conduit for freight in the region.</li> <li>- The draft Regional Plan notes on page 59 that the NSW Government will “protect the current and future operations of the airport by placing restrictions on the locations of residential development in the vicinity”. However, complaints regarding aircraft noise are only one area of potential risk to an airport. Other development can also affect the safety and operational aspects of an airport. For example, wind farms and wind monitoring towers within 30kms of Canberra Airport can impact on operational airspace. Parts of NSW close to Canberra (ie: Bungendore) have some of the largest wind farms in NSW (eg: Capital Wind Farm).</li> <li>- Accordingly, there should also be a commitment or reference within the draft Regional Plan to the Commonwealth’s National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF) which contains principles and technical guidelines on protecting the safety and operational efficiency of airports. Relevant NASF Guidelines for consideration in the draft Regional Plan include Guideline A (Managing Aircraft Noise), Guideline C (Managing Wildlife Strike Risk), Guideline D (Managing Wind Turbine Risk to Aircraft) and Guideline E (Lighting Distraction). These guidelines contain restrictions on development and activity within a certain distance of an airport, and these distances extend into NSW.</li> <li>- The draft Regional Plan should also mention the growing importance of Canberra Airport to the region, including the introduction of international flights.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD/EPD.</li> </ul>
	3.5 Strengthen the economic self-determination of Aboriginal communities	3.5.1 Conduct a strategic assessment of land held by the region’s Local Aboriginal Land Councils to identify their landholdings and map the level of constraint for each site	<u>Support</u>
	New: Under item 3.1 Support and promote the growth of the tourism industry	Work with the ACT in relation to increasing the visitor economy by promoting the ACT and Region to Australia and Internationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is in line with the ACT’s Business Development Strategy - <i>Confident and Business Ready : Building on our Strengths</i> (priority 9) and <i>The 2020 Tourism Strategy: Growing the visitor economy 2014-20</i> . Activities of VisitCanberra which support this include Destination Marketing Funding, Delegations and Trade Missions and increased Special Event Funding.</li> </ul>
	New: 3.6 Support and promote the potential for growth in relation to freight to/from the Canberra Airport	Work with the ACT in relation to the freight opportunities arising largely from international flights direct to Canberra (including making regional producers aware of the opportunities and ensure they are export ready)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is consistent with work Economic Development (CMTEDD) is doing with the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CBRJO) in conjunction with the NSW Industry Department</li> </ul>
	New: Support and promote the benefits of higher education & research in Canberra	Utilise the ACT expertise in higher education and research to attract domestic and international students/staff to the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is in line with the ACT’s Business Development Strategy - <i>Confident and Business Ready : Building on our Strengths</i> (Strategic Imperative 2)</li> </ul>

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
	New: Support and promote the benefits of innovation & events in the Canberra Region	Identify opportunities to attract investment, support businesses and coordinate tourism and events across the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is in line with the ACT's Business Development Strategy - <i>Confident and Business Ready : Building on our Strengths (Our Region)</i></li> </ul>
<b>Goal 4 Build communities that are strong, healthy and well-connected</b>	4.1 Provide sufficient housing to suit the changing demands of the region	4.1.1 Plan for a range of housing types to cater for changing community needs and household choice	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This relates to Action 1.1.3.</li> <li>- This action should refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the Draft ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD /EPD.</li> </ul>

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
		4.1.2 Protect agricultural and environmental land by avoiding the impacts of rural residential development	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This action should refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the ACT/NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework.</li> <li>- ACT Govt agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD, EPD (as it may relate to things like water agreements, settlement planning etc).</li> <li>- This is consistent with the Catchment Strategy Action 9: Build community understanding about catchment health to promote behaviour change through a broad range of communication and education strategies; which in part promotes better land management in the ACT and Regions peri urban settlements.</li> <li>- Efficiencies can be achieved by implementing this action in conjunction with the Coordination Group</li> <li>- This action can be managed via the Coordination Groups secretariat within EPD (Catchment Management) In conjunction with South East Local Land Services, Icon Water and other interested parties.</li> <li>- The ACT supports particularly: “ that councils adopt a strategic approach to providing rural residential housing, and support new rural residential development, only where it has been identified in a comprehensive housing strategy. This will help to avoid impacts on agricultural industries; high environmental value land and high fire prone land. It should be made clear than rural residential development is any subdivision of land less than 80ha.</li> <li>- Approximately, 20% of ACT public hospital patients are NSW residents. This indicates that NSW residents are accessing health care in the ACT from time to time. ACT Government continues to work on improving the better health care capacity and facilities across the ACT.</li> <li>- The ACT Government has been working closely with NSW Government to ensure interstate patients are able to receive treatment closer to their home when possible.</li> <li>- For example, ACT Health is also working with Queanbeyan Hospital to allow patients to access services across the border in Queanbeyan if clinically appropriate.</li> </ul> <p>In 2016-17, the ACT Government’s commitments to improve the health care system, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- significant investment in Canberra Hospital for women and children, with an expansion of the Canberra Hospital’s Emergency Department and increasing the resources available for intensive care and trauma. The ACT Government is also providing an additional senior specialist physician in the Calvary Hospital Emergency Department;</li> <li>- improvement of stroke services in both Canberra and Calvary Hospitals;</li> <li>- funding for an extra 300 endoscopy procedures;</li> <li>- increased outpatient services;</li> <li>- an expansion of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and the Special Care Nursery;</li> <li>- targeting vulnerable groups with the improvement on sexual health care and enhancing drug addiction services;</li> <li>- \$56 million to support mental health in the community;</li> <li>- a plan is underway to build a new health clinic in Civic to improve acute and chronic conditions care;</li> <li>- the construction of the third ACT public hospital, the University Canberra Public Hospital, has commenced. Focusing on rehabilitation and support;</li> <li>- access to cutting edge medical technology and expertise including new initiatives such as the deep brain stimulation service which targets people with Parkinson’s disease and the establishment of the Canberra Clinical Genomic Service; and</li> <li>- preventative health measures focusing on healthy weight and active living.</li> </ul>
	4.2 Plan for facilities, including health and education, to service the region’s growing and changing population	4.2.1 Identify capacity and provide flexibility for investment to upgrade and deliver health services to the community	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – Health Directorate.</li> </ul>

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
		4.2.2 Undertake school asset planning to better understand where and when additional schools may be required	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – Education and Training Directorate.</li> <li>- The Education Directorate monitors and projects enrolments for ACT Government schools. As part of the process, the Directorate monitors NSW enrolments in ACT schools, including other factors that may influence future projected student numbers.</li> <li>- The ACT Government does not perform projection analysis of NSW students attending ACT schools, however, the impacts of NSW enrolments are captured in ACT’s projections models.</li> <li>- Increased cross border collaboration and information sharing between ACT and NSW Governments with regards to school planning will enable both jurisdictions to better plan for schools. Awareness of the NSW Government’s long term plans for educational services for the ACT’s surrounding region will assist in providing a better understanding of enrolment trends.</li> </ul>
		4.2.3 Coordinate the planning and delivery of cemeteries and crematoria	N/A for the ACT
	4.3 Strengthen the commercial of the region’s centres	4.3.1 Focus commercial and retail activities within the region’s centre in line with the regional centres hierarchy	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This action should refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the Draft ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – EPD.</li> </ul>
	4.4 Build socially inclusive, safe and healthy communities	4.4.1 Review and update the Neighbourhood Planning principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This action should refer to the settlement principles in the appendix of the Draft ACT-NSW Land Use and Infrastructure Framework.</li> </ul>
	4.4 Enhance community access to jobs, goods and services by improving connections	4.5.1 Develop a sustainable model for community transport service provision	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where appropriate, coordinate services across the ACT and Region (Greater Capital at a minimum), particularly with the NDIS roll-out.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CSD, EPD, CMTEDD.</li> </ul>
		4.5.2 Identify and protect future rail corridors	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ACT Government should also be included in this action with the Commonwealth.</li> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD, Transport Canberra, EPD.</li> </ul>
		4.5.3 Deliver improved transport connectivity for urban centres and towns	<u>Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ACT Government agency to take the lead in working with NSW Government to deliver on the action – CMTEDD, Transport Canberra, EPD.</li> </ul>

Goal	Direction	Action	ACT Government Response
		<i>ACT Suggested Initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The draft Regional Plan would be strengthened by an implementation section and a table of actions and timeframes at the end of the document. At present, the document does not have a plan of action for going forward. There are actions scattered throughout the document, but they are not drawn together at the end.</li> <li>- This section could identify the following ACT/NSW collaborative actions between the jurisdictions, with indicative timeframes and responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Action 1.1.2 – Develop principles to guide the development of a cross-border infrastructure funding model to support cross-border developments.</li> <li>- Action 1.1.3 – Develop a cross-border land monitoring program.</li> <li>- Action 1.1.4 – Support the development of local housing strategies in the Greater Capital.</li> <li>- Action 1.2.1 – Work with the ACT Government to make travelling to and from Canberra easier and more convenient.</li> <li>- Action 1.2.2 – Improve sharing of transport data between the ACT and NSW, including the development of a cross-border transport model.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many of the maps in the draft Regional Plan show the ACT as ‘greyed out’ with no details provided. The draft Regional Plan would benefit from showing further details of linkages to the ACT for a range of issues. For example, issues such as regional biodiversity corridors and environmental values should be shown across the region, including the ACT.</li> </ul>