

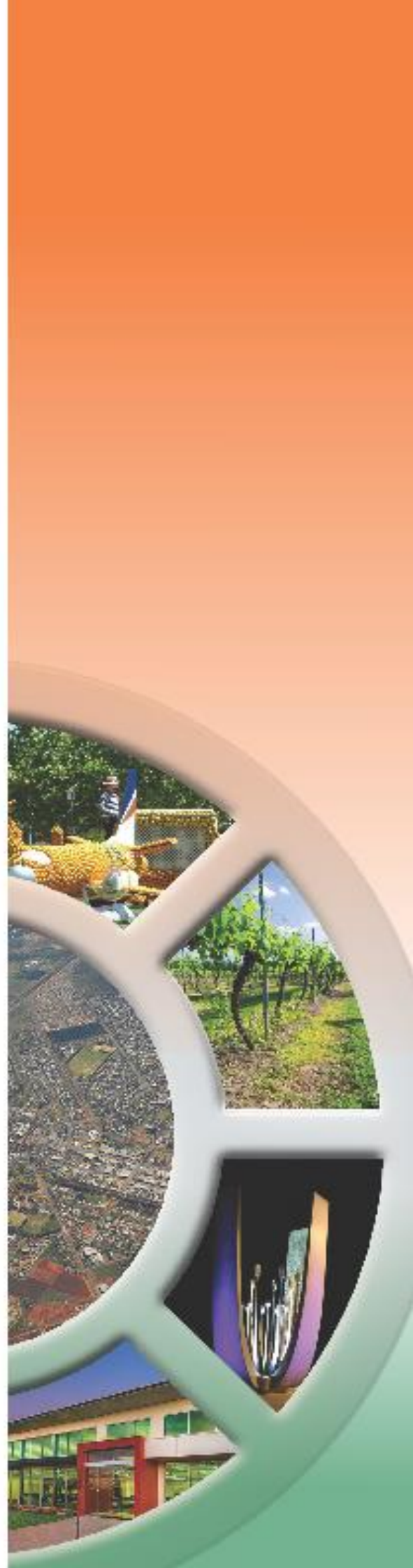


# Ordinary Meeting

**Tuesday, 23 April 2024**

## ATTACHMENTS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

CL07 Employment Lands Strategy Endorsement



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## ATTACHMENTS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

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# Griffith City Council Employment Lands Strategy

27 March 2024





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#### LIST OF ACRONYMS

CSP	Community Strategic Plan
DCP	Development Control Plan
GELS	Griffith Employment Lands Strategy
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LSPS	Local Strategic Planning Statement
RAMJO	Riverina Murray Joint Organisation

# 1 INTRODUCTION

The planning for appropriately located employment lands, integrated with transport connections, with diverse housing options nearby and suitable for the development and operation of industrial activities is an important planning task for Griffith City Council. The number of workers in Griffith City increased from 12,134 persons in 2016 to 13,954 persons in 2021. With an estimated gross regional product of \$2.13 billion as at the end of June 2022, manufacturing (18.2%), health care & social assistance (11.4%) and agriculture, forestry & fishing (10.5%) are the top three industries contributing to employment within Griffith at 2021/22. In comparison, New South Wales recorded total employment in these industries of 6.2%, 14.2% and 2.1 % respectively (Profile.Id, 2023). This demonstrates how important manufacturing activity is to Griffith, underpinning a range of key economic sectors for the Griffith local government area (LGA) and providing employment for almost 2,900 people in 2021/22.

Griffith's Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 (LSPS) includes a strategy to increase the supply of employment lands in strategic locations, including along the Southern Industrial Link Road which serves as a bypass for heavy vehicles to avoid travelling through the city centre. It undertakes to prepare an employment land strategy to address this issue. As such, this report forms the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy (GELS) which has been prepared in response to the LSPS actions.

The GELS guides the planning and suitable supply of employment lands, meeting projected demands for sustainable employment growth in the Griffith local government area (LGA). It is supported by an economic report (Appendix 1), which provides the evidence base for the recommendations that guides future strategic decision making by Council, in line with the priorities and opportunities identified through practical, economy growing interests to benefit the Griffith and broader community.

The GELS has been prepared to address all employment lands within Griffith and also provides the justification/ rationale to inform any potential changes to the Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 (LEP), which would need to be advanced through the preparation of a future Planning Proposal.

The GELS also recognises the importance of supporting the continued growth in employment in Griffith with robust and diverse housing supply including affordable options in close proximity to employers.

## 1.1 Vision

The LSPS establishes the overarching strategic vision for Griffith as follows:

*Griffith is a thriving regional capital with a vibrant lifestyle and diverse economy; embracing community, heritage, culture and the environment (LSPS, 2020)*

Building on from this, the Vision for the GELS is as follows:

*Griffith is the agricultural powerhouse of the Riverina and is one of the most diverse and productive regions in Australia. It has a thriving economy, providing a diverse range of employment options, leveraging off its historical agricultural base. Employment opportunities are dynamic, providing for maximum value add, flexibility and innovation, which evolves in response to changing needs.*

*Griffith provides manufacturing, poultry production, wineries, construction, commercial and retail and construction. It also caters for continued growth and ensures adequate affordable housing is available for existing and new residents to ensure that they are able to both work and live in Griffith.*

## 1.2 Griffith City Snapshot

Griffith City is located in the Riverina Region of south western New South Wales, approximately 450 kilometres north of the Melbourne CBD and 570 kilometres west of the Sydney CBD. Griffith City is accessed via Burley Griffin Way to the east and Kidman Way to the south and north west. The region can also be accessed via direct flights from Sydney to Griffith Airport (refer Figure 1).

“Griffith was established in 1916 as part of the NSW State Government’s Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area project to supply irrigation from the Murrumbidgee River in western NSW. Initially known for dryland cropping and livestock production, the Western Riverina region became prominent in rice, cereals, citrus, grapes and fruit production.

Recently, producers have adopted more sustainable farming practices and further diversified into high value, long yield crops such as nuts, cotton, olives and vegetables. The emergence and growth in poultry production has been significant, with wine production, ranging from boutique wineries to some of the largest in the world, also playing a big part in our region’s growth. Griffith’s largest industry is the manufacturing industry, employing 2,742 people with an output of \$969 million in 2019.

A key feature of the Western Riverina region is the scale of its operations and the intensity of investment in the agribusiness, food and beverage manufacturing sectors. Griffith is the headquarters to some of Australia’s most innovative and sustainable industry leaders, with 87% of Griffith businesses believing that innovation and technology is a key strength in their business (2019 Griffith Business Survey).” (Local Strategic Planning Statement, 2020)



Figure 1 – Map of Griffith City Council

### 1.3 GELS Structure

The GELS has been structured as follows:

1. Section 1 – Introduction
2. Section 2 – Background Policy Review
3. Section 3 – Demographics and Key Employment Issues Overview
4. Section 4 – Employment Activity and Demand and Supply Analysis

5. Section 5 – Employment Planning Issues for Griffith
6. Section 6 – Recommendations

## 2 BACKGROUND POLICY REVIEW

A review of the relevant background policy documents has been undertaken to inform the preparation of the GELS. These documents provide important background context in terms of Council's established policy framework for the management of employment lands and the desired future for employment and economic development for the Griffith LGA.

*There are a wealth of strategies, policies and other planning documents which establish some of the baseline information and underlying policies to inform the development of the GELS. To varying degrees these documents will influence the GELS, however the LSPS in particular establishes a clear action to prepare an employment lands strategy in order to test the need for additional employment lands within the LGA. Specifically, this relates to the new Southern Industrial Link Road providing opportunities for new employment lands or highway services lands to locate. This has been investigated through the development of the GELS.*

Figure 2 demonstrates the relationship of the below strategies and documents to the development of the GELS.

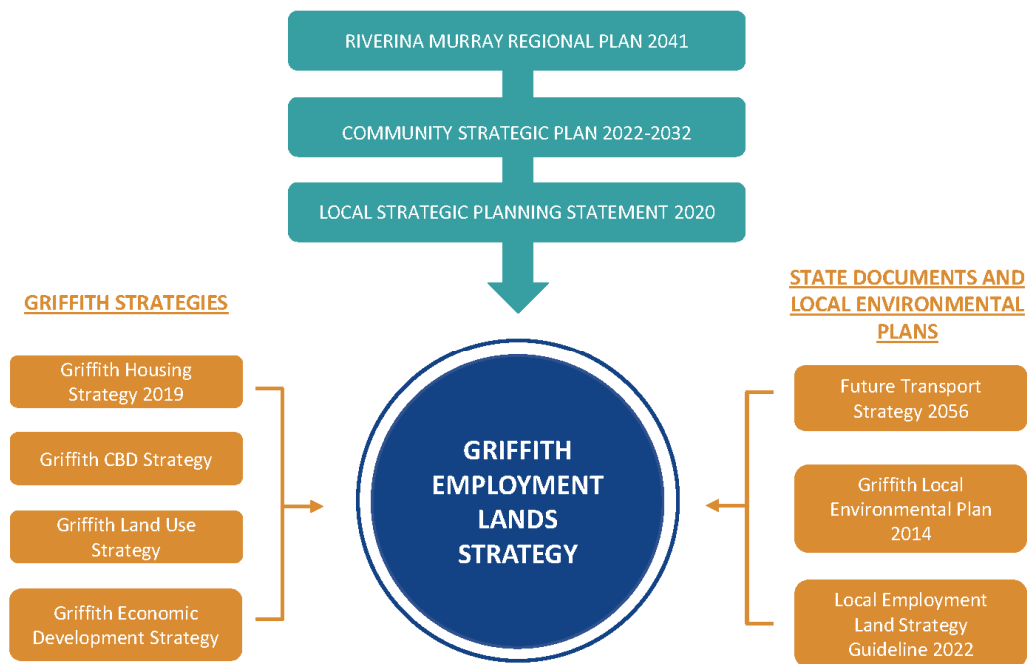
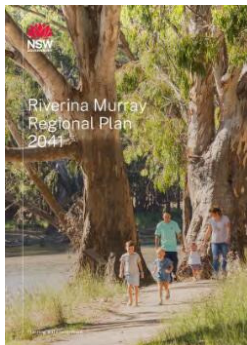


Figure 2 – Relationship of Documents to GELS

## 2.1 Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041



The Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041 highlights Griffith as a major transportation and logistics hub for the region. It also notes that as a result, there can be higher rates of heavy vehicle traffic through the city centre than would be expected in similar contexts. Griffith Airport is also key regional infrastructure that should be protected from encroachment of incompatible development.

The Regional Plan supports the need to provide adequate land in Griffith for employment purposes to allow Griffith to fulfill its role as a regional hub.

The competitive advantages for Griffith being a key agricultural area, aligns with the regional goals of the Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041. It identifies the critical functions provided by the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA), not just for the region's irrigation network, but also significant employment opportunities associated with both the infrastructure and the agricultural lands it services.

In particular, the Regional Plan identifies priority growth sectors in agribusiness with regional actions, including:

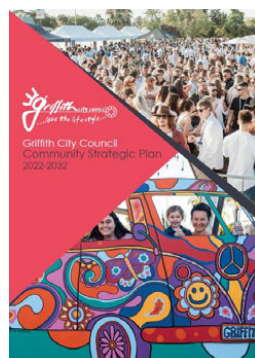
- Removing restrictive land use zonings to encourage agribusiness diversification;
- Ensuring employment lands considers the management of interfaces with agricultural lands; and
- Supporting the agricultural supply chain by identifying and considering freight and logistics opportunities.

## 2.2 Griffith Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 – Guiding Griffith 2040

The Griffith City Council Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is based on the aspirations, knowledge and values of the Griffith community.

The CSP aligns with the NSW State Plan, Riverina Regional Plan and Riverina Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO) priorities and has been prepared with regard to the social justice principles of access, equity, participation and rights, and addresses social, environmental, economic and governance matters (Griffith CSP, 2022).

The CSP integrates a number of plans and encourages more holistic planning throughout the city. It prioritises the following areas:



- Creating accessible and safe, liveable places to live
- Promoting and celebrating our cultural diversity and cosmopolitan identity
- Developing Griffith as a centre of choice for trade, business, health, recreation and employment
- Facilitate sustainable growth

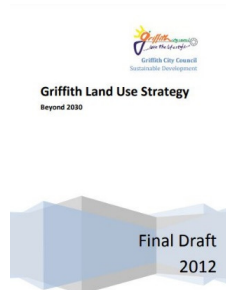
The CSP raises the following matters related to the provision of employment within Griffith:

- Improving service levels in the hospital
- Improving outpatient and community care
- World class public service
- Boost industry, workforce and jobs which is one of the RAMJO strategic statement priorities
- Be a location of choice for innovative agriculture and manufacturing
- Strategic land use planning and management to encourage investment in the region.
- Provide, renew and maintain a range of quality infrastructure, assets, services and facilities.

The CSP references creating opportunities for apprentices, trainees and work experience and starting up businesses. Undertaking education and vocational training are also measures which will contribute to a skilled workforce within Griffith.



## 2.3 Griffith Land Use Strategy: Beyond 2030



The Griffith Land Use Strategy: Beyond 2030, is a non-statutory planning policy that explores potential changes to land use in response to projected growth in the region. Non-residential expansion opportunities that are identified in the Strategy include more land availability for food processing facilities, additional large-lot industrial sites that are accessible for larger vehicles and anticipated demand for service industries and storage associated with the Griffith Airport redevelopment.

Whilst the Strategy has since been superseded by the Local Strategic Planning Statement, it nevertheless demonstrates continuity and consistency in the vision for Griffith as an industrial and logistics hub, which has been well-established over many years.

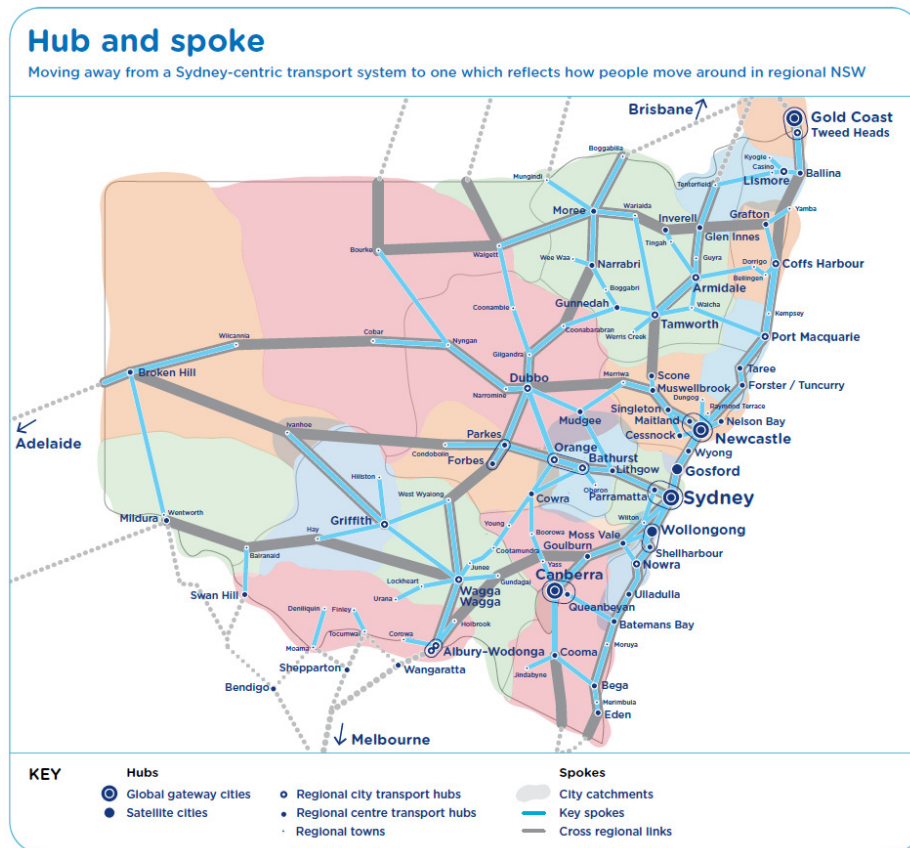
## 2.4 Future Transport Strategy 2056



The Future Transport Strategy 2056 sets the 40-year vision, directions and outcomes framework for customer mobility in NSW, guiding transport investment over the longer term. It is being delivered through the strategy and a series of plans such as The Services and Infrastructure Plans, The Future Transport Technology Roadmap, and Supporting Plans.

The Transport vision for regional NSW is to improve local connections for communities and customers within, to and from their region. A key pillar of this is to facilitate a 'hub and spoke' network across NSW, to enable local access for communities to central hubs that provide services, employment and social interaction. Improved connectivity will also be a key enabler of regional freight economic development. The Strategy identifies Griffith as a Regional City Transport Hub, as shown in Figure 3.

As outlined in the Strategy, infrastructure and services were historically focused on north-south transport connections in regional NSW. Future Transport seeks to improve east-west connectivity, capacity and safety between coastal and inland and remote populations, as well as freight linkages such as Inland Rail and inland ports.



**Figure 3 - Hub-and-spoke network (Source: Future Transport Strategy 2056)**

Other major initiatives across regional NSW include the Fast Rail Network Strategy and Regional Rail Fleet. The vision for the fast rail network is to support growth in NSW's regions, generating job opportunities and attract skilled workers. This will provide more choice for people to live and work in regional NSW, with improved connectivity between regional centres, and from cities and international gateways.

Bus services are also being upgraded, benefitting regional cities around NSW. 16 Regional Cities program aims to identify gaps and opportunities with current bus services in each city and deliver improvements to better meet customer needs, making it easier for them to get where they need to go. Improvements include adding in more services to current routes, creating new routes, extending service hours, putting in new types of services such as On Demand public transport and providing services that connect easily to bordering States. Griffith is one of the regional cities to benefit from the improvements.

## 2.5 Griffith Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020



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The Griffith Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) identifies the 25 year vision for Griffith and the strategic planning actions needed to facilitate the achievement of the vision and to direct how future growth will occur.

It also implements Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) – Guiding Griffith 2040 and the Riverina Murray Regional Plan, and is aligned to the themes within the CSP, as well as the overarching Plan Goals of the Riverina Murray Regional Plan.

The key economic drivers for Griffith which are explored in the LSPS include:

- Agriculture;
- Poultry production;
- Manufacturing;
- Wineries;
- Commerce and retail;
- Construction; and
- Tourism and hospitality.

Growth of employment lands is one of the key planning priorities of the LSPS. Several of the identified actions and implementation strategies which relate to employment, include:

1. Investigate the adequacy and location suitability of Griffith's Industrial Lands, and support industrial zoning at the Griffith Airport;
2. Support the growth of a health and educational precinct;
3. Investigate suitable zoning for the Southern Industrial Link Road;
4. Extend commercial area to include a supportive mix of uses including residential; and
5. Create additional lot frontage in the CBD.

Griffith City Council is currently undertaking a Health Precinct Master Plan in the precinct around Griffith Base Hospital redevelopment site, which will address the specific needs of that precinct. The LSPS identifies the preparation of an industrial lands strategy as a specific action. It also identifies that the new Southern Industrial Link Road would provide opportunities for new employment lands or highway services lands to locate. Council will investigate suitable employment lands and commercial zoned lands around the Southern Industrial Link Road, through the development of the employment lands strategy.

## 2.6 Griffith CBD Strategy



The Griffith CBD Strategy seeks to rejuvenate the city centre in the area bound by Wakaden Street, Coolah Street, Crossing Street and Kookora Street. The Strategy aims to develop an attractive city centre that makes people want to visit more frequently and stay for longer periods of time, allowing businesses greater opportunity.

The main recommendations presented in the strategy include:

- Upgrading Kooyoo Street and Yambil Street as inviting areas to walk, socialise and stay – Stage 1 of the Kooyoo Street redevelopment is complete and Stage 2 is under construction and expected to be completed in late 2023.
- Redeveloping Neville Place into a civic open garden
- Upgrading Banna Avenue to promote the main street and retail core
- Developing Olympic Park into a major Youth precinct and activity zone
- Redeveloping the Main Canal as a recreational attraction in the city
- Upgrading off street car park to provide a higher level of amenity

Completion of streetscape works within the city centre improved the CBD's sense of vibrancy and vitality. the CBD, the town centre generates significant levels of human engagement for shopping, education, work and services. This will hopefully encourage further businesses to locate within the CBD, increasing both living and employment opportunities.

## 2.7 Evolve Griffith 2021-2025 – Economic Development Strategy



Evolve Griffith 2021-2025 is Council's Economic Development Strategy, which sets out a five-year plan to support the vibrancy, diversity and sustainability of the City of Griffith to 2025 and beyond. It presents a plan of action to facilitate and support local economic activity into the future. It does this by (among other things), encouraging partnerships and alliances between Griffith City Council, State and Federal government agencies, regional development bodies, local businesses and the community. It seeks to deliver a clear, actionable and achievable road map for economic development focused on the growth and retention of existing businesses and residents; new industry employment; the attraction of visitors; and increased employment.

The Strategy establishes a detailed understanding of the economic structure and dynamics of the Griffith local government area (LGA) and relevant regional policy settings which influence and inform a framework for prosperity. The Strategy also articulates economic development issues, challenges and opportunities for Griffith City Council to consider in its role as a facilitator and promoter of economic development.

The three key themes of the Strategy are all of relevance to the development of employment opportunities within Griffith and they include:

- A Location of Choice for Innovative Agriculture & Dynamic Manufacturing
- A Location of Choice for Business Investment, Employment, Learning & Living
- A Destination of Choice for Regional Tourism

The GELS seeks to support the objectives of the economic development strategy in identifying opportunities to consolidate areas of employment and consider new areas of employment opportunities.

## 2.8 Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014

Within the current Griffith LEP2014 there are several zones which support varying levels of employment land uses. In December 2021, the reform of employment zones in New South Wales was finalised, with five employment zones and three supporting zones introduced into the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, to replace the existing zones.

Table 1 details the correspondence of current employment zonings and new zonings within Griffith City.

**Table 1 - Translation of Current and New Zonings within Griffith City**

Previous zoning	New Zoning
IN1 General Industrial	E4 General Industrial
IN3 Heavy Industrial	E5 Heavy Industrial
B7 Business Park	Mostly to E3 Productivity Support, with a land parcel to E4 General Industrial
B6 Enterprise Corridor	E3 Productivity Support
B4 Mixed Use	MU1 Mixed Use
B1 Neighbourhood Centre	E1 Local Centre
B2 Local Centre	E1 Local Centre

Figure 4 provides an overview of the geographic location of existing employment zones within Griffith.

Table 2 outlines the intent for each of the new employment zones, as relevant to Griffith.



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Table 2 - Retail and Industry Zone Hierarchy – Griffith City

	Strategic Intent	Desired Characteristics	Longer Term Considerations
<b>Centre Uses</b>			
E1 Local Centre	<p>To provide centres of all sizes and scales that offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A diversity of retail, business, office, community, accommodation and entertainment uses to the community</li> <li>A focus for active vibrant communities to come together</li> <li>Employment opportunities in accessible locations</li> <li>Where available, a focus for public transport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial focus, either as offices, retail and business premises or a mix of uses</li> <li>A range of uses and services commensurate to the size of the centre</li> <li>Entertainment and dining options, tourist and visitor accommodation, after hours uses, community and social infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate centres as community hubs, offering shopping services and events</li> <li>Support the night-time economy</li> <li>Accommodate collaborative and co-working spaces</li> <li>Potentially include residential development on upper levels to establish a population catchment for a vibrant centre</li> <li>Accommodate some local light industries</li> </ul>
MU1 Mixed Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support a mix of compatible land uses including residential, commercial and light industrial</li> <li>To transition between uses (e.g. a centre and another land use such as residential)</li> <li>To apply to mixed use centres, along corridor, or surrounding centres where genuine mixed uses are sought</li> <li>Can continue to be applied to existing B4 areas that are primarily residential</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities at ground floor and on street fronts</li> <li>Differentiation between a centre and urban support areas in a mix of zones to manage the impacts of out of centre development</li> <li>Well-designed mixed use developments are vibrant and support community needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage out of centre development</li> <li>Use permitted land uses to shape the intent and desired outcome of the area</li> </ul>
<b>Industrial Uses</b>			
E3 Productivity Support	<p>To provide land and floor space for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A range of urban or rural services that cater to and support the local population and businesses</li> <li>Businesses not suited to a centre location</li> </ul> <p>Industries and activities that are lower on the land value hierarchy than retail and commercial office uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fine grain and/or large format employment</li> <li>Land and floorspace responses to local business need</li> <li>Mix of specialised niche or trade focussed retail, including business focused retail</li> <li>Mix of light industrial, office, infrastructure and other urban service uses</li> <li>Capability to service the needs of local workers with food and drink, convenience retail and child care</li> <li>Low impact creative and emerging industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow a broader range of permissible land uses to accommodate emerging and changing industries</li> <li>Cater to a range of floor plate and floor to ceiling requirements across a variety of locations</li> </ul>
E4 General Industrial	<p>To provide suitable land and floor space for a range of industrial activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General and light industries, warehousing and supporting businesses</li> <li>Complementary uses including office (associated with industrial), auto-related industry (excluding sales), large format indoor recreation, artisan food and drink</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect land for industrial purposes</li> <li>Accommodate new industries and changing requirements of industries</li> <li>Allow for industries to innovate and evolve</li> </ul>

	Strategic Intent	Desired Characteristics	Longer Term Considerations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Capability to service the needs of local workers</li> <li>▪ Access to arterial roads and freight routes</li> <li>▪ Diversity of lot sizes, with capability to support a mix of fine grain and large format retail uses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co-locate industry with businesses that directly support industry or have similar amenity impacts</li> </ul>
E5 Heavy Industrial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To provide suitable areas for industries that need to be separated from other land uses</li> <li>▪ To minimise the impact of heavy industry on other land uses</li> <li>▪ To protect land suited to heavy industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Capability to support hazardous or offensive industry and storage with buffers to sensitive receptors</li> <li>▪ Capability to support depots, warehousing and storage premises that support heavy industry</li> <li>▪ Physically separate from other higher amenity land uses</li> <li>▪ Good access to arterial roads and freight routes</li> <li>▪ Large lot as required by safety and amenity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to provide sites suited to heavy industry</li> </ul>

The GELS gives consideration to the need for additional areas of land to be zoned for employment purposes, based on the zoning classifications outlined above. Any areas for potential new employment lands must be justified based on the economic analysis undertaken in support of the GELS, which has provided a supply and demand assessment of land that is required, the land that is available to meet the projected demand and whether the land that is currently available for employment purposes is fit-for-purpose and meets the needs of the market.

## 2.9 Griffith Housing Strategy 2019

Whilst the GELS deals primarily with employment lands, it is also essential that any employment opportunities provided within Griffith can be realised, in terms of workers seeking to relocate to Griffith also having suitable options for meeting their housing needs. As such, the GELS also strongly promotes the development of sufficient housing to support the needs of the workforce.

Griffith City Council adopted the Griffith Housing Strategy in 2019. The strategy is a detailed analysis of the current state of housing availability in Griffith and suggests methods of increasing access to diverse housing options for key target groups in the City experiencing housing stress.

The Housing Strategy determined that Griffith is under-supplied with smaller dwellings and requires a larger supply of 1 and 2 bedroom strata dwellings. The projected increase in the number of dwellings required is 1,744 dwellings by 2036. To enable suitable development, Griffith City Council amended its Development Control Plan (DCP) to facilitate the development of diverse, affordable and lower cost housing by including amendments to Floor Space Ratios, providing for reduced parking requirements for Residential flat buildings and Multi dwelling housing. The removal of height restrictions and reduction of private open space per ground floor have also been applied to dwelling requirements in the CBD. Council are also encouraging increased development of residential flat buildings through re-zoning amendments to the Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

The GELS supports the provision of employment lands in close proximity to residential land providing a diversity of housing options including affordable housing.

### 3 DEMOGRAPHICS AND KEY EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

This section provides an overview of the key demographic and employment issues for Griffith which are relevant to the development of the GELS.

#### 3.1 Summary of Key Socio-Economic Characteristics

Figure 4 provides an overview of the key socio-economic characteristics of Griffith. The GELS addresses population, age, growth in household type and educational attainment. In relation to the economy, the key factors include key economic sectors and growth that particularly draw on industrial land and finally, consideration is given to housing, noting the inexorable link between the need for appropriate housing to attract and retain a stable work force.

Griffith is a city that is younger compared to the region and New South Wales, having an average age of 39.4, compared with 40.2 for the Western Riverina region and 40.2 in New South Wales. Griffith also has a relatively high incidence of couple families with children (33%). The region is considered relatively affordable, with significantly lower mortgage and rent payments (\$1632/month and \$283/week respectively), compared to New South Wales (\$2,425/month and \$441/week respectively).

Workers within the region are less likely to have a post school qualification (37.4%, compared with 50.4% for New South Wales). This could be influenced by fewer in-person training opportunities that exist within Griffith compared with larger regional centres. The key sectors of employment are manufacturing (2,861 persons or 20.5%), retail trade (1,555 persons or 11.1%), agriculture, forestry and fishing (1,609 persons or 11.5%) and health care and social assistance (1,765 persons or 12.7%). Between 2016 and 2021, most of these sectors were key drivers of additional employment opportunities. Workers within Griffith City were typically sourced locally (over 95%) or from the surrounding LGAs of Murrumbidgee, Carrathool and Leeton.

The population has increased by 0.7% per annum in the past ten years, exceeding 1% per annum in this period for Griffith (West), Griffith (Central – South) and Griffith (East) – Collina. Population growth for the city as a whole was particularly high in 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018 at 1.0% per annum.

Outside of Griffith (East) – Collina, there has been relatively little growth in the size of the working age population. Over the next twenty years, population projections prepared by Informed Decisions suggest growth is anticipated to be highest in Griffith (East) – Collina and Lake Wyangan – Nericon.

Despite relatively steady population growth in the past ten years, the employment outcomes of residents have improved significantly between 2016 and 2021. Growth in the number of persons employed full time, translated to a significant decline in the unemployment rate to 3% in 2021, compared with 4.9% in New South Wales.

The key agricultural commodities in Griffith City include poultry processing, cereal crops, grapes and oranges. Poultry processing is particularly significant within the regional context, accounting for approximately a quarter of the value of production within the Riverina SA4.

Griffith City is agriculturally focussed, both in terms of production and processing. The significant decline in the unemployment rate between 2016-2021 is indicative of a prosperous regional economy. Whilst Griffith City offers affordable housing relative to other parts of New South Wales, the city is generally comprised of a lower skilled workforce. To ensure the continued success of Griffith City, it is imperative that the skills of the workforce remain tailored to the evolving needs of established businesses, particularly given that labour is typically sourced from within Griffith itself.

Increasing the provision of housing and accommodation is also essential in ensuring that any employment opportunities arising within Griffith can be realised by providing sufficient housing to accommodate workers looking to relocate to Griffith.

*The skills of the local workforce must remain tailored to the evolving needs of businesses, particularly given that labour is typically sourced from within Griffith itself.*

*The provision of housing is essential in ensuring that any employment opportunities arising within Griffith can be realised by providing sufficient housing to accommodate workers looking to relocate to Griffith. Options to increase the supply of diverse housing options in Griffith in close proximity to employment should be supported.*

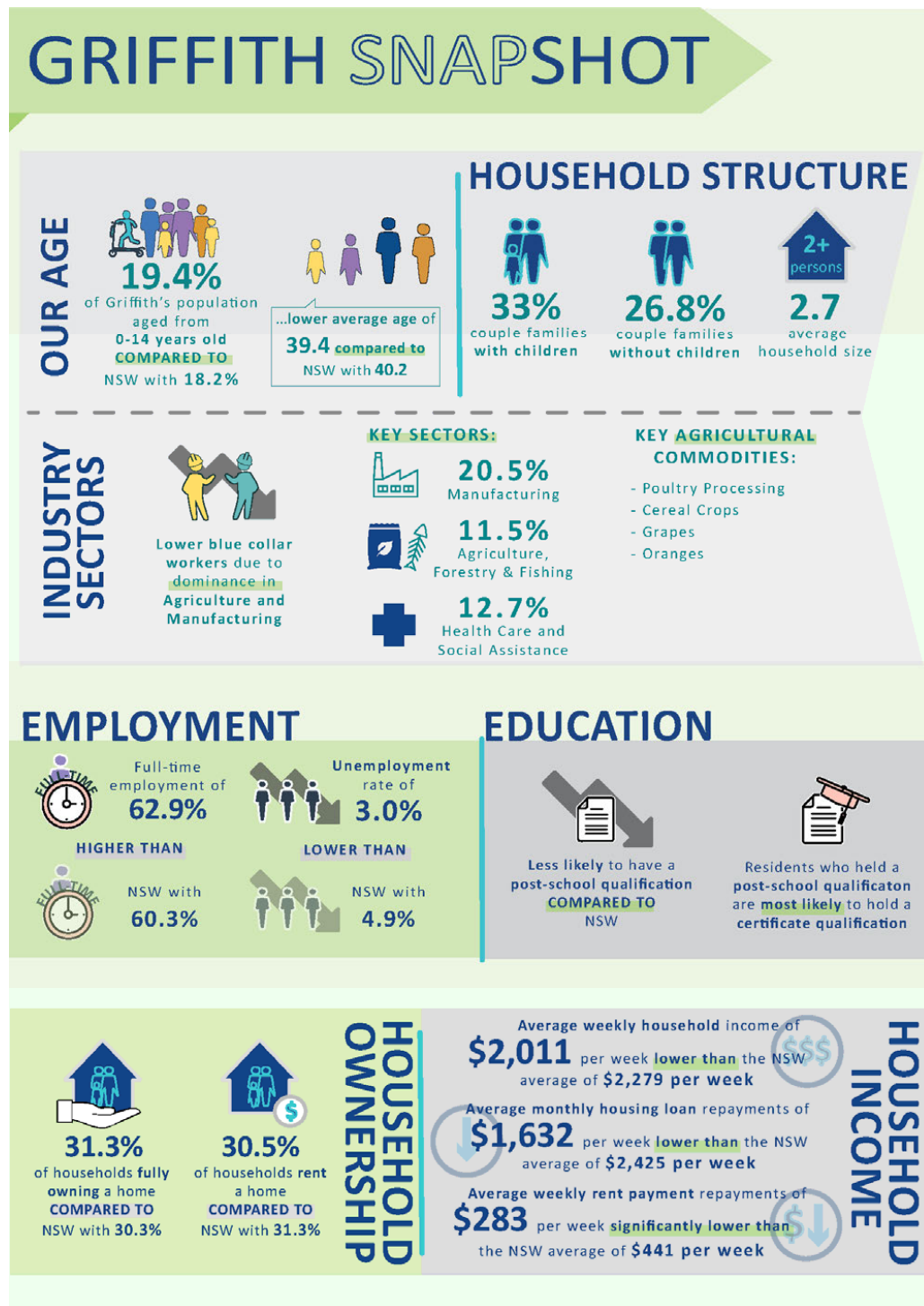


Figure 5 – Griffith City Socio-Economic Profile Infographic

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### 3.2 Employment Trends

Technology advancements over recent years have provided for increasing automation in processes. Of relevance to Griffith is that these innovations have enhanced crop and manufactured yields and quality control and allowed for early intervention when growing or manufacturing conditions require adjustment.

However, automation can also displace low skilled workers (in the absence of on-the-job training), with manual jobs increasingly declining. It is important to provide opportunities to upskill the local workforce, to ensure that the skill sets continue to align with the evolving needs of businesses within Griffith. It is anticipated that additional skill sets could be delivered both through local training institutions and through remote learning (e.g. through CCU Western Riverina).

In Griffith, the automation of manufacturing processes can enhance employment opportunities for the monitoring of automated systems in the manufacturing process, the repair and maintenance of machinery used in manufacturing which is increasingly sophisticated and the development of bespoke technology responses to support the manufacturing sector. These opportunities could be delivered both within Griffith and through businesses servicing the Griffith region.

A number of innovative approaches established to intensify agricultural and horticultural production have the potential to be applied in Griffith. This includes the potential for a range of uses for by-products of poultry processing as well as more broadly in industrial processes.

Griffith should also consider ways to provide for a range of lifestyle opportunities and services to entice more knowledge workers to relocate to Griffith, rather than simply a place to work. Griffith City would need to ensure that employment precincts such as the town centres, neighbourhood centres, and industrial areas are considered appealing and offered a range of services and facilities to attract and retain knowledge workers.

In addition, should there be an increase in the available office space for short term leasing or co-working facilities (which is understood to be limited in its availability), then it is imperative that these facilities are well connected to the global network through substantial technological infrastructure.

*It is important to provide opportunities to upskill local Griffith residents to ensure that these skill sets align with the evolving needs of businesses.*

*Consideration should be given to ways to provide for a range of lifestyle opportunities and services to entice more knowledge workers to relocate to Griffith. Employment precincts such as the town centre, neighbourhood centres, and industrial areas must be considered appealing and offer a range of services and facilities to attract and retain knowledge workers.*

*Short term lease and co-working office space facilities should be provided which are well connected to the global network through substantial technological infrastructure.*

### 3.3 Griffith Freight Network

The Riverina Murray Regional Plan highlights the Riverina Murray as one of the most significant locations for freight and logistics in Australia. The Regional Plan contains several priorities which are applicable to Griffith: the development of freight hubs and intermodal facilities, such as the Western Riverina Intermodal Freight Terminal located between Griffith and Leeton, have the potential to reshape the way freight is moved – particularly with the potential from the Inland Rail.

According to the Griffith Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 (LSPS), Griffith is actively developing new by-pass routes (Industrial Link Roads) to ensure heavy vehicles avoid Griffith's urban areas. These new Industrial Link Roads would provide opportunities for new employment lands or highway services lands to locate.

The Future Transport Strategy 2056 includes the New South Wales Freight and Ports Plan which has five objectives:

1. Increased economic growth;
2. Increased efficiency, connectivity and access;
3. Greater freight capacity;
4. Improved safety; and
5. Enhanced sustainability.

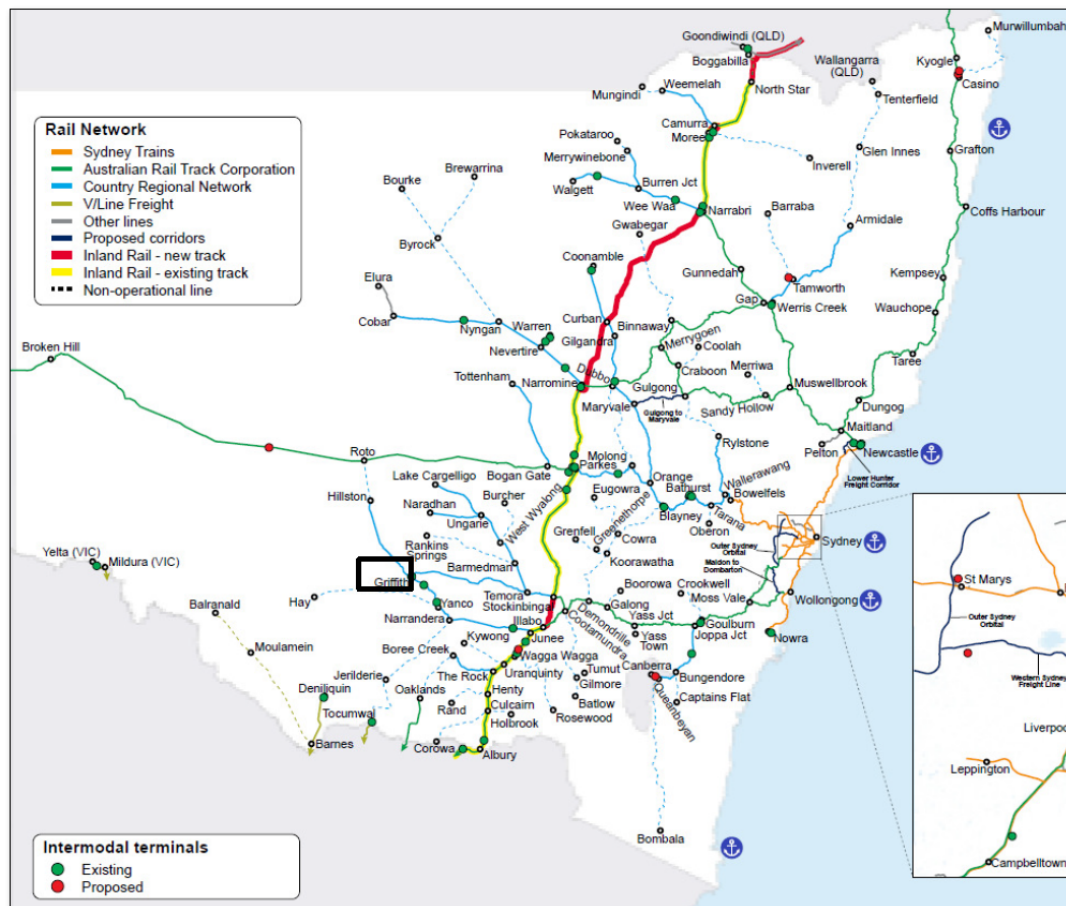


Regional New South Wales' freight task is forecast to grow by around 12 per cent by 2036, from 255 million to 286 million tonnes. The forecast growth in the freight task will require a higher capacity and efficient freight network. One way of reducing overall truck movements is to increase the volume of freight carried per trip.

The implementation of the New South Wales Heavy Vehicle Access Policy Framework (HVAPF), which outlines a strategic approach to heavy vehicle access in New South Wales for both state and council roads, will aim to achieve safe and efficient movement of road freight in New South Wales now and into the future. The framework will establish networks for modern high-productivity vehicles (HPVs) - these are vehicles that can carry more payload than a B-double, such as Performance Based Standards (PBS) vehicles, road trains, and other restricted access vehicles including those operating at higher mass limits.

In regional New South Wales, the government will continue regulatory reforms to ensure the efficient working of supply chains from farms, mines and processing plants to trading ports and domestic markets; and plan and prioritise key infrastructure upgrades, including access to the 'last mile' of local road and bridge networks for heavy vehicles.

Inland Rail will open up new routes and increase the demand for rail freight paths on a range of corridors. Figure 6 shows Griffith is located on Country Regional network, which is connected to Inland Rail existing and future links.



**Figure 6 - Regional and outer metropolitan NSW freight rail network (Source: Future Transport Strategy 2056)**

Given Griffith's heavy reliance on manufacturing and agriculture as two of its key employment sectors, having access to a high quality and efficient freight network is paramount to its ability to efficiently service these sectors now and into the future. It is important that Griffith continue to provide and advocate for an effective regional freight network, in order to service its employment generating industries efficiently, particularly manufacturing and agriculture.



*It is important that Griffith continue to provide and advocate for an effective regional freight network, in order to service its employment generating industries efficiently, particularly manufacturing and agriculture.*

### 3.4 Housing

The provision of sufficient, diverse and affordable housing to meet the needs of employees seeking to live and work in Griffith is critical to ensuring that employment opportunities can be realised.

Both the LSPS and the Housing Strategy recognise the importance of providing a diverse range of housing options as a priority for Council. The Griffith Housing Strategy identifies the crucial need for alternative housing options, especially affordable housing.

The LSPS outlines a range of actions aimed at improving housing diversity through new development. It identifies that Griffith's Residential DCP currently permits 25% of new greenfield subdivisions to contain medium density housing and that Council will investigate other avenues to support housing diversity in new subdivisions.

The Low-Rise Housing Diversity Code will be promoted for use in appropriate residential areas as a means of increasing the provision of medium density housing. Further actions to remove impediments to delivering housing diversity through planning controls will also be explored as an ongoing action in terms of considering:

- Lot size averaging in new residential subdivision;
- Promote the use of Concept Proposals to inform the location of medium density development and use of existing LEP provisions supporting multi-dwelling development;
- Review zoning of land around the CBD and implement appropriate Floor Space Ratio (FSR) controls; and
- Permit concessions to development controls for affordable housing developments.

Providing greater housing choice including more small dwellings and units including build to rent developments, can ensure that the needs of the community can be met, in terms of what their specific housing needs are. Importantly, providing for greater housing supply and diversity will ensure that people wishing to work in Griffith can also choose to live there too. With over 95% of the Griffith workforce currently also living within Griffith City, it is important to continue to provide opportunities for employees to both work and live within the LGA. Sufficient housing supply will also ensure that any employment opportunities can be better realised by offering more certainty to workers wishing to both work and reside within Griffith that their housing needs can also be met.

*Council should continue to facilitate the delivery of more diverse and affordable housing through ongoing planning control amendments, to support the housing needs of both residents and/or employees.*

### 3.5 Education and Training

In 2021, Griffith City demonstrated a relative significance in employment in the manufacturing industry compared to New South Wales. However, as the size of the ageing population grows, younger people will need to be recruited to this industry. By taking advantage of educational opportunities in regional New South Wales and in Sydney, and by participating in the implementation of new technologies, the region could have an advantage within the manufacturing sector. Collaboration with universities, research institutes and commercialised service providers would be integral in realising the potential in Griffith.

Griffith City has less than half the proportion of professional, scientific and technical service industry employment of New South Wales. This demonstrates a weakness in the City, which could lead to economic losses as the Australian economy moves towards a primarily service-based workforce. Despite the lack of employment in the professional services industry, Griffith City has experienced growth between 2011 and 2016 in the health care and social assistance sector as well as in the education and training sector. Furthermore, the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector is a particularly strong industry within Griffith City, and has the potential to become a high-skill, knowledge intensive field when opportunities for education and training are provided, further creating potential opportunities for Griffith City to specialise.

Opportunities to upskill or obtain higher qualifications within Griffith City in-person include TAFE NSW Griffith, which has a particular focus in wine and food technology, and Western Riverina Community College. Notably, TAFE NSW Griffith also offers certificates in agriculture and agricultural mechanical technology while Western Riverina Community College provides vocational training and education programs. The highest level of education offered at Griffith TAFE is a diploma, while Western Riverina Community College offers a range of national-recognised qualifications.

The Country University Centres (CUC) Western Riverina provides support to distance education students and provides a smooth pathway for TAFE students to transition to Charles Sturt University. Local students studying any degree, diploma or Cert IV pathway are able to access CUC Western Riverina facilities for free (located at Griffith and Leeton). The CUC Western Riverina has risen in popularity, particularly since COVID-19, when students were forced to undertake tertiary studies remotely and recognised the advantages of being able to remain locally in Griffith City and study remotely through CUC Western Riverina.

Data provided from Council indicated in the first semester of 2022, there were over 290 students registered at CUC Western Riverina, with the facility averaging 192 student access hours per month.

Table 3 summarises the tertiary institutions and services within Griffith.

**Table 3 - Tertiary Institutions and Services in Griffith City, 2022**

Facility	Address	Course Offering
TAFE NSW Riverina Institute	Neville Place, Griffith	Automotive, Engineering, Construction, Early childhood, hair and beauty training academy, nursing student training facilities, wine and food technology centre
Western Riverina Community College	23 Hickey Cres, Griffith	Music, business, community services and health, beauty and hairdressing, hospitality, professional development
CUC Western Riverina	2/1 Olympic Street, Griffith  Sycamore Street, Leeton (inside Leeton Shire Library)	Free access to support facilities for local students studying any degree, diploma or Cert IV pathway.

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

Through increased access to education, an opportunity arises for the income disparity between Griffith City and New South Wales as a whole to be reduced and wage inequality within Griffith to decrease over time. Given the existing economic structure within the region, it is integral that additional training opportunities are focussed toward understanding automated systems within poultry and agricultural operations and the development of bespoke systems to enhance automation within manufacturing businesses, with a focus on the food and beverage processing sectors. Understanding the repair and maintenance of automated systems within the agriculture / processing sectors will also be a critical skill required within Griffith into the future. It is anticipated that these skills / training opportunities would be delivered both through the TAFE NSW Riverina Institute and universities (course work to be delivered online).

*Through increased access to education and training, an opportunity arises for the income disparity between Griffith City and New South Wales as a whole to be reduced and wage inequality within Griffith to decrease over time.*

*Recommended measures for Griffith to consider include:*

- 1. Encourage opportunities to upskill or obtain higher qualifications within Griffith City, such as through TAFE NSW Griffith, and Western Riverina Community College. The Country University Centres (CUC) Western Riverina also provides support to distance education students and provides a smooth pathway for TAFE students to transition to Charles Sturt University.*
- 2. Encourage opportunities to develop partnerships between local industry/s with existing educational facilities within the Riverina region to encourage new employees to the area. This will lead to an increase in skill level of the workforce therefore diversifying the existing employment portfolio in the area and allowing skillsets to keep pace with advancements in technology and processes, particularly in the area of agriculture.*
- 3. Promote opportunities for online businesses to operate out of Griffith City focussed on the sale of quality agricultural outputs (leverage off the existing strengths of the region) as opposed to attracting online businesses more broadly.*
- 4. In collaboration with State government and education facilities, investigate strategies to rapidly expand the value of agricultural production by linking intensive small scale farming to research, employment and training.*

## 4 EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITY AND DEMAND AND SUPPLY ANALYSIS

The economic analysis undertaken in support of the preparation of the GELS (refer Appendix 1), provides a detailed assessment of the existing employment activity and supply and demand for employment lands, which provides the rationale for any recommendations arising from the GELS in relation to new employment lands (if warranted). Below provides a summary of that analysis.

### 4.1 Existing Employment Activity and Available Land

#### 4.1.1 Industrial Land

A site inventory (September 2022) identified an approximate 341 businesses on industrial zoned land within Griffith City. Of the 51.7 hectares of vacant and underutilised land that remains to accommodate future growth, most of this is located within the E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support zones. Despite the significant quantum of vacant and underutilised land, the availability and suitability of this land does not necessarily align with the demand for industrial land within Griffith, particularly in terms of location or lot size.

The E3 Productivity Support zoned land can only accommodate limited industrial uses and can only meet a small portion of future demand within Griffith.

Table 4 below displays the total volume of development ready vacant and underutilised industrial land within Griffith City categorised by zone as of September 2022.

**Table 4 - Volume of Vacant and Underutilised Industrial Zoned Land (Ha) – Griffith City, 2022**

Zone	Vacant	Underutilised	Total
E4 General Industrial	23.8	6.8	30.6
E3 Productivity Support	17.6	3.5	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>51.7</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

Tables 5 and 6 outline the composition of vacant and underutilised land within the E3 Productivity Support and E4 General Industrial zones. The analysis clearly demonstrates that vacant and underutilised lots are typically less than 5,000m<sup>2</sup> in size, with very limited opportunities in the form of larger allotments.

**Table 5 - Vacant and Underutilised Land in E3 Productivity Support Zone**

Lot Size	Vacant		Underutilised	
	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)
<5,000sqm	13	1.2	4	0.6
5,000sqm-1ha	3	2.2	1	0.9
1-2 ha	5	8.6	1	2.0
2-5ha	2	5.6	0	0.0
5+ ha	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3.5</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

**Table 6 - Vacant and Underutilised Land in E4 General Industrial Zone**

Lot Size	Vacant		Underutilised	
	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)
<5,000sqm	19	2.2	17	3.3
5,000sqm-1ha	5	3.1	2	1.3
1-2 ha	2	2.6	2	2.2
2-5ha	3	10.4	0	0.0
5+ ha	1	5.5	0	0.0
Total	30	23.8	21	6.8

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

The size and location of vacant and underutilised lots elsewhere in Griffith are only suitable for low impact and service industry uses and do not align with the future demand for larger lot general industrial development. As such, there is a need to identify the potential for additional E4 zoned land within the city, which is suitably serviced, located and sized.

Action 3.1A of the LSPS 2020 identifies an opportunity to strategically rezone lands around the Southern Industrial Link Road for highway service corridors and employment lands in the short term. Griffith is actively developing a new by-pass route to ensure heavy vehicles, including road trains, avoid Griffith's urban areas. The new Southern Industrial Link Road would provide opportunities for new employment lands or highway services lands to locate.

Figure 7 shows the existing industrial zoned land within and around the Griffith city centre, including vacant and underutilised land. A full copy of the mapping showing all industrial land within the LGA can be found in the economic report in Appendix 1.

Figure 8 depicts Stage 2B of the Southern Industrial Link at the intersection of Thorne Road and Kidman Way, which provides opportunities for employment uses to establish, maximising exposure and access to the bypass road and removing heavy vehicle traffic from the town centre.



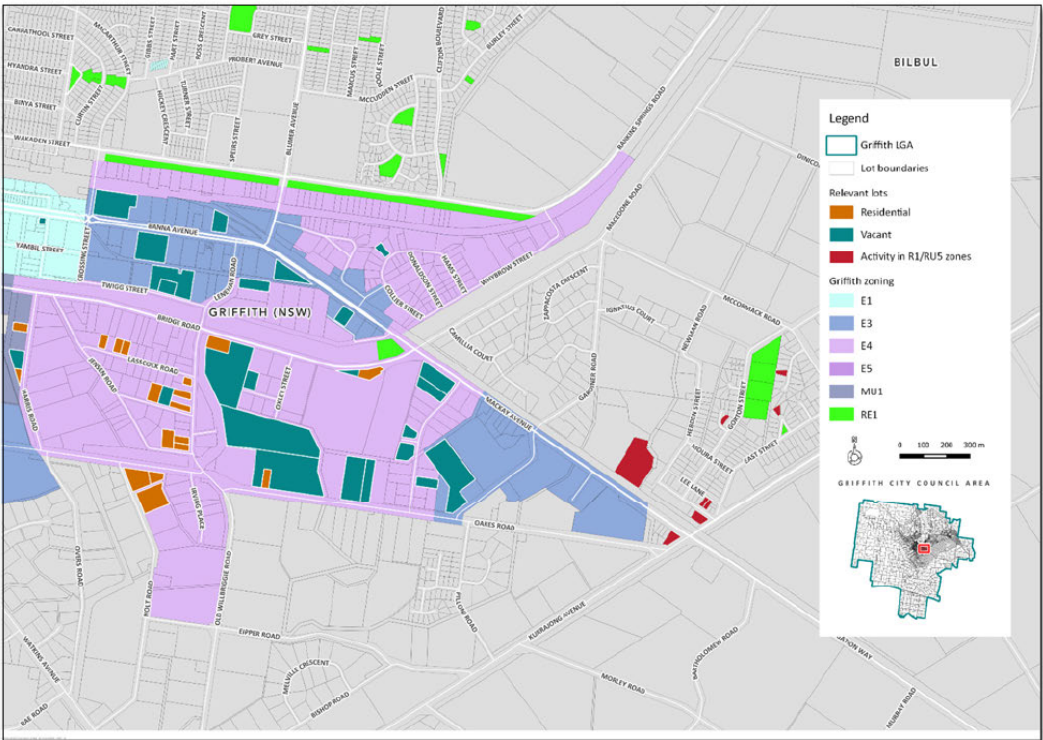


Figure 7 – Industrial zoned land within Griffith (source: Bull & Bear Economics)



Figure 8 - Stage 2B – Southern Industrial Link - Roundabout at Intersection of Thorne Road and Kidman Way (source: <https://sussanley.com/new-roundabout-provides-safer-passage-griffith/>)



#### 4.1.2 Centres Land

The inventory (September 2022), identified 110,512m<sup>2</sup> of retail and commercial floor space within the centre zones in Griffith (i.e. E1 Local Centre and MU1 Mixed Use zones). Of this, approximately 66% was classified as retail floorspace, with approximately 34% classified as commercial floor space.

Figure 9 outlines the geographic extent of centres zoned land in Griffith City, including residential and vacant land allotments.

There are high vacancy rates within Griffith's centre zones, which suggests an oversupply of retail floor space within the commercial/retail parts of the city. Whilst the quantum of vacant land within centres zones (4.1 hectares) was significantly lower than for industry zones, significant remnant housing is located within the centre zones, particularly within the MU1 Mixed Use - Benerembah Street precinct, which also had the highest centres vacancy rate.

Table 7 details the centre zoned land business activity by use and zone within Griffith City as per the inventory conducted in September 2022.

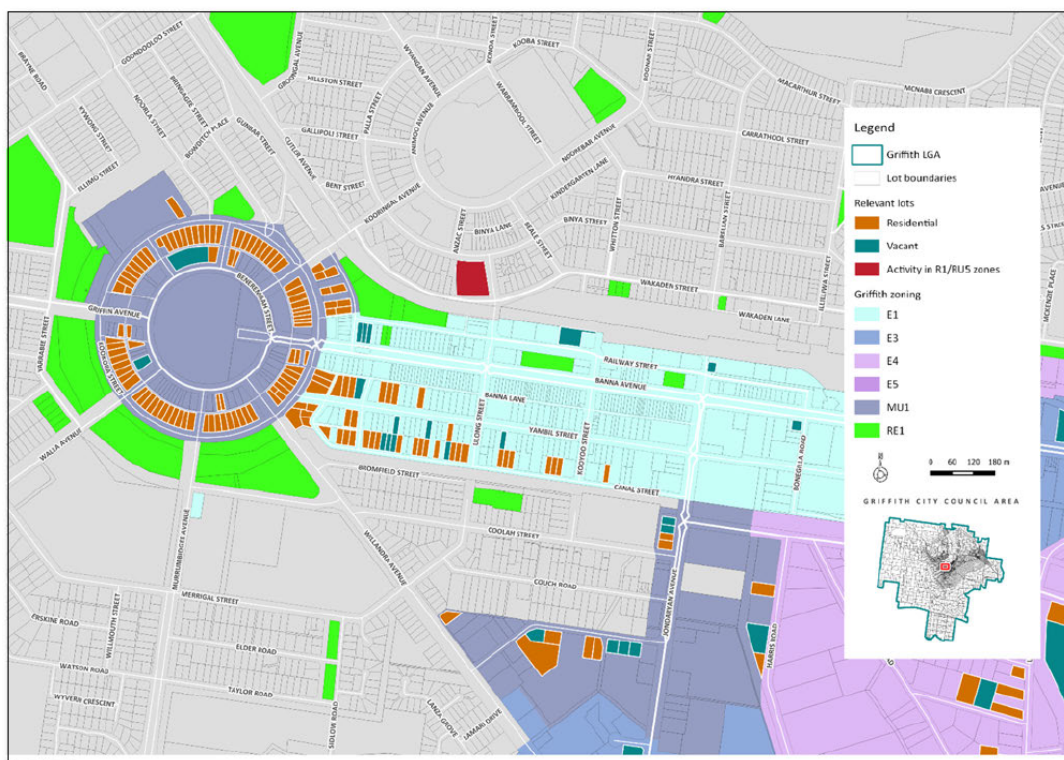


Figure 9 – Centres Zoned Land in Griffith (Source: Bull & Bear Economics, 2023)

Griffith Employment Lands Strategy  
Employment Lands Strategy



	MU1 - Benerembah Street		E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street		MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue		E1 - Drivers Plaza, East Griffith		Griffith City	
	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%
<b>Retail Classes</b>										
Groceries and take-home food	3,902	20.5%	6,620	6.0%	2,628	22.4%	575	36.6%	13,725	9.6%
Dining and take-away food	444	2.3%	10,749	9.8%	4,465	38.1%	371	23.6%	16,028	11.3%
Clothing, footwear and apparel	0	0.0%	13,506	12.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13,506	9.5%
Personal and other goods	534	2.8%	18,443	16.8%	1,931	16.5%	246	15.7%	21,154	14.8%
Core bulky goods	600	3.1%	2,556	2.3%	1,392	11.9%	0	0.0%	4,548	3.2%
Ancillary bulky goods	0	0.0%	3,295	3.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3,295	2.3%
Hardware	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Take away liquor	0	0.0%	482	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	482	0.3%
<b>Total Retail</b>	<b>5,480</b>	<b>28.7%</b>	<b>55,650</b>	<b>50.5%</b>	<b>10,416</b>	<b>88.9%</b>	<b>1,192</b>	<b>75.9%</b>	<b>72,737</b>	<b>51.1%</b>
<b>Commercial Classes</b>										
Financial and insurance services	387	2.0%	4,189	3.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4,576	3.2%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	0	0.0%	2,106	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2,106	1.5%
Health care and social assistance	752	3.9%	3,925	3.6%	1,300	11.1%	116	7.4%	6,093	4.3%
Professional, scientific and technical services	300	1.6%	9,907	9.0%	0	0.0%	45	2.9%	10,252	7.2%
Administrative and support services	517	2.7%	4,459	4.0%	0	0.0%	32	2.0%	5,008	3.5%
Public administration and safety	1,900	10.0%	7,541	6.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9,441	6.6%
Education and Training	0	0.0%	221	0.2%	0	0.0%	78	5.0%	299	0.2%
<b>Total Commercial</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>32,347</b>	<b>29.4%</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	<b>37,774</b>	<b>26.5%</b>
<b>Summary Retail and Commercial</b>	<b>9,336</b>	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>87,997</b>	<b>79.9%</b>	<b>11,716</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>93.1%</b>	<b>110,512</b>	<b>77.6%</b>
Vacant Tenancy	9,739	51.1%	22,106	20.1%	0	0.0%	108	6.9%	31,953	22.4%
<b>Total (including vacant tenancy)</b>	<b>19,075</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>110,103</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>11,716</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>142,465</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 7 - Centre Zoned Floorspace by Retail and Commercial Use and Zone (sqm) – Griffith City, 2022 (Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022))

There were 110 businesses identified within the centre zones in Griffith which represent uses often found in centre zones, such as recreational services (such as gyms), industrial businesses, accommodation providers, community services and car washes. The majority (55.5%) of these businesses were industrial businesses, with 61 businesses identified. In addition, 18 were accommodation providers and a further 18 were community services. These businesses were predominantly located within the E1 Local Centre zone along Banna Avenue and Yambil street, as well as several in the MU1 Mixed Use zone surrounding the TAFE.

Table 8 below details the number of industrial and accommodation businesses within Griffith City centre zones by area.

**Table 8 - Centre Zoned Other Businesses – Griffith City, 2022**

	MU1 - Benerembah Street	E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street	MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue	E1 - Drivers Plaza, East Griffith	Griffith City
Recreational Services	1	7	0	2	10
Industrial	13	35	12	1	61
Accommodation	4	11	3	0	18
Community	7	10	1	0	18
Car Wash	0	2	1	0	3
<b>Summary</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>110</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

Across the centre zones in Griffith City there were several lots which were identified as not having an existing business. These included private sheds, vacant lots, residential lots, carparks and lots under construction. In total, 27.7 hectares of non-business land was identified within the centre zones, with just over half of this land occupied by remnant housing (15.7 hectares).

Table 9 below details the amount and proportion of centre zoned land not used for business purposes.

**Table 9 - Centre Zoned Non-Business Land by Use and Zone (sqm) – Griffith City, 2022**

	MU1 - Benerembah Street		E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street		MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue		E1 - Drivers Plaza, East Griffith		Griffith City	
	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%
Carpark	3,542	3.5%	24,780	28.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	28,322	10.2%
Vacant Land	0	0.0%	19,307	22.3%	22,043	24.9%	0	0.0%	41,350	14.9%
Residential	95,878	94.2%	37,949	43.9%	23,223	26.2%	0	0.0%	157,050	56.8%
Under construction	0	0.0%	4,142	4.8%	42,034	47.5%	0	0.0%	46,176	16.7%
Privately Owned	2,344	2.3%	272	0.3%	1,193	1.3%	0	0.0%	3,809	1.4%
<b>Summary</b>	<b>101,764</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>86,449</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>88,493</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>276,706</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

There was an estimated 4.1 hectares of vacant centres land identified within Griffith City, with the majority identified within the MU1 zone on Jondaryan Avenue (2.2 hectares) and the E1 zone on Banna Avenue and Yambil Street (1.9 hectares).

#### 4.1.3 Summary of Existing Employment Zoned Land

There is a range of industrial activity within Griffith City, with an estimated 340 businesses identified on industrial zoned land at the time of the site inventory (September 2022). The inventory identified 113.7 hectares of vacant and underutilised land to accommodate future growth, mostly within the E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support zones. Whilst this quantum of vacant and underutilised land seems significant, the availability and suitability of this land does not align with the demand profile of the region.

The composition of vacant and underutilised lots elsewhere in Griffith (both in terms of size and location) are suited only for low impact and service industry uses and do not align with the future demand profile within the region.

The inventory identified persistently high vacancy rates within the centres zones in Griffith City, suggestive of an oversupply of retail floor space within the region. Whilst the quantum of vacant land within centres zones (4.1 hectares) was significantly lower than for industry zones, it was also noted that significant housing was within the centre zones, particularly within the MU1 Mixed Use - Benerembah Street precinct, which also had the highest centres vacancy rate.

*Griffith has a some vacant and underutilised industrial land, however the availability and suitability of this land does not necessarily align with the demand for industrial land within Griffith, particularly in terms of location or lot size.*

*The Southern Industrial Link Road provides opportunities for new employment lands or highway services lands to locate, if a new employment precinct were developed.*

*There is an oversupply of retail floor space within the commercial/retail parts of the city. There is a need to consolidate employment land uses within the centres zones and encourage alternative land uses which are complementary to the town centre.*

## 4.2 Employment Supply and Demand

In light of the existing employment activity occurring on land zoned for these purposes, an assessment of the employment supply and demand has been undertaken as part of the economic analysis undertaken in Appendix 1. An overview of the supply and demand analysis for employment lands within Griffith is provided in the sections below. This supply and demand analysis establishes the need (or otherwise) for additional employment lands within Griffith to 2041.

### 4.2.1 Industrial Lands

The economic assessment has compared the remaining vacant industrial land within Griffith City against the projected demand for industrial land to identify any modelled shortfalls over the next twenty years to 2041. This analysis represents only a direct comparison of the remaining zoned land to projected demand and does not consider the appropriateness of remaining supply to accommodate projected demand, whether a need exists to transition existing industrial land precincts due to encroachment of incompatible uses (e.g. residential), whether the remaining zoned supply is appropriately serviced and the realistic availability of this land for industrial development. Despite these limitations an adequate assessment of land supply against demand was able to be undertaken and provides the basis for appropriate conclusions to be identified.

The quantitative analysis suggests there is sufficient zoned industrial land to accommodate growth within Griffith City to 2041, as summarised in Table 10 below.

**Table 10 – Projected Industrial Land Demand – Griffith LGA, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann. Growth, 2021-41
<b>Land Demand (Ha)</b>						
Large Footprint and General Industry	76.6	83.9	91.8	98.3	104.5	1.6%
Service Industry	28.0	28.6	28.6	29.4	30.1	0.4%
Warehousing & Storage	12.5	14.3	15.9	17.6	19.1	2.1%
Transport Uses	27.1	29.0	30.4	31.5	32.6	0.9%
Total Industrial Land Demand	144.1	155.7	166.8	176.8	186.3	1.3%
<b>Incremental Demand (Ha)</b>						
Large Footprint and General Industry	-	7.3	15.2	21.8	27.9	-
Service Industry	-	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.1	-
Warehousing & Storage	-	1.7	3.4	5.0	6.6	-
Transport Uses	-	1.9	3.3	4.4	5.5	-
Incremental Industrial Land Demand	-	11.5	22.6	32.7	42.1	-

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Estimates (2022)

Industrial land demand represents the total demand for industrial land at a point in time (e.g. in 2041, industrial land demand is approximately 186.3 hectares), whilst incremental industrial land demand represents the additional demand between two points in time. As the base year in Table 10 above is 2021, incremental demand in 2041 would be additional demand over and above the 2021 levels (e.g. if 2041 demand is 186.3 hectares and 2021 demand was 144.1 hectares, incremental demand would be approximately 42 hectares).

Over the next 20 years, there is anticipated to be demand for an additional 42.1 hectares of industrial land in Griffith City, driven by growth in food and beverage product manufacturing and the road transport sector. Based on modelling undertaken, the analysis suggests there is sufficient industrial land to meet future needs to 2036 (with a small shortfall by 2041), based on an estimated remaining supply of 38.4 hectares of vacant zoned industrial land.

However, the composition of the remaining industrial land supply does not align with the future needs of businesses within Griffith due to the following factors:

- This modelled supply demand balance must be interpreted carefully as it assumes that all remaining lots are suited to accommodate industrial growth and do not face significant constraints which limit developability of each lot. However, as identified in Table 5 above, the majority of vacant lots within the E4 General Industrial Zone are less than one hectare in size, which limits these sites to accommodate only small scale industrial businesses.
- The remaining zoned land suited to accommodate industrial activity falls within the E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support to the east of the Griffith city centre. The remaining E3 Productivity Support allotments are suited to only a small portion of industrial land demand (i.e. population serving activity such as warehousing and storage). However, the E4 General industrial land is mostly located on Oakes Road, which does not offer direct access to road trains, which is increasingly required by industrial businesses in Griffith. Additionally, the intensity of activity that can be supported on these lots is limited by the presence of remnant housing, mostly to the west of Lenehan Road.

Furthermore, as residential activity intensifies in Griffith, this is likely to only place further pressure on industrial development on the fringe of the Griffith township to locate within other parts of the local government area, particularly if the business is reliant on heavy vehicle freight movements or has reverse amenity impacts which would impact surrounding residential development.

Additional industrial zoned land (E5 Heavy Industrial) was released to the west of the Griffith urban area along Kidman Way, but this land is mostly yet to be taken up and is predominantly occupied by farming activity. However, the establishment of the Southern Industrial Link Road (Kurrajong Avenue / Thorne Road bypass route), which will ensure heavy vehicles, including road trains, avoid Griffith's urban areas, will likely enhance the appeal and marketability of this land to prospective industrial land users, provided that appropriate infrastructure and services are delivered.



It is also anticipated that the establishment of this land for employment purposes would encourage the relocation of industrial users within the Griffith township that rely on heavy vehicle movements, given the connectivity offered by the bypass route relative to the local road network servicing existing industrial estates.

However, the opportunities presented by this land are potentially limited due to the urban release area layer which is partially located over this land. Should significant residential development occur within this precinct, the opportunity to establish industrial activity may be compromised. Additionally, the demand profile indicates most of the projected demand would be best accommodated within E4 General Industrial land, with limited need for the E5 Heavy Industrial zoning.

It is suggested that further investigations identify the potential to establish an industrial precinct directly off the Southern Industrial Link Road to meet the future needs of the region and allow for the relocation of existing businesses who are looking to expand and that require direct road train access.

To ensure the success of any newly established industrial precinct, the provision of trunk infrastructure is critical, as is the delivery of larger lots (at least one hectare in size) to accommodate manufacturing and processing facilities, along with associated transport uses.

It is noted that larger scale food processors in the region have sites of approximately 20 hectares in size. It is suggested that future industrial areas offer a range of lots at least one hectare in size and ensuring sites of five or more hectares are available within this precinct, to meet an existing market gap of the region and reflecting the requirements of prospective land users.

*Land on the northern side of the Southern Industrial Link Road could be rezoned for E4 General Industrial, which provides an opportunity for industrial businesses requiring larger land parcels to locate, having direct road train access to the bypass. This may require reconciliation with any planned future residential development in the area.*

*A structure plan would need to be prepared, which nominates specific locations at which any industrial estate would have direct access to the Southern Industrial Link Road, as direct access will be limited. Lots of at least 1 hectare and 5 hectares or greater in size should be accommodated. Sufficient infrastructure must also be provided to adequately service the new industrial precinct, as well as the imposition of appropriate buffers and mitigation measures for any future residential development.*

#### 4.2.2 Centre Lands

Section 4.1.2 of the report identified that significant levels of vacancy in centres zones exist within Griffith, particularly within the E1 zone along Banna Avenue and Yambil Street (approximately 20 % vacancy rate) and the MU1 zone on Benerembah Street (approximately 51% vacancy rate). A review of the MU1 zone in Benerembah Street identified that a significant quantum of tenancies were identified as being of a poor standard, which is likely contributing to relatively high vacancy rates in this part of Griffith. There is also little incentive to improve the shopfronts in this part of Griffith, given that the outlook for centres floor space demand indicates there is more than sufficient capacity within existing vacant tenancies to accommodate projected growth to 2041. Whilst the tenancy quality in the centre core is of a higher standard, high vacancy rates also persist, due to low growth in demand for centres floor space in Griffith.

Given the modest growth outlook for centres floorspace in Griffith, it is suggested that Council seek to limit approvals of centre uses outside of centres zones and support tenants who wish to transition their existing tenancy for an alternative use (e.g. residential or community based use). This is line with the recommendations in the Griffith Local Strategic Planning Statement which are supportive of additional residential development around the CBD on the south side of Yambil Street and on vacant sites along Banna Avenue, Railway Street, Kookora Street and Benerembah Street. It is anticipated that the most significant challenge faced by prospective developers would be the assembly of a suitably large site, given the existing fragmentation of lots within centre zones in Griffith.

The economic assessment has compared the existing retail floor space within Griffith against the projected demand generated by residents within Griffith. A comparison of existing supply against projected demand highlights an existing oversupply of retail floor space, indicative of existing tenants likely trading below benchmark trading levels.

Whilst the degree of oversupply is anticipated to decrease over time, the analysis clearly highlights there is sufficient retail floor space within Griffith City to accommodate projected demand over the next twenty years to 2041.



**Table 11 - Retail Floorspace Supply Demand Balance (sqm) – Griffith LGA, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Supply	68,301	68,301	68,301	68,301	68,301
Demand	42,057	44,007	46,054	48,185	50,384
Supply-Demand Balance	26,244	24,293	22,247	20,116	17,917

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Estimates (2022)

The assessment has also included the existing commercial office floor space within Griffith against the projected demand generated by workers within the LGA. This analysis is suggestive of an oversupply of commercial office floor space of approximately 9,000m<sup>2</sup> as at 2021.

The supply demand balance for commercial floor space within Griffith is summarised in Table 12.

**Table 12 - Commercial Floorspace Supply Demand Balance (sqm) – Griffith LGA, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Supply	37,774	37,774	37,774	37,774	37,774
Demand	29,084	32,214	33,298	35,146	37,100
Supply-Demand Balance	8,690	5,560	4,476	2,628	674

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Estimates (2022)

Discussions with stakeholders indicated there is a lack of suitable commercial office floor space available to purchase or rent, with available opportunities mostly on the second floor, which does not provide the exposure, access and parking demanded by prospective tenants. Additionally, there has been some misalignment between spaces demanded (typically between 20m<sup>2</sup> and 150m<sup>2</sup>) and space available to rent as evidenced by the relative difficulty in leasing larger spaces.

Therefore, in reality it is likely that the office market is relatively balanced in Griffith at present, with tenants occupying larger spaces than what is suggested by the modelling (i.e. more than an average of 20 m<sup>2</sup> per worker).

However, this analysis, when considered in conjunction with the quantum of vacant tenancies within the centre zone, highlights limited need to provide additional commercial office floor space in Griffith City, over and above what is already available. However, consultation has also identified that tenants in some cases have had to upgrade their offering to meet the expectations of clients. There may potentially be a role in incentivising tenancy refurbishment / upgrades to reduce the level of centre vacancy within Griffith City.

*Given the modest growth outlook for centres floorspace in Griffith, it is suggested that Council seek to limit approvals of centre uses outside of centres zones and support tenants who wish to transition their existing tenancy for an alternative use (e.g. residential or community based uses).*

*There may be a role to incentivise tenancy refurbishments/upgrades to reduce centre vacancies within Griffith City Centre.*

### 4.3 Summary of Economic Analysis

Figure 10 outlines the summary of findings that have been developed as a result of the economic analysis conducted in support of the GELS. These findings have been used to inform the recommendations within the GELS and provide a strategy for Council moving forward with respect to implementation.

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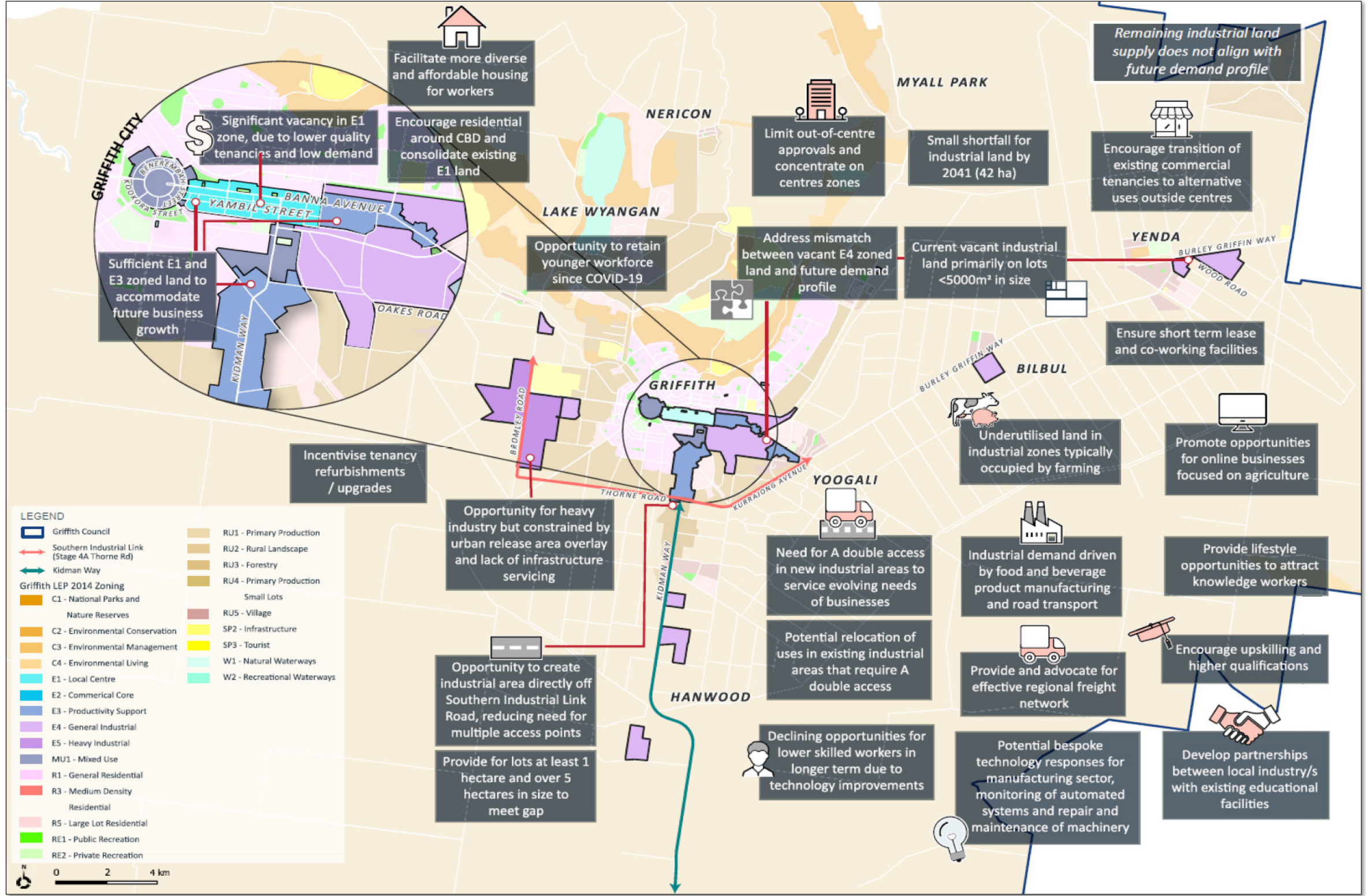


Figure 10 – Griffith Employment Lands Strategy Plan on a Page

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## 5 EMPLOYMENT PLANNING ISSUES FOR GRIFFITH

The assessment undertaken as part of the GELS demonstrated that there is sufficient land zoned in Griffith City to accommodate centre uses to 2041, however there is a shortfall in industrial land provision to 2041.

There is a need to consider consolidating the centre zoned land within the Griffith city centre, by encouraging the transition of existing commercial tenancies to alternative uses outside centres. This should assist in addressing the current oversupply, as well as (potentially) encouraging the provision of additional housing within and around the CBD, to meet the need to provide more small dwellings as identified within the Housing Strategy. This approach could have a twofold effect in both providing for more housing, whilst also providing employers with the ability to attract more workers to Griffith and realise their employment potential.

Further, out-of-centre approvals for both retail and office uses should be discouraged to allow for concentrated efforts to be focused on land specifically zoned for centre purposes. Where possible and practicable, it is suggested that community uses (e.g. indoor sport and recreation centres, theatres, long day care centres) are also encouraged to locate within the Griffith City Centre. There may be a role to incentivise tenancy refurbishments/upgrades to reduce centre vacancies within the Griffith City Centre.

There is a mismatch between the demand for industrial land and what is actually available currently, primarily in terms of lot size and location (i.e. proximity to existing residential development etc.). Essentially, much of the land that is zoned for E4 General Industrial to the east of the CBD is either too small and/or is inappropriately located to meet the future industrial demand profile of users in the region. As such, there is an opportunity to rezone land to E4 – General Industrial and development of a new industrial precinct immediately adjoining Thorne Road along the Southern Industrial Link Road (refer Map 1), which can focus on developing a fit-for-purpose industrial estate that:

1. Offers an opportunity for existing industrial operations located closer to the town centre, to transition to an industrial estate that is more suitably located and will better meet their needs
2. Provides direct access for road trains to the Southern Industrial Link Road from the new estate, whilst limiting multiple access points;
3. Accommodates a range of larger and more appropriate lot sizes, ranging from at least 1 hectare to 5 hectares or greater in size to better meet the needs of industrial operators;
4. Is able to be adequately serviced to cater for industrial users; and
5. Can be efficiently planned through the preparation of a structure plan to allow for orderly and sequential development.

Additional land adjoining the Southern Industrial Link Road, as well as to the west of Griffith, should be preserved for future industrial/employment purposes, however these are seen as a longer term opportunity and will not be required in the foreseeable future (refer Map 1).

It is important that Griffith continues to provide and advocate for an effective regional freight network, in order to service its employment generating industries efficiently, particularly manufacturing and agriculture.

In lieu of providing for further E4 zoned land immediately adjoining the Southern Industrial Link Road, there will be a corresponding need to recognise the access limitations of existing E4 zoned land to the east of the Griffith City Centre. The new industrial precinct along the Southern Industrial Link Road will gain direct access to the new bypass. The existing industrial uses on the existing E4 land will likely remain on this land in the short-medium term, with the new industrial precinct providing an opportunity for users to transition out of town and relocate to a more fit-for-purpose industrial precinct. The E4 zoned land east of the centre would then only accommodate industrial business not needing direct connectivity or access for road trains.

There is also a need to transition some E3 land which does not have frontage to the Kidman Way, or Southern Industrial Link Road to MU1, subject to further investigations into servicing the land. In addition, it is recommended that Council rezone other suitable land with frontage to Kidman Way and Southern Industrial Link Road to E3.

The GELS also recognises the need to implement the recommendations in the Housing Strategy and rezone the following E1 – Local Centre lands to MU1 – Mixed use:



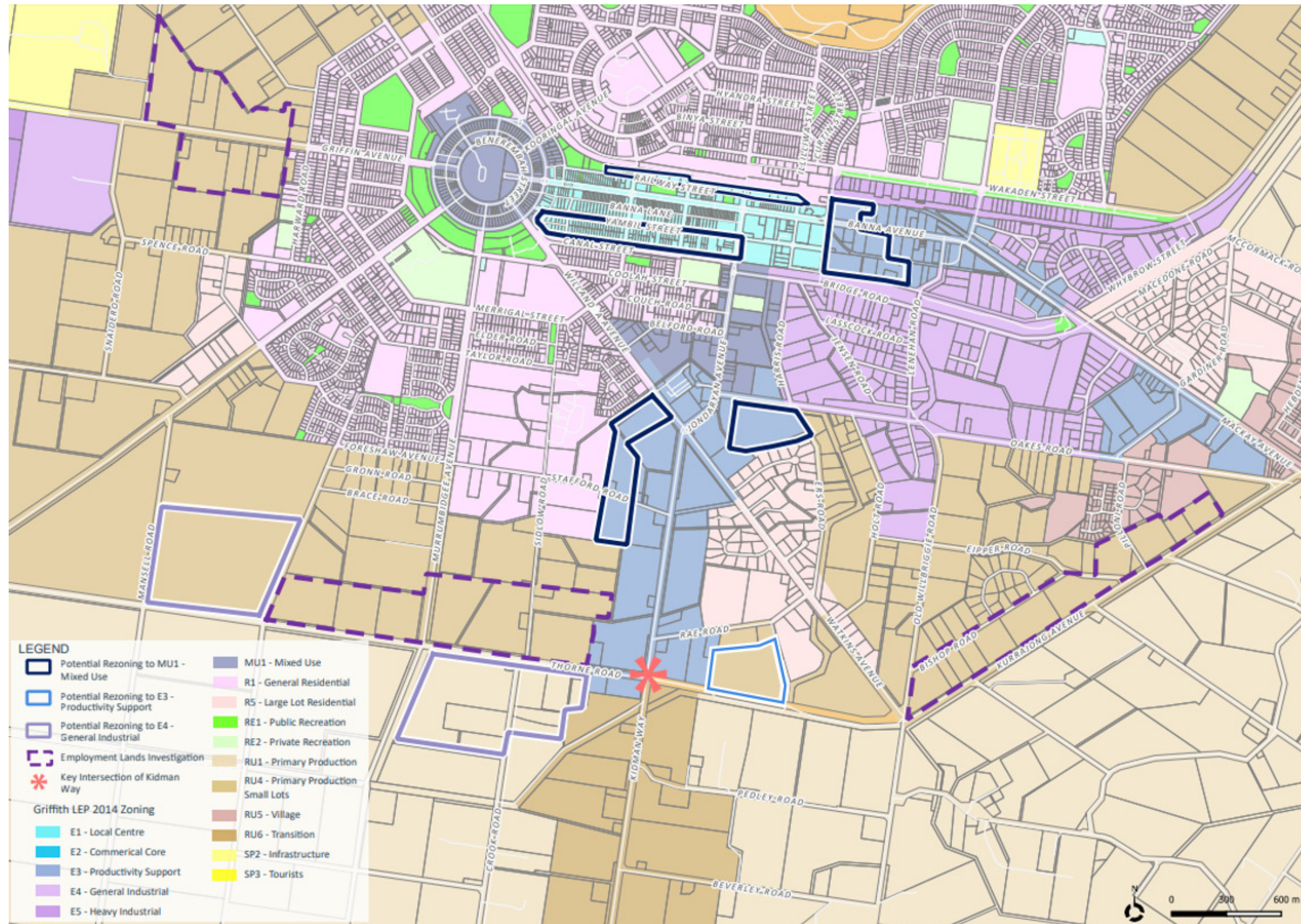
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- South side of Yambil Street and Canal Street between Jondaryan Avenue and Canal Street.
- Railway Street – Lots on the north side of Olympic Street and Railway Street between Olympic Park and Bonegilla Road

This would signal to landowners, prospective purchasers and developers that Council is keen to increase the supply of housing in and around the CBD in mixed use settings.

Map 1 outlines the extent of the recommended zoning changes arising from the GELS. A site constraints and infrastructure assessment of each land area is provided in



Map 1 – Proposed Zoning Changes

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Council should continue to facilitate the delivery of more diverse and affordable housing (including more 1 and 2 bedroom dwellings) through ongoing planning control amendments, to support the housing needs of both residents and/or employees. This will allow important employment opportunities to be realised, by providing greater certainty that people seeking to work in Griffith can also have their housing needs met.

There are also a number of other economic development and other associated measures that Griffith City Council may wish to pursue, in advancing the Vision of the GELS which has been established in section 1 of this report. This includes a range of recommendations related to increasing education and training opportunities, advocating for an efficient freight network, providing more opportunities for and ensuring that employment centres and lands are seen as appealing places to work, which will attract more workers to Griffith.

## 6 STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

As a consequence of the employment lands analysis undertaken, the following recommendations/issues for employment should be considered:

**Table 13 – Griffith Employment Lands Strategy Recommendations**

NO.	RECOMMENDATIONS
<b>LEP and DCP Amendments</b>	
1.	Consolidate the existing E1 Local Centre zoned land within the Griffith city centre, by encouraging the transition of existing commercial tenancies to alternative uses outside the core centre. This should assist in addressing the current oversupply, as well as (potentially) encouraging the provision of additional housing within and around the CBD, to meet the need to provide more 1 and 2 bedroom dwellings as identified within the Griffith Housing Strategy.
2.	<p>Rezone land immediately adjoining Thorne Road along the Southern Industrial Link Road to E4 – General Industrial (refer Map 1), which can focus on developing a fit-for-purpose industrial estate that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Offers an opportunity for existing industrial operations located closer to the city centre, to transition to an industrial estate that is more suitably located and will better meet their needs;</li> <li>2. Provides direct access for road trains to the Southern Industrial Link Road from the new industrial estate, whilst limiting multiple access points;</li> <li>3. Accommodates a range of larger and more appropriate lot sizes, ranging from at least 1 hectare to 5 hectares or greater in size to better meet the needs of industrial operators;</li> <li>4. Is or is planned to be serviced to cater for industrial users; and</li> <li>5. Can be efficiently planned through the preparation of a structure plan to allow for orderly and sequential development, which nominates specific locations for direct access to the Southern Industrial Link Road.</li> </ol> <p>This will require reconciliation with any planned future residential development, including the imposition of appropriate buffers and mitigation measures for any future residential development in the immediate vicinity.</p>
3.	Identify additional land along the Southern Industrial Link Road and to the west of Griffith (refer Map 1) to be preserved for future industrial/employment purposes in the long term.
4.	Continue to facilitate the delivery of more diverse and affordable housing through ongoing planning control amendments, to support the housing needs of both residents and/or employees. This could include supporting the rezoning of infill land for residential purposes with service capacity close to employment lands.
5.	Recognising the access limitations of existing E4 zoned land to the east of the Griffith City Centre, the new industrial precinct along the Southern Industrial Link Road will gain direct access to the new bypass for road trains. The existing industrial uses on the existing E4 zoned land will likely remain on this land in the short-medium term, with the new industrial precinct providing an opportunity for users to transition out of town and relocate to a more fit-for-purpose industrial precinct. The E4 zoned land east of the centre would then only accommodate industrial businesses not needing direct connectivity or access for road trains.
6.	Transition some E3 land which does not have frontage to the Kidman Way, or Southern Industrial Link Road to MU1, subject to further investigations into servicing the land. Also, rezone other suitable land with frontage to Kidman Way and Southern Industrial Link Road to E3.
7.	<p>Implement the recommendations in the Housing Strategy and rezone the following E1 – Local Centre lands to MU1 – Mixed use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South side of Yambil Street and Canal Street between Jondaryan Avenue and Canal Street.</li> <li>• Railway Street – Lots on the north side of Olympic Street and Railway Street between Olympic Park and Bonegilla Road</li> </ul> <p>This would signal to landowners, prospective purchasers and developers that Council is keen to increase the supply of housing in and around the CBD in mixed use settings.</p>
8.	Identify land along the north side of the Southern Industrial Link Road for future Employment Lands to guide future strategic planning exercises.



NO.	RECOMMENDATIONS
<b>Other Recommendations (e.g. Economic Development, Development Assessment Policies etc.)</b>	
9.	Incentivise tenancy refurbishments/upgrades to reduce centre vacancies within Griffith City Centre.
10.	Discourage out-of-centre approvals (retail and commercial uses) to allow for concentrated efforts to be focused on land specifically zoned for centre purposes, such as the encouragement of community uses in centre locations where possible and practicable.
11.	Encourage opportunities to upskill or obtain higher qualifications within Griffith City, such as through TAFE NSW Griffith, and Western Riverina Community College. The Country University Centres (CUC) Western Riverina also provides support to distance education students and provides a smooth pathway for TAFE students to transition to Charles Sturt University.
12.	Encourage opportunities to develop partnerships between local industry/s with existing educational facilities within the Riverina region to encourage new employees to the area. This will lead to an increase in skill level of the workforce therefore diversifying the existing employment portfolio in the area and allowing skillsets to keep pace with advancements in technology and processes, particularly in the area of agriculture.
13.	Promote opportunities for online businesses to operate out of Griffith City focussed on the sale of quality agricultural outputs (leverage off the existing strengths of the region) as opposed to attracting online businesses more broadly.
14.	In collaboration with State government and education facilities, investigate strategies to rapidly expand the value of agricultural production by linking intensive small scale farming to research, employment and training.
15.	Consider ways to provide for a range of lifestyle opportunities and services to entice more knowledge workers to relocate to Griffith. Employment precincts such as the town centre, neighbourhood centres, and industrial areas must be considered appealing and offer a range of services and facilities to attract and retain knowledge workers.
16.	Ensure short term lease and co-working office space facilities are provided which are well connected to the global network through substantial technological infrastructure.
17.	Continue to provide and advocate for an effective regional freight network, in order to service Griffith's employment generating industries efficiently, particularly manufacturing and agriculture.

Upon finalisation of the GELS, an implementation strategy will be developed, which outlines the actions for advancing the proposed recommendations.



**APPENDIX 1: ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

**AP01**

*Griffith Employment Lands Strategy*  
*Employment Lands Strategy*



## **APPENDIX 2: CANDIDATE SITE CONSTRAINTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT**

**AP02**

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**14 March 2023**

# **Griffith Employment Lands Strategy: Economic Analysis**

PSA Consulting



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### Disclaimer:

This report has been based upon the most up to date readily available information at this point in time, as documented in this report. Bull & Bear Economics has applied due professional care and diligence in accordance with generally accepted standards of professional practice in undertaking the analysis contained in this report from these information sources. Bull & Bear Economics shall not be liable for damages arising from any errors or omissions which may be contained within these information sources.

As this report involves future market projections which can be affected by several unforeseen variables, they represent our best possible estimates at this point in time and no warranty is given that this particular set of projections will in fact eventuate.



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# 1 Introduction

Bull & Bear Economics, in conjunction with PSA Consulting, were engaged by Griffith City Council to undertake the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy. The purpose of the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy is to guide the planning and delivery of a suitable supply of employment lands, meeting projected demand for sustainable employment growth in the Griffith local government area (LGA).

The Griffith Employment Lands Strategy: Economic Analysis provides the evidence base to inform recommendations that will offer strategic direction in line with the priorities and opportunities identified through practical, economy growing interests to benefit the Griffith community.

## 1.1 Report Structure

The report is structured as follows:

- + **Section 1 Introduction:** summarises the purpose of the report and outlines report structure;
- + **Section 2 Economic Context:** provides a high-level overview of resident and employment characteristics of Griffith City Council, based on data published by Informed Decisions;
- + **Section 3 Employment Trends and Themes:** identifies key employment trends at the State and National level which have implications for employment within Griffith City in the future;
- + **Section 4 Existing Activity within Employment Lands:** provides an overview of existing activity within employment zoned land in Griffith City;
- + **Section 5 Retail Floor Space Expenditure:** provides an assessment of the demand for additional retail floor space within Griffith City to 2041, through consideration of projected household expenditure patterns, converted to supportable floor space estimates;
- + **Section 6 Employment Projections:** details employment projections for Griffith City, which represent a key input into the assessment of commercial office floor space and industrial land demand;
- + **Section 7 Commercial Floor Space Demand Assessment:** highlights the commercial floorspace demand within Griffith City, derived from two-digit employment projections in Section 6 of the report;
- + **Section 8 Industrial Land Demand:** estimates the projected demand for industrial land within Griffith City, derived from two-digit employment projections in Section 6 of the report;
- + **Section 9 Strategic Recommendations:** provides an overview of the key findings of the study, including strategic recommendations which will inform subsequent stages of the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy;
- + **Section 10 References:** details the sources used in preparing this report; and
- + **Section 11 Appendix:** summarises the data sources utilised in preparing this report.

## 2 Economic Context

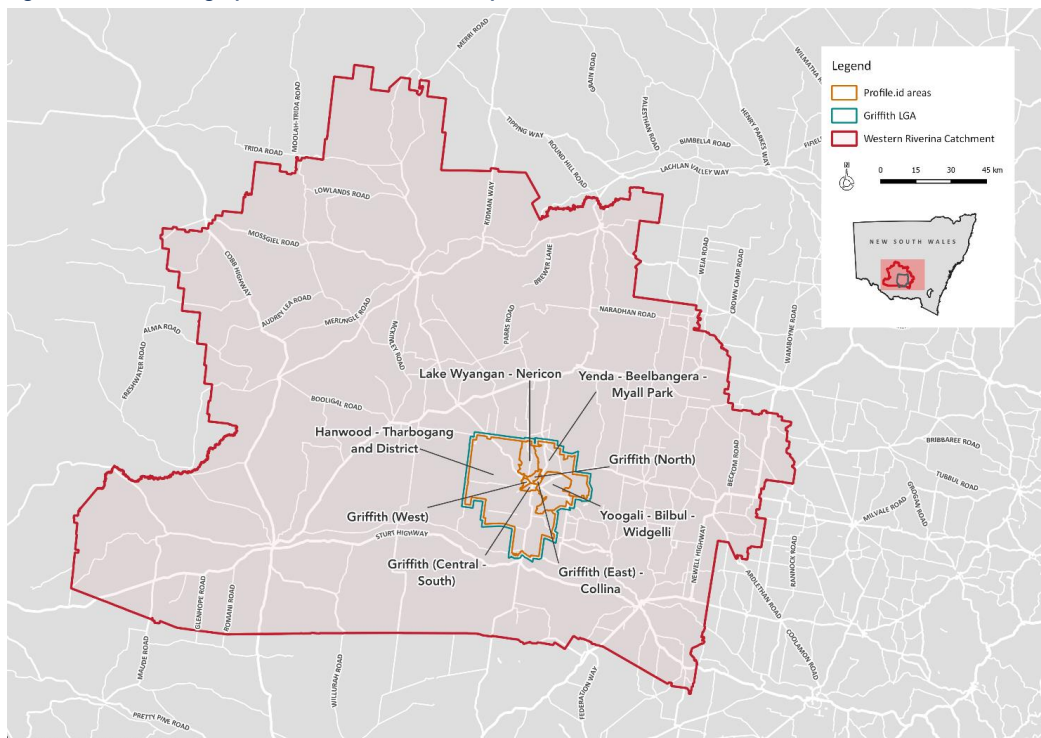
The purpose of this section of the report is to provide a high-level overview of resident and employment characteristics of Griffith City Council, based on data published by Informed Decisions. At the time of report compilation, 2021 Census data was being released progressively by Informed Decisions. As such, this assessment has included data from both the 2021 and 2016 Census.

This section also considers the economic context at a sub-regional level, based on the catchments defined by Informed Decisions.

Griffith City is located in the Riverina Region of south western New South Wales, approximately 450 kilometres north of the Melbourne CBD and 570 kilometres west of the Sydney CBD. Griffith City is accessed via Burley Griffin Way to the east and Kidman Way to the south and north west. The region can also be accessed via the Griffith Airport via direct flights from Sydney.

Figure 2-1 provides an overview of the geographic boundaries of Griffith City, Western Riverina and the catchments as discussed in this chapter.

**Figure 2-1 Geographic Overview of Griffith City, Western Riverina and Catchments**





## 2.1 Socio-Economic Profile

The 2021 Census of Population and Housing<sup>1</sup> has been utilised to construct a socio-economic summary of Griffith City, benchmarked to Western Riverina and New South Wales.

The key demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the Griffith City population as of the 2021 Census are summarised below:

- + In 2021, Griffith City and Western Riverina recorded a significant proportion of persons aged between 0 and 14 years (19.4% and 19.6% of residents, respectively) when compared to New South Wales (18.2% of residents);
- + Corresponding with the high incidence of residents under 14 years old, Griffith City was characterised by a lower average age than New South Wales;
- + With respect to household composition, Griffith City recorded a higher incidence of couple families with children (33.0% of families), compared to Western Riverina and New South Wales (28.8% and 32.1% of families, respectively). Griffith City also recorded a higher incidence of couple families without children (26.8% of families) compared to New South Wales (26.0% of families), but a lower incidence when compared to Western Riverina (27.4% of families);
- + Average household size in 2021 was slightly higher in Griffith City than the benchmarked regions;
- + Average vehicle ownership in Griffith City and Western Riverina was slightly higher than New South Wales;
- + The proportion of households fully owning a home was higher in Griffith City (31.3% of households) compared to New South Wales (30.3% of households), but lower when compared to Western Riverina (33.9% of households);
- + Notably, the proportion of households renting a home in Griffith City (30.5% of households) was higher than in Western Riverina (27.3% of households) but marginally lower than the proportion of households renting in New South Wales (31.3% of households);
- + In 2021, average weekly household income was significantly higher in Griffith City (\$2,011 per week) compared to Western Riverina (\$1,833 per week), but considerably lower than the state average (\$2,279 per week);
- + In line with average weekly household income, average monthly housing loan repayments were higher in Griffith City (\$1,632 per month) when compared to Western Riverina (\$1,459 per month) but lower when compared to New South Wales (\$2,425 per month);
- + In 2021, average weekly rent payment was significantly lower in Griffith City (\$283 per week) compared to New South Wales (\$441 per week);
- + The incidence of full-time employment within Griffith was significantly higher than in New South Wales;
- + In 2021, labour market outcomes were relatively favourable in Griffith City, with a lower unemployment rate despite higher labour force participation rates compared to both Western Riverina and New South Wales;
- + Persons within Griffith City were less likely to have a post-school qualification than in New South Wales. Residents in Griffith City who held a post-school qualification were most likely to hold a certificate qualification;

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<sup>1</sup> 2021 Census Data will be released in stages throughout 2022 with the publishing of key population data to be in June 2022 and additional location variables and employment data to be published in October 2022.

- + As of the 2021 Census, both Griffith City and Western Riverina were characterised by a higher incidence of lower blue collar workers, reflective of the dominance of agriculture and manufacturing within these regions; and
- + In 2021, the most significant industries of employment for employed residents in Griffith City were manufacturing, agriculture, forestry and fishing and health care and social assistance.

**Table 2-1 Socio-Economic Profile – Griffith City, Western Riverina, and New South Wales, 2016 and 2021**

	Griffith City	Western Riverina	New South Wales
<b>Age Distribution (2021)</b>			
0-14 years	19.4%	19.6%	18.2%
15-24 years	12.1%	11.8%	11.8%
25-34 years	14.8%	13.2%	14.1%
35-44 years	12.5%	11.7%	13.7%
45-54 years	12.7%	12.4%	12.6%
55-64 years	11.9%	13.0%	11.9%
65+ years	16.6%	18.3%	17.6%
Average age (years)	39.4	40.4	40.2
<b>Household Type (% of families) (2021)</b>			
Couple families with children	33.0%	28.8%	32.1%
Couple families without children	26.8%	27.4%	26.0%
Single parent family	10.6%	10.9%	11.1%
Other	24.2%	27.0%	24.6%
Average household size	2.7	2.6	2.6
Average vehicle ownership	2.1	2.1	1.8
<b>Household Finances (2021)</b>			
% of households fully owning home	31.3%	33.9%	30.3%
% of households purchasing home	27.0%	25.7%	31.0%
% of households renting	30.5%	27.3%	31.3%
Average weekly household income	\$2,011	\$1,833	\$2,279
Average monthly housing loan repayment	\$1,632	\$1,459	\$2,425
Average weekly rent payment	\$283	\$247	\$441
Average housing costs (as a % of income)	9.4%	8.4%	13.7%
<b>Labour Market (2016)</b>			
Full-time employment (% labour force)	62.9%	63.4%	60.3%
Part-time employment (% labour force)	32.2%	32.0%	33.3%
Unemployment rate	4.9%	4.6%	6.4%
Participation rate (% of population > 15 years)	60.1%	60.1%	58.7%
<b>Qualifications (2016)</b>			
% of persons with a post-school qualification	37.4%	37.9%	50.4%
% of persons with Bachelor or higher	10.5%	10.1%	23.4%
% of persons with Diploma	6.0%	6.0%	8.9%
% of persons with Certificate	20.9%	21.8%	18.1%

	Griffith City	Western Riverina	New South Wales
<b>Occupation (2016)</b>			
Upper White Collar			
Managers	15.7%	13.7%	19.2%
Professionals	13.4%	24.1%	12.5%
<i>Subtotal</i>	29.1%	37.8%	31.7%
Lower White Collar			
Clerical and Admin Workers	11.9%	14.1%	11.2%
Community & Personal Service Workers	9.0%	10.6%	8.9%
Sales Workers	10.8%	9.4%	8.7%
<i>Subtotal</i>	31.7%	34.0%	28.7%
Upper Blue Collar			
Technicians & Trades Workers	14.0%	12.9%	13.1%
<i>Subtotal</i>	14.0%	12.9%	13.1%
Lower Blue Collar			
Machinery Operators & Drivers	7.0%	6.2%	8.3%
Labourers	18.2%	9.0%	18.2%
<i>Subtotal</i>	25.2%	15.2%	26.5%
<b>Employment by Industry (% of employees) (2016)</b>			
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	11.8%	18.6%	2.3%
Mining	0.3%	0.2%	1.0%
Manufacturing	19.4%	16.0%	6.1%
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	1.6%	1.5%	1.0%
Construction	7.0%	6.8%	8.8%
Wholesale trade	2.6%	2.3%	3.2%
Retail trade	12.7%	10.4%	10.1%
Accommodation & food services	5.4%	5.5%	7.4%
Transport, postal & warehousing	3.1%	3.7%	4.9%
Information media & telecommunications	0.6%	0.3%	2.3%
Financial & insurance services	1.5%	1.3%	5.2%
Rental, hiring & real estate services	1.1%	0.7%	1.9%
Professional, scientific & technical services	3.5%	2.8%	8.5%
Administrative & support services	3.0%	2.7%	3.6%
Public administration & safety	4.4%	5.0%	6.3%
Education & training	6.9%	8.3%	8.8%
Health care & social assistance	10.3%	9.8%	13.1%
Arts & recreation services	0.6%	0.4%	1.6%
Other services	4.3%	3.7%	3.9%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing (2016, 2021)

## 2.2 Population and Household Projections

### 2.2.1 Historic Population

As of 30 June 2021, the estimated residential population of Griffith City increased from 25,640 persons in 2012 to 27,227 persons in 2021, or by 0.7% per annum. The rate of population growth in Griffith City was particularly high in 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018 at 1% per annum.

Over the assessment period the largest catchment within Griffith City was Griffith (East) – Collina, while the smallest catchment was Lake Wyangan – Nericon.

Across the ten-year period, population growth was highest in Griffith (West), with the catchment increasing by 1.3% per annum. Conversely, population growth was lowest in Hanwood – Tharbogang & District whereby the population decreased by 0.4% per annum.

Table 2-2 below summarises the historic population growth by catchment in Griffith City between 2012 and 2021.

**Table 2-2 Historic Population by Informed Decisions Catchments, 2012 to 2021**

	Griffith (Central – South)	Griffith (East) - Collina	Griffith (North)	Griffith (West)	Hanwood - Tharbogang & District	Lake Wyangan - Nericon	Yenda - Beelbanger - Myall Park	Yoogali - Bilbul - Widgelli	Griffith City
2012	4,536	6,355	4,702	2,357	2,409	1,263	2,092	1,927	25,640
2013	4,607	6,451	4,723	2,404	2,362	1,236	2,070	1,888	25,741
2014	4,645	6,525	4,771	2,465	2,371	1,242	2,104	1,876	26,000
2015	4,743	6,624	4,757	2,471	2,380	1,245	2,137	1,890	26,247
2016	4,776	6,695	4,771	2,497	2,353	1,231	2,137	1,897	26,358
2017	4,836	6,811	4,827	2,487	2,359	1,239	2,138	1,928	26,625
2018	4,967	6,885	4,853	2,517	2,352	1,245	2,134	1,930	26,884
2019	5,018	6,930	4,896	2,551	2,346	1,259	2,127	1,923	27,051
2020	5,082	6,972	4,891	2,611	2,344	1,272	2,123	1,937	27,232
2021	5,072	6,951	4,886	2,645	2,328	1,276	2,108	1,961	27,227
<b>Average Growth, 2012-21</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>

Source: Profile.ID (2022)

#### 2.2.1.1 Historic Working Age Population

Working age population refers to the proportion of the population aged between 15 years and 64 years. Informed Decisions provides population estimates by five-year age groups between 2016 and 2021, as presented below. The working age population within Griffith City has increased by 0.2% per annum between 2016 and 2021, from 16,694 residents in 2016 to 16,834 residents in 2021. The largest increase was seen within the Griffith – (East) Collina catchment, whereby the working age population increased by 205 residents over the period. Oppositely, the largest decrease was seen within the Yenda – Beelbanger – Myall Park catchment, whereby the working age population decreased by 91 residents over the period. On average, the working age population within Griffith City has increased at a much slower rate than the overall population, representing an ageing population within the area. Notably, within the Lake Wyangan – Nericon catchment, the working age population has increased at a much higher rate than the overall population.

Table 2-3 below summarises the historic working age population within Griffith City and the respective catchment areas between 2016 and 2021.

**Table 2-3 Historic Working Age Population by Informed Decisions Catchments, 2016 to 2021**

	Griffith (Central – South)	Griffith (East) – Collina	Griffith (North)	Griffith (West)	Hanwood - Tharbogang & District	Lake Wyangan - Nericon	Yenda - Beelbanger - Myall Park	Yoogali - Bilbul - Widgelli	Griffith City
2016	3,035	4,139	3,061	1,565	1,586	776	1,352	1,180	16,694
2017	3,050	4,165	3,033	1,543	1,531	798	1,339	1,217	16,676
2018	3,058	4,190	3,040	1,529	1,515	799	1,325	1,241	16,697
2019	3,072	4,221	3,067	1,527	1,505	818	1,297	1,225	16,732
2020	3,056	4,281	3,066	1,547	1,499	824	1,287	1,237	16,797
2021	3,040	4,344	3,077	1,531	1,503	855	1,261	1,223	16,834
<b>Average Growth, 2016-21</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

Source: Profile.ID (2022)

## 2.2.2 Household and Population Projections

Projections have been prepared using Profile. ID's projections (population, population by age, households and average household size) for Griffith City for the period between 2021 and 2036, however, the relevant period for this assessment is to 2041. As such, this assessment has assumed a contribution of the growth trend anticipated for 2031 to 2036 in order to estimate population and households in 2041.

### 2.2.2.1 Population

By 2041, Griffith City is projected to grow to a total population of 31,730 persons (increasing by 4,411 persons relative to 2021), representing an average growth rate of 0.8% per annum between 2021 and 2041. Population growth for this period is expected to be highest in the Griffith (East) – Collina (additional 2,355 persons in the 2021-41 period) and Lake Wyangan – Nericon catchments (additional 1,054 persons in the 2021-41 period).

Table 2-4 summarises the population projections by Informed Decision catchment between 2021 and 2041.

**Table 2-4 Population Projections, Informed Decisions Catchments, Griffith City and New South Wales, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann Growth Rate (2021-41)
Griffith (Central – South)	4,927	4,937	4,992	5,032	5,072	0.1%
Griffith (East) – Collina	7,199	7,760	8,343	8,928	9,554	1.4%
Griffith (North)	4,833	4,867	4,887	4,946	5,006	0.2%
Griffith (West)	2,591	2,668	2,728	2,777	2,827	0.4%
Hanwood – Tharbogang & District	2,354	2,377	2,422	2,468	2,515	0.3%
Lake Wyangan – Nericon	1,331	1,569	1,826	2,087	2,385	3.0%
Yenda – Beelbanger – Myall Park	2,066	2,045	2,048	2,059	2,070	0.0%
Yoogali – Bilbul – Widgelli	2,018	2,084	2,127	2,212	2,300	0.7%
<b>Griffith City</b>	<b>27,319</b>	<b>28,307</b>	<b>29,373</b>	<b>30,509</b>	<b>31,730</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>8,188,651</b>	<b>8,474,000</b>	<b>8,915,665</b>	<b>9,354,480</b>	<b>9,803,536</b>	<b>0.9%</b>

Source: Profile.ID

### 2.2.2.2 Working Age Population

For the purposes of the assessment the working age population has been defined as the number of persons aged 15-64 years.

By 2041, the working age population in Griffith City is projected to grow by 0.6% per annum from 16,834 persons in 2021 to 18,812 persons in 2041. The largest working age population is located in Griffith (East) – Collina catchment whereby the working age population is projected to increase to 5,662 persons by 2041, or by 1.3% per annum between 2021 and 2041.

Table 2-5 summarises the projected size of the working age population within Griffith City and its component Informed Decisions catchments between 2021 and 2041.

**Table 2-5 Working Age Population Projections, Informed Decisions Catchments, Griffith City and New South Wales, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann Growth Rate (2021-41)
Griffith (Central – South)	3,040	2,736	2,964	2,947	2,930	-0.2%
Griffith (East) – Collina	4,344	4,621	4,957	5,298	5,662	1.3%
Griffith (North)	3,077	3,067	3,044	3,100	3,157	0.1%
Griffith (West)	1,531	1,535	1,559	1,606	1,654	0.4%
Hanwood – Tharbogang & District	1,503	1,507	1,521	1,553	1,586	0.3%
Lake Wyangan – Nericon	855	974	1,088	1,239	1,411	2.5%
Yenda – Beelbanger – Myall Park	1,261	1,188	1,163	1,151	1,139	-0.5%
Yoogali – Bilbul – Widgelli	1,223	1,196	1,185	1,228	1,273	0.2%
<b>Griffith City</b>	<b>16,834</b>	<b>16,824</b>	<b>17,481</b>	<b>18,122</b>	<b>18,812</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>6,670,328</b>	<b>6,993,704</b>	<b>7,443,251</b>	<b>7,850,795</b>	<b>8,228,026</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

Source: Profile.ID

### 2.2.2.3 Average Household Size

As of 2021, average household size was highest in Yoogali – Bilbul – Widgelli (2.93 persons per household), whilst average household size was lowest in Griffith (North) (2.51 persons per household). Average household size projections were provided by Profile.ID between 2021 and 2036, thus, the projections for 2041 have assumed a contribution of the growth trend anticipated for 2031 to 2036 in order to estimate average household size. The average household size in all catchment areas is expected to range between 2.51 persons per household and 2.95 persons per household by 2041. Table 2-6 summarises the projected average household size by Informed Decisions catchment between 2021 and 2041.

**Table 2-6 Projected Average Household Size, Informed Decisions Catchments, Griffith City and New South Wales, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann Growth Rate (2021-41)
Griffith (Central – South)	2.58	2.57	2.55	2.52	2.51	-0.1%
Griffith (East) – Collina	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.64	2.65	0.0%
Griffith (North)	2.51	2.52	2.52	2.53	2.54	0.1%
Griffith (West)	2.59	2.62	2.65	2.64	2.63	0.1%
Hanwood – Tharbogang & District	2.82	2.80	2.81	2.81	2.81	0.0%
Lake Wyangan – Nericon	2.92	2.92	2.93	2.94	2.95	0.1%
Yenda – Beelbanger – Myall Park	2.52	2.49	2.49	2.51	2.53	0.0%
Yoogali – Bilbul – Widgelli	2.93	2.89	2.86	2.86	2.86	-0.1%
<b>Griffith City</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>2.64</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>2.59</b>	<b>2.59</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>2.57</b>	<b>0.0%</b>



Source: Profile.ID

### 2.2.2.4 Projected Households

Accordingly, household growth for the catchments is expected to range between 0.0% per annum and 2.9% per annum between 2021 and 2041. By 2041, Griffith City is projected to grow to a total of 11,995 households, representing average annual growth of 0.7% per annum. Comparatively, the number of households in New South Wales is anticipated to increase by 1.0% per annum across the period.

Consistent with population growth trends, whilst Griffith (East) – Collina is anticipated to record the highest growth in households (additional 868 households between 2021 and 2041), significant growth is also anticipated for the Lake Wyangan – Nericon catchment (with an additional 353 households between 2021 and 2041).

Table 2-7 summarises projected households by Informed Decisions catchment between 2021 and 2041.

Table 2-7 Projected Households, Informed Decisions Catchments, Griffith City and New South Wales, 2021 to 2041	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann Growth Rate (2021-41)
Griffith (Central – South)	1,910	1,921	1,958	1,997	2,018	0.3%
Griffith (East) – Collina	2,737	2,951	3,172	3,382	3,605	1.4%
Griffith (North)	1,925	1,931	1,939	1,955	1,971	0.1%
Griffith (West)	1,000	1,018	1,029	1,052	1,075	0.4%
Hanwood – Tharbogang & District	835	849	862	878	895	0.3%
Lake Wyangan – Nericon	456	537	623	710	809	2.9%
Yenda – Beelbanger – Myall Park	820	821	822	820	818	0.0%
Yoogali – Bilbul – Widgee	689	721	744	773	804	0.8%
<b>Griffith City</b>	<b>10,372</b>	<b>10,750</b>	<b>11,150</b>	<b>11,567</b>	<b>11,995</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>3,149,481</b>	<b>3,267,391</b>	<b>3,446,295</b>	<b>3,624,969</b>	<b>3,808,495</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

Source: Profile.ID

## 2.3 Resident Incidence of Part/Full Time Employment

Between 2016 and 2021, there was a significant increase in the number of persons employed full time in Griffith City, increasing by 1,316 persons to 8,895 persons. Similarly, there was significant growth in the number of persons employed part time, increasing by 575 persons to 4,070 persons.

These improved labour market outcomes are attributable to both a significant increase in the size of the labour force in the 2016 to 2021 period relative to the 2011 to 2016 period, in conjunction with falls in the unemployment rate (falling to 3.0% in 2021 from 4.8% in 2016 and 4.9% in 2011). In 2021, full time employment represented 63.0% of the labour force and part time employment represented 28.8% of the labour force.

The largest increase in full time employment was captured within the Griffith (Central South) catchment, whereby full time employment increased by 620 persons over the 10-year period, with the majority of employment growth in the 2016-21 period. The Griffith (East) – Collina catchment recorded the highest increase in part time employment, increasing by 257 persons between 2011 and 2021, with employment growth concentrated in the 2016 to 2021 period. Overall, part time employment in Griffith City increased from 28.1% of the labour force in 2006 to 28.8% of the labour force in 2021.

Griffith City recorded significantly stronger labour market outcomes than New South Wales in 2021, with a significantly higher incidence of full time employment, translating to a lower unemployment rate (3.0% in Griffith City in 2021, 4.9% in New South Wales) despite marginally lower incidences of part time employment opportunities.

Table 2-8 below summarises the incidence of part time and full time employment within Griffith City and New South Wales between 2006 and 2016.

**Table 2-8 Incidence of Part Time and Full Time Employment by Informed Decisions Catchments, Griffith City and New South Wales, 2006 to 2016**

	Year			Proportion of Labour Force		
	2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
<b>Griffith (Central – South)</b>						
Employed Full Time	1,013	1,096	1,633	58.2%	57.4%	63.9%
Employed Part Time	489	558	704	28.1%	29.2%	27.6%
<b>Griffith (East) – Collina</b>						
Employed Full Time	1,773	2,087	2,335	60.7%	64.5%	63.2%
Employed Part Time	817	892	1,074	28.0%	27.6%	29.1%
<b>Griffith (North)</b>						
Employed Full Time	1,333	1,434	1,604	61.6%	64.7%	63.4%
Employed Part Time	621	585	717	28.7%	26.4%	28.3%
<b>Griffith (West)</b>						
Employed Full Time	606	650	806	58.4%	59.2%	62.2%
Employed Part Time	279	317	363	27.0%	28.9%	28.0%
<b>Hanwood – Tharbogang and District</b>						
Employed Full Time	786	699	712	62.8%	59.9%	63.4%
Employed Part Time	320	347	335	25.6%	29.8%	29.8%
<b>Lake Wyangan – Nericon</b>						
Employed Full Time	423	395	384	62.8%	59.9%	60.1%
Employed Part Time	210	204	213	31.2%	31.0%	33.3%
<b>Yenda – Beelbanger – Myall Park</b>						
Employed Full Time	635	639	720	62.7%	60.8%	62.2%
Employed Part Time	265	295	320	26.2%	28.1%	27.7%
<b>Yoogali – Bilbul – Widgelli</b>						
Employed Full Time	592	596	701	63.0%	63.1%	63.0%
Employed Part Time	271	280	327	28.9%	29.6%	29.4%
<b>Griffith City</b>						
Employed Full Time	7,138	7,579	8,895	60.5%	61.6%	63.0%
Employed Part Time	3,308	3,495	4,070	28.1%	28.4%	28.8%
<b>New South Wales</b>						
Employed Full Time	2,007,796	2,134,527	2,136,610	60.2%	59.2%	55.2%
Employed Part Time	939,419	1,071,151	1,151,660	28.2%	29.7%	29.7%

Source: Profile.ID (2022)

## 2.4 Employment by Industry

Between 2016 and 2021, the number of workers in Griffith City increased from 12,134 persons in 2016 to 13,954 persons in 2021. The key sectors of employment within Griffith City were manufacturing,

health care and social assistance, agriculture, forestry and fishing and retail trade. Between 2016 and 2021, the key sectors of growth (in terms of additional workers) were manufacturing, health care and social assistance and agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Table 2-9 below displays the industry of employment for workers within Griffith City in 2016 and 2021.

**Table 2-9 Worker Industry of Employment – Griffith City, 2015-16 and 2020-21**

	Employed Persons			Proportion of Total	
	2016	2021	Change	2016	2021
Manufacturing	2,431	2,861	430	20.0%	20.5%
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,423	1,765	342	11.7%	12.7%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,290	1,609	318	10.6%	11.5%
Retail Trade	1,549	1,555	6	12.8%	11.1%
Education and Training	831	996	164	6.9%	7.1%
Construction	727	886	159	6.0%	6.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	641	698	57	5.3%	5.0%
Public Administration and Safety	553	597	44	4.6%	4.3%
Other Services	512	572	59	4.2%	4.1%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	426	497	71	3.5%	3.6%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	398	453	55	3.3%	3.2%
Wholesale trade	321	428	107	2.6%	3.1%
Administrative and Support Services	343	362	19	2.8%	2.6%
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	203	238	35	1.7%	1.7%
Financial and Insurance Services	203	159	-44	1.7%	1.1%
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	128	112	-16	1.1%	0.8%
Arts and Recreation Services	66	87	21	0.5%	0.6%
Information Media and Telecommunications	82	64	-17	0.7%	0.5%
Mining	7	16	9	0.1%	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,134</b>	<b>13,954</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Profile.ID, (2022)

## 2.5 Resident Place of Work

As of the 2021 Census, employment within Griffith City was mostly self-contained (i.e. residents who live in Griffith City who also work in Griffith City). Approximately 95.1% of Griffith City resident workers were also employed within Griffith City. The most prominent employment locations for Griffith City resident workers outside of Griffith City were Murrumbidgee (215 workers) and Leeton (154 workers).

Table 2-10 below displays the employment location of Griffith City resident workers as of the 2021 census.

**Table 2-10 Employment Location – Griffith City Resident Workers, 2021**

Employment Location	No. of Workers	Proportion (%)
Griffith (C)	12,478	95.1%
Murrumbidgee (A)	215	1.6%
Carrathool (A)	186	1.4%
Leeton (A)	154	1.2%
Wagga Wagga (C)	40	0.3%
Narrandera (A)	19	0.1%
Bland (A)	13	0.1%

Employment Location	No. of Workers	Proportion (%)
Sydney (C)	10	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,115</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Profile.ID, (2022)

## 2.6 Workforce Origin

As of the 2021 census, the most common place of usual residence for workers within Griffith City was also Griffith City. As stated in Section 2.3.2, employment within Griffith City was mostly self-contained. Hence, 91.5% of workers within Griffith City were also residents of Griffith City. The most common places of usual residence outside of Griffith City for workers within Griffith City were Leeton (3.7% of workers) and Murrumbidgee (1.8% of workers).

Table 2-11 below displays the most prominent locations of usual residence for workers within Griffith City as of 2021.

**Table 2-11 Place of Usual Residence – Griffith City Workers, 2021**

Place of Usual Residence	No. of Workers	Proportion (%)
Griffith (C)	12,478	91.5%
Leeton (A)	502	3.7%
Murrumbidgee (A)	248	1.8%
Carrathool (A)	212	1.6%
Narrandera (A)	111	0.8%
Wagga Wagga (C)	30	0.2%
Coolamon (A)	16	0.1%
Hay (A)	13	0.1%
Gold Coast (C)	13	0.1%
Canterbury-Bankstown (A)	10	0.1%
Mildura (RC)	10	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,643</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Profile.ID, (2022)

### 2.6.1 Agricultural Production

Griffith City is the agricultural 'powerhouse' of the Riverina and is one of the most diverse and productive regions in Australia (Sivewright, 2022). As presented in Section 2.3.1, the manufacturing, and agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries were the two most highly employed industries amongst Griffith City residents. As of 2020/21, the two most highly employed manufacturing categories were food product manufacturing (987 workers, or 8.5% of total Griffith workers) and beverage, and tobacco product manufacturing (884 workers, or 7.6% of total Griffith workers). Evidently, agriculture and the processing of agricultural outputs are the most significant employment sectors within Griffith City as of 2020/21.

Informed Decisions provides agricultural data for Griffith City for the 2015/16 financial year, and hence, data for the Riverina SA4 and New South Wales have been extracted from the Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced 2015/16 report by the ABS for comparison. As of 2015/16, the highest value agricultural commodity produced within Griffith City was Livestock Slaughtering, in particular, poultry. The poultry industry within Griffith City is undergoing rapid expansion as a result of the Baiada/Steggles Hanwood plant expecting to process three million birds per week in the coming years (Sivewright, 2022). Poultry slaughtering within Griffith City accounted for 25.9% of the value of Riverina SA4 poultry slaughtering, and 5.4% of the total value of New South Wales poultry slaughtering. Cereal Crops was the second highest valued commodity within the Griffith region as

of 2015/16. Wheat produced for grain was the highest cereal crop commodity within the Griffith region, worth \$37.93 million in 2015/16. Notably, the production of rice for grain within the Griffith region was worth 19.1% of the total value within the Riverina SA4, and 13.3% of total rice for grain production within New South Wales. Conversely, the lowest valued commodity with Griffith City was eggs worth \$0.0 million (\$2,007 as of 2015/16), and milk worth \$0.01 million (\$11,715 as of 2015/16).

Overall, the total value of agricultural commodities within the Griffith region in 2015/16 was \$143.31 million. Agricultural commodities within Griffith City totalled 6.2% of the Riverina SA4's agricultural commodities, and 1.1% of all New South Wales agricultural commodities.

Table 2-12 below summaries the total value of agricultural commodities within Griffith City, the Riverina SA4, and New South Wales as of 2015/16.

**Table 2-12 Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced – Griffith City, Riverina SA4, and New South Wales – 2015/16**

	Total Value			Griffith City Proportion (%)	
	Griffith City	Riverina SA4	New South Wales	Riverina SA4	New South Wales
<b>Cereal Crops</b>	<b>\$37.93</b>	<b>\$743.29</b>	<b>\$3,022.76</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Wheat for Grain	\$18.15	\$474.50	\$1,863.58	3.8%	1.0%
Rice for Grain	\$14.67	\$76.93	\$109.90	19.1%	13.3%
Barley for Grain	\$3.39	\$145.43	\$690.17	2.3%	0.5%
<b>Citrus Fruit</b>	<b>\$11.63</b>	<b>\$131.80</b>	<b>\$178.96</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>
Oranges	\$10.85	\$116.91	\$148.05	9.3%	7.3%
Grapefruit	\$0.52	\$4.06	\$5.24	12.8%	9.9%
Lemons	\$0.17	\$6.21	\$11.95	2.7%	1.4%
<b>Crops for Hay</b>	<b>\$0.48</b>	<b>\$53.29</b>	<b>\$327.59</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Eggs</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1.36</b>	<b>\$258.15</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Grapes</b>	<b>\$14.68</b>	<b>\$89.98</b>	<b>\$211.97</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
Grapes - Wine	\$14.57	\$88.39	\$147.54	16.5%	9.9%
Grapes - Other	\$0.11	\$1.59	\$64.44	6.9%	0.2%
<b>Livestock Slaughtering</b>	<b>\$51.36</b>	<b>\$564.23</b>	<b>\$4,390.69</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Poultry	\$47.62	\$183.72	\$874.99	25.9%	5.4%
Cattle and Calves	\$2.29	\$262.10	\$2,561.88	0.9%	0.1%
Sheep and Lambs	\$1.22	\$99.80	\$734.53	1.2%	0.2%
<b>Milk</b>	<b>\$0.01</b>	<b>\$22.23</b>	<b>\$593.69</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Nurseries &amp; Cut Flowers</b>	<b>\$1.50</b>	<b>\$13.85</b>	<b>\$300.06</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
Nurseries	\$1.47	\$10.62	\$146.92	13.8%	1.0%
Cultivated Turf	\$0.03	\$3.23	\$81.83	1.1%	0.0%
<b>Nuts</b>	<b>\$1.98</b>	<b>\$60.26</b>	<b>\$160.79</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Other Nuts	\$1.03	\$27.60	\$39.21	3.7%	2.6%
Almonds	\$0.95	\$32.65	\$34.86	2.9%	2.7%
<b>Other Broadacre Crops</b>	<b>\$15.60</b>	<b>\$391.22</b>	<b>\$2,000.96</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
Cotton	\$13.57	\$188.40	\$874.14	7.2%	1.6%
Canola	\$0.67	\$160.21	\$485.76	0.4%	0.1%
Other Oilseeds	\$0.39	\$6.32	\$25.78	6.2%	1.5%
<b>Other Fruit</b>	<b>\$1.24</b>	<b>\$109.98</b>	<b>\$435.01</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Other Stone Fruit	\$0.86	\$6.45	\$10.97	13.3%	7.8%
Cherries	\$0.21	\$3.75	\$21.73	5.6%	1.0%



	Total Value			Griffith City Proportion (%)	
	Griffith City	Riverina SA4	New South Wales	Riverina SA4	New South Wales
<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>\$5.30</b>	<b>\$76.64</b>	<b>\$419.92</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Potatoes	\$2.45	\$36.27	\$72.07	6.7%	3.4%
Melons	\$1.10	\$17.09	\$58.18	6.4%	1.9%
Pumpkins	\$0.92	\$11.05	\$22.00	8.3%	4.2%
<b>Wool</b>	<b>\$1.59</b>	<b>\$126.91</b>	<b>\$946.10</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>Agriculture - Total Value</b>	<b>\$143.31</b>	<b>\$2,324.78</b>	<b>\$13,085.85</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

Source: Profile. ID (2022), Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2016)

## 2.7 Summary

The socio-economic profile of Griffith City identifies a region that is younger compared to the region and New South Wales, with a relatively high incidence of couple families with children. The region is considered relatively affordable, with significantly lower mortgage and rent payments compared to New South Wales.

Workers within the region are less likely to have a post school qualification, which may somewhat be influenced by fewer in-person training opportunities than larger regional centres. The key sectors of employment within the region are manufacturing, retail trade, agriculture, forestry and fishing and health care and social assistance. Between 2016 and 2021, these sectors, except for retail trade, were key drivers of additional employment opportunities within the region. Workers within Griffith City were typically sourced locally or from the surrounding local government areas of Murrumbidgee, Carrathool and Leeton.

Within Griffith City, the population of the region has increased by 0.7% per annum in the past ten years, with the rate of population growth in Griffith (West), in Griffith (Central – South) and Griffith (East) – Collina exceeding 1% per annum in this period. The rate of population growth in Griffith City was particularly high in 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018 at 1.0% per annum.

Outside of Griffith (East) – Collina, there has been relatively little growth in the size of the working age population. Over the next twenty years, population projections prepared by Informed Decisions suggest growth is anticipated to be highest in Griffith (East) – Collina and Lake Wyangan – Nericon.

Despite relatively steady population growth in the past ten years in Griffith City, the employment outcomes of residents have improved significantly between 2016 and 2021, as evidenced by growth in the number of persons employed full time, translating to a significant decline in the unemployment rate to 3% in 2021.

The key agricultural commodities in Griffith City include poultry processing, cereal crops, grapes and oranges. Poultry processing is particularly significant within the regional context, accounting for approximately a quarter of the value of production within the Riverina SA4.

This background analysis identifies Griffith City is agriculturally focussed, both in terms of production and processing. There has been significant growth in employment within Griffith City between 2016 and 2021, translating to a significant decline in the unemployment rate, indicative of a prosperous regional economy. Whilst Griffith City offers affordable housing relative to other parts of New South Wales, the analysis also indicates a lower skilled workforce. To ensure the continued success of Griffith City, it is imperative to ensure that the skills of the workforce remain tailored to the evolving needs of established businesses, particularly given that labour is typically sourced from within Griffith, as opposed to surrounding areas.

## 3 Employment Trends and Themes

Trends are gradual and deep-set trajectories of change which will, at some point, reshape business and alter policy environments. This section identifies key employment trends at the State and National level which will have implications for employment within Griffith City in the future. These trends change the way in which employment is anticipated to evolve over time and the land use implications and considerations necessary to cater for these changes..

This section has considered the following employment trends and the implications for Griffith City:

- + Increased Connectivity and Integration;
- + Flexible Enterprises;
- + Rising Entrepreneurism;
- + Divergent Demographics;
- + Rising Knowledge Intensity;
- + Tangible Intangibles;
- + Online Retail; and
- + Robotics, Automation, and Artificial Intelligence.

These trends have been identified by the CSIRO in their report 'Tomorrow's Digitally Enabled Workforce' (January 2016) and through industry research.

### 3.1 Increased Connectivity and Integration

This trend is centred around the exponential growth in device connectivity, data availability, volumes, and computing speed, combined with the rapid advancements in automated systems and artificial intelligence. These advancements enable systems and software to perform many tasks quicker, more efficiently and more safely than humans. The growth in technological capabilities is transforming supply chains, reshaping the workforce, and redefining jobs. The challenging prospect is that the growth is not linear (constant), but rather exponential.

From this connectivity, the Internet of Things (IoT) industry has been established as an integral part of economic activity around the world. The IoT is a system of interrelated computing devices, mechanical and digital machines which can transfer data over a network without requiring human intervention. For all industries, the benefits can include improved supply chain transparency/provenance, safety, efficiency, and environmental sustainability due to efficient resource planning.

The poultry sector, which is a key driver of economic activity in Griffith City, has benefited significantly from the IoT, with automatic data collection allowing for real-time collection of data such as body and egg weights and feed and water consumption of poultry. Additionally, this technology can provide real time monitoring of environmental conditions, allowing for timely and more precise modifications as required. Additionally, monitoring systems can detect bacterial and viral infections such as salmonella and E. coli, ensuring food safety and control of infectious diseases promptly.

The continued growth in the IoT will also increase the demand for electronics and telecommunications products, often requiring a bespoke design response. To deliver this response, manufacturers will need increased collaboration with research institutions as well as the establishment of industry (or enterprise) funded research bodies. Similarly, major research institutions

are developing commercialisation capability. Co-location of industry and research institutions creates knowledge and technology precincts (KTPs).

In the Griffith context, we would anticipate over time, food and beverage processing, which are key employers within the region, will become increasingly sophisticated, with manual tasks increasingly becoming automated. The workforce within these sectors will increasingly need to upskill to meet the evolving needs of businesses. These sectors will also provide additional opportunities for professional and programme-based occupations within the region, both in the development of bespoke design responses for industry and repair and maintenance of these systems over time.

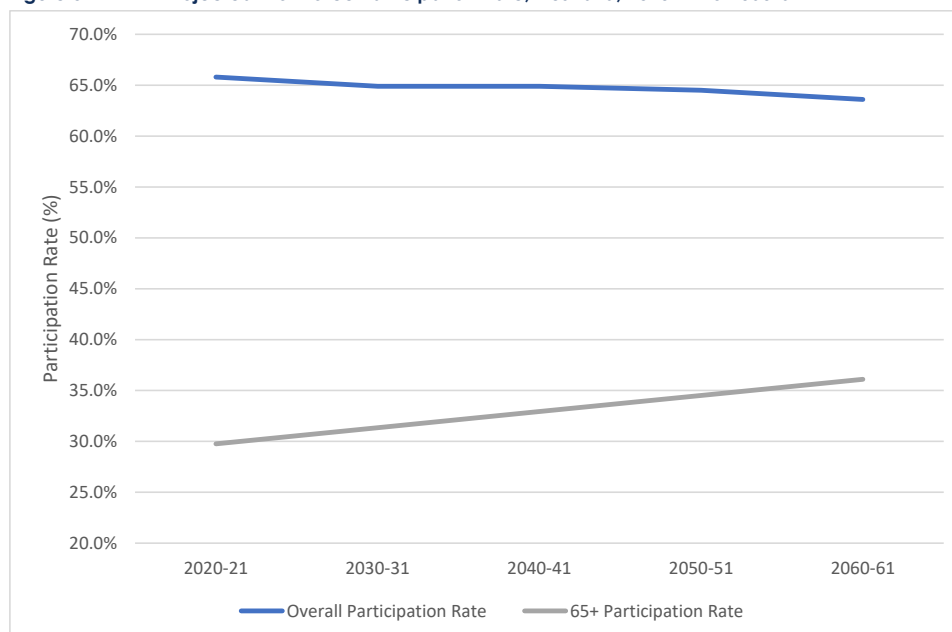
Whilst Griffith is not anticipated to have significant growth in mixed use industry and research hubs in the region, it is understood that the NSW Department of Primary Industries already has two facilities within Griffith, namely The Centre (located at the corner of Murray Road and Research Road, Hanwood) which comprises offices, laboratory, glasshouses, preparation areas, storage sheds and The Farm (i.e. perennial plantings not under roof), irrigated by a combination of drip and microspray systems, with electrical soil moisture monitoring equipment. This hub will further research best practice approaches within the agriculture sector to optimise crop yields.

### 3.2 Divergent Demographics

As with many other developed countries, Australia's population is ageing with growing life expectancies. As per 2016 ABS Census Data the Australian population aged over 65 was projected to nearly double by 2035 to reach 19.4% of the total population and the average life expectancy for men and women is projected to reach 84.9 years, and 87.9 years (CSIRO, 2016). An increasing proportion of elderly persons implies an increasing dependency on the workforce of Australia. The numbers of aged care services and staff will also need to expand considerably to meet the growing demand from an ageing population, therefore the aged care system is likely to need new models of care and adopt new technological solutions in order to meet the expected quantity.

Despite Australian's working for longer before retiring (it is estimated the retirement age will increase to 70 years by 2035), it is expected that there will be a significant overall decrease in the participation rate. The reasons behind it might include jobseekers becoming discouraged, casualisation of work, and the increasing potential for technological unemployment. However, estimates from the treasury Intergenerational Report, 2021, outline that among older Australians the participation rate will continue to rise.

Figure 3-1 outlines the projected workforce participation rate by age group, as of 2021.

**Figure 3-1** Projected Workforce Participation Rate, Australia, 2020-21 to 2060-61

Source: The Treasury Intergenerational Report (2021)

Working into older age is widely accepted as being more feasible for knowledge workers compared to manual workers who are likely to require complementary technology. Employers in Australia will need to manage a diverse labour force of different age groups, health and social statuses and genders.

Female participation in the workforce is continuing to grow, while male participation is on the decline, primarily due to a significant proportion of the male labour force occupying previously low skilled jobs (CSIRO, 2016). As women continue to account for an increasing proportion of the labour market, there will be greater pressure on employers to offer flexible working arrangements to employees as more participants will need to balance family and responsibilities and work.

In recent years Australia has had a significant increase in the number of skilled migrant workers. In 2013, migration accounted for 60.0% of total population growth in the country, and over the last decade 83.0% of all migrants were of working age (aged between 15 and 64 years). Migration is estimated to continue to be a significant contributing factor to the Australian population, however the country of origin is expected to continue to shift from being predominantly European migrants, to migrants from Asia (CSIRO, 2016). This shift in migratory origins implies that the offering of aged care facilities in the future will need to provide culturally appropriate care and linguistically diversified aged care services.

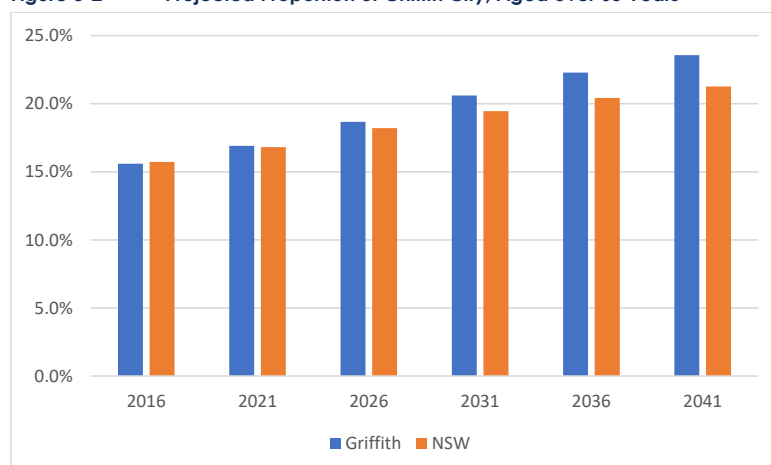
The prevalence of obesity and mental health issues are becoming increasingly significant to the Australian Workforce. Employers in the future will need to address these conditions and provide working environments which are beneficial to employee health. More specialists in exercise, diet and mental well-being will be required. New medical technology as well as automation in medical diagnostics and care are likely to complement labour in the health care sector to meet the increasing demand.

Between 2006 and 2016, Griffith City had a slight increase in the average age of residents totalling 2.0 years. A similar trend, although to a lesser extent, was represented in New South Wales as a whole. This information indicates that Griffith City is no exception to the ageing population trend seen throughout Australia. Furthermore, although the proportion of persons aged 65 years and over in Griffith City was slightly lower in 2016 compared to New South Wales, it is anticipated that the proportion of persons aged 65 years and older in Griffith City will exceed that of New South Wales. This indicates that in comparison to New South Wales, the City of Griffith has a rapidly aging population.

In 2016, over 15.0% of the population of Griffith City was aged 65 years and over, and as the ageing population grows, there is potential that Griffith City will experience workforce shortages. Therefore, Griffith City must consider this issue, as well as how to care for residents as the population becomes progressively aged (e.g. through ensuring the health workforce is of sufficient size and skill level to cater for the needs of an ageing population).

This trend is demonstrated in Figure 3-2 below.

**Figure 3-2 Projected Proportion of Griffith City, Aged over 65 Years**



Source: The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, (2019)

In 2021, Griffith City demonstrated a relative significance in employment in the manufacturing industry compared to New South Wales. However, as the size of the ageing population grows, younger people will need to be recruited to this industry. By taking advantage of educational opportunities in regional New South Wales and in Sydney, and by participating in the implementation of new technologies, the region could have an advantage within the manufacturing sector. Collaboration with universities, research institutes and commercialised service providers would be integral in realising the potential in Griffith.

### 3.3 Rising Knowledge Intensity

Global economies are increasingly moving away from manufacturing and agriculture to service-based economies, with a growing demand for knowledge and information (Witt & Gross, 2019). The shift in the economic landscape has resulted in automated systems requiring high skill levels, with low skilled jobs being moved to less developed countries. This shift has resulted in a "higher bar" being set, with many professions requiring high level skills and education for entry positions.



In the knowledge-based economy, employment is correlated with an obtainment of higher education, which corresponds with technology awareness and increased productivity. Enrolments in higher education has increased across Australia, particularly in the society and culture studies, education and health courses. A decline in enrolment in sectors such as IT and engineering has seen demand for migrant skilled workers grow (CSIRO, 2016).

A knowledge economy requires employees trained in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), with the vast majority Australia's fastest-growing professions requiring training in STEM. However, interest and performance in the STEM fields has declined among Australia's school and university aged population. Increasing costs of higher education has also attributed to declining enrolments in STEM courses. The decline in interest in the STEM fields is anticipated to greatly impact future workforce, innovation and Australia's competitiveness in the global labour market. The growing popularity of open online courses is anticipated to provide individuals, especially individuals from low income socio-economic backgrounds, access to tertiary education at low cost than traditional higher education institutes and offers flexibility by providing learning material accessible online at any time.

Income inequality has continued to grow in Australia over the last few decades, especially among individuals with and without higher education. However, by providing equal opportunities to education to all individuals, more equal distribution of income is obtained. Although the number of university graduates (i.e. with bachelor's degree or higher) finding employment after graduation has declined over the last decade, obtaining higher education qualifications still offers better employment prospects than having no higher education qualification.

Additionally, employers are increasingly becoming interested in the 'soft skills' of future employees. Soft skills such as interpersonal and organization skills are integral for critical or problem solving and innovation and are often an addition to university degrees.

Griffith City has less than half the proportion of professional, scientific and technical service industry employment of New South Wales. This demonstrates a weakness in the City, which could lead to economic losses as the Australian economy moves towards a primarily service-based workforce. Despite the lack of employment in the professional services industry, Griffith City has experienced growth between 2011 and 2016 in the health care and social assistance sector as well as in the education and training sector. Furthermore, the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector is a particularly strong industry within Griffith City, and has the potential to become a high-skill, knowledge intensive field when opportunities for education and training are provided, further creating potential opportunities for Griffith City to specialise.

Opportunities to upskill or obtain higher qualifications within Griffith City in-person include TAFE NSW Griffith, which has a particular focus in wine and food technology, and Western Riverina Community College. Notably, TAFE NSW Griffith also offers certificates in agriculture and agricultural mechanical technology while Western Riverina Community College provides vocational training and education programs. The highest level of education offered at Griffith TAFE is a diploma, while Western Riverina Community College offers a range of national-recognised qualifications.

The Country University Centres (CUC) Western Riverina provides support to distance education students and provides a smooth pathway for TAFE students to transition to Charles Sturt University. Local students studying any degree, diploma or Cert IV pathway are able to access CUC Western Riverina facilities for free (located at Griffith and Leeton). The CUC Western Riverina has risen in popularity, particularly since COVID-19, when students were forced to undertake tertiary studies remotely and recognised the advantages of being able to remain locally in Griffith City and study remotely through CUC Western Riverina.

Data provided from Council indicated in the first semester of 2022, there were over 290 students registered at CUC Western Riverina, with the facility averaging 192 student access hours per month.

Table 3-1 summarises the tertiary institutions and services

**Table 3-1 Tertiary Institutions and Services in Griffith City, 2022**

Facility	Address	Course Offering
TAFE NSW Riverina Institute	Neville Place, Griffith	Automotive, Engineering, Construction, Early childhood, hair and beauty training academy, nursing student training facilities, wine and food technology centre
Western Riverina Community College	23 Hickey Cres, Griffith	Music, business, community services and health, beauty and hairdressing, hospitality, professional development
CUC Western Riverina	2/1 Olympic Street, Griffith Sycamore Street, Leeton (inside Leeton Shire Library)	Free access to support facilities for local students studying any degree, diploma or Cert IV pathway.

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

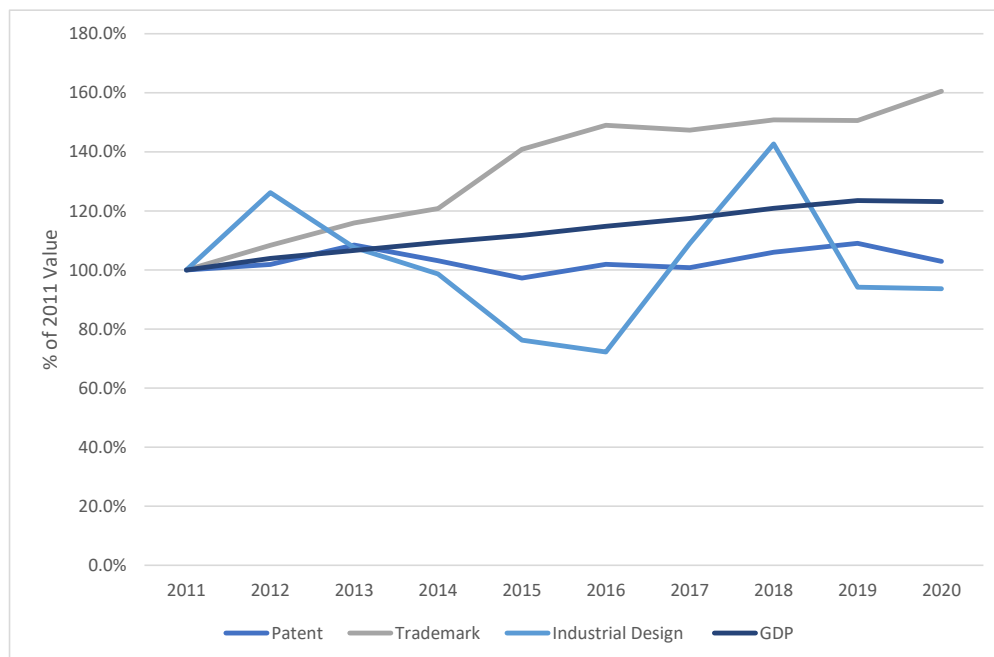
Through increased access to education, an opportunity arises for the income disparity between Griffith City and New South Wales as a whole to be reduced and wage inequality within Griffith to decrease over time.

Given the existing economic structure within the region, it is integral that additional training opportunities are focussed toward understanding automated systems within poultry and agricultural operations and the development of bespoke systems to enhance automation within manufacturing businesses, with a focus on the food and beverage processing sectors. Understanding the repair and maintenance of automated systems within the agriculture / processing sectors will also be a critical skill required within Griffith into the future. It is anticipated that these skills / training opportunities would be delivered both through the TAFE NSW Riverina Institute and universities (course work to be delivered online).

### 3.4 Tangible Intangibles

A growing subset of Australia's service economy is the knowledge-based economy, contributing to employment and value add across various industries. Knowledge economies are often measured by patent growth, a key indicator of innovation. Although the number of patent applications have increased in Australia over the last few decades, it is modest by global comparisons.

Figure 3-3 details the intellectual property filings and GDP growth in Australia (indexed 2011 -100%) between 2011 to 2020.

**Figure 3-3 Intellectual Property Filings and GDP Growth in Australia (indexed 2011 -100%), 2011 to 2020**

Source: World Intellectual Property Organisation (2021)

The experience economy, where businesses create memorable events for clients, is continuing to grow as a component of Australia's service economy. Personal trainers, life advisors, tourism and entertainment advisors are expected to play a key role in the growth of the experience economy (CSIRO, 2016).

The growth in the creative sector largely attributable to the digital revolution involves various skill sets ranging from arts to science and knowledge. The value added to the GDP of Australia by the creative sector has increased significantly over the last decade and is anticipated to become an important element of the economy. Generation Z, people born between 1995 and 2009, grew up in a world of digital technology will be a key contributor to the growth of the creative sector and are expected to bring a set of intangible experiences to labour force (CSIRO, 2016). Some of the key features which Gen-Z will bring to the workforce in the future include;

- + Constantly connected online: strong communication skill through online methods;
- + Entrepreneurial in nature: high proportion of Gen-Z intend to start their own business;
- + Collaboration: preference to work in collaboration with a small team; and
- + Continuing learners: appreciate a working environment which can provide them with continuing learning and mentoring opportunities.

Generation Z might therefore bring a new set of intangible experiences they expect from their work environment. That might imply a need to develop new solutions for the working environment and recruiting, such as bring your own device policy, creativity, and learning-stimulating working arrangements.

With respect to land use planning, some key considerations for Griffith City relating to the tangible intangibles trend are as follows:

- + Increased demand for a range of lifestyle opportunities and services by knowledge workers, rather than simply a place to work. Griffith City would need to ensure that employment precincts such as the town centres, neighbourhood centres, and industrial areas are considered appealing and offered a range of services and facilities to attract and retain knowledge workers; and
- + Increased office space (available for short term leasing) or co-working facilities may be demanded within Griffith City, which is understood to be limited in its availability. It is imperative that these facilities are well connected to the global network through substantial technological infrastructure.

### 3.5 Online Retail

Online retailing is defined as industry retailers operating websites which enable consumers to purchase a range of products such as apparel, computers, recorded music, electronic goods, general merchandise, and groceries. As a result of changing consumer attitudes and the mass adoption of in-home technologies over the past decade, online retailing has significantly grown throughout Australia.

Some key industry performance indicators which detail the significance of online retailing in Australia were outlined in IBISWorld's Online Shopping in Australia report (Australia Industry (ANZSIC) Report X0004), 2021 and are as follows:

- + Total Revenue in 2020-21: \$43.9 billion;
- + Annual growth between 2021 and 2026: 6.9% per annum; and
- + Number of businesses 2021 and 2026: 5.0% per annum.

There are five key external driving factors which have been identified as contributing significantly to the online growth in the above detailed sectors, both to date and moving forward. The key driving factors are as follows (IBISWorld, 2021):

- + **Internet Subscribers:** increases in internet penetration, particularly in regional areas of the country, allows more consumers to engage in transactions online. Therefore, online retailers have access to a growing pool of customers. The number of internet subscribers is expected to decrease in 2020-21;
- + **Real Household Discretionary Income:** increasing discretionary income provides consumers with more opportunity to spend on a broader product range where online retailing facilitates the purchase of many specialty goods. Real household discretionary income is expected to decrease in 2020-21, threatening industry growth;
- + **Consumer Sentiment Index:** consumer sentiment influences consumer demand for discretionary goods at the retail level. Consumer sentiment is expected to rise but remain negative in 2020-21;
- + **Demand from Department Store:** rising demand from department stores increases competition for the industry. Demand from department stores is expected to decline in 2020-21; and
- + **Mobile Telecommunications Density:** consumers are increasingly using mobile devices to make online purchases. As the density of mobile telecommunications increases, consumers are more likely to make online purchases using mobile devices, supporting industry demand. Mobile telecommunications density is expected to increase in 2020-21.

These external driving factors, and their relative trends, are expected to propel the value added from online shopping to increase at an annualised 11.7% over the 10 years. This is a significant

outperformance compared with anticipated annual GDP growth of 2.1% over the same period (IBISWorld, 2021). Therefore, the online shopping industry is growing significantly faster than the Australian economy.

There are noteworthy consequences which arise as a result of the continued growth in online shopping (particularly over the next decade). Bricks and mortar retailers are faced with competing against virtual stores with none of the retail overheads, while simultaneously bricks and mortar retailers are developing their own virtual stores that compete against their own shops. Companies such as Uber Eats and MenuLog have demonstrated that there are few products which cannot be fulfilled through technological advancements and online platforms utilised by the consumer. As demonstrated, online retailers sell a broad range of products and product types.

Online retailing is already changing how retail developments are delivered, with retail centres moving away from their traditional retail focus towards more lifestyle-oriented centres. Online retailing will and already is having substantial impacts on retailers that have traditionally relied on large format stores (e.g., supermarkets, discount department stores, department stores, category killers). The ultimate consequence will be an overall reduction in the demand for physical retail floor space per capita.

In the Griffith context, it is anticipated that the demand for physical retail floor space per capita is likely to decrease, with the sectors of retail activity to remain prominent within Griffith including groceries, fresh food retailing and dining and a reduced number of speciality retailers, with speciality retailing needs increasingly met through online channels.

The growth in online retailing also has significant indirect effects on the economy, most significantly, rapid growth will be required in logistics and freight networks and in the availability of vacant industrial tenancies. Freight and logistics companies will need to sustain the increased demand for the fulfillment of online orders. While additional industrial space will be required by retailers and wholesalers in order to store and maintain the increased inventory levels required to meet the growing demand (Maria Lee - Oxford Economics, 2020).

Griffith City is connected to the State classified road network via Kidman Way and Burley Griffin Way, with connections to the Hume, Newell and Mid-Western Highways. As such, this proximate location could make Griffith an affordable and convenient location for online businesses to locate. Griffith City is located 450 kilometres north of Melbourne, 550 kilometres west of Sydney, 790 kilometres east of Adelaide and 350 kilometres west of Canberra. However, the distance from Griffith City to the major cities could also act as a deterrent to these businesses.

We would anticipate that online businesses that operate out of Griffith City would be focussed on the sale of quality agricultural outputs (leverage off the existing strengths of the region) as opposed to attracting online businesses more broadly, which would be more likely to have a preference to locate within an hour of a capital city, to benefit from proximity, but also relatively affordable sites for their business operations.

## 3.6 Robotics, Automation and Artificial Intelligence

### 3.6.1 Technology and Employment

The global economy has been primarily driven by major technological changes which have raised global living standards. However, these technological changes are causing considerable short-term disruptions for individuals and society, including the loss of income and wealth. The fear that technological progress will cause unemployment is not a new phenomenon having been

experienced numerous times throughout history. The short-term disruptions are more often outweighed by the long-term benefits of increased productivity and living standards.

Whilst increased technological advancements can mean that farming machinery takes jobs from people, it has the benefit of supporting the financial feasibility of some crop production which was not feasible because of labour costs. Griffith farmers have and will continue to see the benefits of these new technologies by taking advantage of new machinery to help expand the selection of the crops they produce.

Additionally, as identified above, technological changes have revolutionised the poultry industry, allowing for more precise monitoring of farming practices and ensuring manufacturing processes both optimise yield and ensure food safety.

### 3.6.2 Globalisation

The increasing efficiency and effectiveness of digital technologies has facilitated globalisation by greatly reducing the costs associated with long distance communication. A key area that has been substantially impacted is international trade, generating net economic benefit to various nations. However, increased globalisation has also impacted certain industries and workers who vulnerable to cheap foreign labour and imports. One of those domestic industries impacted by globalisation is manufacturing, declining by approximately 15% over the last 20 years. As the skill level in lower wage countries continues to rise, especially in Asia, this will leave Australian workers exposed to potential job losses. Although cheap foreign labour costs reduce employment in Australia, it has been shown that this will lead to increased investment, innovation and wages, especially among higher skilled workers.

### 3.6.3 In the Griffith context, continued innovation in the agricultural sector will ensure an increased number of higher skilled employment opportunities are available locally. Automation

Automation, which is the process by which human workers are replaced by machines or computers, has also impacted local employment. Automation has substituted workers across a range of industries that require routines tasks, making some occupations redundant. This has made 'middle class' jobs increasingly scarce as they are being replaced by technology in advance economies such as the United States of America. However, workers who have skills which compliment technology have seen an increase in productivity, resulting in increased wages and opportunities.

As highlighted above, jobs considered routine (i.e. jobs that follow defined procedures) are most vulnerable to automation. As technological change progresses, tasks which require high cognitive abilities, such as scientific research, are becoming increasingly automated. A study by the University of Oxford which compartmentalised jobs into their component tasks and activities to estimate how vulnerable they are to automation, found approximately 47% of US workers were at risk of losing their job to automation. The same methodology applied to the Australian context estimates 44% of jobs at risk to automation.

Automation can also complement and substitute human labour, presenting various opportunities for human workers to become more productive. A good example of this is the banking industry, which has seen the number of bank tellers decrease due to automated tellers' machines but has created opportunity in other banking related services.

Automation in key sectors is already relevant within Australia with the implementation of hands free farming. The global population is expected to reach 10 billion people by 2050, requiring the agriculture industry to increase food production by 70% to sustain current growth (Brown, 2018). As



such, farm automation, or smart farming, has become increasingly important. Farm automation is a method that entails the use of drones, robotics, and software to transform the existing agriculture industry (Land Income, 2022). These robots can perform operational tasks while intelligently responding to their environment and once automated, these robots can perform these tasks independently. Smart farming leads to increased production efficiency and improved quality of agricultural products. It also improves the quality of life for farm workers by reducing heavy labour and tedious tasks.

In May 2021, Charles Stuart University in Wagga Wagga announced that it will create the first fully automated farm in Australia (Claughton & Condon, 2021). This "hands-free farm", situated on a 1,900 hectare property, will utilise the following:

- + Robotic tractors;
- + Harvesters;
- + Survey equipment and drones;
- + Artificial intelligence that will control sowing, dressing and harvesting;
- + New sensors to measure plants, soils, and animals; and
- + Carbon management tools to minimise the farm's carbon footprint.

The farm is currently operating commercially, growing a range of broadacre crops, including wheat, canola and barley, as well as a vineyard, cattle and sheep. The automation of the farm will begin with autonomous vehicles that could harvest crops while the farmers sleep.

In Griffith, whilst the automation of manufacturing processes has not had significant impacts on displacing unskilled workers to date (on the job training has likely been sufficient for upskilling for employees), employment opportunities for the monitoring of automated systems in the manufacturing process, the repair and maintenance of machinery used in manufacturing which is increasingly sophisticated and the development of bespoke technology responses to support the manufacturing sector is anticipated to only increase over time.

We would anticipate that in the Griffith context, whilst agricultural and manufacturing processes have become increasingly automated over time, the ability for automation to replace human labour in other sectors appears limited at this stage.

### 3.6.4 Augmentation

It is critical to understand ways technology can augment the value of human labour. Technology can help individuals to accomplish more tasks, access more tools and information, solve complex tasks and be able to spend more time on valuable tasks as opposed to routine ones. Technological augmentation is the key driver behind increasing skilled employment seen across Australia over the last two decades. Whilst employment in occupations which require lower skill levels has declined, this has opened more opportunities for more skilled workers in related occupations. However, not all displaced workers have reaped the benefits of technological changes. In the Griffith context, in the absence of upskilling (which can occur through obtaining additional tertiary qualifications or on the job training depending on the skills required), workers with lower skill levels have access to fewer job opportunities than in the past.

### 3.6.5 Jobs of the Future

The emergence of technological changes coupled with demographic changes will give rise to brand new jobs. However, there is no precise means of forecasting future jobs. In considering abovementioned trends and insights provided in this chapter, the following six jobs are deemed as jobs of the future:

- + Big Data Analysts, i.e. data scientists who can spot trends in increasingly large and varying datasets;
- + Complex Decision Support Analysts;
- + Remote Controlled Vehicle Operators;
- + Customer Experience Experts;
- + Personalised and Preventative Health Helpers; and
- + Online Chaperones.

In the Griffith context, driverless tractors (which fall within the category of remote controlled vehicle operators) is anticipated to be of relevance. John Deere announced in June 2022 that an autonomous battery powered electric tractor would be launched in Australia in 2026, allowing agricultural businesses to reduce carbon emissions and boost productivity on farm.

Additionally, big data analysts are anticipated to represent a key occupation to support continued innovation with the agriculture and manufacturing sectors, along with complex decision support analysts. However, this is not to say these jobs would be based locally, with these local needs potentially delivered by providers within the broader region.

### 3.6.5.1 Case Study: Alternative Farming Methods

#### 3.6.5.1.1 Precision Agriculture

In the Netherlands, Dutch potato farmer Jacob Van den Borne has improved his crop yield significantly through agriculture technology. By monitoring two drones, a driverless tractor, and an unmanned quad copter, Van den Borne is able to obtain detail information regarding soil quality, water contents, nutrient levels, and growth. This allows Van den Borne to monitor the progress of every plant down to the individual potato which has permitted him to fulfill the needs of each individual plant, rather than treating the whole field the same. This optimised method has resulted in the reduction of both fertiliser and herbicide by 20%, allowing Van den Borne to achieve a 1% annual average yield increase each year since taking over his family's farm in 2006 (Lee, 2019).

The type of farming Van den Borne has adopted is referred to as "precision agriculture". This farming system seeks to exert more control over a production system by recognising variation and managing different areas of land differently, according to a range of economic and environmental goals (CSIRO, 2021). To do this, the tools of precision agriculture are used to collect large amounts of data on crop or animal performance and the attributes of the individual production areas (e.g. fields, paddocks and blocks) at a high spatial resolution.

Technology is crucial to precision agriculture, often involving the use of a global positioning system (GPS), geographical information systems (GIS), Variable-Rate Technology (VRT), soil sensors and yield monitors which in conjunction with GPS, enable georeferenced records of yield to be collected during harvest. With this technology, growers are better able to observe, understand and manage the variability in their production systems by tailoring inputs to desired outputs. Successful implementation of precision agriculture could help growers gain further yield and profitability, as seen in the case of Van den Borne.

### 3.6.5.2 Case Study: Utilisation of By-Products of Poultry Processing

It is understood that research is currently underway to utilise by-products of poultry processing, namely feathers, blood and bones. In Griffith, it is understood that reuse of by-products from poultry processing already occurs, but the outcomes of research may broaden the range of opportunities to use by-products, or alternatively improve the yield of by-product reuse.

A partnership between Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and poultry producer Leong Hup Singapore has developed techniques to create meat storage trays and a cell culture medium that could be utilised to produce lab grown meat.

In the creation of the meat storage trays, feathers are washed in distilled water to remove contaminants, dried at 27 degrees Celsius for four days and then pulverised. The resulting feather fibres, which contain keratin, are then combined with an unsaturated polymer resin which is placed in a glass tray mould and left to cure for a day.

Testing of these polymer trays identified they were just as flexible as traditional trays made with petroleum based plastics but were able to withstand almost twice as much force without breaking.

The cell culture medium, on the other hand, requires the breaking down of blood, bone gristle and skin to extract amino acids, vitamins, glucose, inorganic salts and growth factors. These nutrients create a serum with the potential to be used as a cell growth medium to create lab grown meat.

Whilst both techniques are currently being tested and refined, these represent potential opportunities within the poultry sector to consider in the reuse of by-products and the creation of additional products to bring to market.

### 3.7 Implications for Griffith City

A review of a range of employment trends and themes highlights that technology advancements have allowed for increasingly automated processes. In the Griffith context, these innovations have enhanced both crop and manufactured yields, enhanced quality control and allowed for early intervention when growing or manufacturing conditions require adjustment.

However, automation can also displace low skilled workers (in the absence of on the job training), with manual jobs increasingly declining. This highlights the importance of upskilling the local workforce, to ensure skill sets of the local workforce continue to align with the evolving needs of businesses. In the Griffith context, it is anticipated that additional skill sets required would be delivered both through local training institutions and through remote learning (e.g. through CCU Western Riverina).

In Griffith, whilst the automation of manufacturing processes is anticipated to reduce the reliance on low skilled labour locally in the longer term, it can enhance employment opportunities for the monitoring of automated systems in the manufacturing process, the repair and maintenance of machinery used in manufacturing which is increasingly sophisticated and the development of bespoke technology responses to support the manufacturing sector. It is anticipated that these opportunities would be delivered both locally and through businesses servicing the Griffith region (but based outside of the region).

There are a number of innovative approaches being established to both intensify agricultural and horticultural production, which have the potential to be applied in the Griffith context. Overseas research is also being conducted into the a range of uses for by-products of poultry processing, which has the potential to be applied in Griffith and can act as an opportunity to promote the reuse of by-products more broadly in industrial processes.

## 4 Existing Activity within Employment Lands

The purpose of this section of the report is to outline the existing activity within employment lands in Griffith City.

In December 2021, the reform of employment zones in New South Wales was finalised, with five employment zones and three supporting zones introduced into the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, to replace the existing zones.

The new employment zones, which replace the existing zones are as follows:

- + E1 Local Centre;
- + E2 Commercial Centre;
- + E3 Productivity Support;
- + E4 General Industrial;
- + E5 Heavy Industrial;
- + MU1 Mixed Use;
- + SP4 Local Enterprise; and
- + W4 Working Foreshore.

In Griffith, the following employment zones are of relevance:

- + E1 Local Centre;
- + E3 Productivity Support;
- + E4 General Industrial;
- + E5 Heavy Industrial;
- + MU1 Mixed Use; and
- + RU6 – Transition.

A brief discussion has also been provided regarding centres activity occurring on RU5 Village zoned land and the Woolworths anchored centre on R1 General Residential zoned land.

There was typically a direct translation between the previous employment land zoning and the new zoning, with the exception of a parcel of B7 zoned land in the city centre, which was adjusted to have a split E3 / E4 zoning (as illustrated in Figure x).

Table 4-1 details the correspondence of current zonings and new zonings within Griffith City.

**Table 4-1 Translation of Current and New Zonings within Griffith City**

Previous zoning	New Zoning
IN1 General Industrial	E4 General Industrial
IN3 Heavy Industrial	E5 Heavy Industrial
B7 Business Park	Mostly to E3 Productivity Support, with a land parcel to E4 General Industrial
B6 Enterprise Corridor	E3 Productivity Support
B4 Mixed Use	MU1 Mixed Use
B1 Neighbourhood Centre	E1 Local Centre
B2 Local Centre	E1 Local Centre

In September 2022, a comprehensive inventory was undertaken within these zonings to verify the role and function of activity within each of the relevant zones and to identify vacant tenancies, vacant land and remnant housing within each zone.

The NSW Government recognises the Local Centre (E1) and Commercial Centre (E2) zones represent zoning for centres, the General Industrial (E4) and Heavy Industrial (E5) are the key industrial zones and Productivity Support (E3) provides a transition between the centres and industrial zones. The Productivity Support (E3) land has been considered as industrial activity only as it represents the ability to accommodate light industry and showroom type uses into the future, unlike the centres type zonings. In the case of the Mixed Use (MU1) zone it is clear that the intent is focussed towards retail and residential type uses, as opposed to industrial uses.

The outcomes of the employment land assessment have been grouped up into the following categories, considering the strategic intent of the land (as identified in the Employment zone reform):

- + Centres activity:
  - o E1 Local Centre;
  - o MU1 Mixed Use;
- + Industrial activity:
  - o E3 Productivity Support;
  - o E4 General Industrial; and
  - o E5 Heavy Industrial.

Figure 4-1 provides an overview of the geographic location of employment zones within Griffith City.

**Figure 4-1 Overview of Employment Zones within Griffith City**



As part of the inventory, a qualitative assessment of the quality of each tenancy was undertaken, with each tenancy classified as being of a low, medium or high quality based on the following criteria, as summarised in Table 4-2.

**Table 4-2 Qualitative Assessment Criteria for Tenancies**

Condition	Qualitative Criteria
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally older built form showing signs of need for repair;</li> <li>Façade showing signs of ageing, e.g. faded or cracking paint;</li> <li>Roofing in serviceable condition but showing signs of wear;</li> <li>Internals of tenancies appearing dated, e.g. flooring in poor condition, paint on walls in need of refresh.</li> </ul>
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally built form less than 30 years old;</li> <li>Façade showing signs of ageing but in reasonable condition;</li> <li>Roofing in good condition;</li> <li>Signs of refurbishment in the past 10 to 15 years (either internally, externally or both); and</li> <li>Internals of tenancies appear to have signs of refurbishment/modernisation (e.g. repainted walls, flooring that has been replaced/refreshed).</li> </ul>
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally modern or recently refurbished (&lt;5 years) built form;</li> <li>Façade appears freshly painted in immaculate condition;</li> <li>Roofing recent/replaced or refurbished/restored; and</li> <li>Internals of tenancies in very good/immaculate condition (freshly painted, modern flooring).</li> </ul>

## 4.1 Centre and Industry Zone Hierarchy

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment have implemented the employment zones with proposed amendments to individual local environmental plans (LEPs) across NSW. Table 4-3 below provides an overview of the centre and industry zones within Griffith City based on the employment zone intent as detailed in the Employment Zones Reform Implementation, published the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in May 2022.



**Table 4-3 Retail and Industry Zone Hierarchy – Griffith City**

	Strategic Intent	Desired Characteristics	Longer Term Considerations
<b>Centre Uses</b>			
E1 Local Centre	To provide centres of all sizes and scales that offer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A diversity of retail, business, office, community, accommodation and entertainment uses to the community</li> <li>A focus for active vibrant communities to come together</li> <li>Employment opportunities in accessible locations</li> <li>Where available, a focus for public transport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial focus, either as offices, retail and business premises or a mix of uses</li> <li>A range of uses and services commensurate to the size of the centre</li> <li>Entertainment and dining options, tourist and visitor accommodation, after hours uses, community and social infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate centres as community hubs, offering shopping services and events</li> <li>Support the night-time economy</li> <li>Accommodate collaborative and co-working spaces</li> <li>Potentially include residential development on upper levels to establish a population catchment for a vibrant centre</li> <li>Accommodate some local light industries</li> </ul>
MU1 Mixed Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support a mix of compatible land uses including residential, commercial and light industrial</li> <li>To transition between uses (e.g. a centre and another land use such as residential)</li> <li>To apply to mixed use centres, along corridor, or surrounding centres where genuine mixed uses are sought</li> <li>Can continue to be applied to existing B4 areas that are primarily residential</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities at ground floor and on street fronts</li> <li>Differentiation between a centre and urban support areas in a mix of zones to manage the impacts of out of centre development</li> <li>Well-designed mixed use developments are vibrant and support community needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage out of centre development</li> <li>Use permitted land uses to shape the intent and desired outcome of the area</li> </ul>
<b>Industrial Uses</b>			
E3 Productivity Support	To provide land and floor space for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A range of urban or rural services that cater to and support the local population and businesses</li> <li>Businesses not suited to a centre location</li> </ul> Industries and activities that are lower on the land use hierarchy than retail and commercial office uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fine grain and/or large format employment</li> <li>Land and floorspace responses to local business need</li> <li>Mix of specialised niche or trade focussed retail, including business focused retail</li> <li>Mix of light industrial, office, infrastructure and other urban service uses</li> <li>Capability to service the needs of local workers with food and drink, convenience retail and child care</li> <li>Low impact creative and emerging industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow a broader range of permissible land uses to accommodate emerging and changing industries</li> <li>Cater to a range of floor plate and floor to ceiling requirements across a variety of locations</li> </ul>

	Strategic Intent	Desired Characteristics	Longer Term Considerations
E4 General Industrial	To provide suitable land and floor space for a range of industrial activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General and light industries, warehousing and supporting businesses</li> <li>Complementary uses including office (associated with industrial), auto-related industry (excluding sales), large format indoor recreation, artisan food and drink</li> <li>Capability to service the needs of local workers</li> <li>Access to arterial roads and freight routes</li> <li>Diversity of lot sizes, with capability to support a mix of fine grain and large format retail uses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect land for industrial purposes</li> <li>Accommodate new industries and changing requirements of industries</li> <li>Allow for industries to innovate and evolve</li> <li>Co-locate industry with businesses that directly support industry or have similar amenity impacts</li> </ul>
E5 Heavy Industrial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide suitable areas for industries that need to be separated from other land uses</li> <li>To minimise the impact of heavy industry on other land uses</li> <li>To protect land suited to heavy industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capability to support hazardous or offensive industry and storage with buffers to sensitive receptors</li> <li>Capability to support depots, warehousing and storage premises that support heavy industry</li> <li>Physically separate from other higher amenity land uses</li> <li>Good access to arterial roads and freight routes</li> <li>Large lot as required by safety and amenity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide sites suited to heavy industry</li> </ul>

Source: Griffith City Council Local Environmental Plan (2014)

## 4.1 Industrial Activity

### 4.1.1 Industrial Activity in Griffith City

As identified in Section 4.1 above, the following zones were identified as industrial zones:

- + E3 Productivity Support;
- + E4 General Industrial; and
- + E5 Heavy Industrial.

As of September 2022, 341 businesses were identified on industrial zoned land in Griffith City. Notably, RU6 Transition zoned land was excluded from this assessment as the majority of this zoned area is used for farming and residential purposes. However, it is understood that a range of industrial activities are permitted with consent on this land, including freight transport activities, light industry, rural industry, warehouse or distribution centres and vehicle body repair shops. Furthermore, it is also understood that Griffith City Council has a desire for industrial uses on this land to be mostly restricted to industrial activity that directly relates to agricultural activities occurring on this land, as opposed to industrial uses that serve the general industrial market more broadly.

The most significant industries (by number of businesses) on industrial zoned land were the following:

- + Construction services: 13.2% of businesses (45 businesses);
- + Repair and maintenance: 7.9% of businesses (27 businesses);
- + Agriculture: 6.7% of businesses (23 businesses); and
- + Warehousing and storage services: 6.7% of businesses (23 businesses).

These four industries account for 34.5% of all businesses on industrial zoned land in Griffith City.

Within industrial zoned land in Griffith City there was 102 lots not currently used for business purposes. These include private sheds, vacant lots, residential lots, lots under construction, vacant tenancies and privately owned buildings.

Table 4-4 displays the number of businesses on industrial zoned land within Griffith City classified by two-digit ANZSIC code based on business activities.

**Table 4-4 Industrial Zoned Businesses by 2-Digit ANZSIC – Griffith City, 2022**

Industry (ANZSIC)	Number of Businesses	% of Activity
Construction Services	45	13.2%
Repair and Maintenance	27	7.9%
Agriculture	23	6.7%
Warehousing and Storage Services	23	6.7%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	19	5.6%
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	18	5.3%
Other Store-Based Retailing	17	5.0%
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	15	4.4%
Food Product Manufacturing	15	4.4%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	12	3.5%
Road Transport	11	3.2%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	10	2.9%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	9	2.6%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	9	2.6%

Industry (ANZSIC)	Number of Businesses	% of Activity
Fuel Retailing	7	2.1%
Sports and Recreation Activities	7	2.1%
Food and Beverage Services	6	1.8%
Personal and Other Services	6	1.8%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	4	1.2%
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	4	1.2%
Public Administration	4	1.2%
Gas Supply	3	0.9%
Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Services	3	0.9%
Waste Collection, Treatment and Disposal Services	3	0.9%
Other Goods Wholesaling	3	0.9%
Accommodation	3	0.9%
Transport Support Services	3	0.9%
Rental and Hiring Services (except Real Estate)	3	0.9%
Building Cleaning, Pest Control and Other Support Services	3	0.9%
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	2	0.6%
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	2	0.6%
Electricity Supply	2	0.6%
Water Transport	2	0.6%
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	2	0.6%
Administrative Services	2	0.6%
Public Order, Safety and Regulatory Services	2	0.6%
Medical and Other Health Care Services	2	0.6%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	1	0.3%
Building Construction	1	0.3%
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	1	0.3%
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	1	0.3%
Food Retailing	1	0.3%
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	1	0.3%
Computer System Design and Related Services	1	0.3%
Preschool and School Education	1	0.3%
Residential Care Services	1	0.3%
Creative and Performing Arts Activities	1	0.3%
<b>Summary of Businesses</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis, (2022)

#### 4.1.2 Vacant and Underutilised Land

In Griffith, vacant land was identified as sites that did not accommodate an existing use, whereas underutilised sites were characterised as those sites which accommodated a dwelling. In the case that a site accommodated farming activity, it was assumed to be taken-up, reflective of the fact that the site was not available for an alternative use.

The Kidman Way Heavy Industrial Area (located in the suburb of Tharbogang) is mostly occupied by farming and offers significant opportunity to accommodate future industrial activity but requires infrastructure upgrades to support future development. This assessment has focussed on vacant and underutilised industrial land that is development ready in terms of infrastructure servicing to

understand the need and timing to activate the Kidman Way Heavy Industrial Area and to consider whether other alternatives are worthy of consideration within Griffith City.

The inventory identified there was limited opportunity to accommodate additional industrial activity on vacant land and underutilised sites occupied by housing outside of the 61.2 hectare site within the E4 zone in Yenda, which is understood to be owned by Casella Wines (with approval for an ammunition factory in place). Outside of this large land parcel, the composition of vacant and underutilised lots within the E4 General Industrial zone typically do not align with the future needs of industrial users in the region and are mostly located to the east of the Griffith CBD, as detailed in subsequent sections of this report.

The E3 Productivity Support land can only accommodate limited industrial uses and can only meet a small portion of future demand within Griffith, as explored in subsequent sections of the report.

Table 4-5 below displays the total volume of development ready vacant and underutilised industrial land within Griffith City categorised by zone as of September 2022.

**Table 4-5 Volume of Vacant and Underutilised Industrial Zoned Land (Ha) – Griffith City, 2022**

Zone	Vacant	Underutilised	Total
E4 General Industrial	85.8	6.8	92.6
E3 Productivity Support	17.6	3.5	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>103.4</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>113.7</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

Tables 4-6 and 4-7 outline the composition of vacant and underutilised land within the E3 Productivity Support and E4 General Industrial zones. This table clearly demonstrates that vacant and underutilised lots are typically less than 5,000sqm in size, with very limited opportunities in the form of larger allotments.

**Table 4-6 Vacant and Underutilised Land in E4 General Industrial Zone**

Lot Size	Vacant		Underutilised	
	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)
<5,000sqm	19	2.2	17	3.3
5,000sqm-1ha	5	3.1	2	1.3
1-2 ha	2	2.6	2	2.2
2-5ha	3	10.4	0	0.0
5+ ha	2	67.5	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>85.8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6.8</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

**Table 4-7 Vacant and Underutilised Land in E3 Productivity Support Zone**

Lot Size	Vacant		Underutilised	
	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)	No of Lots	Total Area (ha)
<5,000sqm	13	1.2	4	0.6
5,000sqm-1ha	3	2.2	1	0.9
1-2 ha	5	8.6	1	2.0
2-5ha	2	5.6	0	0.0
5+ ha	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3.5</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

The quality of industrial businesses throughout Griffith City were typically of medium quality (59.5%) with only a small amount (3.0%) considered to be of low quality and 37.5% of high quality. Notably, the productivity support zone had the highest proportion of high quality businesses; while, heavy industrial zoned land had the highest proportion of medium quality businesses.

Table 4-8 below provides a summary of the quality of businesses on industrial zoned land within Griffith City by zone.

**Table 4-8 Quality of Business within Industrial Zones – Griffith City, 2022**

Zone	Low	Medium	High
E3 Productivity Support	0.0%	61.9%	38.1%
E4 General Industrial	4.3%	58.1%	37.6%
E5 Heavy Industrial	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%
<b>All Industrial Zones</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>59.5%</b>	<b>37.5%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

### 4.1.3 Industrial Activity by Suburb

The following sections of the report provide an overview of the industrial activity identified within the following suburbs in Griffith City, including a breakdown by zone:

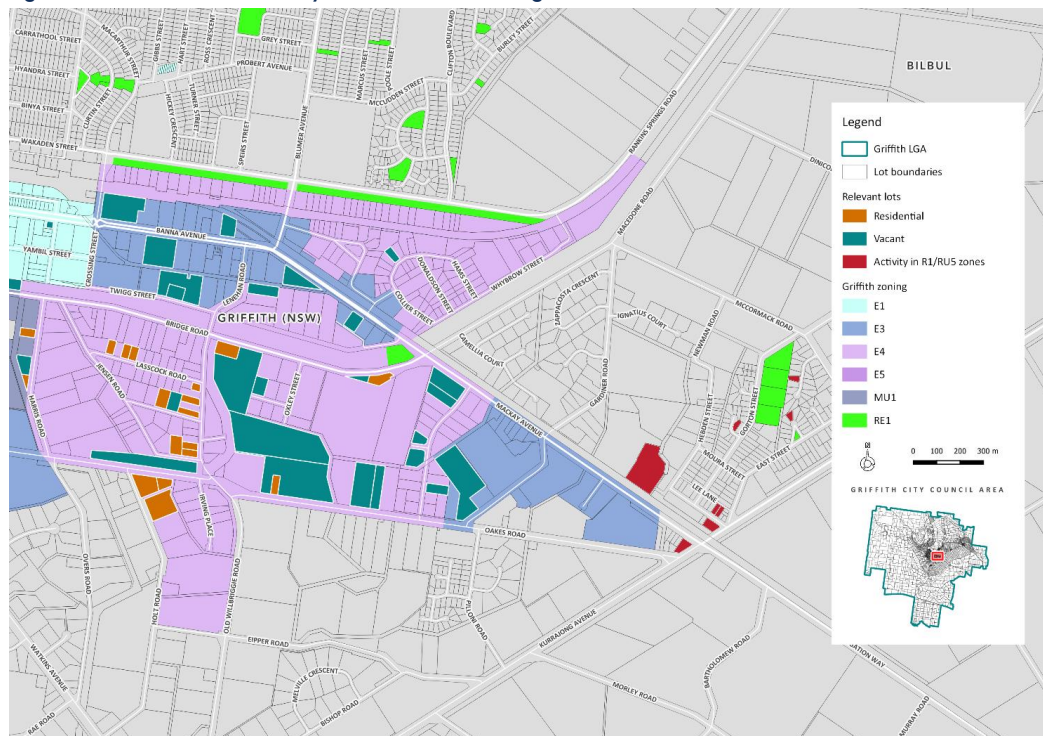
- + Griffith;
- + Yoogali;
- + Yenda;
- + Hanwood;
- + Tharbogang
- + Beelbangeranga; and
- + Bilbul.

#### 4.1.3.1 Griffith (Suburb)

The suburb of Griffith includes industrial land zoned E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support. These industrial areas are located proximate to the Griffith CBD making them a convenient location for businesses.

Figure 4-2 outlines the extent of industrial activity within the suburbs of Griffith and Yoogali. A single map has been presented for both areas given the continuity of the industrial zoning. The western boundary of the Yoogali suburb is the industrial area along Battista Street and also incorporates E3 Productivity Support land along Oakes Road.



**Figure 4-2 Industrial Activity within Griffith and Yoogali**


In total there were 288 businesses identified on industrial zoned land within the Griffith suburb.

The most significant industries (by number of businesses) were as follows:

- + Construction services: 14.2% of businesses (41 businesses);
- + Repair and maintenance: 9.4% of businesses (27 businesses); and
- + Warehousing and storage services: 6.6% of businesses (19 businesses).

Most businesses within the industrial zones in Griffith are situated within the E4 General Industrial zone, totalling 207 businesses. The general industrial zones are situated east of the Griffith CBD predominantly south of Bridge Street and along the eastern end of Wakaden Street. Within the general industrial zone, the most significant industries are construction services with 36 businesses, repair and maintenance with 23 businesses and professional, scientific and technical services with 14 businesses.

There were 81 businesses identified in the E3 Productivity Support zoned land within Griffith suburb which is situated south of Griffith CBD along Kidman way and along the east end of Banna Avenue. The most significant industries (by number of businesses) in this zone were other store-based retailing (11 businesses), agriculture (nine businesses) and motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts retailing (seven businesses).

There were vacant land parcels identified within the E3 Productivity Support and E4 General Industrial zones in Griffith, with remnant housing also identified within the E4 General Industrial zone in Griffith.

Table 4-9 details the industrial zoned land by two digit ANZSIC within the Griffith suburb as per the site visit done by Bull and Bear Economics staff in September 2022.

**Table 4-9 Businesses Located on Industrial Zoned Land by 2-Digit ANZSIC and Zone – Griffith Suburb, 2022**

	E4 – General Industrial	E3 – Productivity Support	Total Businesses	% of Businesses
Construction Services	36	5	41	14.2%
Repair and Maintenance	23	4	27	9.4%
Warehousing and Storage Services	14	5	19	6.6%
Other Store-Based Retailing	6	11	17	5.9%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	14	3	17	5.9%
Agriculture	6	9	15	5.2%
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	13	2	15	5.2%
Food Product Manufacturing	11	0	11	3.8%
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	4	7	11	3.8%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	3	5	8	2.8%
Road Transport	7	1	8	2.8%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	5	2	7	2.4%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	7	0	7	2.4%
Fuel Retailing	3	4	7	2.4%
Sports and Recreation Activities	3	4	7	2.4%
Food and Beverage Services	4	2	6	2.1%
Personal and Other Services	5	1	6	2.1%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	3	1	4	1.4%
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	4	0	4	1.4%
Public Administration	3	1	4	1.4%
Gas Supply	2	1	3	1.0%
Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Services	3	0	3	1.0%
Waste Collection, Treatment and Disposal Services	3	0	3	1.0%
Other Goods Wholesaling	3	0	3	1.0%
Transport Support Services	3	0	3	1.0%
Rental and Hiring Services (except Real Estate)	2	1	3	1.0%
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	2	0	2	0.7%
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	1	1	2	0.7%
Accommodation	0	2	2	0.7%
Water Transport	1	1	2	0.7%
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	0	2	2	0.7%
Administrative Services	2	0	2	0.7%
Building Cleaning, Pest Control and Other Support Services	2	0	2	0.7%
Public Order, Safety and Regulatory Services	2	0	2	0.7%
Medical and Other Health Care Services	0	2	2	0.7%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	1	0	1	0.3%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	1	0	1	0.3%
Electricity Supply	0	1	1	0.3%

	E4 – General Industrial	E3 – Productivity Support	Total Businesses	% of Businesses
Building Construction	1	0	1	0.3%
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	1	0	1	0.3%
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	1	0	1	0.3%
Food Retailing	0	1	1	0.3%
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	0	1	1	0.3%
Preschool and School Education	1	0	1	0.3%
Residential Care Services	0	1	1	0.3%
Creative and Performing Arts Activities	1	0	1	0.3%
<b>Summary of Businesses</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

The quality of industrial businesses throughout the Griffith suburb were typically of medium quality (61.6%) with only a small amount (3.2%) considered to be of low quality and 35.2% of high quality. Notably, the E3 Productivity Support zone had the highest proportion of high quality businesses; while, E4 General Industrial zoned land had the highest proportion of low and medium quality businesses. However, the proportion of low, medium and high quality businesses remains relatively similar across each zone.

Table 4-10 below provides a summary of the quality of businesses on industrial zoned land within Griffith suburb by zone.

**Table 4-10 Quality of Business within Industrial Zones – Griffith Suburb, 2022**

Zone	Low	Medium	High
E4 General Industrial	4.4%	61.8%	33.8%
E3 Productivity Support	0.0%	61.2%	38.8%
<b>All Industrial Zones</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>61.6%</b>	<b>35.2%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis, (2022)

#### 4.1.3.2 Yoogali

Yoogali is situated directly to the east of Griffith, the urban sprawl and industrial areas of Griffith suburb continue into Yoogali. The industrial zones in Yoogali consists of E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support. Yoogali only captures a small part of the industrial zones and as such has a much smaller number of businesses in its industrial zones in comparison to Griffith suburb.

Yoogali's industrial zone hosts 29 businesses across a variety of industries. The most significant industries (by number of businesses) were as follows:

- + Construction services: 13.8% of businesses (four businesses);
- + Motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts retailing: 13.8% of businesses (four businesses);
- + Agriculture, forestry and fishing support services: 10.3% of businesses (three businesses);
- + Machinery and equipment wholesaling: 10.3% of businesses (three businesses); and
- + Warehousing and storage services: 10.3% of businesses (three businesses).

Over 50% of the businesses in Yoogali industrial zones are situated within the E4 General Industrial zone, totalling 17 businesses. The most significant industries within this zone were construction services with four businesses and motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts retailing with three businesses.

The E3 Productivity Support zone in Yoogali consists of 12 businesses, two of which are in the agriculture industry and all other businesses are spread across several industries as listed in Table 4-11 below.

**Table 4-11 Businesses by 2-Digit ANZSIC and Zone – Yoogali, 2022**

Activity / Use	E4 – General Industrial	E3 – Productivity Support	Total Businesses	% of Businesses
Construction Services	4	0	4	13.8%
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	3	1	4	13.8%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	2	1	3	10.3%
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	2	1	3	10.3%
Warehousing and Storage Services	2	1	3	10.3%
Agriculture	0	2	2	6.9%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1	1	2	6.9%
Road Transport	1	1	2	6.9%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	1	1	2	6.9%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	0	1	1	3.4%
Accommodation	0	1	1	3.4%
Computer System Design and Related Services	0	1	1	3.4%
Building Cleaning, Pest Control and Other Support Services	1	0	1	3.4%
<b>Summary of Businesses</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

The quality of industrial businesses throughout Yoogali were typically of high quality (55.2%) with only a small amount (3.4%) considered to be of low quality and 41.4% of medium quality. Notably, the E4 General Industrial zone had the highest proportion of high quality businesses; while, E3 Productivity Support zoned land had a significantly higher proportion of medium quality businesses.

Table 4-12 below provides a summary of the quality of businesses on industrial zoned land within Yoogali by zone.

**Table 4-12 Quality of Business within Industrial Zones – Yoogali, 2022**

Zone	Low	Medium	High
E4 General Industrial	5.9%	23.5%	70.6%
E3 Productivity Support	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%
<b>All Industrial Zones</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>41.4%</b>	<b>55.2%</b>

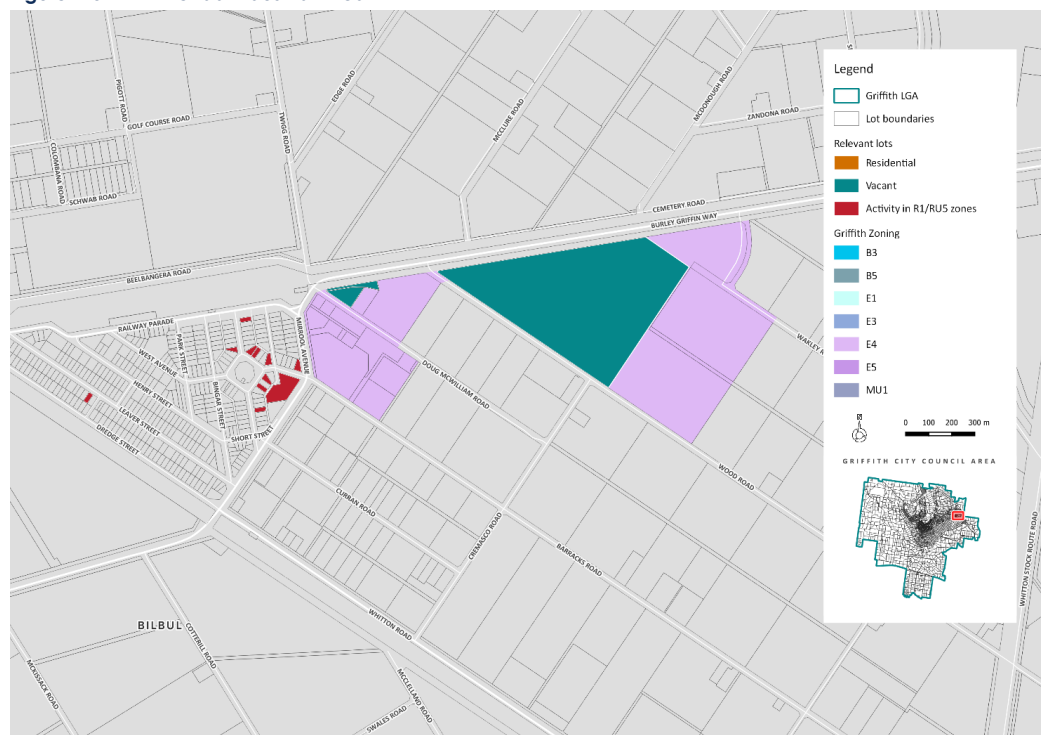
Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis, (2022)

#### 4.1.3.3 Yenda

Yenda is a small village situated in the north-east corner of the Griffith LGA. It has a small amount of E4 General Industrial zoned land centred around the Casella winery and Edengate winery.

Figure 4-3 illustrates the geographic boundary of the Yenda industrial area.

**Figure 4-3**      **Yenda Industrial Area**



In total Yenda's industrial zone consists of six businesses. Unsurprisingly, the most significant industrial was beverage and tobacco product manufacturing with two businesses, other industries listed in table each have one business each. Other significant businesses in the industrial estate include Rice Growers Australia, the Yenda Producers Co-operative Society and Compost Carbon Fertilisers.

**Table 4-13      Businesses by 2-Digit ANZSIC and Zone – Yenda, 2022**

Activity / Use	E4 – General Industrial	% of Businesses
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	2	33.3%
Road Transport	1	16.7%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	1	16.7%
Warehousing and Storage Services	1	16.7%
Food Product Manufacturing	1	16.7%
<b>Summary of Businesses</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

There are three lots on industrial zoned land in Yenda which were identified as not having a business on them. Two of these lots were vacant and one was a residential lot. It is understood that the largest vacant lot has a development approval for an ammunition factory.

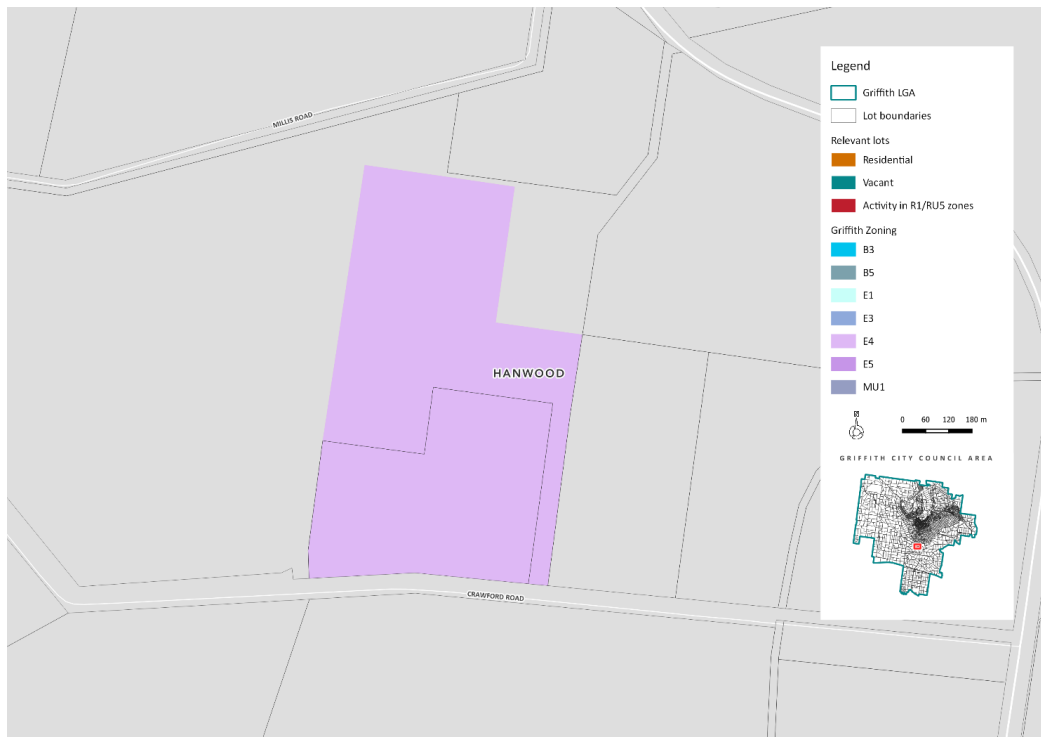
The quality of industrial business in Yenda is split equally between medium and high quality.

#### 4.1.3.4 Hanwood

Hanwood is a small village situated in south of the Griffith CBD along Kidman Way. It has a small amount of E4 General Industrial zoned land primarily for supporting the agriculture businesses of the area.

Figures 4-4 and 4-5 outline the geographic extent of E4 General Industrial zoned land in Hanwood.

**Figure 4-4 General Industrial Zoned Land in Hanwood (Harvey Fresh Juice and Almondco Riverina)**





**Figure 4-5 General Industrial Zoned Land in Hanwood (Baiada Processing Plant, Baiada Feedmill and McWilliams Wines)**



The most significant industry on industrial zoned land in Hanwood was food product manufacturing with three businesses, followed by beverage and tobacco product manufacturing with two businesses. Significant industrial businesses in Hanwood include Almondco Riverina, Harvey Fresh Juice, McWilliams Wine Estate and the Baiada processing plant.

**Table 4-14 Businesses by 2-Digit ANZSIC and Zone – Hanwood, 2022**

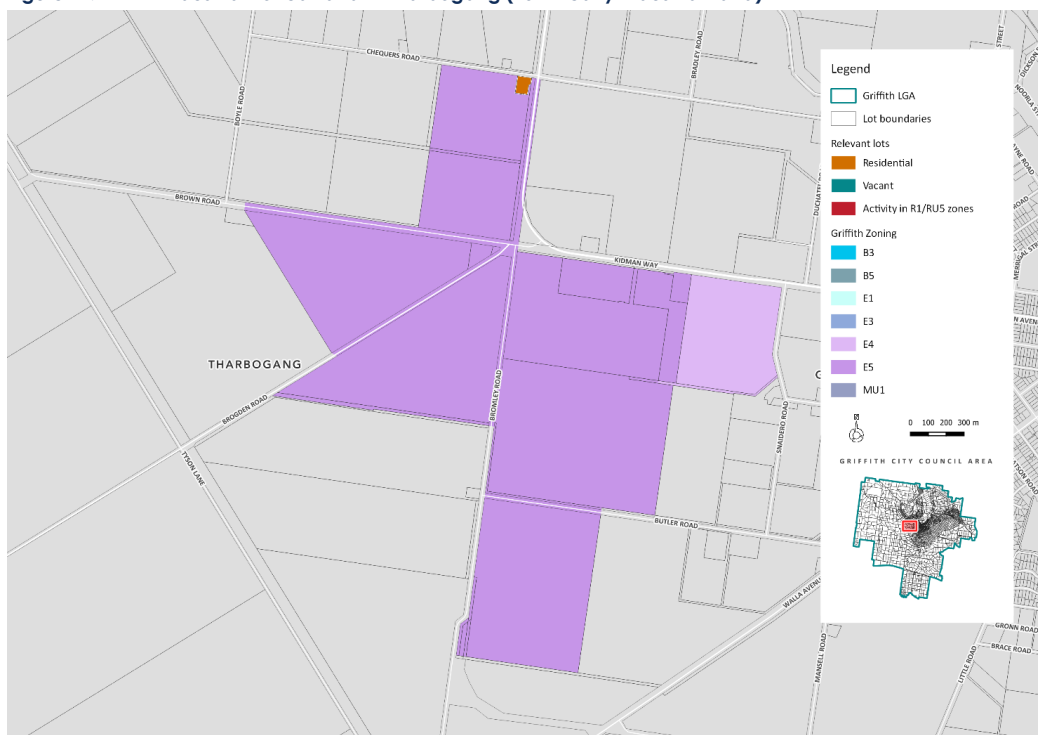
Activity / Use	E4 – General Industrial	% of Businesses
Food Product Manufacturing	3	50.0%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	2	33.3%
Electricity Supply	1	16.7%
<b>Summary of Businesses</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

There were no lots on general industrial zoned land in Hanwood which were identified as not having a business on them.

The quality of industrial business in Hanwood is favoured towards high quality businesses with 83.3% of business considered to be of high quality and only 16.7% of businesses considered to be of medium quality.



**Figure 4-7 Industrial Zoned Land in Tharbogang (E5 – Heavy Industrial Land)**


The industrial zone in Tharbogang hosts 10 businesses. Eight of these businesses are within the E5 Heavy Industrial zone and only two are situated in the E4 General Industrial zone. Over both zones the most significant industry was agriculture with six businesses in total (60% of industrial businesses). Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing was the next most significant industry with two businesses.

Table 4-15 details the industrial zoned land by 2-Digit ANZSIC within Tharbogang as per the site visit done by Bull and Bear Economics staff in September 2022.

**Table 4-15 Businesses by 2-Digit ANZSIC and Zone – Tharbogang, 2022**

Activity / Use	E4 – General Industrial	E5 – Heavy Industrial	Total	% of Businesses
Agriculture	1	5	6	60.0%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	1	1	2	20.0%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	0	1	1	10.0%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	0	1	1	10.0%
<b>Summary of Businesses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

Within industrial zoned land in Tharbogang there were two residential lots (one in each zone) which are underutilised given their location in an industrial zone.

Whilst the majority of E5 Heavy Industrial land is currently under farming, it is intended to transition in the longer term to accommodate industrial business growth within Griffith.

The quality of industrial businesses were typically of medium quality (80.0%) with the remaining 20% considered to be of high quality. Table 4-16 below provides a summary of the quality of businesses on industrial zoned land within Tharbogang by zone.

**Table 4-16 Quality of Business within Industrial Zones – Tharbogang, 2022**

Zone	Low	Medium	High
E4 General Industrial	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
E5 Heavy Industrial	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%
<b>All Industrial Zones</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>80.0%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis, (2022)

#### 4.1.3.6 Beelbanger & Bilbul

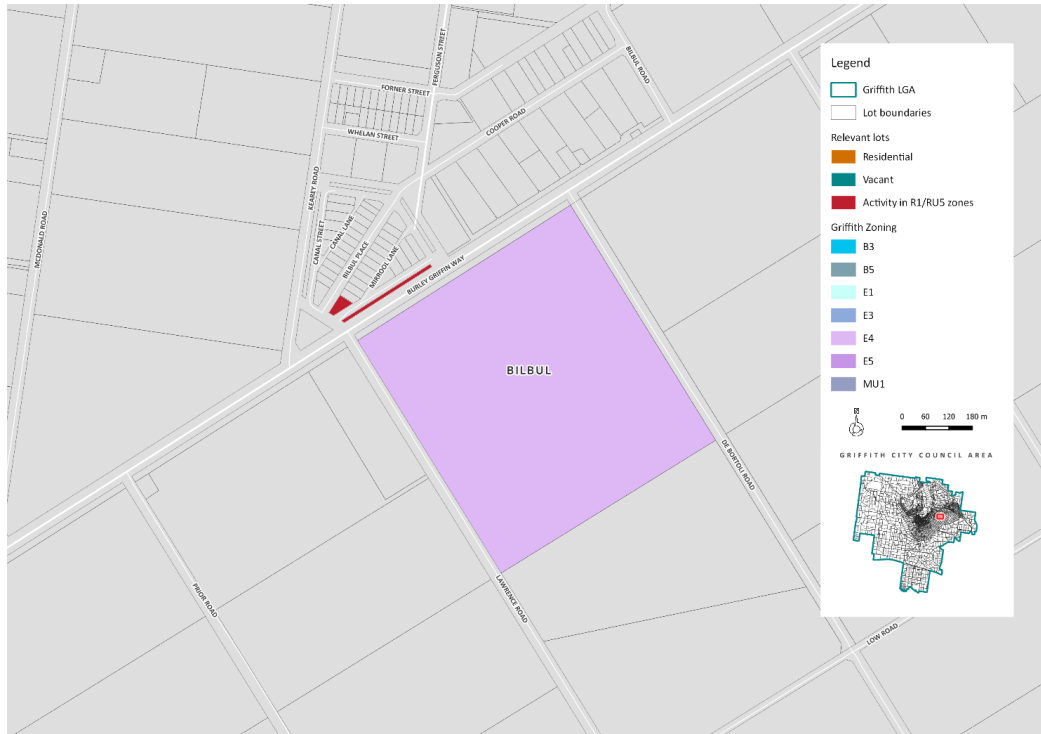
Beelbanger and Bilbul only have one E4 General Industrial zoned lot each, both of which host a winery (Tarac in Beelbanger and De Bortoli Wines in Bilbul).

Figures 4-8 and 4-9 outline the geographic location of industrial zones in Beelbanger and Bilbul

**Figure 4-8 Beelbanger Industrial Area**



Figure 4-9 Bilbul Industrial Area



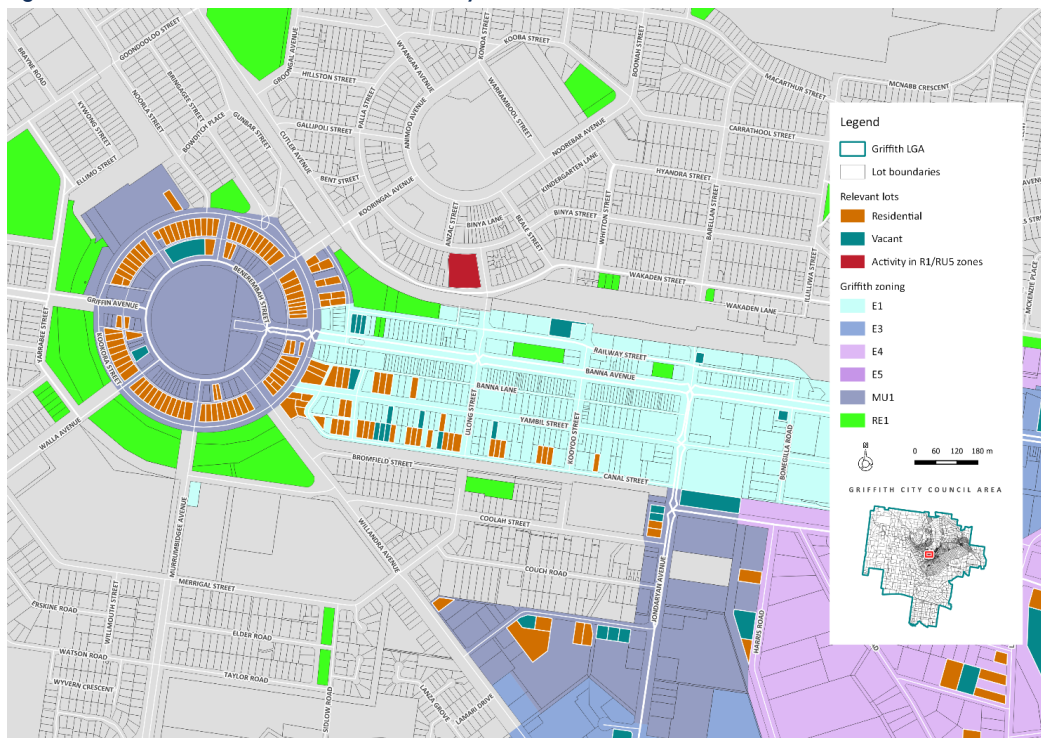
The quality of built form on these lots is split equally between medium and high quality.

## 4.2 Centres Activity

### 4.2.1 Retail and Commercial Office Activity in Griffith City

As of September 2022, there was 110,512sqm of retail and commercial floor space identified within the centre zones in Griffith City, i.e. E1 Local Centre and MU1 Mixed Use. Of this floor space, 65.8% was classified as retail floorspace, with 34.2% classified as commercial floor space.

Figure 4-10 outlines the geographic extent of centres zoned land in Griffith City, including the presence of resident and vacant land allotments.

**Figure 4-10 Centres Zoned Land in Griffith City**


Across Griffith City the most significant retail industry was dining and take-away food with 16,028sqm of floor space, closely followed by clothing, footwear and apparel with 13,506sqm and groceries and take-home food with 13,752sqm. The most significant commercial areas across Griffith City were professional, scientific and technical services with 10,252sqm, public administration and safety with 9,441sqm, followed by health care and social assistance with 6,093sqm.

The retail and commercial floor space within the MU1 Mixed Use zone surrounding the TAFE and Griffith City Council (MU1 – Benerembah Street) is most significantly used for groceries and take-home food (3,902sqm). The next most significant industry (by proportion of retail and commercial floorspace) is public administration and safety, due to the Griffith City Council building (20.4% of retail and commercial floorspace within the zone).

The main retail and commercial areas in Griffith exist along Banna Avenue and Yambil Street which is zoned E1 Local Centre. These two streets are host to 76% of all retail floorspace within Griffith LGA centre zones. The most significant retail industries were clothing, footwear and apparel which accounted for 15.3% of all retail and commercial floorspace within the E1 Local Centre zone, followed by dining and take-away food accounting for 12.2% of floorspace. The most significant commercial industries within this zone were professional, scientific and technical services accounting for 11.3% of retail and commercial floorspace, follow by public administration and safety which accounted for 8.6%.

The zone along Jondaryan Avenue is an MU1 Mixed Use zone accommodating a variety of uses. Approximately 88.9% of the retail and commercial floorspace within this area is used for retail



purposes, of which 4,465sqm or 38.1% of all retail and commercial floorspace was used for dining and take-away food purposes. The next most significant industry in this area was groceries and take-home food with 2,628sqm. Commercial uses within this zone consists of health care and social assistance (1,300sqm).

There was 1,463sqm of retail and commercial floorspace identified at the two smaller centre zoned areas at Drivers Plaza and in East Griffith. This floorspace was predominantly used for retail purposes, the most significant retail use was groceries and take-home food accounting for 39.3% of the retail and commercial floorspace within these smaller centre zones.

The vacant tenancy rate is highest in the MU1 zone around Benerembah street where 51.1% of tenancies available for or currently used for retail or commercial uses were vacant. Our assessment also noticed that these tenancies were of significantly deteriorating quality. Banna Avenue and Yambil Street also had a significant vacancy rate of 20.1%. Overall, the vacancy rate in Griffith City was estimated at 22.4%.

Table 4-17 details the centre zoned land business activity by use and zone within Griffith City as per the site visit conducted by Bull and Bear Economics staff in September 2022.

Table 4-17 Centre Zoned Floorspace by Retail and Commercial Use and Zone (sqm) – Griffith City, 2022

	MU1 - Benerembah Street		E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street		MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue		E1 - Drivers Plaza, East Griffith		Griffith City	
	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%
<b>Retail Classes</b>										
Groceries and take-home food	3,902	20.5%	6,620	6.0%	2,628	22.4%	575	36.6%	13,725	9.6%
Dining and take-away food	444	2.3%	10,749	9.8%	4,465	38.1%	371	23.6%	16,028	11.3%
Clothing, footwear and apparel	0	0.0%	13,506	12.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13,506	9.5%
Personal and other goods	534	2.8%	18,443	16.8%	1,931	16.5%	246	15.7%	21,154	14.8%
Core bulky goods	600	3.1%	2,556	2.3%	1,392	11.9%	0	0.0%	4,548	3.2%
Ancillary bulky goods	0	0.0%	3,295	3.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3,295	2.3%
Hardware	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Take away liquor	0	0.0%	482	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	482	0.3%
<b>Total Retail</b>	<b>5,480</b>	<b>28.7%</b>	<b>55,650</b>	<b>50.5%</b>	<b>10,416</b>	<b>88.9%</b>	<b>1,192</b>	<b>75.9%</b>	<b>72,737</b>	<b>51.1%</b>
<b>Commercial Classes</b>										
Financial and insurance services	387	2.0%	4,189	3.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4,576	3.2%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	0	0.0%	2,106	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2,106	1.5%
Health care and social assistance	752	3.9%	3,925	3.6%	1,300	11.1%	116	7.4%	6,093	4.3%
Professional, scientific and technical services	300	1.6%	9,907	9.0%	0	0.0%	45	2.9%	10,252	7.2%
Administrative and support services	517	2.7%	4,459	4.0%	0	0.0%	32	2.0%	5,008	3.5%
Public administration and safety	1,900	10.0%	7,541	6.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9,441	6.6%
Education and Training	0	0.0%	221	0.2%	0	0.0%	78	5.0%	299	0.2%
<b>Total Commercial</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>32,347</b>	<b>29.4%</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	<b>37,774</b>	<b>26.5%</b>
<b>Summary Retail and Commercial</b>	<b>9,336</b>	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>87,997</b>	<b>79.9%</b>	<b>11,716</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>93.1%</b>	<b>110,512</b>	<b>77.6%</b>
Vacant Tenancy	9,739	51.1%	22,106	20.1%	0	0.0%	108	6.9%	31,953	22.4%
<b>Total (including vacant tenancy)</b>	<b>19,075</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>110,103</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>11,716</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>142,465</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics (2022)

#### 4.2.2 Other Business Uses within Centre Zoned Land

There were 110 businesses identified within the centre zones in Griffith which do not fit neatly in either retail or commercial categories, but represent uses often found in centre zones, such as recreational services (such as gyms), industrial businesses, accommodation providers, community services and car washes. The majority (55.5%) of these businesses were industrial businesses with 61 businesses identified, 18 were accommodation providers and a further 18 were community services. These businesses were predominantly located within the E1 Local Centre zone along Banna Avenue and Yambil street, as well as several in the MU1 Mixed Use zone surrounding the TAFE.

Table 4-18 below details the number of industrial and accommodation businesses within Griffith City centre zones by area.

**Table 4-18 Centre Zoned Other Businesses – Griffith City, 2022**

	MU1 - Benerembah Street	E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street	MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue	E1 - Drivers Plaza, East Griffith	Griffith City
Recreational Services	1	7	0	2	10
Industrial	13	35	12	1	61
Accommodation	4	11	3	0	18
Community	7	10	1	0	18
Car Wash	0	2	1	0	3
<b>Summary</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>110</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

#### 4.2.3 Non-Business Uses within the Centre Zone

Across the centre zones in Griffith City there were several lots which were identified as not having an existing business on the lot. These included private sheds, vacant lots, residential lots, carparks and lots under construction. In total 27.7 hectares of non-business land was identified within the centre zones, with just over half of this land occupied by remnant housing (15.7 hectares).

There was an estimated 4.1 hectares of vacant centres land identified within Griffith City, with the majority identified on within the MU1 zone on Jondaryan Avenue (2.2 hectares) and the E1 zone on Banna Avenue and Yambil Street (1.9 hectares).

Table 4-19 below details the amount and proportion of centre zoned land not used for business purposes as of September 2022.

**Table 4-19 Centre Zoned Non-Business Land by Use and Zone (sqm) – Griffith City, 2022**

	MU1 - Benerembah Street		E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street		MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue		E1 - Drivers Plaza, East Griffith		Griffith City	
	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%
Carpark	3,542	3.5%	24,780	28.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	28,322	10.2%
Vacant Land	0	0.0%	19,307	22.3%	22,043	24.9%	0	0.0%	41,350	14.9%
Residential	95,878	94.2%	37,949	43.9%	23,223	26.2%	0	0.0%	157,050	56.8%
Under construction	0	0.0%	4,142	4.8%	42,034	47.5%	0	0.0%	46,176	16.7%
Privately Owned	2,344	2.3%	272	0.3%	1,193	1.3%	0	0.0%	3,809	1.4%
<b>Summary</b>	<b>101,764</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>86,449</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>88,493</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>276,706</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

The quality of retail and commercial centre zoned businesses throughout Griffith City were typically of medium quality (51.7%) with only a small amount (2.8%) considered to be of low quality and 45.5% of high quality. The difference between retail and commercial business quality within the same area is minimal, the more significant difference is the difference in quality between the different zones/areas. Notably, the MU1 Mixed Use zone around Jondaryan Avenue had the highest proportion of high quality tenancies (over 75% for both retail and commercial businesses); while, the MU1 Mixed Use zone around Benerembah Street had the highest proportion of low quality tenancies (over 25% for both retail and commercial businesses).

Whilst overall the mix of quality is reasonable, it is important to note that the differences between medium quality and low quality business/buildings was significant especially along Yambil Street for example where there were buildings with their roofs caving in adjacent to well-maintained tenancies.

Table 4-20 below provides a summary of the quality of retail and commercial businesses on centre zoned land within Griffith City by area.

**Table 4-20 Quality of Businesses within Centre Zones – Griffith City, 2022**

Zone	Low	Medium	High
MU1 - Benerembah Street			
Retail	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
Commercial	37.5%	25.0%	37.5%
E1 - Banna Avenue and Yambil Street			
Retail	1.6%	47.5%	50.8%
Commercial	0.8%	54.7%	44.5%
MU1 - Jondaryan Avenue			
Retail	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
Commercial	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
E1 - Drivers Plaza and East Griffith			
Retail	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Commercial	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Griffith City			
Retail	2.7%	49.3%	47.9%
Commercial	2.8%	54.2%	43.0%
Griffith City Retail and Commercial	2.8%	51.7%	45.5%

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

#### 4.2.4 Outside of Centre Zone Retail/Commercial Supply

This assessment has also considered retail/commercial supply outside of the centre zones. This predominantly includes the Woolworths situated on Burrell Place (within the R1 General Residential zone) as well as retail/commercial businesses within the RU5 Rural Villages zone in Hanwood, Yoogali, Tharbogang, Yenda, Beelbanger and Bilbul.

A total of 16,386sqm of retail and commercial floorspace was identified outside of the centre zones. The most significant industries were dining and take-away food with 6,976sqm and groceries and take-home food with 5,334sqm. These are largely due to the Yoogali Club, the Yenda Hotel, Griffith North Woolworths and Yenda Foodworks.

Table 4-21 details the retail and commercial business activity outside of centre zones by use within Griffith City. Appendix A shows a breakdown of retail and commercial business activity outside of centre zones by suburb.

**Table 4-21 Retail and Commercial Floorspace Outside of Centre Zones – Griffith City, 2022**

	Floorspace	% of Activity
<b>Retail Classes</b>		
Groceries and take-home food	5,334	32.6%
Dining and take-away food	6,976	42.6%
Clothing, footwear and apparel	0	0.0%
Personal and other goods	1,829	11.2%
Core bulky goods	0	0.0%
Ancillary bulky goods	483	2.9%
Hardware	0	0.0%
Take away liquor	0	0.0%
Summary Retail Floor Space	14,622	89.2%
<b>Commercial Classes</b>		
Financial and insurance services	0	0.0%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	0	0.0%
Health care and social assistance	828	5.1%
Professional, scientific and technical services	936	5.7%
Administrative and support services	0	0.0%
Public administration and safety	0	0.0%
Education and Training	0	0.0%
Summary Commercial Floor Space	1,764	10.8%
Summary of Retail and Commercial Floor Space	16,386	100.0%

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics (2022)

Along with the above identified businesses there were 12 industrial businesses (six of which were situated in Hanwood and another four of which were post offices in Tharbogang, Yoogali, Yenda and Bilbul). As well as one accommodation business, the Village Stay in Bilbul.

Yenda was specifically identified as having a vacant tenancy (totalling 1,089sqm). Notably, the quality of businesses in Yenda is considered to be quite low with 89% of retail and commercial businesses identified as being of low quality.

Across all retail and commercial businesses outside of the centre zones, 36% are considered to be of low quality, 59% of medium quality and only 5% are considered to be of high quality.

## 4.3 Summary

The assessment identifies that there is a range of industrial activity within Griffith City, with an estimated 341 businesses identified on industrial zoned land at the time of the site inventory. The inventory identified 113.7 hectares of vacant and underutilised land to accommodate future growth, mostly within the E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support zones. Whilst this quantum of vacant and underutilised land seems significant, the availability and suitability of this land does not align with the demand profile of the region (explored further in Section 8 and 9 of the report).

The largest vacant allotment within the E4 zone (61.9 hectares), which represented over half of the remaining supply, is not available for development due to an existing approval for an ammunition factory. Additionally, the composition of vacant and underutilised lots elsewhere in Griffith (both in terms of size and location) are suited only for low impact and service industry uses and do not align with the future demand profile within the region (which is further explored in Section 8 of the report).



The inventory identified persistently high vacancy rates within centres zones in Griffith City, suggestive of an oversupply of retail floor space within the region. Whilst the quantum of vacant land within centres zones (4.1 hectares) was significantly lower than for industry zones, it was also noted that significant housing was within the centre zones, particularly within the MU1 Mixed Use - Benerembah Street precinct, which also had the highest centres vacancy rate.



## 5 Retail Floor Space Expenditure

This section of the report provides an assessment of the demand for additional retail floor space within the Griffith City centres network to 2041, through consideration of projected household expenditure patterns, converted to supportable floor space estimates (after adjusting for net inflows/outflows of retail expenditure).

### 5.1 Retail Expenditure

Retail expenditure patterns are estimated based on the Bull & Bear Economics retail expenditure model which generates small area retail expenditure estimates based on a simulation utilising a range of small area demographic data sourced from the Census and ATO; regional level data from the ABS Household Expenditure Survey; and broader state and national level data from state and national accounts.

Expenditure categories relevant to retail and commercial centres in Griffith City are as follows:

- + Groceries & take-home food;
- + Dining & take away food;
- + Clothing, footwear & apparel;
- + Personal & other goods;
- + Core bulky goods;
- + Ancillary bulky goods;
- + Hardware; and
- + Takeaway liquor.

#### 5.1.1 Retail Expenditure

##### 5.1.1.1 Weekly Household Retail Expenditure

Weekly household retail expenditure estimates are presented in 2021 dollars and assume real expenditure growth of 1.0% per annum, as per standard industry practice. Weekly household retail expenditure within Griffith City is projected to increase from \$568.78 per week in 2021 to \$698.77 per week in 2041, as summarised in Table 5-1.

**Table 5-1 Weekly Household Retail Expenditure, Griffith City, 2021-2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Groceries & take home food	\$215.71	\$227.05	\$238.96	\$251.46	\$264.64
Dining & take away food	\$89.67	\$94.54	\$99.61	\$104.94	\$110.60
Clothing, footwear & apparel	\$47.04	\$49.56	\$52.20	\$54.97	\$57.90
Personal & other goods	\$81.64	\$86.00	\$90.55	\$95.34	\$100.40
Core bulky goods	\$36.58	\$38.54	\$40.58	\$42.72	\$44.99
Ancillary bulky goods	\$54.33	\$57.19	\$60.19	\$63.33	\$66.65
Hardware	\$17.19	\$18.09	\$19.03	\$20.02	\$21.06
Takeaway liquor	\$26.60	\$27.97	\$29.41	\$30.92	\$32.52
<b>Total Grocery &amp; Specialty</b>	<b>\$460.65</b>	<b>\$485.11</b>	<b>\$510.73</b>	<b>\$537.64</b>	<b>\$566.06</b>
<b>Total Bulky Goods</b>	<b>\$108.11</b>	<b>\$113.82</b>	<b>\$119.80</b>	<b>\$126.08</b>	<b>\$132.71</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$568.76</b>	<b>\$598.94</b>	<b>\$630.53</b>	<b>\$663.71</b>	<b>\$698.77</b>

Source: Derived from ABS (2016) Retail Trade Publication and ABS (2017) Household Expenditure Survey

### 5.1.1.2 Annual Available Retail Expenditure

To convert average weekly household estimates to annual available expenditure estimates, the assessment has utilised the household projections reported in Section 2.3.2. Extrapolating the average annual weekly expenditure per household to an annual figure, then multiplying this value by the number of households yields a total annual available expenditure within Griffith City over the projection horizon.

Annual available expenditure within Griffith City is projected to increase from \$306.76 million in 2021 to \$435.84 million in 2041, or by 1.8% per annum.

**Table 5-2 Annual Available Expenditure (\$m, 2021 Dollars) – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Groceries & take home food	\$116.34	\$126.92	\$138.55	\$151.25	\$165.06
Dining & take away food	\$48.36	\$52.85	\$57.76	\$63.12	\$68.98
Clothing, footwear & apparel	\$25.37	\$27.70	\$30.26	\$33.06	\$36.11
Personal & other goods	\$44.03	\$48.07	\$52.50	\$57.35	\$62.62
Core bulky goods	\$19.73	\$21.54	\$23.53	\$25.70	\$28.06
Ancillary bulky goods	\$29.30	\$31.97	\$34.90	\$38.09	\$41.57
Hardware	\$9.27	\$10.11	\$11.03	\$12.04	\$13.14
Takeaway liquor	\$14.34	\$15.63	\$17.05	\$18.60	\$20.28
<b>Total Grocery &amp; Specialty</b>	<b>\$248.45</b>	<b>\$271.18</b>	<b>\$296.12</b>	<b>\$323.39</b>	<b>\$353.06</b>
<b>Total Bulky Goods</b>	<b>\$58.31</b>	<b>\$63.63</b>	<b>\$69.46</b>	<b>\$75.84</b>	<b>\$82.78</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$306.76</b>	<b>\$334.80</b>	<b>\$365.58</b>	<b>\$399.23</b>	<b>\$435.84</b>

Source: Derived from ABS (2018) Retail Trade Publication, ABS (2018) Household Expenditure Survey

### 5.1.2 Adjusted Retail Expenditure

According to the 2020 eCommerce Industry Report (Australia Post, 2020), it has been estimated that by the end of 2020, online spending will account for 15.0% of the total retail market in Australia. Therefore, adjusting retail expenditure estimates to account for an ongoing shift to online purchasing and fulfilment is paramount. Based on the regional nature of Griffith City, it is likely that the shift towards online shopping, particularly with respect to grocery shopping, will be slower than in metropolitan areas (as discussed in Section 3.2). This is largely due to online grocery orders ultimately being fulfilled by local supermarkets, as opposed to dark stores, as is the case in the metropolitan context. However, a small allowance for online expenditure for groceries and take home-food has been accounted for, recognising that grocery needs may partially be met by online retailers without a local retail shopfront.

As such, the proportion of retail expenditure attributable to online shopping is likely to vary across the retail expenditure categories and is also likely to continue to increase over time as online shopping becomes increasingly accessible. The proportion of sales attributable to online retailers is likely to be significantly higher for the comparison retail categories and has likely been accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with residents adjusting their shopping habits permanently within these categories.

Table 5-3 below summaries the proportion of retail expenditure which is likely to be leaked from Griffith City due to online sales, by retail expenditure category over the projection horizon.

**Table 5-3 Proportion of Retail Sales Attributable to Online Shopping – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

Online Leakage	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Groceries & take-home food	2.5%	3.1%	3.8%	4.4%	5.0%
Dining & take away food	5.0%	5.5%	6.0%	6.5%	7.0%
Clothing, footwear & apparel	20.0%	22.5%	25.0%	27.5%	30.0%
Personal & other goods	20.0%	22.5%	25.0%	27.5%	30.0%
Core bulky goods	20.0%	22.5%	25.0%	27.5%	30.0%
Ancillary bulky goods	20.0%	22.5%	25.0%	27.5%	30.0%
Hardware	10.0%	11.3%	12.5%	13.8%	15.0%
Takeaway liquor	5.0%	5.6%	6.3%	6.9%	7.5%
<b>Average</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	<b>19.3%</b>

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

As such, the annual available expenditure estimates have been adjusted based on the assumed leakage to online sales using the proportions outlined above. Adjusted annual available retail expenditure within Griffith City is projected to increase from \$276.10 million in 2021 to \$368.75 million in 2041, as summarised in Table 5-4 below.

**Table 5-4 Annual Available Expenditure (\$m, 2021 Dollars) After Adjusting for Online Retailing – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Groceries & take home food	\$113.43	\$122.95	\$133.35	\$144.64	\$156.81
Dining & take away food	\$45.95	\$49.94	\$54.29	\$59.02	\$64.15
Clothing, footwear & apparel	\$20.29	\$21.47	\$22.70	\$23.97	\$25.28
Personal & other goods	\$35.23	\$37.26	\$39.38	\$41.58	\$43.84
Core bulky goods	\$15.78	\$16.70	\$17.65	\$18.63	\$19.65
Ancillary bulky goods	\$23.44	\$24.78	\$26.17	\$27.62	\$29.10
Hardware	\$8.34	\$8.97	\$9.66	\$10.39	\$11.17
Takeaway liquor	\$13.63	\$14.76	\$15.99	\$17.32	\$18.76
<b>Total Grocery &amp; Specialty</b>	<b>\$228.53</b>	<b>\$246.37</b>	<b>\$265.70</b>	<b>\$286.53</b>	<b>\$308.84</b>
<b>Total Bulky Goods</b>	<b>\$47.57</b>	<b>\$50.45</b>	<b>\$53.47</b>	<b>\$56.64</b>	<b>\$59.91</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$276.10</b>	<b>\$296.82</b>	<b>\$319.18</b>	<b>\$343.17</b>	<b>\$368.75</b>

Source: Derived from ABS (2018) Retail Trade publication, ABS (2018) Household Expenditure

## 5.2 Supermarket Demand Assessment

### 5.2.1 Available Supermarket Expenditure

The estimates in Table 5-3 above provide a high-level overview of the total available retail expenditure within Griffith City both before and adjusting for retail expenditure leakage to online retailers.

When assessing supermarket demand the retail category of relevance is the groceries and take-home food category. Our assessment has focussed on available supermarket expenditure, excluding liquor purchases.

By nature of the groceries and take-home food sector, these estimates include purchases which are not likely to occur at a supermarket, such as bakeries, butchers and greengrocers. Additionally, supermarkets also sell non-grocery items. As such, the analysis of available supermarket expenditure within Griffith City relies on the following assumptions:

- + 77.5% of available expenditure on grocery and take-home food is captured by supermarkets. Typically, supermarkets capture in the order of 75-80% of grocery and take-

home expenditure, with our analysis adopting the midpoint of this range. This assumption is held constant over the projection period; and

- + 7.5% of total expenditure at supermarkets is spent on general merchandise (non-grocery items). Supermarkets generally generate between 5% and 10% of their turnover from general merchandise items. This assessment has assumed that 7.5% of total expenditure at supermarkets within the trade area is spent on general merchandise, with this assumption held constant over the projection period.

This translates to annual available supermarket expenditure of \$95.04 million in 2021, increasing to \$131.38 million in 2041.

Table 5-5 below denotes supermarket expenditure (groceries plus general merchandise) in Griffith City between 2021 and 2041.

**Table 5-5 Annual Available Supermarket Expenditure (\$m) and Supportable Floor Space (sqm), Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

Groceries and Take-Home Food	Assumption	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Available Grocery and Take Home Food Expenditure	-	\$113.43	\$122.86	\$133.14	\$144.30	\$156.31
% Captured by Supermarkets (77.5%)	77.5%	\$87.91	\$95.29	\$103.35	\$112.09	\$121.53
Uplift for General Merchandise (7.5%)	7.5%	\$7.13	\$7.73	\$8.38	\$9.09	\$9.85
Total Expenditure Available to Supermarkets		\$95.04	\$103.01	\$111.73	\$121.18	\$131.38
Assumed Turnover Density (\$/sqm)		\$9,500	\$9,740	\$9,986	\$10,238	\$10,497
Supportable Floor Space (sqm)		10,004	10,576	11,188	11,837	12,516

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Estimates (2022)

## 5.2.2 Supply-Demand Balance

Our assessment has included the existing and approved supermarket floor space within Griffith City Council against the projected demand generated by residents within Griffith City Council (after adjusting for expenditure outflows attributable to online retailing) as discussed in Section 5.1.2 of the report.

The analysis indicates there is sufficient provision of supermarket floor space within Griffith City Council over the projection horizon, as summarised in Table 5-6.

**Table 5-6 Supermarket Floorspace Supply Demand Balance (sqm) – Griffith LGA, 2021 to 2046**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Supply	19,059	19,059	19,059	19,059	19,059
Demand	10,004	10,576	11,188	11,837	12,516
Supply-Demand Balance	9,055	8,483	7,871	7,222	6,543

Source: Bull & Bear Estimates (2022)

## 5.3 Retail Floorspace Demand Assessment

Section 5.2 of the report focused on the demand for supermarket floorspace within Griffith City. The purpose of this section of the report is to identify the demand for additional retail floorspace within Griffith City more broadly, to understand whether need exists to accommodate additional retail floorspace, particularly within the comparison categories of specialty retail and bulky goods/showroom floorspace.

In addition to retail expenditure inflows to the region, there are significant expenditure outflows, predominantly to online retailers, which offers a broader range of products and services. This study

has assumed that Griffith City represents the appropriate area of assessment, particularly within the comparison retail categories.

The prevalence of online retailing has increased significantly subsequent to the completion of this study. Therefore, on balance, we have assumed that net outflows of expenditure by retail expenditure category are consistent with those presented in Table 5-4 of the report.

### 5.3.1 Supportable Retail Floorspace

The total supportable retail floorspace is dependent on the retail turnover productivities of each retail expenditure category. Industry averages suggest an average turnover per square metre of between \$3,500 per square metre (hardware retailing) to \$9,500 per square metre (groceries and take-home food) in 2021, with assumed turnover per square metre increasing by 0.5% per annum.

Table 5-7 below details the assumed turnover productivities adopted in this assessment for each retail expenditure category.

**Table 5-7 Annual Turnover Productivities by Retail Expenditure Category, Griffith City – \$/sqm**

Retail Expenditure Categories	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Groceries & take-home food	\$9,500	\$9,740	\$9,986	\$10,238	\$10,497
Dining & take-away food	\$5,500	\$5,639	\$5,781	\$5,927	\$6,077
Clothing, footwear & apparel	\$5,500	\$5,639	\$5,781	\$5,927	\$6,077
Personal & other goods	\$5,500	\$5,639	\$5,781	\$5,927	\$6,077
Core bulky goods	\$4,500	\$4,614	\$4,730	\$4,850	\$4,972
Ancillary bulky goods	\$5,500	\$5,639	\$5,781	\$5,927	\$6,077
Hardware	\$3,500	\$3,588	\$3,679	\$3,772	\$3,867
Takeaway liquor	\$9,000	\$9,227	\$9,460	\$9,699	\$9,944
<b>Average</b>	<b>\$6,063</b>	<b>\$6,216</b>	<b>\$6,373</b>	<b>\$6,533</b>	<b>\$6,698</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Estimates (2022)

Applying the turnovers in Table 5-8 to the adjusted retail expenditure estimates summarised in Table 5-4, supportable retail floorspace estimates can be calculated. Overall, supportable retail floor space in Griffith City is projected to increase from 42,057sqm in 2021 to 50,384sqm in 2041, as summarised in Table 5-8.

**Table 5-8 Supportable Retail Floorspace – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Groceries & take-home food	11,940	12,623	13,354	14,128	14,939
Dining & take-away food	8,354	8,856	9,391	9,958	10,557
Clothing, footwear & apparel	3,690	3,808	3,926	4,044	4,160
Personal & other goods	6,405	6,607	6,811	7,014	7,214
Core bulky goods	3,508	3,619	3,731	3,842	3,951
Ancillary bulky goods	4,263	4,394	4,527	4,660	4,789
Hardware	2,384	2,501	2,624	2,754	2,888
Takeaway liquor	1,514	1,599	1,690	1,786	1,887
<b>Total Grocery &amp; Specialty</b>	<b>31,903</b>	<b>33,494</b>	<b>35,172</b>	<b>36,930</b>	<b>38,756</b>
<b>Total Bulky Goods</b>	<b>10,154</b>	<b>10,514</b>	<b>10,882</b>	<b>11,255</b>	<b>11,628</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,057</b>	<b>44,007</b>	<b>46,054</b>	<b>48,185</b>	<b>50,384</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Estimates (2022)

### 5.3.2 Supply-Demand Balance

Our assessment has compared the existing retail floor space within Griffith City Council against the projected demand generated by residents within Griffith City Council (after adjusting for expenditure outflows attributable to online retailing) as discussed in Section 5.1.2 of the report.

A comparison of existing supply against projected demand highlights an existing oversupply of retail floor space, indicative of existing tenants likely trading below benchmark trading levels.

Whilst the degree of oversupply is anticipated to decrease over time, the analysis clearly highlights there is sufficient retail floor space within Griffith City to accommodate projected demand over the next twenty years to 2041.

**Table 5-9 Retail Floorspace Supply Demand Balance (sqm) – Griffith LGA, 2021 to 2046**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Supply	68,301	68,301	68,301	68,301	68,301
Demand	42,057	44,007	46,054	48,185	50,384
Supply-Demand Balance	26,244	24,293	22,247	20,116	17,917

Source: Bull & Bear Estimates (2022)

## 6 Employment Projections

This section details employment projections for Griffith City, which represent a key input into the assessment of projected demand for both commercial office floor space demand and industrial land demand.

In late 2022, Transport for NSW undertook employment projections for all local government areas in New South Wales from 2016 to 2066 (annual between 2021 and 2026, five yearly from 2026-2066). The Transport for NSW projections rely on a range of data inputs, including:

- + 2016 Census journey to work data (as the projections relied on best available information from early-mid 2022, prior to the release of 2021 Census data);
- + State level employment projections undertaken by Victoria University on behalf of NSW Treasury;; and
- + Future Employment Development Database (FEDD) – a custom dataset compiled by Transport for NSW in late 2019 and updated in mid 2022 that presents the number of jobs expected from major projects based on publicly available documents.

As a starting point, we have reviewed the latest employment outlook anticipated by Transport for NSW (late 2022) and then compared this against recent growth trends in Griffith City to determine the appropriateness of adopting this growth outlook, recognising that the Transport for NSW projections are unlikely to have fully captured the strong economic growth recorded in Griffith City between 2016 and 2021, given the reliance on 2016 Census, as opposed to 2021 Census data.

From here, adjustments to the growth outlook, based on historic trends and anticipated investment in the region, have been undertaken as appropriate to inform our preferred employment projection dataset.

### 6.1 Transport for NSW Employment Projections

The Transport for NSW Employment Projections for Griffith City anticipated total employment to increase from 14,716 persons in 2016 to 15,351 persons in 2021, or by 0.8% per annum. In the 2021 to 2041 period, the projections anticipate a slower rate of growth, with employment anticipated to increase by 0.6% per annum to 17,419 persons in 2041.

In the 2016 to 2021 period, the projections anticipated health care and social assistance, agriculture, forestry and fishing, education and training, construction and professional, scientific and technical services to be the key drivers of growth, with employment declines in the manufacturing sector, particularly within food and beverage product manufacturing. Whilst health care and social assistance was the second fastest growing sector in terms of employment in Griffith City in the 2016 to 2021 period, manufacturing was also a significant contributor to employment growth in Griffith City, recording the most significant growth in additional employed persons in 2016 to 2021 (additional 430 employed persons).

In the 2021 to 2041 period, Transport for NSW anticipate significant employment growth within the agriculture, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, health care and social assistance and professional, scientific and technical services sectors.

Table 6-1 reports Transport for NSW's employment projections by industry for the Griffith City local government area between 2016 and 2041.



**Table 6-1 Transport for NSW Employment Projections– Griffith City, 2016-2041**

	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann. Growth, 2016-21	Ave Ann Growth, 2021-41
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,453	1,586	1,501	1,847	2,088	2,362	1.8%	2.0%
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0	-3.0%	-1.4%
Manufacturing	1,393	1,240	1,158	1,267	1,334	1,404	-2.3%	0.6%
Food Product Manufacturing	1,558	1,385	1,296	1,410	1,468	1,531	-2.3%	0.5%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	8	8	8	8	9	9	0.8%	0.5%
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	13	12	11	12	13	14	-1.3%	0.6%
Wood Product Manufacturing	42	37	34	37	39	41	-2.5%	0.5%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	34	31	29	32	34	36	-2.2%	0.7%
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	18	16	15	16	17	18	-2.4%	0.5%
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	12	11	10	11	11	11	-1.2%	0.3%
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	36	33	30	33	34	35	-1.7%	0.3%
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	99	100	92	99	102	107	0.2%	0.3%
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	68	66	60	65	68	71	-0.7%	0.4%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	38	35	32	35	36	38	-1.4%	0.3%
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	177	175	160	173	183	193	-0.3%	0.5%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	25	22	20	22	24	25	-2.4%	0.6%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	262	269	284	288	297	307	0.6%	0.7%
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	1,034	1,146	1,152	1,134	1,158	1,171	2.1%	0.1%
Construction	406	361	359	366	379	389	-2.3%	0.4%
Wholesale Trade	1,763	1,855	1,868	1,834	1,822	1,843	1.0%	0.0%
Retail Trade	682	694	647	658	687	720	0.4%	0.2%
Accommodation and Food Services	514	533	512	526	547	554	0.7%	0.2%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	79	72	61	66	71	74	-1.9%	0.2%
Information Media and Telecommunications	194	222	238	248	266	283	2.7%	1.2%
Financial and Insurance Services	151	155	168	170	177	183	0.5%	0.9%
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	521	624	731	720	744	779	3.7%	1.1%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	449	474	500	517	539	559	1.1%	0.8%
Administrative and Support Services	558	659	685	675	685	681	3.4%	0.2%
Public Administration and Safety	842	969	1,016	1,016	1,018	1,034	2.8%	0.3%
Education and Training	1,563	1,805	1,944	1,917	1,967	2,071	2.9%	0.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	99	108	119	122	127	132	1.8%	1.0%
Arts and Recreation Services	624	650	684	697	717	744	0.8%	0.7%
Other Services	14,716	15,351	15,423	16,020	16,659	17,419	0.8%	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,453</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>1,501</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>2,088</b>	<b>2,362</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

Source: Transport for NSW (2020) and ABS Census of Population and Housing (2021)

## 6.2 Historic Distribution of Employment

Our review of Census data (rebased to remove not further defined and assuming that not classified/not stated employment is consistent with the overall employment profile of the region) indicates that between 2016 and 2021, over half of all employment growth occurred within the manufacturing (primarily food product manufacturing and beverage and tobacco product manufacturing), health care and social assistance and agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors.

This was significantly different from the outlook anticipated by the Transport for NSW projections, which anticipated a decline in employment in the manufacturing sector.

Table 6-2 reports the distribution of employment by industry for Griffith City based on working population data.

**Table 6-2 Historic Distribution of Employment by Industry – Griffith City, 2011, 2016 & 2021**

	Employment			% of Employment		
	2011	2016	2021	2011	2016	2021
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,107	1,290	1,609	10.4%	10.6%	11.5%
Mining	8	7	16	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Manufacturing	2,003	2,431	2,861	18.9%	20.0%	20.5%
Food Product Manufacturing	709	1,046	1,304	6.7%	8.6%	9.3%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	889	994	1,169	8.4%	8.2%	8.4%
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	4	7	10	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Wood Product Manufacturing	22	7	8	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	24	20	35	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	14	22	22	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	0	0	3	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	18	14	10	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	3	3	3	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	39	27	22	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	67	65	60	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	64	47	47	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	10	27	20	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	122	130	118	1.1%	1.1%	0.8%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	18	21	33	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	209	203	238	2.0%	1.7%	1.7%
Construction	555	727	886	5.2%	6.0%	6.3%
Wholesale trade	416	321	428	3.9%	2.6%	3.1%
Retail Trade	1,562	1,549	1,555	14.7%	12.8%	11.1%
Accommodation and Food Services	544	641	698	5.1%	5.3%	5.0%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	302	398	453	2.8%	3.3%	3.2%
Information Media and Telecommunications	72	82	64	0.7%	0.7%	0.5%
Financial and Insurance Services	231	203	159	2.2%	1.7%	1.1%
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	118	128	112	1.1%	1.1%	0.8%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	395	426	497	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%
Administrative and Support Services	197	343	362	1.9%	2.8%	2.6%
Public Administration and Safety	536	553	597	5.1%	4.6%	4.3%
Education and Training	745	831	996	7.0%	6.9%	7.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,091	1,423	1,765	10.3%	11.7%	12.7%
Arts and Recreation Services	65	66	87	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%
Other Services	449	512	572	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,605</b>	<b>12,134</b>	<b>13,954</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing (2011, 2016 &amp; 2021)

## 6.3 Rebased Employment Projections and Implications for Griffith City

In rebasing the employment projections, our analysis has adopted the following approach:

- + Adopt 2021 Census working population employment by industry estimates as a baseline (as opposed to the Transport for NSW estimates, which significantly underestimate employment within the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector as of 2021);
- + Adopt projected growth rates at five year intervals between 2021 and 2041 as per Transport for NSW, with the following exceptions, as detailed below:
  - o Agriculture, forestry and fishing: The Transport for NSW projections anticipate overall growth in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector of 2.0% per annum in the 2021 to 2041 period, with positive growth in the sector to occur from 2026 onwards. We would anticipate that positive rates of growth would occur from 2021, as opposed to 2026, reflective of the fact that agriculture, forestry and fishing was a key driver of growth in Griffith City between 2016 and 2021. The adopted growth rates have assumed significant employment growth within the sector in the 2021 to 2041 period;
  - o Food product manufacturing: The Transport for NSW projections anticipate overall growth of 0.6% per annum between 2021 and 2041, despite actual growth of 4.5% per annum in the 2016 to 2021 period. We would anticipate continued growth in this sector, albeit at a lower rate in the 2021-2041 period;
  - o Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing: The Transport for NSW projections anticipate overall growth of 0.5% per annum in this sector between 2021 and 2041, despite actual growth of 3.3% per annum in the 2016 to 2021 period. We would anticipate continued growth in this sector, albeit at a lower rate in the 2021-2041 period;
  - o Other manufacturing sectors: The Transport for NSW projections anticipate a general decline in manufacturing employment in the 2021-26 period, despite this generally not being the case in 2016-21. Our assessment has made adjustments to the employment growth outlook for the following sub-sectors in the 2021-26 period:
    - Textile, leather, clothing and footwear manufacturing;
    - Wood product manufacturing;
    - Pulp, paper and converted paper product manufacturing;
    - Polymer product and rubber product manufacturing;
    - Furniture and other manufacturing;
  - o Wholesale trade: The Transport for NSW projections anticipate a decline in the sector in the 2021-26 period, reverting to minimal growth from 2026 onwards. The revised projections anticipate a more optimistic outlook for the sector throughout the projection horizon;
  - o Transport, postal and warehousing: The Transport for NSW projections anticipate overall growth of 0.2% per annum in this sector between 2021 and 2041, with the rate of growth negative in 2021-26, shifting to a low growth outlook from 2026 onwards.. We would anticipate growth in the transport, postal and warehousing sector to be higher than anticipated by Transport for NSW, to support increased activity with the agriculture and food processing sectors;
  - o Health care and social assistance: The Transport for NSW employment projections anticipate a decline in the sector in the 2021-26 period, despite significant growth in 2021-26. It is also noted the long term outlook appears overly pessimistic.

Table 6-3 below summarises our adjusted growth rate assumptions for the sectors identified above.

**Table 6-3 Adjustments to Growth Rate Assumptions in Selected Sectors, 2021 to 2041**

Industry Sector	2021-26	2026-31	2031-36	2036-41
<b>Transport for NSW Projected Growth Rates</b>				
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-1.1%	4.2%	2.5%	2.5%
Food product manufacturing	-1.4%	1.8%	1.0%	1.0%
Beverage and tobacco manufacturing	-1.3%	1.7%	0.8%	0.8%
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	-1.5%	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%
Wood Product Manufacturing	-1.4%	-1.4%	-1.4%	-1.4%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	-1.4%	-1.4%	-1.4%	-1.4%
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	-1.9%	-1.9%	-1.9%	-1.9%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	-1.4%	-1.4%	-1.4%	-1.4%
Wholesale trade	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.1%
Transport, postal and warehousing	-0.8%	-0.8%	-0.8%	-0.8%
Education and training	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%
Health care and social assistance	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%
<b>Adopted Growth Rates</b>				
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.8%	2.6%	2.5%	2.5%
Food product manufacturing	2.5%	1.9%	1.5%	1.3%
Beverage and tobacco manufacturing	2.0%	1.8%	1.4%	1.2%
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	2.0%	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%
Wood Product Manufacturing	1.0%	1.7%	1.2%	1.1%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	2.0%	1.5%	1.2%	1.0%
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	1.5%	1.4%	0.9%	0.8%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	1.8%	1.7%	1.2%	1.0%
Wholesale trade	2.7%	2.3%	2.0%	1.8%
Transport, postal and warehousing	1.8%	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%
Education and training	2.0%	1.5%	1.2%	1.0%
Health care and social assistance	2.5%	2.5%	2.1%	2.1%

Source: Transport for NSW and Bull & Bear Economics

Based on the above assumptions, employment in Griffith City is projected to increase from 13,954 persons in 2021 to 18,230 persons in 2041, or by 1.3% per annum.

These projections identify that the key sectors of growth within Griffith City are anticipated to be within the following sectors:

- + Agriculture, forestry and fishing: Additional 1,076 persons between 2021 and 2041, mostly within the agriculture sub-sector. This is reflective of the anticipated continued strength of the poultry and cereal cropping sectors within the region. Employment growth within this sector would be primarily accommodated on rural zoned land;
- + Manufacturing: Additional 1,050 persons between 2021 and 2041, driven primarily by growth within the food and beverage product manufacturing sub-sectors, representative of continued growth in the processing of agricultural outputs, such as poultry and wine. It is anticipated that this employment growth would drive demand for additional industrial land within the region; and
- + Health care and social assistance: Additional 1,016 persons between 2021 and 2041, to support continued population growth within the region.

Table 6-4 summarises the employment projections at the one digit ANZSIC level, with Appendix B reporting employment projections for Griffith City at the two digit ANZSIC level.

**Table 6-4 Projected Employment by Industry, Griffith City, 2021-2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,609	1,847	2,100	2,374	2,685
Mining	16	15	15	13	12
Manufacturing	2,861	3,138	3,434	3,682	3,912
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	238	251	254	263	271
Construction	886	890	876	895	905
Wholesale trade	428	489	548	605	661
Retail Trade	1,555	1,566	1,537	1,528	1,545
Accommodation and Food Services	698	650	661	690	723
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	453	496	534	561	584
Information Media and Telecommunications	64	55	59	64	67
Financial and Insurance Services	159	170	177	190	203
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	112	122	124	129	133
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	497	583	574	593	621
Administrative and Support Services	362	382	395	411	427
Public Administration and Safety	597	621	612	621	617
Education and Training	996	1,099	1,184	1,257	1,321
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,765	1,997	2,260	2,507	2,782
Arts and Recreation Services	87	95	97	101	106
Other Services	572	602	614	631	655
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,954</b>	<b>15,066</b>	<b>16,055</b>	<b>17,113</b>	<b>18,230</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics estimates, informed by Transport for NSW

## 7 Commercial Floor Space Demand Assessment

This section highlights the commercial floorspace demand in Griffith City more broadly, derived from the two-digit employment projections estimated in the preceding section.

### 7.1 Sectors that Typically Utilised Commercial Office Space

The demand for commercial office space has been estimated in terms of traditional office space. The sectors that traditionally utilise commercial office space at the two-digit ANSZIC level are summarised in Table 7-1.

**Table 7-1 Two Digit ANSZIC Sectors which Typically Require Commercial Office Space**

One Digit ANSZIC Sectors	Two Digit ANSZIC Sectors
Financial and Insurance Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finance</li> <li>Insurance and Superannuation Funds</li> <li>Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services</li> </ul>
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)</li> <li>Computer System Design and Related Services</li> </ul>
Health Care & Social Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical and Other Health Care Services</li> </ul>
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property Operators and Real Estate Services</li> </ul>
Public Administration & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Administration</li> </ul>
Information Media and Telecommunications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Publishing and Broadcasting</li> <li>Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services</li> </ul>
Administrative & Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative services</li> </ul>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics, 2022

### 7.2 Projected Employment in Commercial Office Sectors

Based on the employment projections generated in Section 6 of the report and sectors requiring commercial floorspace, total employment in the commercial office sector is anticipated to increase from 1,740 workers in 2021 to 2,214 workers in 2041.

Table 7-2 summarises the total employment in commercial office sectors between 2021 and 2041 within Griffith City.

**Table 7-2 Projected Total Employment in Commercial Office Sectors – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Finance	108	116	120	129	138
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	14	15	15	16	18
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	37	40	41	44	47
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	451	529	521	538	564



	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Computer System Design and Related Services	46	54	53	55	57
Medical and Other Health Care Services	446	504	570	633	702
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	77	84	85	89	92
Public Administration	450	468	461	468	465
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	4	4	4	4	4
Administrative services	108	114	118	123	127
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>1,989</b>	<b>2,099</b>	<b>2,214</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

The accommodation requirements of businesses within these sectors vary depending on employment size. Typically, requirements can be considered in terms of businesses that are sole traders or employing businesses (i.e. business that employ more than one person). Sole traders can often work from home and as such, do not require commercial office space.

To estimate the proportion of employment contained as sole traders and within employing businesses, the assessment has utilised data from the ABS Counts of Australian businesses publication (Cat. No. 8165010) for Griffith City.

Table 7-3 below summarises the distribution of employment by business size by relevant digit industry sectors in Griffith City in 2021.

For the purpose of this assessment, it was assumed that the proportion of employment contained within sole traders in 2021 remains constant throughout the projection period.

**Table 7-3 Proportion of Employment in Service Office Sectors by Employment Size – Griffith City, June 2021**

Sectors	% Sole Trader	% in Employing
Information Media and Telecommunications	65.0%	35.0%
Financial and Insurance Services	80.0%	20.0%
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	90.0%	10.0%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	50.0%	50.0%
Administrative & Support Services	40.0%	60.0%
Public Administration & Safety	65.0%	35.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	45.0%	55.0%

Note: Estimates are rounded to the nearest 5%.

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

Applying the proportion of employment within sole traders to the employment estimates in Table 7-2 provides an estimate on the number of persons employed as sole traders and persons in employing businesses within the trade areas and Griffith City more broadly.

Based on these assumptions, the number of persons employed as sole traders and in employing businesses within Griffith City is anticipated to increase as follows:

- + Sole traders: anticipated to increase from 984 workers in 2021 to 1,227 workers in 2041; and
- + Employing businesses: anticipated to increase from 757 workers in 2021 to 987 workers in 2041.

Table 7-4 summarises the number of employees in sole trader or employing businesses in Griffith City between 2021 and 2041.

**Table 7-4 Employment in Sole Trader and Employing Businesses - Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

Industry Sector	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Sole Trader Employment</b>					
Finance	86	92	96	103	110
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	11	12	12	13	14
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	30	32	33	35	38
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	225	264	260	269	282
Computer System Design and Related Services	23	27	26	27	29
Medical and Other Health Care Services	201	227	257	285	316
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	69	75	77	80	82
Public Administration	293	304	300	304	302
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	3	2	3	3	3
Administrative services	43	46	47	49	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>1,227</b>
<b>Employment within Employing Businesses</b>					
Finance	22	23	24	26	28
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	3	3	3	3	4
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	7	8	8	9	9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	225	264	260	269	282
Computer System Design and Related Services	23	27	26	27	29
Medical and Other Health Care Services	245	277	314	348	386
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	8	8	9	9	9
Public Administration	158	164	161	164	163
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	1	1	1	1	2
Administrative services	65	68	71	74	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>987</b>
<b>Total Employment</b>					
Finance	108	116	120	129	138
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	14	15	15	16	18
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	37	40	41	44	47
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	451	529	521	538	564
Computer System Design and Related Services	46	54	53	55	57
Medical and Other Health Care Services	446	504	570	633	702
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	77	84	85	89	92
Public Administration	450	468	461	468	465
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	4	4	4	4	4
Administrative services	108	114	118	123	127

Industry Sector	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>1,989</b>	<b>2,099</b>	<b>2,214</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

## 7.3 Projected Employment Accommodated in Commercial Office Space

### 7.3.1 Employment to be Accommodated in Commercial Office Space

Persons who are employed in commercial office sectors can either undertake their work in commercial office premises, choose to work from home or utilise shared workspace facilities (where available).

Our assessment has made the following assumptions relating to the proportion of employment accommodated in dedicated commercial office premises:

- + Sole traders: 50.0% of sole traders will require commercial office space; and
- + Employing businesses: 94.7% of employed persons within commercial office sectors will require commercial office space, reflecting that as of the 2021 Census, 5.3% of persons worked from home in Griffith City.

Based on the above assumptions, persons employed as sole traders and in employing businesses requiring commercial office spaces within Griffith City is anticipated to increase from 1,208 workers in 2021 to 1,548 workers in 2041, as shown in Table 7-5.

**Table 7-5 Persons Employed as Sole Traders and in Employing Businesses Requiring Commercial Office Space – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Sole Trader Employment</b>					
Finance	43	46	48	52	55
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	5	6	6	7	7
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	15	16	17	18	19
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	113	132	130	134	141
Computer System Design and Related Services	11	13	13	14	14
Medical and Other Health Care Services	100	113	128	142	158
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	35	38	38	40	41
Public Administration	146	152	150	152	151
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	1	1	1	1	1
Administrative services	22	23	24	25	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>614</b>
<b>Employment within Employing Businesses</b>					
Finance	20	22	23	24	26
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	3	3	3	3	3
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	7	8	8	8	9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	214	250	247	255	267
Computer System Design and Related Services	22	25	25	26	27

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Medical and Other Health Care Services	232	263	297	330	366
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	7	8	8	8	9
Public Administration	149	155	153	155	154
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	1	1	1	1	1
Administrative services	61	65	67	70	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>935</b>
<b>Total Employment</b>					
Finance	64	68	71	76	81
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	8	9	9	10	10
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	22	23	24	26	28
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	326	383	377	389	408
Computer System Design and Related Services	33	39	38	40	41
Medical and Other Health Care Services	332	376	425	472	524
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	42	46	46	48	50
Public Administration	295	307	303	307	305
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	3	2	3	3	3
Administrative services	83	87	90	94	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>1,548</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

## 7.4 Projected Commercial Office Floor Space Demand

To convert employment projections to commercial office floor space demand, the analysis has assumed the following floor space provision:

- + Sole traders: floor space requirement of 30 sqm per worker; and
- + Employing businesses: floor space requirement of 20 sqm per worker.

These assumed ratios are marginally higher than what is typically achieved in metropolitan contexts and are reflective of usage patterns identified in non-metropolitan localities such as Griffith.

Based on the above assumptions, commercial office floor space demand in Griffith City is projected to increase from 29,084 sqm in 2021 to 37,100 sqm in 2041, with the professional, scientific and technical services sector and the medical and other health care services sector being the major drivers of demand.

Table 7-6 reports projected demand for commercial office floor space in Griffith City derived from the employment projections between 2021 and 2041.

**Table 7-6 Projected Commercial Office Floor Space Demand (sqm) - Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Sole Trader Employment</b>					
Finance	1,294	1,387	1,445	1,551	1,653
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	165	177	184	198	211
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	444	476	496	532	567
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	3,382	3,967	3,906	4,034	4,228
Computer System Design and Related Services	344	403	397	410	430
Medical and Other Health Care Services	3,008	3,403	3,850	4,272	4,740
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	1,042	1,130	1,149	1,196	1,236
Public Administration	4,388	4,562	4,498	4,564	4,535
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	41	35	38	41	43
Administrative services	647	683	706	735	764
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,754</b>	<b>16,223</b>	<b>16,670</b>	<b>17,532</b>	<b>18,405</b>
<b>Employment within Employing Businesses</b>					
Finance	408	438	456	489	522
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	52	56	58	62	66
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	140	150	157	168	179
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	4,271	5,009	4,933	5,093	5,339
Computer System Design and Related Services	434	509	501	518	543
Medical and Other Health Care Services	4,642	5,252	5,942	6,593	7,314
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	146	159	161	168	173
Public Administration	2,983	3,102	3,058	3,103	3,083
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	28	24	26	28	29
Administrative services	1,225	1,294	1,337	1,392	1,446
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,330</b>	<b>15,991</b>	<b>16,629</b>	<b>17,614</b>	<b>18,695</b>
<b>Total Employment</b>					
Finance	1,702	1,825	1,902	2,040	2,174
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	217	233	242	260	277
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	584	626	652	700	746
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	7,653	8,976	8,839	9,127	9,566
Computer System Design and Related Services	778	912	899	928	972
Medical and Other Health Care Services	7,650	8,655	9,792	10,864	12,054
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	1,188	1,289	1,310	1,364	1,409
Public Administration	7,371	7,664	7,555	7,667	7,619
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	69	59	64	68	72
Administrative services	1,872	1,977	2,043	2,127	2,210

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,084</b>	<b>32,214</b>	<b>33,298</b>	<b>35,146</b>	<b>37,100</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis (2022)

## 7.5 Supply Demand Balance

Our assessment has included the existing commercial office floor space within Griffith City Council against the projected demand generated by workers within Griffith City Council. This analysis is suggestive of an oversupply of commercial office floor space of approximately 9,000sqm.

The supply demand balance for commercial floor space within Griffith City Council is summarised in Table 7-7.

**Table 7-7 Commercial Floorspace Supply Demand Balance (sqm) – Griffith LGA, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Supply	37,774	37,774	37,774	37,774	37,774
Demand	29,084	32,214	33,298	35,146	37,100
Supply-Demand Balance	8,690	5,560	4,476	2,628	674

Source: Bull & Bear Estimates (2022)

However, discussions with local real estate agents indicated there is a lack of suitable commercial office floor space available to purchase or rent, with available opportunities mostly on the second floor, which does not provide the exposure, access and parking demanded by prospective tenants. Additionally, there has been some misalignment between spaces demanded (typically between 20sqm and 150sqm) and space available to rent as evidenced by the relative difficulty in leasing larger spaces.

Therefore, in reality it is likely that the office market is relatively balanced in Griffith at present, with tenants occupying larger spaces than what is suggested by the modelling (i.e. more than an average of 20 sqm per worker).

However, this analysis, when considered in conjunction with the quantum of vacant tenancies within the centre zone, highlights limited need to provide additional commercial office floor space in Griffith City, over and above what is already available. However, consultation has also identified that tenants in some cases have had to upgrade their offering to meet the expectations of clients. There may potentially be a role in incentivising tenancy refurbishment / upgrades to reduce the level of centre vacancy within Griffith City.

## 8 Industrial Land Demand

For the purpose of this assessment, the demand for industrial land within Griffith City has been calculated using an employment based approach.

### 8.1 Employment Based Approach

The employment-based approach for estimating industrial land demand is typically the most robust assessment of future demand as it considers employment growth in industrial industries within a given region and considers the net floorspace required for each industry.

#### 8.1.1 Sectors that Utilised Industrial Land

The assessment utilises employment projections at the two-digit ANZSIC industry sector level derived from Transport for NSW's employment projections by industry sector Griffith City for the 2016 to 2041 period. For conciseness, the body of the report presents employment and land demand projections for each of the defined broad categories, with two-digit ANZSIC projections presented in Appendix E.

Industrial activity can be classified into four broad categories, these being:

- + Large footprint and general industry;
- + Service industry;
- + Warehousing & storage; and
- + Transport uses.

Table 8-1 outlines the two-digit ANZSIC sectors which are contained within each of the four broad categories.

**Table 8-1 Two Digit ANZSIC Sectors which Typically Require Industrial Land**

Broad Categories	Two Digit ANZSIC Sectors
Large Footprint and General Industry	Wood Product Manufacturing Pulp, Paper, and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing Transport Equipment Manufacturing Furniture and Other Manufacturing Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing Food Product Manufacturing
Service Industry	Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing <sup>1</sup> Printing (including Reproduction of Recorded Media) Publishing (except Internet and Music Publishing) Construction Services Repair and Maintenance
Warehousing & Storage	Basic Material Wholesaling



Broad Categories	Two Digit ANZSIC Sectors
	Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling Other Goods Wholesaling Warehousing and Storage Services
Transport Uses	Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing Road Transport Rail Transport Transport Support Services Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics (2022)

### 8.1.2 Projected Industrial Employment

Industrial employment within Griffith City is anticipated to increase from 4,768 workers in 2021 to 5,598 workers by 2041, or by 1,461 additional workers over the projection period. Industrial employment growth is anticipated to be concentrated within the large footprint and general industry sub-sectors, particularly within food and beverage manufacturing.

Table 8-2 summarises the industrial employment projections by the four broad categories between 2021 and 2041. Detailed employment projections at the two-digit ANZSIC category are provided in Appendix E.

**Table 8-2 Projected Employment in Industrial Sectors – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann. Growth, 2021-41
<b>Employment</b>						
Large Footprint and General Industry	2,830	3,106	3,400	3,646	3,874	1.6%
Service Industry	924	944	944	968	990	0.3%
Warehousing & Storage	426	486	544	600	655	2.2%
Transport Uses	587	629	662	687	710	1.0%
Total Industrial Employment	4,768	5,165	5,551	5,901	6,229	1.3%
<b>Incremental Employment</b>						
Large Footprint and General Industry	-	277	570	816	1,044	-
Service Industry	-	20	20	44	66	-
Warehousing & Storage	-	60	118	173	228	-
Transport Uses	-	41	75	100	123	-
Incremental Industrial Employment	-	397	783	1,133	1,461	-

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics (2022)

### 8.1.3 Projected Industrial Land Demand

To convert the projected employment in industrial sectors, as detailed in Table 8-2 above, into land demand estimates for Griffith City, this assessment has assumed between 15 and 40 workers per hectare, as highlighted in Table 8-3 below.

**Table 8-3 Industrial Employment Densities**

	Emp / ha (Industrial uses)
<b>Large Footprint and General Industry</b>	
Food Product Manufacturing	40
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	35
Wood Product Manufacturing	30
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	30
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	30
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	20
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	35
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	35
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	35
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	35
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	40
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	35
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	35
<b>Service Industry</b>	
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	35
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	35
Construction Services	35
Warehousing and Storage Services	20
Publishing (except Internet and Music Publishing)	35
Repair and Maintenance	30
<b>Transport Uses</b>	
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	20
Road Transport	20
Rail Transport	15
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	35
Transport Support Services	35
<b>Warehousing &amp; Storage</b>	
Basic Material Wholesaling	35
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	35
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	35
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	35
Other Goods Wholesaling	35

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics Estimates (2022)

Over the next twenty years to 2041, industrial land demand within Griffith City is projected to increase by 42.1 hectares, with demand driven by growth within the large footprint and general industry sector, in particular activity within the food and beverage manufacturing sub-sectors.

**Table 8-4 Projected Industrial Land Demand (Ha) – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ave. Ann. Growth, 2021-41
<b>Land Demand (Ha)</b>						
Large Footprint and General Industry	76.6	83.9	91.8	98.3	104.5	1.6%
Service Industry	28.0	28.6	28.6	29.4	30.1	0.4%
Warehousing & Storage	12.5	14.3	15.9	17.6	19.1	2.1%
Transport Uses	27.1	29.0	30.4	31.5	32.6	0.9%
Total Industrial Land Demand	144.1	155.7	166.8	176.8	186.3	1.3%
<b>Incremental Demand (Ha)</b>						
Large Footprint and General Industry	-	7.3	15.2	21.8	27.9	-
Service Industry	-	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.1	-
Warehousing & Storage	-	1.7	3.4	5.0	6.6	-
Transport Uses	-	1.9	3.3	4.4	5.5	-
Incremental Industrial Land Demand	-	11.5	22.6	32.7	42.1	-

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics Estimates (2022)

## 8.2 Supply Demand Balance

Our assessment has compared the remaining vacant industrial land within Griffith City against the projected demand for industrial land to identify any modelled shortfalls over the next twenty years to 2041.

A direct comparison of remaining supply against projected demand would suggest that Griffith City has sufficient zoned industrial land to 2036, with a small shortfall by 2041. However, further investigations into the composition of remaining supply clearly identify this is not the case, with remaining supply either not suitable for the majority of industrial activity or not appropriately located to service the future needs of local businesses.

The following text provides additional detail relating to the appropriateness of remaining supply to accommodate projected demand, whether a need exists to transition existing industrial land precincts due to encroachment of incompatible uses (e.g. residential), whether the remaining zoned supply is appropriately serviced and the realistic availability of this land for industrial development.

The demand profile presented in Table 8-4 above clearly identifies future industrial land demand is for general industry activity, as opposed to light industry activity.

However, most of the serviced vacant E4 General Industrial zoned land that could accommodate industry activity within Griffith is in proximity to Oakes Road and Lenehan Road. These lots are unlikely to accommodate activity of a medium impact nature due to the proximity of nearby remnant housing immediately to the west of Lenehan Road. It is also considered likely the allotments occupied by housing will be difficult to transition to industrial uses due to the small size of these lots and the very limited uses that would consider these lots of suitable size to establish business operations.

Whilst vacant land has also been identified in the E3 Productivity Support zone, these lots are suited only for light impact industry activity (e.g. service industry and warehousing & storage uses) and hence only accommodate to a small proportion of industrial land within the region.



There is significant remaining supply within the E5 Heavy Industry precinct in Tharbogang. However, this supply faces a myriad of challenges and is not immediately suitable for occupation due to an absence of connection to sewer. It is also understood that an urban release area falls over part of the E5 Heavy Industry area, which will partially or potentially fully restrict the intensity of activity within this precinct.

The above factors are suggestive of the need to identify alternative locations to accommodate future industrial land demand within Griffith. It is understood that several industrial businesses within Griffith require direct road train access, which cannot be provided by existing industrial areas, particularly those within proximity to the centre of Griffith. The Southern Industrial Link Road provides an opportunity to establish an industrial area that offers direct access for road trains.

## 9 Strategic Recommendations

This section of the report provides strategic recommendations to inform the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy, based on the outcomes of previous sections of this report.

### 9.1 Centres Land

Section 4 of the report identified that significant levels of vacancy in centres zones exist within Griffith City, particularly within the B2 zone along Banna Avenue and Yambil Street (22,106sqm of vacant tenancies or a 20.1% vacancy rate) and the B4 zone on Benerembah Street (9,739sqm of vacant tenancies of a 51.1% vacancy rate).

A review of the B4 zone in Benerembah Street identified that a significant quantum of tenancies were identified as being of a poor standard, which is likely contributing to relatively high vacancy rates in this part of Griffith City. There is also little incentive to improve the shopfronts in this part of Griffith, given that the outlook for centres floor space demand indicates there is more than sufficient capacity within existing vacant tenancies to accommodate projected growth to 2041. Whilst the tenancy quality in the centre core is of a higher standard, high vacancy rates also persist, due to low growth in demand for centres floor space in Griffith.

Given the modest growth outlook for centres floorspace in Griffith, it is suggested that Council seek to limit approvals of centre uses outside of centres zones and support tenants who wish to transition their existing tenancy for an alternative use (e.g. residential or community based use). This is line with the recommendations in the Griffith Local Strategic Planning Statement which are supportive of additional residential development around the CBD on the south side of Yambil Street and on vacant sites along Banna Avenue, Railway Street, Kookora Street and Benerembah Street. It is anticipated that the most significant challenge faced by prospective developers would be the assembly of a suitably large site, given the existing fragmentation of lots within centre zones in Griffith.

### 9.2 Industrial Land

Over the next 20 years, there is anticipated to be demand for an additional 42.1 hectares of industrial land in Griffith City, driven by growth in food and beverage product manufacturing and the road transport sector. At a modelled level, there is sufficient industrial land to meet future needs to 2036 (with a small shortfall by 2041), based on an estimated remaining supply of 38.4 hectares of vacant zoned industrial land.

However, the composition of remaining supply does not align with the future needs of businesses within Griffith due to the following factors:

- + The largest vacant industrial land lot identified within Griffith City is at Yenda, at the corner of Burley Griffin Way and Wood Road. It is noted that this vacant lot is surrounded by Casella Wines (and vineyards) immediately to the west. Advice from Council has indicated that this lot has an approval for an ammunition factory, hence is not available for development for industrial uses. This lot accounts for over half of the remaining industrial land supply so its exclusion is significant;
- + The remainder of zoned land suited to accommodate industrial activity falls within the E4 General Industrial and E3 Productivity Support to the east of the Griffith centre. The remaining E3 Productivity Support allotments are suited to only a small portion of industrial land demand (i.e. population serving activity such as warehousing and storage). On the other hand, the E4

General industrial Land is mostly located on Oakes Road, which does not offer direct access to road trains, which is increasingly required by industrial businesses in Griffith. Additionally, the intensity of activity that can be supported on these lots is limited by the presence of remnant housing, mostly to the west of Lenehan Road.

Furthermore, as residential activity intensifies in Griffith, this is likely to only place further pressure on industrial development on the fringe of the Griffith township to locate within other parts of the local government area, particularly if the business is reliant on heavy vehicle freight movements or has reverse amenity impacts which would impact surrounding residential development.

Additional industrial zoned land (E5 Heavy Industrial) was released to the west of the Griffith urban area along Kidman Way, but this land is mostly yet to be taken up and is predominately occupied by farming activity. However, the establishment of the Kurrajong Avenue / Thorne Road bypass route (which will ensure heavy vehicles, including road trains, avoid Griffith's urban areas) will likely enhance the appeal and marketability of this land to prospective industrial land users, provided that appropriate infrastructure and services are delivered.

It is also anticipated that the establishment of this land would encourage the relocation of industrial users within the Griffith township that rely on heavy vehicle movements, given the connectivity offered by the bypass route relative to the local road network servicing existing industrial estates.

However, the opportunities presented by this land are potentially limited due to the urban release area layer which is partially located over this land. Should significant residential development occur within this precinct, the opportunity to establish industrial activity may be fully extinguished. Additionally, the demand profile indicates most of the projected demand would be best accommodated within E4 General Industrial land, with limited need for the E5 Heavy Industrial zoning.

It is suggested that further investigations identify the potential to establish an industrial precinct directly off the Southern Industrial Link Road to meet the future needs of the region and allow for the relocation of existing businesses who are looking to expand and that require direct road train access.

To ensure the success of any newly established industrial precinct, the provision of trunk infrastructure is critical, as is the delivery of larger lots (at least one hectare in size) to accommodate manufacturing and processing facilities, along with associated transport uses.

It is noted that larger scale food processors in the region have sites of approximately 20 hectares in size. It is suggested that future industrial areas offer a range of lots at least one hectare in size and ensuring sites of five or more hectares are available within this precinct, to meet an existing market gap of the region and reflecting the requirements of prospective land users.

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# 11 Appendices

## 11.1 Appendix A Retail/Commercial Land Supply

Table 11-1 Retail and Commercial Businesses Outside of Centre Zoned Land– Griffith City, 2022

	R1 - Griffith (Woolworths)		RU5 - Yoogali		RU5 - Hanwood		RU5 - Yenda		Total	
	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%	sqm	%
<b>Retail Classes</b>										
Groceries and take-home food	2,843	100.0%	0	0.0%	767	28.3%	1,724	33.6%	5,334	32.6%
Dining and take-away food	0	0.0%	3,789	66.5%	486	17.9%	2,701	52.6%	6,976	42.6%
Clothing, footwear and apparel	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Personal and other goods	0	0.0%	664	11.6%	1,165	43.0%	0	0.0%	1,829	11.2%
Core bulky goods	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Ancillary bulky goods	0	0.0%	483	8.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	483	2.9%
Hardware	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Take away liquor	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Summary Retail Floor Space	2,843	100.0%	4,936	86.6%	2,418	89.3%	4,425	86.2%	14,622	89.2%
<b>Commercial Classes</b>										
Financial and insurance services	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Health care and social assistance	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	290	10.7%	538	10.5%	828	5.1%
Professional, scientific and technical services	0	0.0%	766	13.4%	0	0.0%	170	3.3%	936	5.7%
Administrative and support services	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Public administration and safety	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Education and Training	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Summary Commercial Floor Space	0	0.0%	766	13.4%	290	10.7%	708	13.8%	1,764	10.8%
Summary of Retail and Commercial Floor Space	2,843	100.0%	5,702	100.0%	2,708	100.0%	5,133	100.0%	16,386	100.0%

Source: Bull & Bear Economics Analysis, (2022)

## 11.2 Appendix B Employment Projections

**Table 11-2 Two Digit Employment Projections – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Agriculture	1,363	1,565	1,779	2,011	2,274
Aquaculture	28	32	36	41	46
Forestry and Logging	0	0	0	0	0
Fishing, Hunting and Trapping	3	4	4	5	5
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	215	247	281	317	359
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,609	1,847	2,100	2,374	2,685
Coal Mining	0	0	0	0	0
Oil and Gas Extraction	0	0	0	0	0
Metal Ore Mining	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Metallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying	7	7	7	6	6
Exploration and Other Mining Support Services	8	8	8	7	6
Mining	16	15	15	13	12
Food Product Manufacturing	1,304	1,475	1,621	1,746	1,862
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	1,169	1,291	1,411	1,513	1,606
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	10	11	12	12	13
Wood Product Manufacturing	8	8	9	9	10
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	35	38	41	44	46
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	22	21	22	24	25
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	3	3	3	3	3
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	10	9	10	10	11
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	3	4	4	4	4
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	22	20	21	22	23
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	60	55	59	61	63
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	47	43	46	48	50
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	20	18	19	20	21
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	118	108	118	124	131
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	33	36	39	41	43
Manufacturing	2,861	3,138	3,434	3,682	3,912
Electricity Supply	48	50	51	53	54
Gas Supply	0	0	0	0	0
Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Services	159	167	170	175	181
Waste Collection, Treatment and Disposal Services	32	33	34	35	36
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	238	251	254	263	271
Building Construction	174	174	172	175	177
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	145	146	143	147	148
Construction Services	567	570	561	573	579

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Construction	886	890	876	895	905
Basic Material Wholesaling	155	177	198	219	239
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	159	182	204	225	246
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	24	27	31	34	37
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	65	74	83	92	100
Other Goods Wholesaling	8	9	10	11	12
Commission-Based Wholesaling	17	20	22	25	27
Wholesale Trade	428	489	548	605	661
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	157	159	156	155	156
Fuel Retailing	42	42	41	41	42
Food Retailing	556	560	550	546	553
Other Store-Based Retailing	796	802	787	782	791
Non-Store Retailing and Retail Commission Based Buying	3	3	3	3	3
Retail Trade	1,555	1,566	1,537	1,528	1,545
Accommodation	129	120	122	128	134
Food and Beverage Services	569	529	539	562	590
Accommodation and Food Services	698	650	661	690	723
Road Transport	305	333	359	377	392
Rail Transport	11	12	13	14	14
Water Transport	0	0	0	0	0
Air and Space Transport	8	9	9	10	10
Other Transport	0	0	0	0	0
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	75	82	88	93	97
Transport Support Services	39	43	46	49	50
Warehousing and Storage Services	16	17	18	19	20
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	453	496	534	561	584
Publishing (except Internet and Music Publishing)	0	0	0	0	0
Motion Picture and Sound Recording Activities	20	17	18	20	21
Broadcasting (except Internet)	16	13	15	16	16
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	0	0	0	0	0
Telecommunications Services	18	15	17	18	19
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	4	4	4	4	4
Library and Other Information Services	6	5	6	6	7
Information Media and Telecommunications	64	55	59	64	67
Finance	108	116	120	129	138
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	14	15	15	16	18
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	37	40	41	44	47
Financial and Insurance Services	159	170	177	190	203
Rental and Hiring Services (except Real Estate)	35	38	38	40	41
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	77	84	85	89	92

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	112	122	124	129	133
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (except Computer System Design and Related Services)	451	529	521	538	564
Computer System Design and Related Services	46	54	53	55	57
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	497	583	574	593	621
Administrative Services	108	114	118	123	127
Building Cleaning, Pest Control and Other Support Services	254	268	277	288	299
Administrative and Support Services	362	382	395	411	427
Public Administration	450	468	461	468	465
Defence	0	0	0	0	0
Public Order, Safety and Regulatory Services	147	153	151	153	152
Public Administration and Safety	597	621	612	621	617
Preschool and School Education	878	970	1,045	1,109	1,166
Tertiary Education	66	73	79	83	88
Adult, Community and Other Education	51	56	61	65	68
Education and Training	996	1,099	1,184	1,257	1,321
Hospitals	569	644	728	808	896
Medical and Other Health Care Services	446	504	570	633	702
Residential Care Services	346	391	443	491	545
Social Assistance Services	405	458	518	575	638
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,765	1,997	2,260	2,507	2,782
Heritage Activities	26	29	30	31	32
Creative and Performing Arts Activities	6	7	7	7	8
Sports and Recreation Activities	54	59	61	63	66
Gambling Activities	0	0	0	0	0
Arts and Recreation Services	87	95	97	101	106
Repair and Maintenance	326	343	349	359	373
Personal and Other Services	246	259	264	272	282
Private Households Employing Staff and Undifferentiated Goods	0	0	0	0	0
Other Services	572	602	614	631	655
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,954</b>	<b>15,066</b>	<b>16,055</b>	<b>17,113</b>	<b>18,230</b>

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics (2022)

## 11.3 Appendix C Industrial Land Demand

**Table 11-3 Total Industrial Employment – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Large Footprint and General Industry</b>					
Food Product Manufacturing	1,304	1,475	1,621	1,746	1,862
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	1,169	1,291	1,411	1,513	1,606
Wood Product Manufacturing	8	8	9	9	10
Pulp, Paper, and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	35	38	41	44	46
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	3	3	3	3	3
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	10	9	10	10	11
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	3	4	4	4	4
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	22	20	21	22	23
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	60	55	59	61	63
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	47	43	46	48	50
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	20	18	19	20	21
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	118	108	118	124	131
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	33	36	39	41	43
<b>Service Industry</b>					
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	10	11	12	12	13
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	22	21	22	24	25
Construction Services	567	570	561	573	579
Warehousing and Storage Services	16	17	18	19	20
Publishing (except Internet and Music Publishing)	0	0	0	0	0
Repair and Maintenance	326	343	349	359	373
<b>Transport Uses</b>					
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	157	159	156	155	156
Road Transport	305	333	359	377	392
Rail Transport	11	12	13	14	14
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	75	82	88	93	97
Transport Support Services	39	43	46	49	50
<b>Warehousing &amp; Storage</b>					
Basic Material Wholesaling	155	177	198	219	239
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	159	182	204	225	246
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	24	27	31	34	37
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	65	74	83	92	100
Other Goods Wholesaling	8	9	10	11	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,768</b>	<b>5,165</b>	<b>5,551</b>	<b>5,901</b>	<b>6,229</b>

Source: Bull & Bear Economics (2022)

**Table 11-4 Industrial Land Demand – Griffith City, 2021 to 2041**

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
<b>Large Footprint and General Industry</b>					
Food Product Manufacturing	32.6	36.9	40.5	43.6	46.6
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	33.4	36.9	40.3	43.2	45.9
Wood Product Manufacturing	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Pulp, Paper, and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.7
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2
<b>Service Industry</b>					
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7
Construction Services	16.2	16.3	16.0	16.4	16.6
Warehousing and Storage Services	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Publishing (except Internet and Music Publishing)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Repair and Maintenance	10.9	11.4	11.6	12.0	12.4
<b>Transport Uses</b>					
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.8
Road Transport	15.2	16.6	17.9	18.8	19.6
Rail Transport	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.8
Transport Support Services	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
<b>Warehousing &amp; Storage</b>					
Basic Material Wholesaling	4.4	5.1	5.7	6.3	6.8
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	4.6	5.2	5.8	6.4	7.0
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.9
Other Goods Wholesaling	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>144.1</b>	<b>155.7</b>	<b>166.8</b>	<b>176.8</b>	<b>186.3</b>

Source: Bull &amp; Bear Economics (2022)



# Employment Lands Candidate Site Analysis

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March 2023

Griffith City Council



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Site 7 – Stafford Road.....31

Site 8 – Oakes Road.....34

### Background and Candidate Sites

This section provides the details of the proposed candidate sites for potential rezoning and further investigation in the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy. These sites were selected based on the strategic planning exercises carried out in the drafting of the Local Strategic Planning Statement and in consideration of site constraints and existing development including recently planted almond orchards on the Southern Industrial Link Road. Other sites which are identified in the LSPS along the Southern Industrial Link Road can also be considered as part of future planning proposals subject to further constraints and infrastructure analysis. The sites are identified in **Figure 1** and also in the main Employment Lands Strategy.

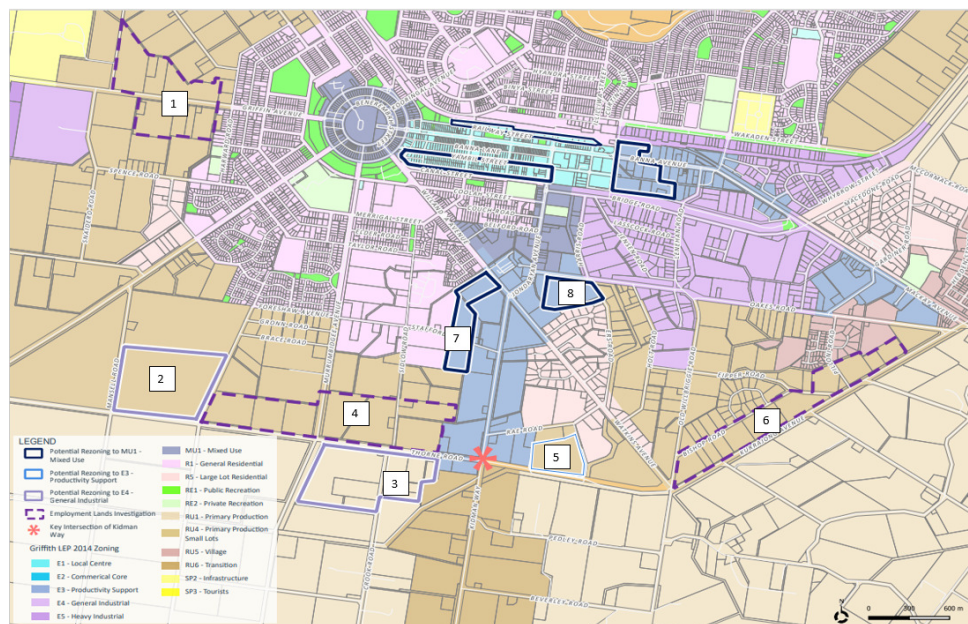


Figure 1: Candidate Sites Identification

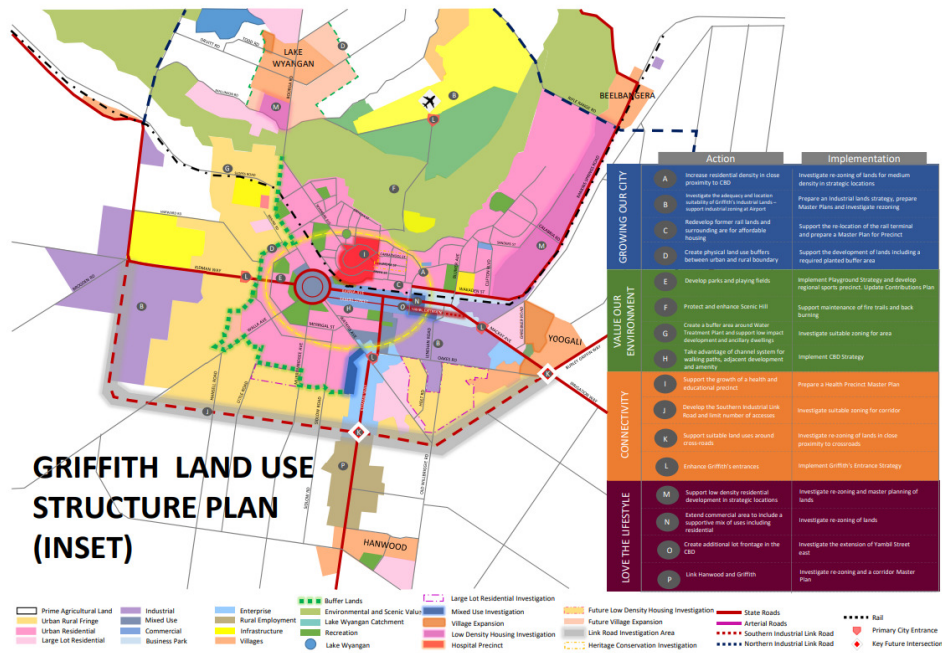
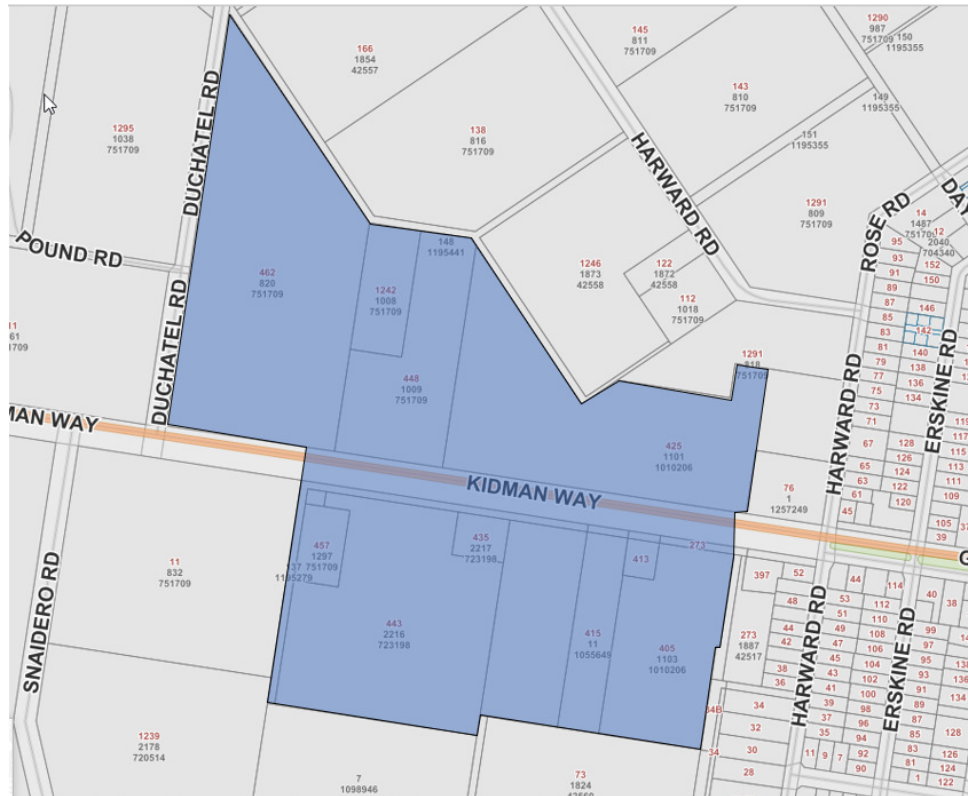


Figure 2: Griffith LSPS Structure Plan

### Site 1 – Kidman Way

*Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 3**.



### Figure 3: Site 1 – Kidman Way

### Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size

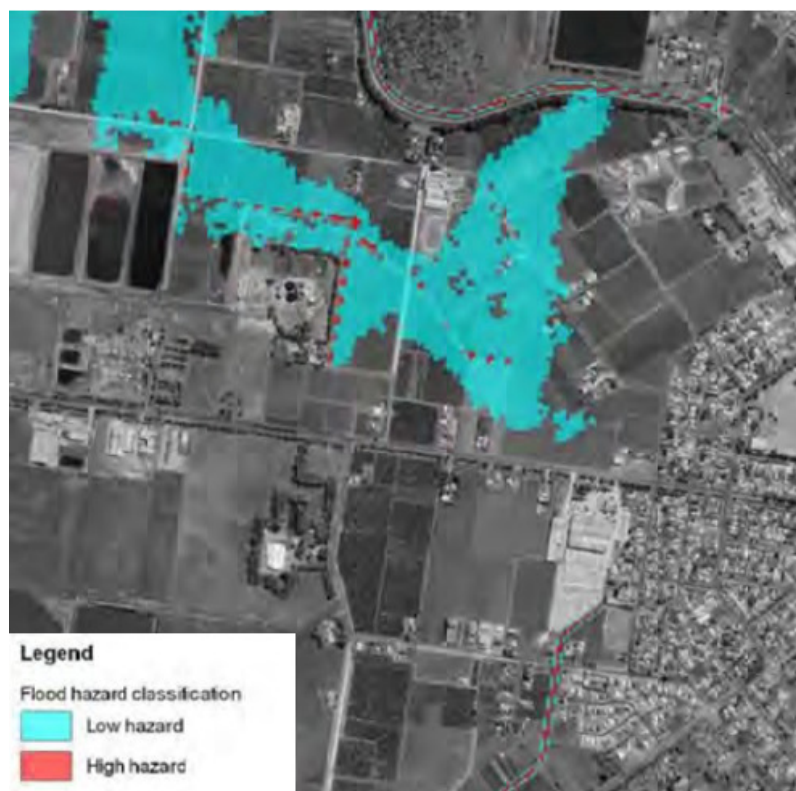
RU4 (Primary Production Small Lots) with a minimum lot size of 5 ha.

### Employment Lands Strategy Identification

Identified as Employment Lands Investigation Area which requires additional master planning and service delivery investigations to facilitate rezoning.

## Constraints

## Flooding



**Figure 4: Site 1 - Flood Affection**

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. A portion of the site is considered flood prone for the 1 in 100 year flood event. This area is located to the north of Kidman Way and is classified as 'flood fringe'. Future buildings within this area would be required to be constructed above the flood planning level. Council may require the preparation of a flood assessment as part of any planning proposal or future development application process.

#### **Contamination**

The site has historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications of former horticultural lands.

#### **Water and Sewer Services**

- The site is outside of the Council DSP area for sewer. A rising main is located in the Kidman Way road reserve which services the Griffith catchment to the west.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area.



- Development could proceed on AWTs units or other onsite sewerage management systems depending on the type of development proposed and wastewater needs. A Land Capability Assessment would need to be prepared as part of any future planning proposal for the area which proposes the use of onsite systems. Connection to Council's reticulated sewer service should, however be prioritised in this area.

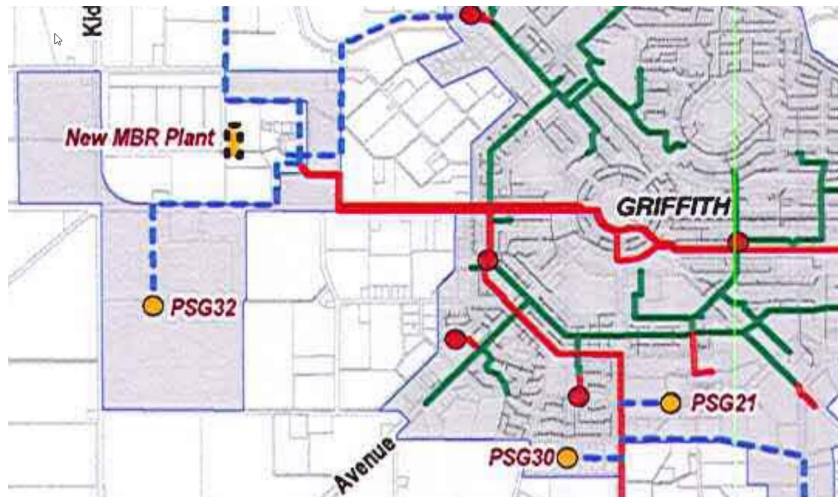


Figure 5: Council Sewer DSP Area

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Kidman Way. Confirmation water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site.

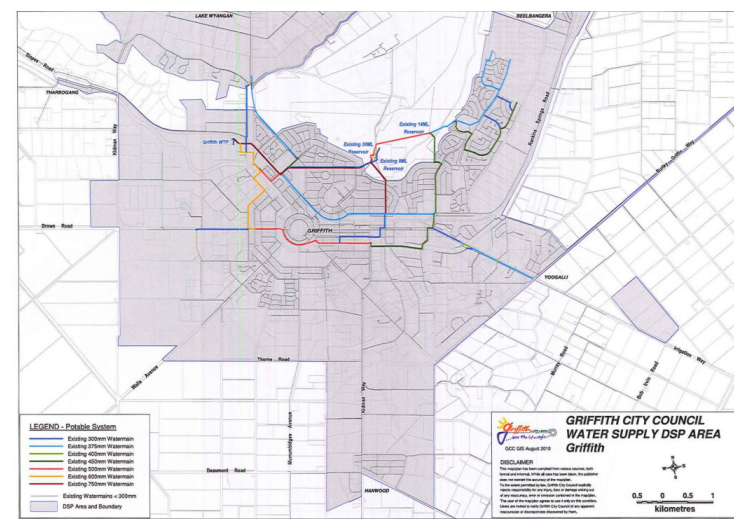


Figure 6: Water DSP Area



### **Road Infrastructure**

The Kidman Way is a Classified Road. Connections to this road must be minimised to meet the requirements of clause 2.119 of SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. As part of a future planning proposal for the rezoning of the lands, a conceptual road network and intersection strategy would need to be prepared which prioritises access from roads other than the Kidman Way

### **Land Use Conflict**

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of employees caused by the nearby Sewage Treatment Plant and Saleyards. Conversely, any planning proposal for the rezoning of the site should consider the potential amenity impacts of the future employment uses on the existing urban areas of Griffith to the east.

### **Other Constraints**

- The site is not considered bushfire prone.
- The site does not contain any vegetation and is generally active horticulture farms or cleared paddocks and considered highly degraded.

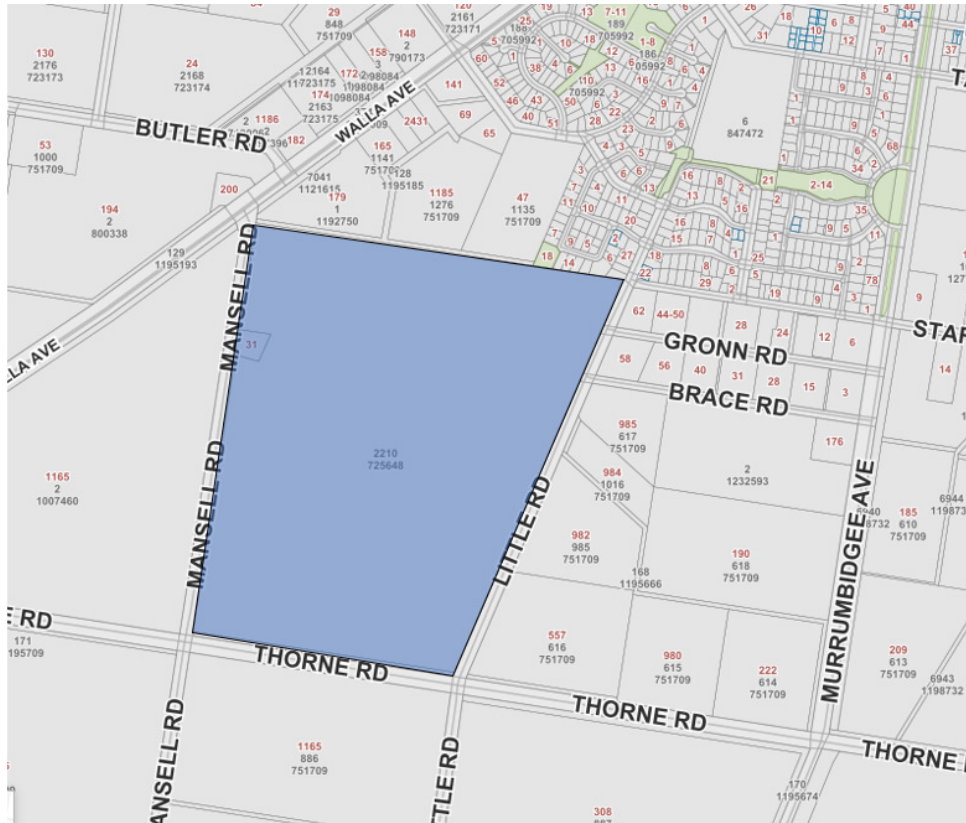
### **Site Specific Strategic Merit**

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (3 km).
- The site is located along the Kidman Way at the western entrance to Griffith which would provide for a new employment and service corridor.
- Continued use of the site for horticulture is constrained by the location of existing residential areas to the east.
- The site was previously designated for rural mixed use in the 2001 GS 2030 Land Use Strategy which permitted a range of commercial and rural industrial uses.

## Site 2 – Mansell Road

### *Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 7**.



**Figure 7:** Site 2 – Mansell Road

### *Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size*

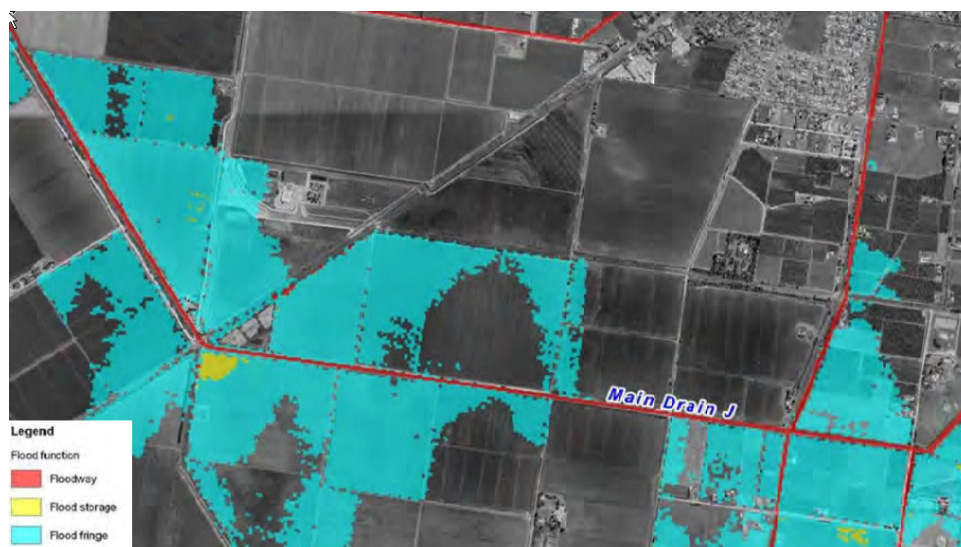
RU4 (Primary Production Small Lots) with a minimum lot size of 5 ha.

### *Employment Lands Strategy Identification*

Identified for potential rezoning to E4 – General Industrial.

### Constraints

#### **Flooding**



**Figure 8: Site 2 - Flood Affectation**

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. The site is not considered flood prone for the 1 in 100 year flood event.

### **Contamination**

The site has historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for former horticultural lands.

### **Water and Sewer Services**

- The site is outside of the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area. Council has commenced investigations into servicing the Southern Industrial Link Road with sewerage services. These investigations would need to support the rezoning of the lands.
- Development could proceed on AWTS units or other onsite sewerage management units depending on the type of development proposed and wastewater needs. A Land Capability Assessment would need to be prepared as part of any future planning proposal for the area which proposes the use of onsite systems. Connection to Council's reticulated sewer service should, however be prioritised in this area.

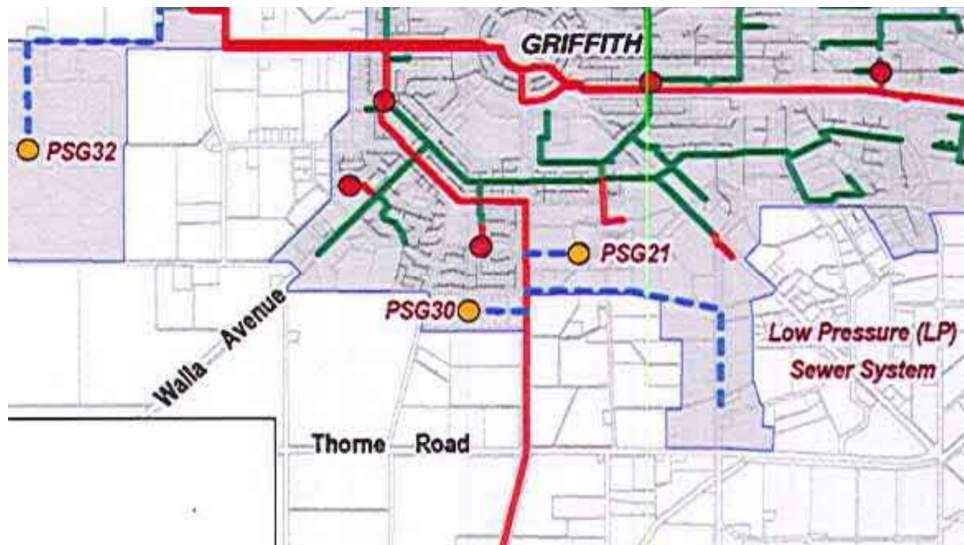


Figure 9: Council Sewer DSP Area

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Mansell Road. Confirmation water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site.

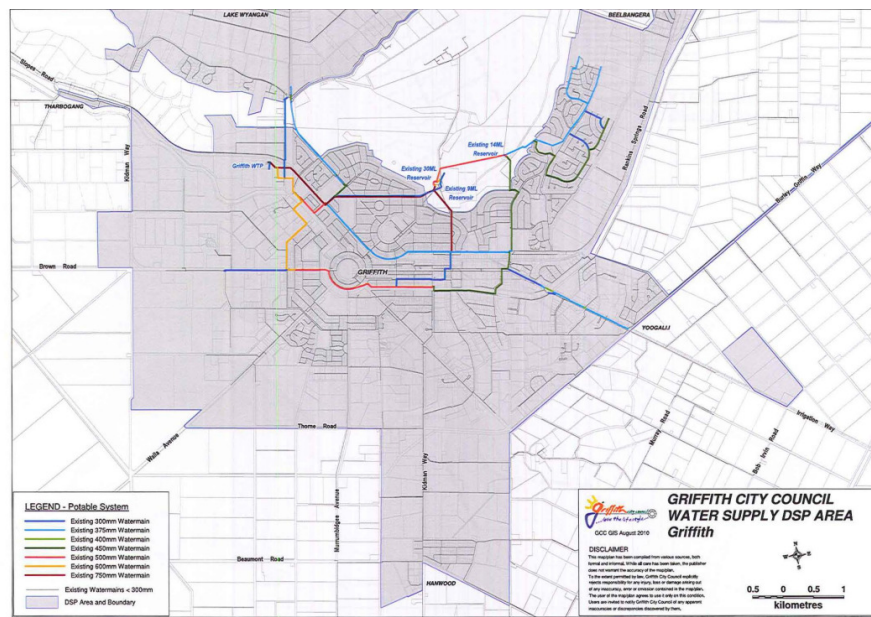


Figure 10: Water DSP Plan

### **Road Infrastructure**

Thorne Road is an arterial road and part of the Southern Industrial Link Road. Connections to this road must be minimised to meet the requirements of clause 2.119 of SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. As part of a future planning proposal for the rezoning of the lands, a conceptual road network and intersection strategy would need to be prepared which prioritises access from roads other than Thorne Road including Mansell Road or Little Road

### **Land Use Conflict**

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of the future employment uses on the existing urban areas of Griffith to the north. Ideally a Master Plan for the site would be prepared which provides a buffer area between the industrial area and the existing residential areas. This could include strategically located large lot residential or lifestyle lots with large buffers from future industrial estates. Council would require this land be identified as an Urban Release Area and master planning would be required following the rezoning of the land.

### **Other Constraints**

- The site is not considered bushfire prone.
- The site does not contain any vegetation and is an active horticulture farm.

### **Site Specific Strategic Merit**

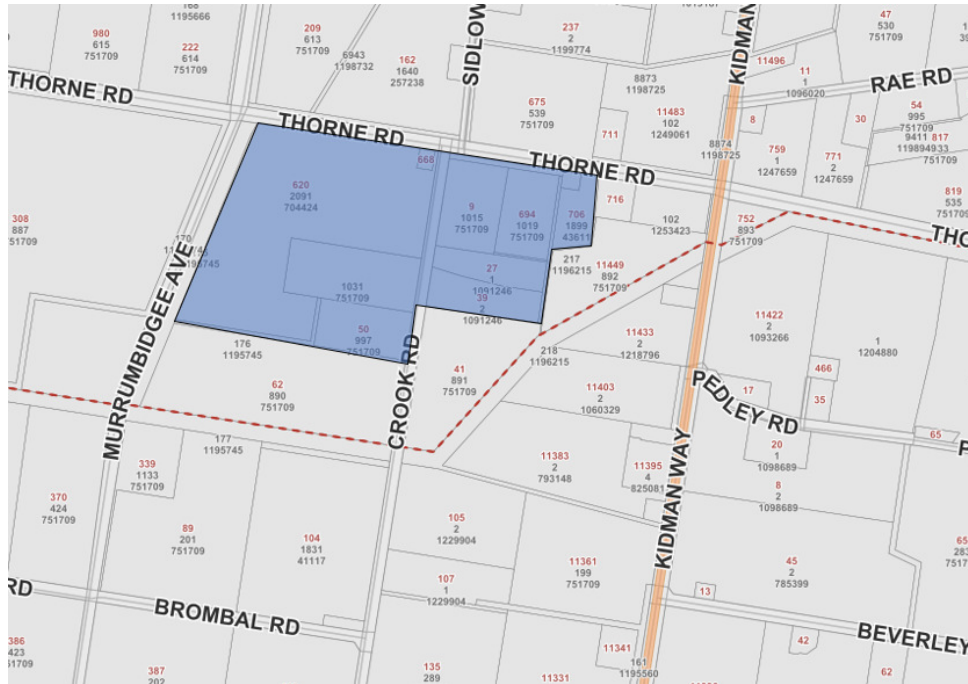
- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (3 km).
- The site is located along the Southern Industrial Link Road which has been identified as a location for additional employment lands in the LSPS.
- Continued use of the site for horticulture is constrained by the location of existing residential areas to the north.
- The site was previously designated for rural small holdings and general expansion residential in the 2001 GS 2030 Land Use Strategy which permitted a range of commercial and rural industrial uses.



### Site 3 – Crook Road

#### *Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 11**.



**Figure 11:** Site 3 – Crook Road

#### *Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size*

RU4 (Primary Production Small Lots) with a minimum lot size of 5 ha.

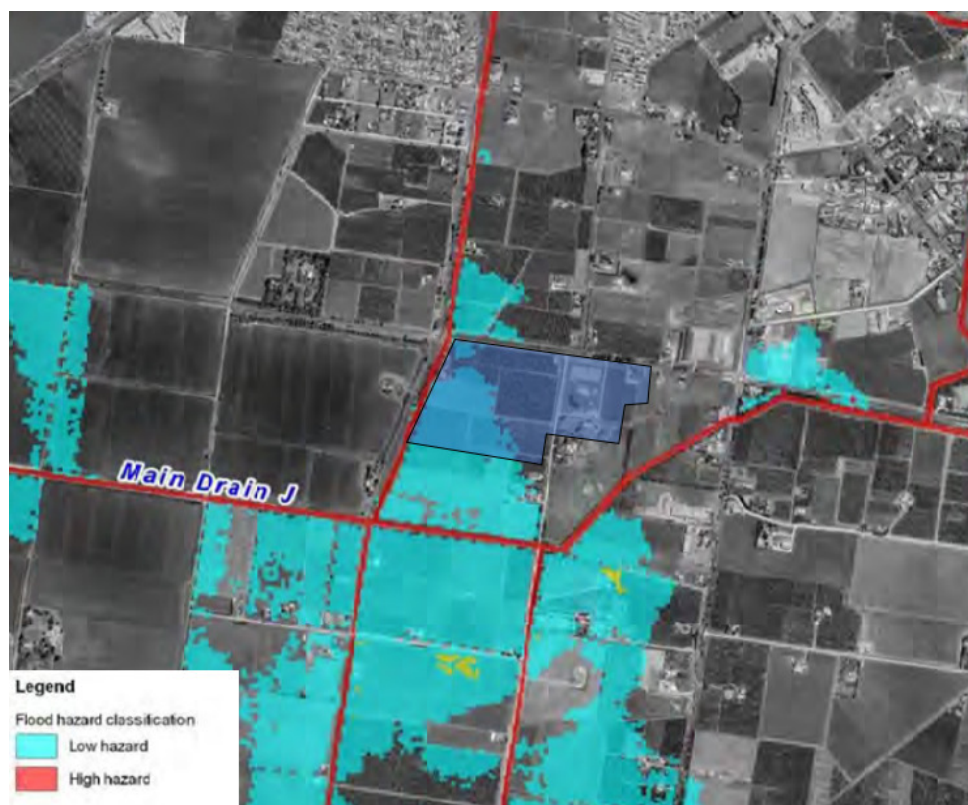
#### *Employment Lands Strategy Identification*

Identified for potential rezoning to E4 – General Industrial.

#### **Constraints**

##### **Flooding**

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. A portion of the site is considered flood prone for the 1 in 100 year flood event with the flooding affectation identified as low hazard and flood fringe. Future buildings within this area would be required to be constructed above the flood planning level. Council may require the preparation of a flood assessment as part of any future planning proposal or development application.



**Figure 12:** Site 3 - Flood Affection

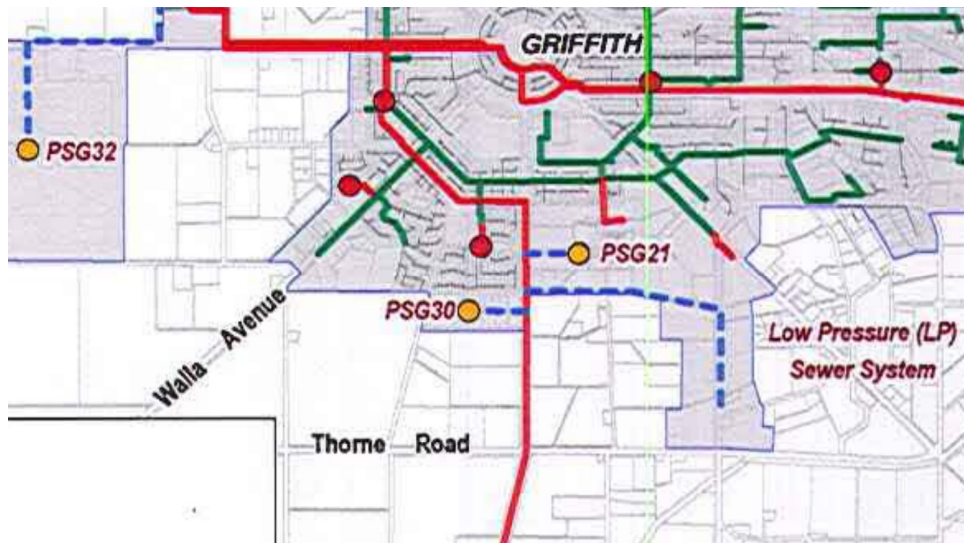
### **Contamination**

The site has historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for the former horticultural lands.

### **Water and Sewer Services**

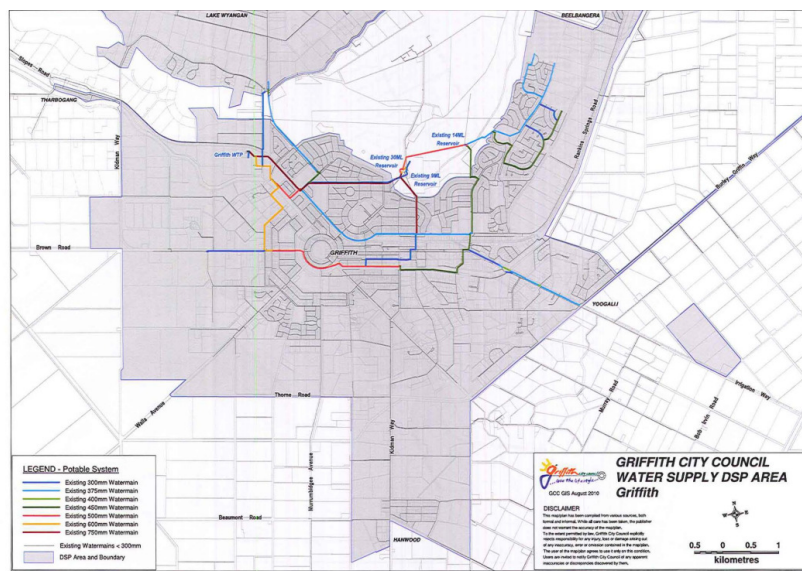
- The site is outside of the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area. Council has commenced investigations into servicing the Southern Industrial Link Road with sewerage services. These investigations would need to support the rezoning of the lands.
- Development could proceed on AWTS units or other onsite sewerage management units depending on the type of development proposed and wastewater needs. A Land Capability Assessment would need to be prepared as part of any future planning proposal for the area which proposes the use of onsite systems. Connection to Council's reticulated sewer service should, however be prioritised in this area.





**Figure 13: Council Sewer DSP Area**

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Thorne Road. Confirmation that water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site. Council is presently investigating the servicing of the Southern Industrial Link Road with adequate water services to support future development.



**Figure 14: Water DSP Plan**

### Road Infrastructure

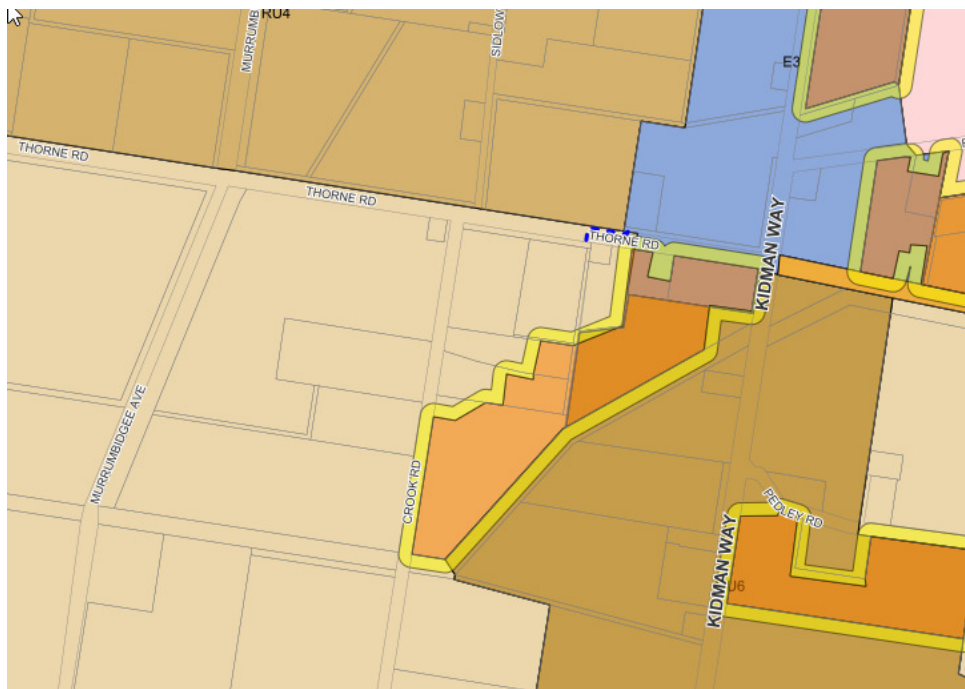
Thorne Road is an arterial road and part of the Southern Industrial Link Road. Connections to this road must be minimised to meet the requirements of clause 2.119 of SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. As part of a future planning proposal for the rezoning of the lands, a conceptual road network and intersection strategy would need to be prepared which prioritises access from roads other than Thorne Road including Mansell Road or Little Road.

### Land Use Conflict

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of the future employment uses on the existing residential receivers on surrounding land holdings. Ideally a Master Plan for the site would be prepared which provides a buffer area between the industrial area and the existing residential receivers. Council would require this land be identified as an Urban Release Area and master planning would be required.

### Other Constraints

- A portion of the site is considered bushfire prone.



**Figure 15:** Bushfire Land Mapping

- The site contains some native vegetation on the boundaries of farm holdings and in the surrounding road reserve. Otherwise, the site is mainly void of vegetation and contains either cleared former horticultural paddocks or active horticultural farms.

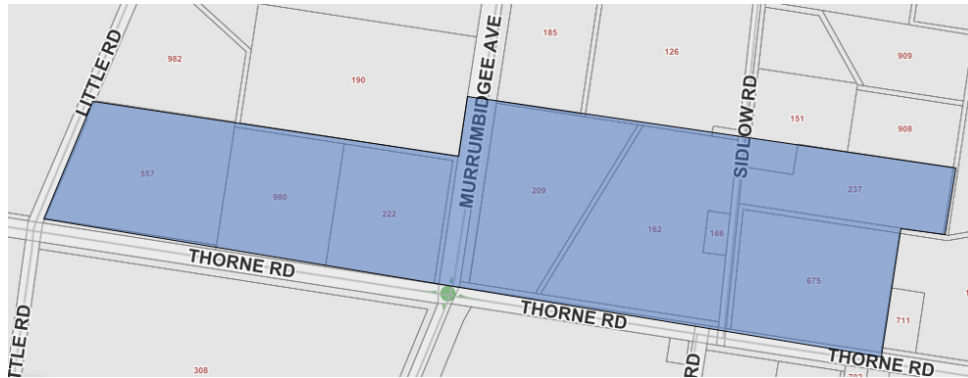
**Site Specific Strategic Merit**

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (3 km).
- The site is located along the Southern Industrial Link Road which has been identified as a location for additional employment lands in the LSPS
- Continued use of the site for horticulture is constrained by existing lot sizes and the size of farm holdings.
- The site was previously designated for investigation rural small holdings in the 2001 GS 2030 Land Use Strategy which envisioned a range of commercial and rural industrial uses.

#### Site 4 – Murrumbidgee Avenue

##### *Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 16**.



**Figure 16:** Site 4 – Murrumbidgee Avenue

##### *Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size*

RU4 (Primary Production Small Lots) with a minimum lot size of 5 ha.

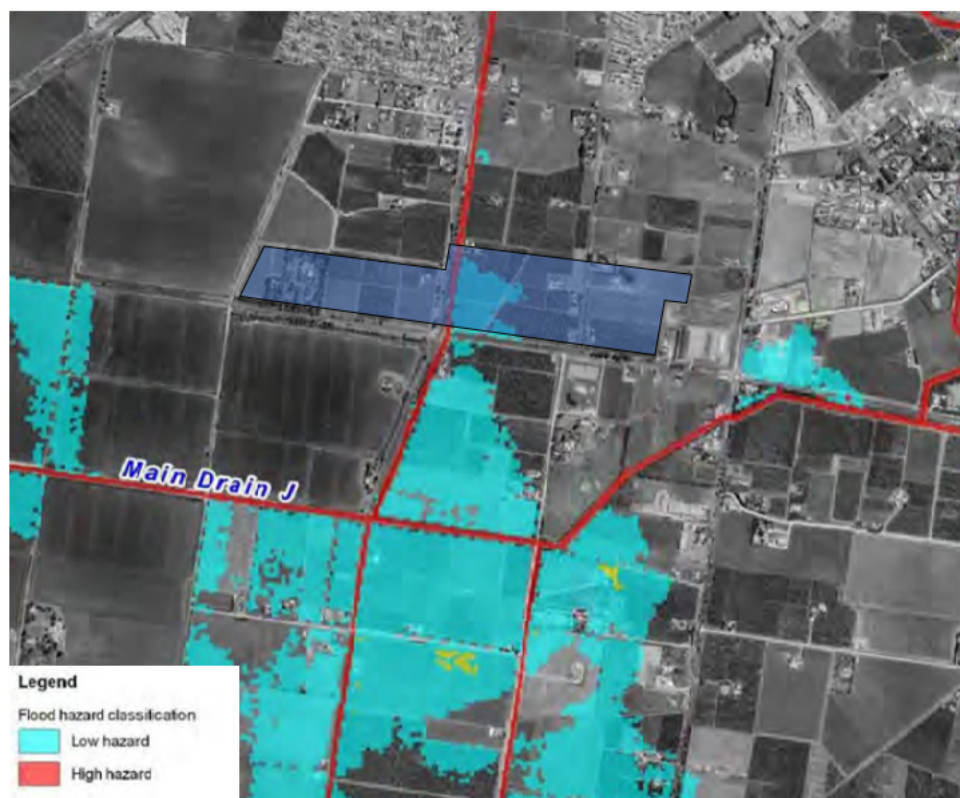
##### *Employment Lands Strategy Identification*

Identified as Employment Lands Investigation Area which requires additional master planning and service delivery investigations to facilitate rezoning.

##### *Constraints*

##### **Flooding**

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. A portion of the site is considered flood prone for the 1 in 100 year flood event with the flooding affectation identified as low hazard and flood fringe. Future buildings within this area would be required to be constructed above the flood planning level. Council may require the preparation of a flood assessment as part of any planning proposal or future development application process.



**Figure 17:** Site 4 - Flood Affection

### **Contamination**

Portions of the site have historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for former horticultural lands.

### **Water and Sewer Services**

- The site is outside of the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area. Council has commenced investigations into servicing the Southern Industrial Link Road with sewerage services. These investigations would need to support the rezoning of the lands.
- Development could proceed on AWTS units or other onsite sewerage management units depending on the type of development proposed and wastewater needs. A Land Capability Assessment would need to be prepared as part of any future planning proposal for the area which proposes the use of onsite systems. Connection to Council's reticulated sewer service should, however be prioritised in this area.



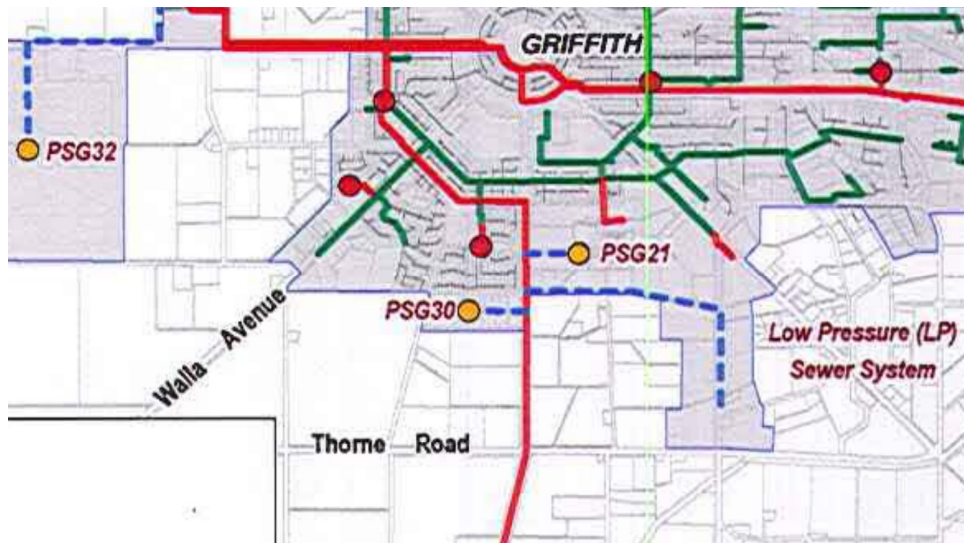


Figure 18: Council Sewer DSP Area

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Thorne Road at the intersection of Kidman Way and also at Watkins Avenue. Confirmation that water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site. Council is presently investigating the servicing of the Southern Industrial Link Road with adequate water services to support future development.

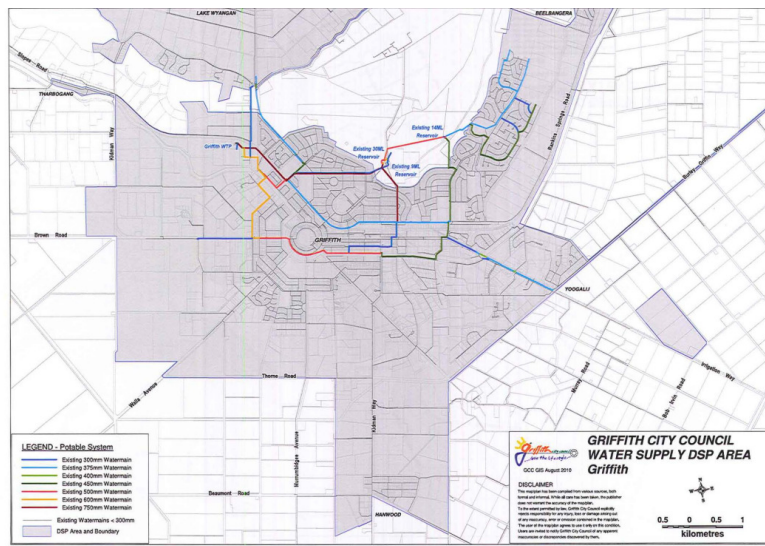


Figure 19: Water DSP Plan

### **Road Infrastructure**

Thorne Road is an arterial road and part of the Southern Industrial Link Road. Connections to this road must be minimised to meet the requirements of clause 2.119 of SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. As part of a future planning proposal for the rezoning of the lands, a conceptual road network and intersection strategy would need to be prepared which prioritises access from roads other than Thorne Road including Murrumbidgee Avenue, Sidlow Road or Little Road.

### **Land Use Conflict**

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of the future employment uses on the existing residential receivers on surrounding land holdings. Ideally a Master Plan for the site would be prepared which provides a buffer area between the employment lands area and the existing residential receivers.

### **Other Constraints**

- The site is not considered bushfire prone.
- The site contains some native vegetation on the boundaries of farm holdings and in the surrounding road reserves. Otherwise, the site is mainly void of vegetation and contains either cleared former horticultural paddocks or active horticultural farms.

### **Site Specific Strategic Merit**

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (3 km).
- The site is located along the Southern Industrial Link Road which has been identified as a location for additional employment lands in the LSPS.
- Continued use of the site for horticulture is constrained by existing lot sizes and the size of farm holdings.
- The site was previously designated for general expansion rural small holdings in the 2001 GS 2030 Land Use Strategy which permitted a range of commercial and rural industrial uses.



## Site 5 – Thorne Road

*Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 20**.



### Figure 20: Site 5 – Thorne Road

### Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size

RU4 (Primary Production Small Lots) with a minimum lot size of 5 ha.

### Employment Lands Strategy Identification

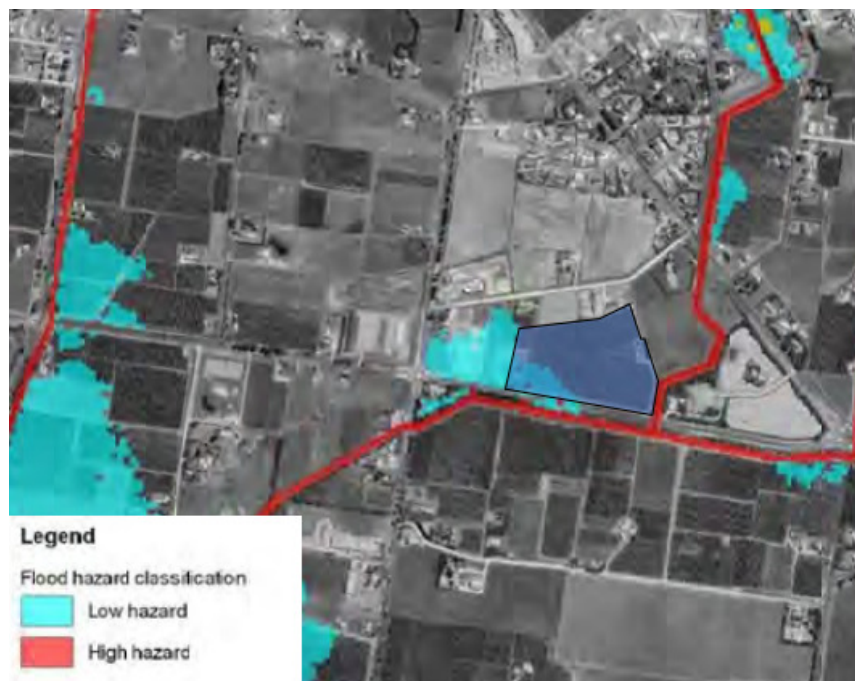
Identified as Potential Rezoning to E3 – Productivity Support.

## Constraints

## Flooding

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. A portion of the site is considered flood prone for the 1 in 100 year flood event with the flooding affectation identified as low hazard and flood fringe. Future buildings within this area would be

required to be constructed above the flood planning level. Council may require the preparation of a flood assessment as part of any future development application process.



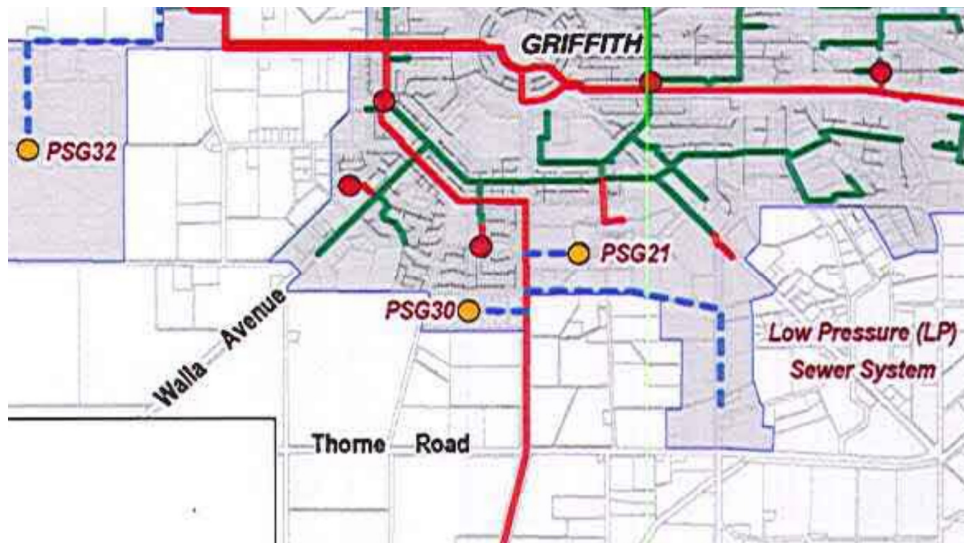
**Figure 21:** Site 5 - Flood Affectation

### **Contamination**

Portions of the site have historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for former horticultural lands.

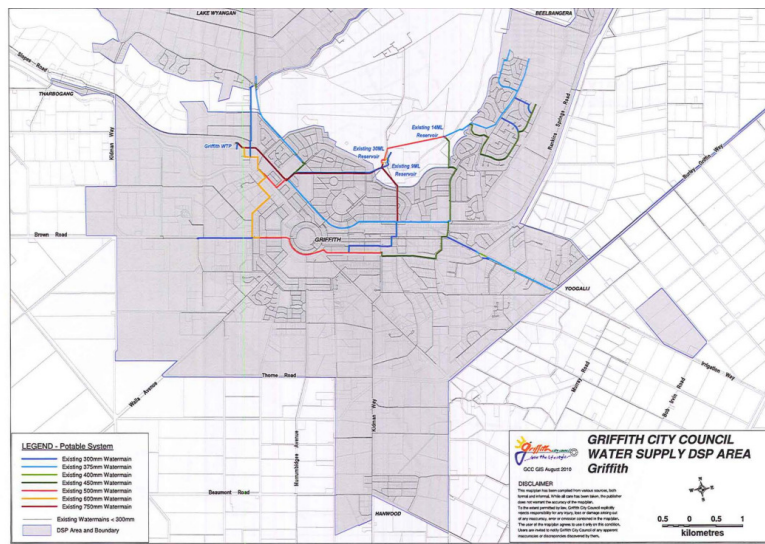
### **Water and Sewer Services**

- The site is outside of the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area. Council has commenced investigations into servicing the Southern Industrial Link Road with sewerage services. These investigations would need to support the rezoning of the lands.
- Development could proceed on AWTs units or other onsite sewerage management units depending on the type of development proposed and wastewater needs. A Land Capability Assessment would need to be prepared as part of any future planning proposal for the area which proposes the use of onsite systems. Connection to Council's reticulated sewer service should, however be prioritised in this area.



**Figure 22: Council Sewer DSP Area**

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Thorne Road at the intersection of Kidman Way. Confirmation that water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site. Council is presently investigating the servicing of the Southern Industrial Link Road with adequate water services to support future development.



**Figure 23: Water DSP Plan**

### Road Infrastructure

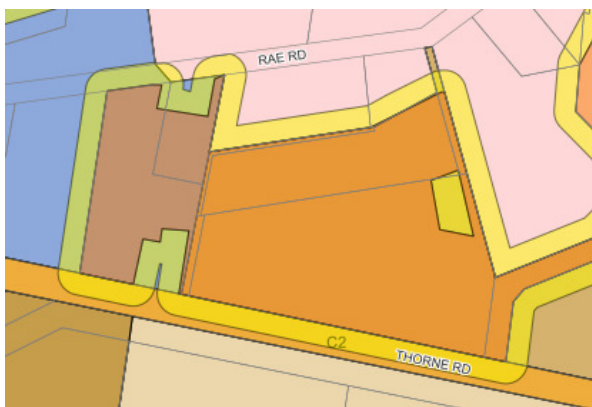
Thorne Road is an arterial road and part of the Southern Industrial Link Road. Connections to this road must be minimised to meet the requirements of clause 2.119 of SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. As part of a future planning proposal for the rezoning of the lands, a conceptual road network and intersection strategy would need to be prepared.

### Land Use Conflict

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of the future employment uses on the existing residential receivers on surrounding land holdings. Ideally a Master Plan for the site would be prepared which provides a buffer area between the employment lands area and the existing residential receivers.

### Other Constraints

- The site is considered bushfire prone.



**Figure 24:** Site 5 Bushfire Land Mapping

- The site is void of vegetation and contains a cleared paddock used to grow rotational crops.

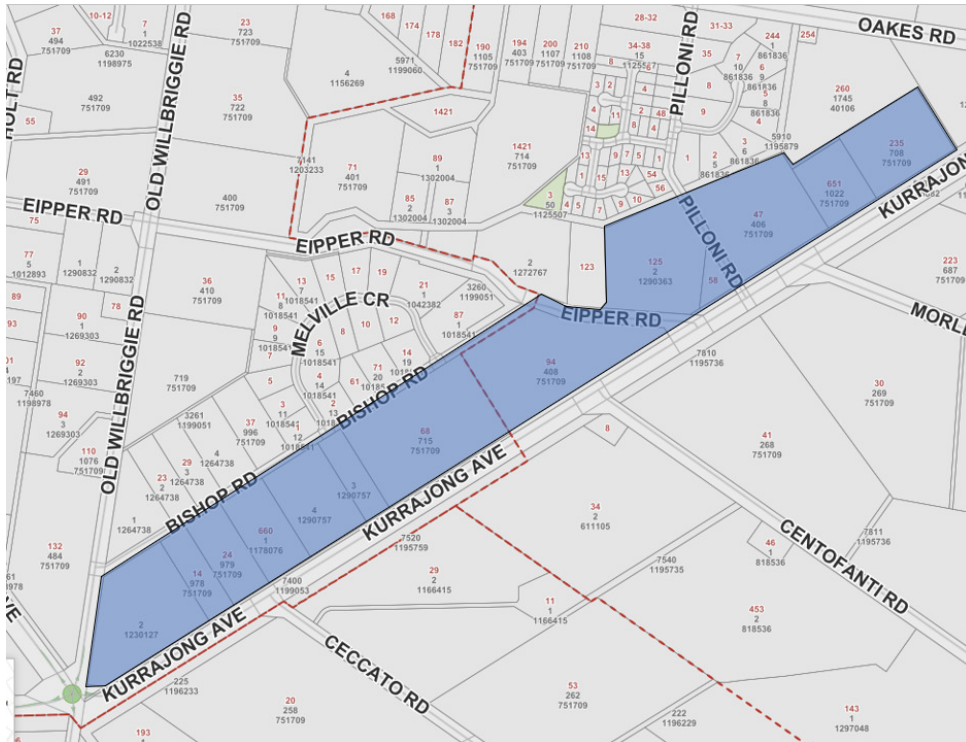
### Site Specific Strategic Merit

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (3 km).
- The site is located along the Southern Industrial Link Road which has been identified as a location for additional employment lands in the LSPS.
- Continued use of the site for agriculture is constrained by the small lot size and the location of residential receivers.
- The site was previously designated for rural mixed use in the 2001 GS 2030 Land Use Strategy which permitted a range of commercial and rural industrial uses.

### Site 6 – Kurrajong Avenue

#### *Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 25**.



**Figure 25:** Site 6 – Kurrajong Avenue

#### *Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size*

RU4 (Primary Production Small Lots) with a minimum lot size of 5 ha.

#### *Employment Lands Strategy Identification*

Identified as Employment Lands Investigation Area which requires additional master planning and service delivery investigations to facilitate rezoning.

#### **Constraints**

##### **Flooding**

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. A portion of the site is considered flood prone for the 1 in 100 year flood event with the flooding affectation identified as low hazard and flood fringe. Future buildings within this area would be required to be constructed above the flood planning level. Council may require the preparation of a flood assessment as part of any future development application process.





**Figure 26:** Site 6 - Flood Affection

#### **Contamination**

Portions of the site have historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for former horticultural lands.

#### **Water and Sewer Services**

- The site is outside of the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area. Council has commenced investigations into servicing the Southern Industrial Link Road with sewerage services. These investigations would need to support the rezoning of the lands.
- Development could proceed on AWTS units or other onsite sewerage management units depending on the type of development proposed and wastewater needs. A Land Capability Assessment would need to be prepared as part of any future planning proposal for the area which proposes the use of onsite systems. Connection to Council's reticulated sewer service should, however be prioritised in this area.

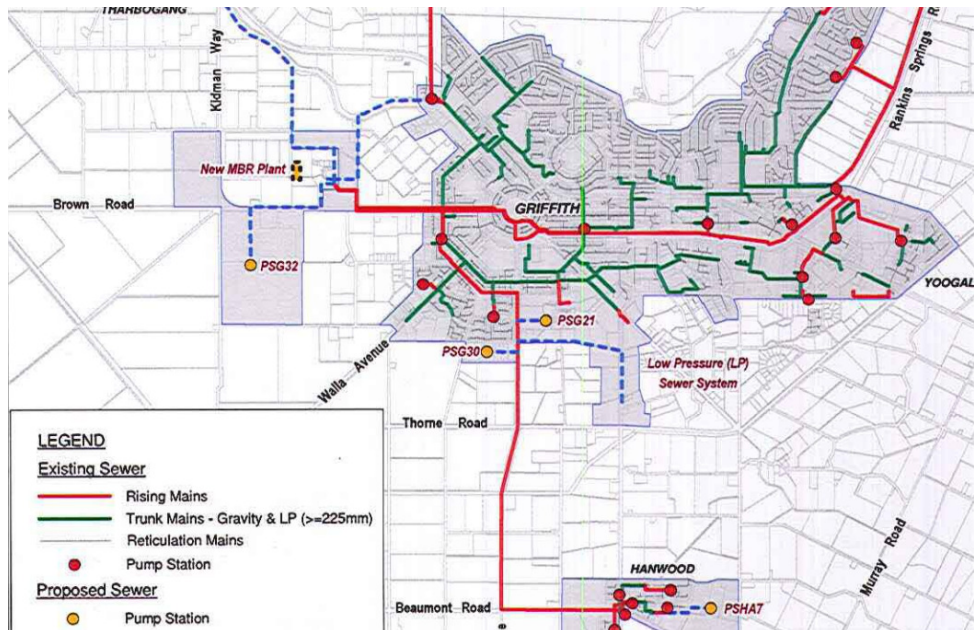


Figure 27: Council Sewer DSP Area

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Bishop Road, Kurrajong Road and Pilloni Road. Confirmation that water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site. Council is presently investigating the servicing of the Southern Industrial Link Road with adequate water services to support future development.

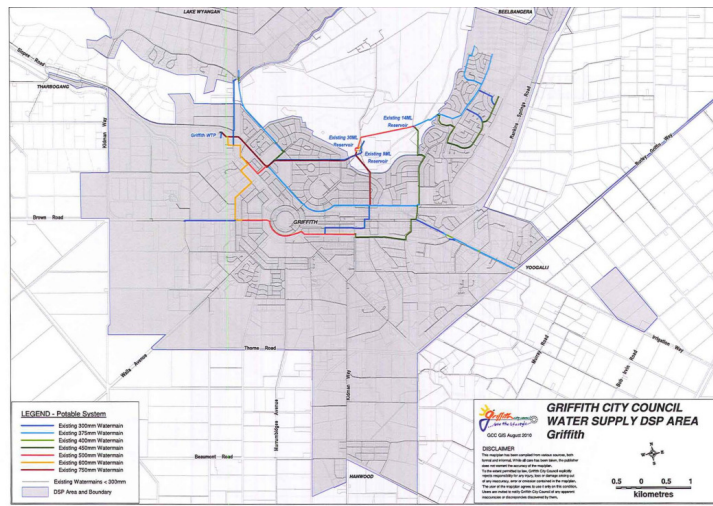


Figure 28: Water DSP Plan



### Road Infrastructure

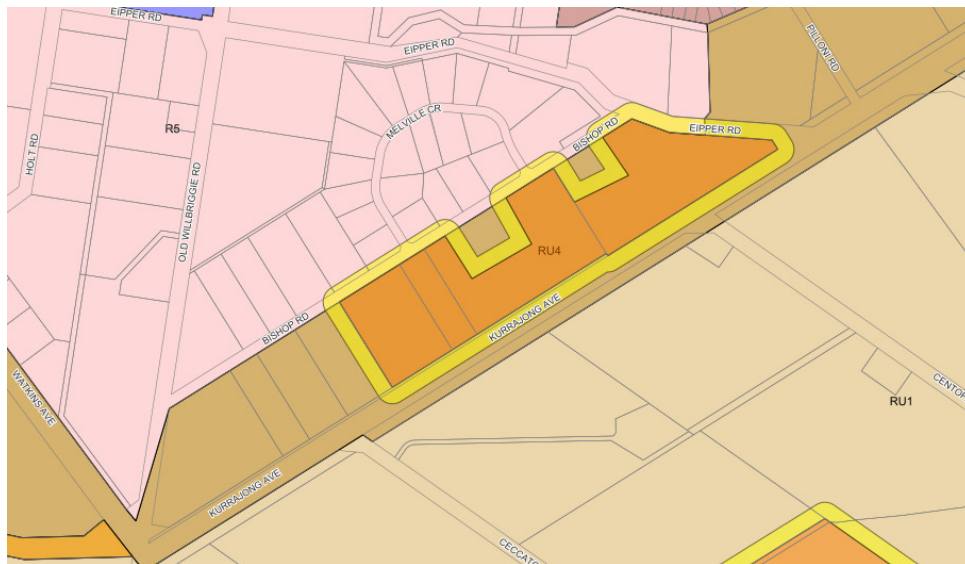
Kurrjong Avenue is an arterial road and part of the Southern Industrial Link Road. Connections to this road must be minimised to meet the requirements of clause 2.119 of SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. As part of a future planning proposal for the rezoning of the lands, a conceptual road network and intersection strategy would need to be prepared.

### Land Use Conflict

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of the future employment uses on the existing residential receivers on surrounding land holdings, including on the north side of Bishop Road.

### Other Constraints

- The site is considered bushfire prone.



**Figure 29:** Site 6 Bushfire Land Mapping

- The site is substantially void of vegetation and contains a cleared paddock used to grow rotational crops.

### Site Specific Strategic Merit

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (3 km).
- The site is located along the Southern Industrial Link Road which has been identified as a location for additional employment lands in the LSPS.

- Continued use of the site for agriculture is constrained by the small lot size and the location of residential receivers.
- The site was previously designated for rural industry and employment in the 2001 GS 2030 Land Use Strategy which permitted a range of commercial and rural industrial uses.

*Subject Land:*

### Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size

### Employment Lands Strategy Identification

## Constraints

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area.  
The site is not considered flood prone.

Portions of the site have historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for former horticultural lands.

## Water and Sewer Services

- The site is within the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area.

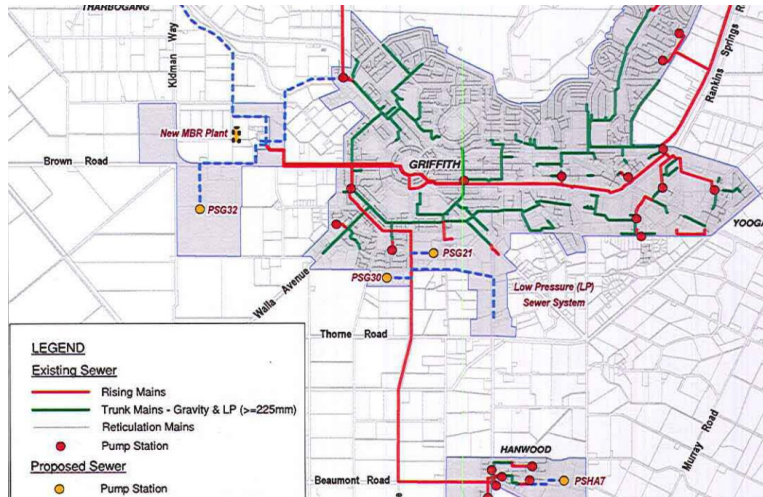


Figure 31: Council Sewer DSP Area

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Stafford Road and Willandra Avenue. Confirmation that water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site.

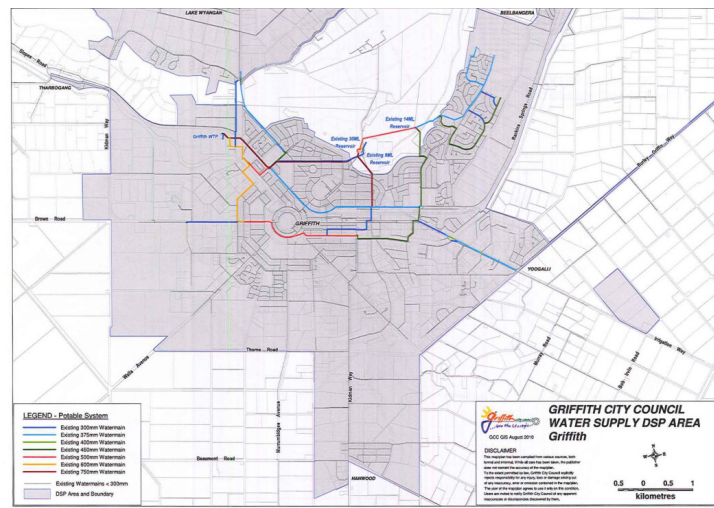


Figure 32: Water DSP Plan

#### **Road Infrastructure**

Willandra Avenue and Stafford Road are both Council roads. As part of any future development application or planning proposal, a transport strategy for the development of the lands would be required.

#### **Land Use Conflict**

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts of the existing transport depot located to the east of the site.

#### **Other Constraints**

- The site is not considered bushfire prone.
- The site is substantially void of vegetation and contains some horticulture.

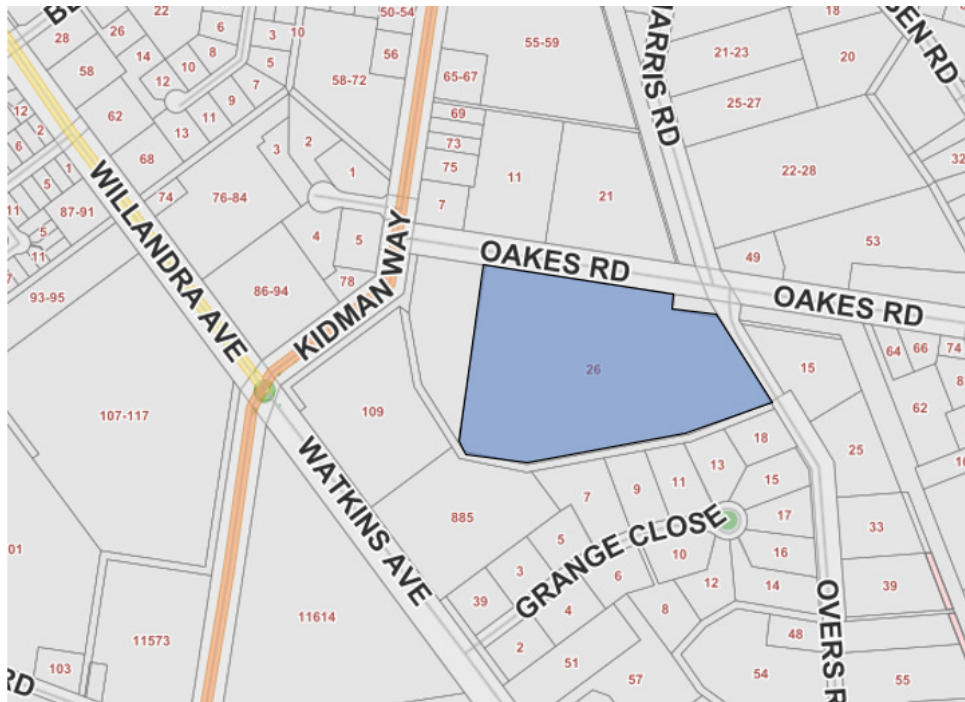
#### **Site Specific Strategic Merit**

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (2 km).
- The site is located in close proximity to Kidman Way and would provide a transition between the existing R1 – General Residential zoned land to the west and the E3 – Productivity Support land to the east.
- Continued use of the site for agriculture is constrained by the small lot size and the location of residential receivers.
- The future rezoning would permit some additional residential uses in a mixed use environment close to the Griffith CBD.

### Site 8 – Oakes Road

#### *Subject Land:*

The subject land is identified in **Figure 33**.



**Figure 33:** Site 8 – Oakes Road

#### *Existing Zoning and Minimum Lot Size*

E3 – Productivity Support with no minimum lot size.

#### *Employment Lands Strategy Identification*

Identified as Potential Rezoning to MU1 – Mixed Use

#### **Constraints**

##### **Flooding**

The site is located within the Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study 2021 planning area. The site is not considered flood prone.

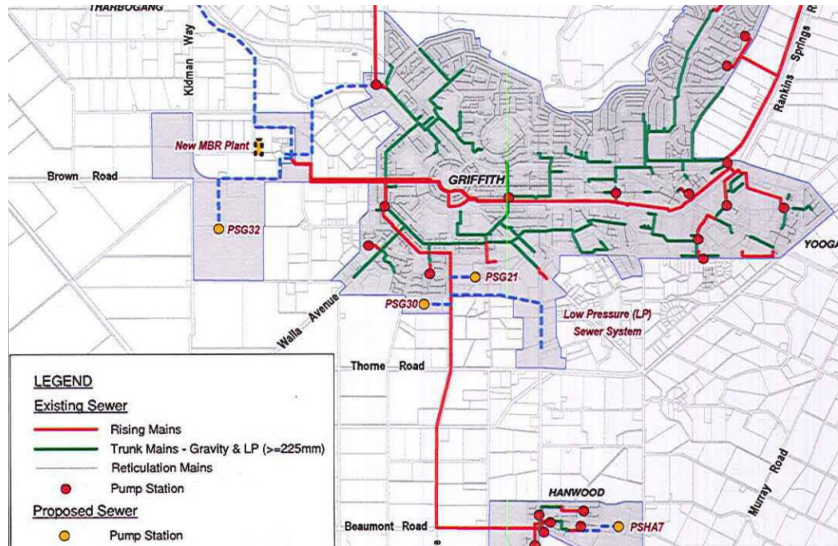
##### **Contamination**

The site has historically been utilised for agriculture including horticulture. A contamination assessment would be required as part of future planning proposals and development applications for former horticultural lands.



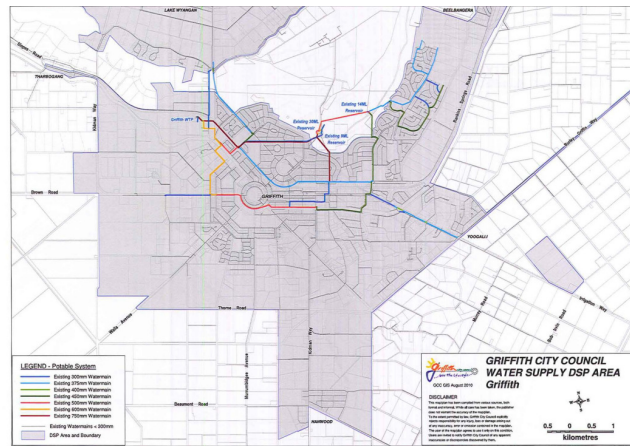
## Water and Sewer Services

- The site is not within the Council DSP area for sewer.
- An infrastructure servicing and delivery strategy would be required as part of a future planning proposal for the area.



**Figure 34: Council Sewer DSP Area**

- The site is located within the Council DSP area for water.
- Council's reticulated water service is available in Oakes Road. Confirmation that water infrastructure and capacity in the catchment can cater for the development of the area would be required as part of any future planning proposals for the site.



**Figure 35: Water DSP Plan**



#### **Road Infrastructure**

Oakes Road is a Council collector road. As part of a planning proposal or development application for the site a design for a new internal road network with an intersection treatment to Oakes Road would be required.

#### **Land Use Conflict**

The future development of the site would need to consider potential amenity impacts caused by future employment lands uses on the rural residential subdivision to the south.

#### **Other Constraints**

- The site is not considered bushfire prone.
- The site is substantially void of vegetation and contains a cleared paddock used to grow rotational crops.

#### **Site Specific Strategic Merit**

- The site is located in close proximity to the Griffith CBD (2 km).
- The site is located in close proximity to Kidman Way and would provide a transition between the existing R5 – Large Lot Residential zoned land to the east and the E3 – Productivity Support land to the west.
- Continued use of the site for agriculture is constrained by the small lot size and the location of residential receivers.
- The future rezoning would permit some additional residential uses in a mixed-use environment close to the Griffith CBD.

**Kelly McNicol**

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**From:** Llyan Smith  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 November 2023 1:12 PM  
**To:** Kelly McNicol  
**Cc:** Haydon Murdoch  
**Subject:** Griffith employment land strategy comments

Hi Kelly,

A few of us in the western team have reviewed the Griffith Employment Lands Strategy (GELS) and provide the following comments for Council's consideration:

**Section 3.3 -Griffith Freight Network**

The Griffith City Council LSPS allocates a short term task to relocate the existing freight terminal (Action 1.2A) and medium term action to prepare a master plan for the freight terminal site (Action 1.2B). The existing freight terminal has been recently rezoned from R1 to R3 to accommodate medium density redevelopment. To provide specific context about the replacement of these services, it is suggested that Section 3.3 be expanded to include further detail about the plans for the new freight terminal location.

**Vacant and underutilised existing industrial land**

The quantitative analysis of industrial land within the GELS identifies there is sufficient zoned industrial land to accommodate growth within Griffith City to 2041, however notes the composition of that supply is not suitable to meet demand for larger industrial activities (p25-26). Vacant and underutilised land tables would benefit from a supporting map to show where the land is located in and around Griffith – full mapping is located in the Appendix 1 – but not easily located. Also it only maps the vacant land, not the underutilised.

**Guidance for uptake of industrial land**

The GELS identifies areas be investigated/rezoned for industrial land/employment land with frontage to Thorne Road (Southern Industrial Link Road). In addition to the structure plan proposed, it suggested:

- Council prepare/update Development Control Plan to assist with achieving preferred land uses identified in the GELS for new and existing employment land areas
- Council prepare/amend Development Contribution Plans to ensure infrastructure delivery can be suitably funded and managed
- The proposed Structure Plan, associated DCP chapters, and Development Contribution Plan/s be incorporated as actions in the Implementation Plan for the GELS.

**Limiting 'centre uses outside of centre zones'**

The GELS recommends (p27-28):

*"..Given the modest growth outlook for centres floorspace in Griffith, it is suggested that Council seek to limit approvals of centre uses outside of centres zones and support tenants who wish to transition their existing tenancy for an alternative use (e.g. residential or community based uses)..."*

Please ensure the mechanisms to achieve this recommendation are clearly articulated in the subsequent Implementation Plan. Mechanisms for consideration include DCP chapters for mapped areas, amendments to employment land LUTs, and/or LEP provisions. DPE can further assist with these aspects if you wish.

**Suggested rezonings to E1 Local Centre to MU1**

The suggested rezoning of E1 to MU1 would achieve the following changes to land uses:

**Would permit extra uses:**

- Boat building and repair facilities;
- Boat launching ramps;

- Highway service centres;
- Industrial retail outlets;
- Storage premises;
- Tourist and visitor accommodation;
- Vehicle body repair workshops;
- Water supply systems;

**Prohibit extra uses:**

Nil.

The GELS also recommends these rezonings to MU1 to “...signal to landowners, prospective purchasers and developers that Council is keen to increase the supply of housing in and around the CBD in mixed use settings...” however from a housing perspective, there is no extra level of residential accommodation achieved by rezoning to MU1. It will however introduce more diverse non-centre related uses in what is intended as a residential/commercial setting. Council should evaluate the material impact of the proposed change and if these additional uses are what is envisaged for this area.

**Suggested rezoning from E3 Productivity support to MU1**

The suggested rezoning of E3 to MU1 would achieve the following changes to land uses:

**Would permit extra uses:**

- Residential accommodation;
- Restricted premises;
- Roadside stalls;
- Shops;
- Tourist and visitor accommodation;
- Water treatment facilities;

**Would prohibit extra uses:**

- Animal boarding or training establishments;
- Depots
- Industrial training facilities;
- Recreation facilities (major); Research stations;
- Rural industries;
- Rural workers’ dwellings;
- Transport depots;
- Truck depots;
- Warehouse or distribution centres;
- Water supply systems;

The suggested rezoning may assist with a good transition between residential and E3 Productivity Support. The loss of land uses supporting transport, as proposed, may be supplied on more suitable sites as proposed by the investigation areas.

**Analysis of proposed rezoning sites**

There does not appear to have been any in-depth analysis for infrastructure/constraints etc associated with the proposed sites for rezoning. Please ensure that this analysis forms part of the final GELS or is undertaken to support the Implementation Plan.

**Staging for land release/rezone**

No staging or timing for release has been included in the GELS. It is recommended that the final GELS, or subsequent Implementation Plan, adequately consider release for short, medium, long term (with associated justification and discussion regarding servicing etc).

**Medical/health uses**

The draft Griffith Health Precinct Master Plan is mentioned only in passing in the GELS and the relationship between these two strategies is not clear. Is the intent to still accommodate medical/health services within the GELS employment lands areas or funnel these uses toward the health precinct? While it is understood that the GELS applies to employment zoned land, and the health precinct is (at this time) zoned residential, It is suggested this relationship/intention be clarified with the GELS.

**Consultation**

If not already undertaken, it is suggested that specific comment be sought from DPI Agriculture (regarding proposed rezoning of RU1 Primary Production land) and Transport for NSW (regarding the suggested rezonings in connection to the Southern Industrial Link Road area). Department of Regional NSW may also add value to the document.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions, or wish to discuss any of the comments, please reach out to me.

Comments regarding the Draft Griffith Health Precinct Master Plan will be provided via separate email by the end of the week.

Kind regards

**Llyan Smith**  
**Acting Senior Planning Officer, Western Region**

Local and Regional Planning | Department of Planning and Environment

[www.dpie.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au)



*The Department of Planning and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land.  
We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present  
and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing  
commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.*

M	T	W	T	F
✓	✓	✓	✓	

**Kelly McNicol**

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**From:** Cam O'Kane < >  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 December 2023 9:45 AM  
**To:** Kelly McNicol  
**Cc:** GCC Admin Mailbox  
**Subject:** RE: Employment Lands Strategy

Hi Kelly,

Thank you for sending through the draft Griffith Employment Land Strategy (dGELS) to our office for review.

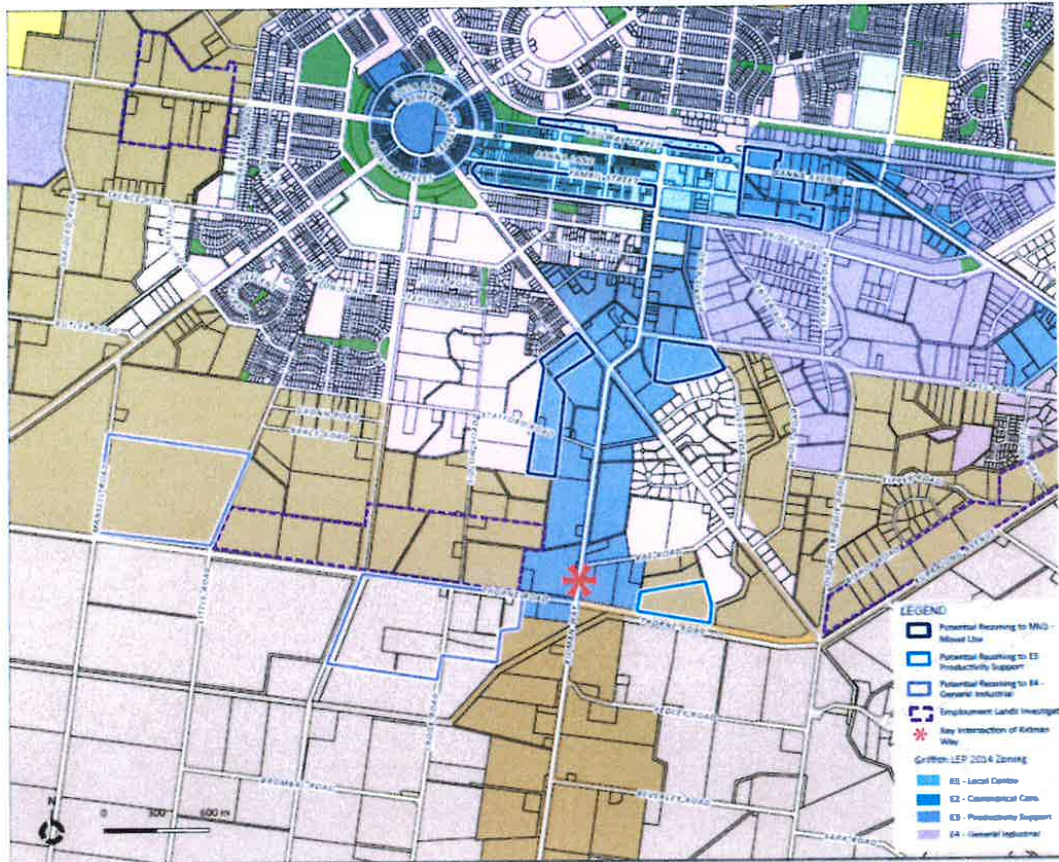
TfNSW supports in principle efforts from Council to continue “to provide and advocate for an effective regional freight network, in order to service its employment generating industries efficiently, particularly manufacturing and agriculture” as per the dGELS.

As per your email, we note that Council is proposing some new industrial land along the Southern Industrial Link Road (SILR). The SILR is made up of Kurrajong Avenue, Thorne Road and Bromley Road which are all classed as local roads and approved Road Train Routes.

Given Council’s intent for the SILR to act as a by-pass for the Griffith CBD, TfNSW heavily advises Council to deny of direct vehicular access from the proposed new industrial land to the SILR when other local roads are available. This includes limiting direct access points from the SILR to the new industrial precinct where physically possible. This will allow the SILR to continue to act as Council’s intended purposes (a bypass) together with the SILR operating as safe and efficient as possible.

In regards to TfNSW’s classified road network, the key state roads within the dGELS are the Burley Griffin Way (Mackay & Banna Avenues) and the Kidman Way (Jondaryan Avenue). TfNSW notes that the dGELS recommends “that Council rezone other suitable land with frontage to Kidman Way and Southern Industrial Link Road to E3”. The includes some of the land mark in dark blue (Potential Rezoning to MU1-Mixed Use) below in Map 1:

Griffith Employment Lands Strategy  
Employment Lands Strategy



Map 1 - Proposed Zoning Changes  
1402 - 6 July 2023 - V1

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TfNSW requests a meeting in the new year to be better informed about which lands are related to the proposed rezoning / transition and to discuss the traffic & transport related issues. The meeting will also assist in ensuring adherence with *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021*.

If you have any further questions, please contact me.

Kind regards,

**Cam O'Kane**

Development Services Case Officer  
Community and Place  
Regional and Outer Metropolitan – South Region  
**Transport for NSW**

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[transport.nsw.gov.au](https://transport.nsw.gov.au)

Level 3, 193-195 Morgan Street  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

**Kelly McNicol**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 February 2024 6:49 PM  
**To:** Kelly McNicol  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting

Hi Kelly

Yes, as we previously discussed we would like to develop the land fronting Kidman way into large industrial blocks, catering to transport depot or heavy machinery depot or distribution business of some description.

If the zoning is permitted, we would put some time and thought into the design and potential customer usage.

Regards  
Frank Battistel

**From:** Kelly McNicol <Kelly.McNicol@griffith.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 8:47 AM