

PLANNING OUR FUTURE

The Gympie Region Planning Scheme

Rural Areas Fact Sheet

Gympie's rural areas contribute significantly to the region's economy, environment, and community. The region's rural areas support a wide range of industries, including horticulture, grazing, solar energy, forestry, tourism, and recreation; the ecosystem and biodiversity; and underpin Gympie's character and identity.

The planning scheme needs to protect natural resources, rural functions, and values, and foster rural industries, while balancing the need for additional urban land to accommodate projected population growth.

This fact sheet outlines the intended approach to rural areas, as part of the Planning Scheme Review.

Rural values

- Smaller scale rural landholdings that support viable farm operations, including dairy, horticulture, aquaculture, and agri-tourism activities.
- Grazing and intensive animal industries, ranging from smaller, boutique poultry and mixed livestock, through to larger scale feedlots.
- A growing food and rural tourism industry provides bespoke on-farm experiences, accommodation, and function facilities.
- Outdoor recreational opportunities, both land- and water-based.
- Landscape and scenic amenity that support the Region's identity and tourism.
- Native vegetation and habitat areas, river, and creek systems.

1. Protecting rural production and resources

- Facilitate a highly productive, growing, and diversifying rural industry.
- Protect rural land and other natural values and resources from loss or encroachment by activities better located elsewhere.

2. Diversifying, value adding, and managing impacts

- Encourage the rural economy to diversity and expand to new activities.
- Rural production supports the emergence of new manufacturing industries in Gympie's key industrial precincts.
- Manage the impacts of non-rural activities in rural areas to protect production, natural and landscape values, and infrastructure.

3. Subdivision of rural land

- Further fragmentation of rural land is only supported where there is a demonstrated need or where it improves productive or land management outcomes.

Have your say

Council is currently seeking feedback on the intended approach to rural areas, along with a range of other issues, to inform the Planning Scheme Review.

Visit www.gympie.qld.gov.au/planning-our-future to find out more about the Gympie Regional Council Planning Scheme Review Project and provide feedback on a range of important topics until 23 July 2023.



