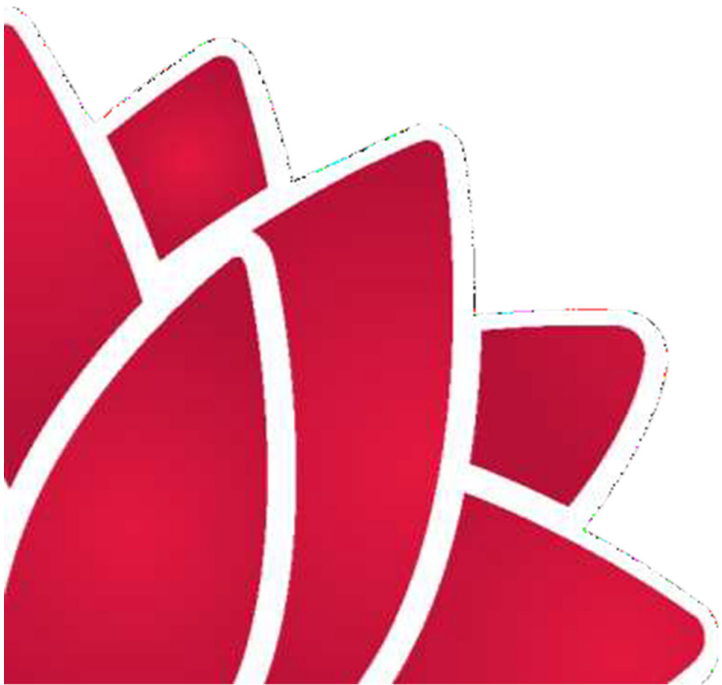
Cessnock
Local Emergency Management Plan
December 2024



Part 1 – Administration

Authority

The Cessnock Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) has been prepared by the Cessnock Local Emergency Management Committee in compliance with the State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989.

APPROVED

Inspector Justin Cornes
LEOCON
Cessnock Local Emergency Management Committee

Dated: 20th December 2024

APPROVED

Paul McLachlan
LEMO/Chair
Cessnock Local Emergency Management Committee

Dated: 20 December 2024

ENDORSED

Assistant Commissioner David Waddell APM
Chair, Hunter Central Coast Regional Emergency Management Committee

Dated: 16 January 2025

Contents

Purpose

Detailed arrangements for prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies within the Cessnock Local Government Area are covered by this plan.

It encompasses arrangements for:

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

Objectives

The objectives of this plan are to:

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

Scope

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

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

Principles

The following principles are applied in this plan:

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

Test and Review Process

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

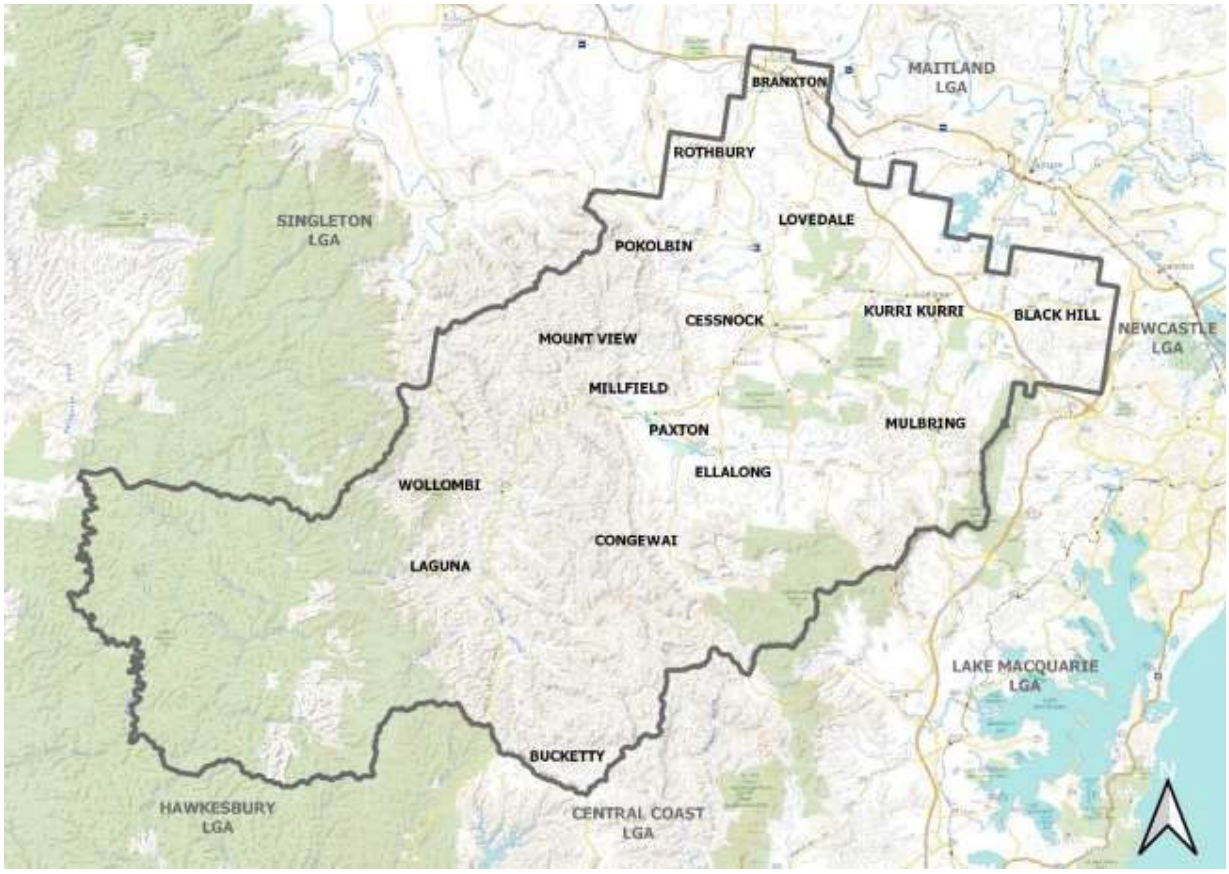
- activation of the Plan in response to an emergency;
- legislative changes affecting the Plan; and
- exercises conducted to test all or part of the Plan.

Part 2 – Community Context

Annexure A – Community Profile

General

The Cessnock City Council Local Government Area (LGA) covers an area of 1,966 square kilometres and was home to 63,632 people in 2021.



Cessnock LGA has a significant coal mining history, and is also Australia's oldest wine region. With approximately 4,500 acres under vine, the area's wine industry has created a thriving and growing tourism industry that includes restaurants, accommodation, events, Hot Air Ballooning, business conferences, galleries and specialty shops.

Cessnock and the broader region are well known for climate variability and extremes. Major storm, flooding and bushfire events in recent years have had an impact on the Cessnock LGA. Events of this nature have significantly raised community awareness of climate variability and the potential impacts of climate change.

Landform and Topography

Cessnock City is located in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales, about 120 kilometres north of Sydney and 40 kilometres west of Newcastle.

The population of the Cessnock LGA in 2021 (63,632) represented 7.8% of the total population of the Hunter Region, placing it as the fifth largest LGA in the Region behind the other LGAs that make up the Lower Hunter Sub-Region, namely Lake Macquarie, Newcastle, Port Stephens and Maitland, respectively.

While the Cessnock LGA contains the smallest population size of the LGAs in the Lower Hunter Sub-Region, it contains the largest area in comparison with the other Councils of the Lower Hunter.

Typically, the landform in in the Cessnock LGA is a sequence from low foothills and ranges, to the steep slopes and gorges of the Escarpment itself, which are the main topographical feature in the area.

Climate

Cessnock's climate is within the Warm Temperate (Zone 5) of the Australian Climate Classification, with hot summers and cool winters. Summers are warm/hot with the highest rainfall between November to March. Winters are usually dry with cold nights and possible frost. The Cessnock environment is vulnerable to weather events (such as storms) and weather-related events (such as bushfire and flooding).

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Years	
Temperature															
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	30.4	29.3	27.2	24.3	20.8	17.9	17.5	19.5	22.6	25.3	26.9	29.0	24.2	32	1968 2023
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	17.1	16.9	14.9	10.7	7.5	5.7	4.1	4.5	7.1	10.0	13.0	15.1	10.5	32	1968 2023
Rainfall															
Mean rainfall (mm)	75.5	102.1	88.5	54.1	38.3	55.0	36.5	34.2	44.0	56.0	76.0	80.1	757.8	29	1968 2023
Decile 5 (median) rainfall (mm)	58.8	106.8	71.4	42.6	32.5	38.0	19.4	29.2	32.9	51.3	62.6	75.0	750.1	33	1968 2023
Mean number of days of rain ≥ 1 mm	6.6	8.1	8.2	5.7	5.2	5.6	4.3	4.4	5.7	6.6	7.1	7.4	74.9	32	1968 2023

Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, Climate statistics for Australian locations.

Land Use

Flooding can affect urban properties and access within Cessnock. Existing urban stormwater systems may not be able to cope with predicated increased intensity of storm events, with associated disruptions to movement.

Vegetation with bushfire risk adjoins every urban area, and in some cases fingers of such vegetation penetrate the urban areas. Access and egress routes are also at risk.

The Cessnock Local Environmental Plan 2011 provides a range of land use zones across the LGA. These include:

Land use zone/type/classification	Area (sqkm)	% of LGA
Rural Zones		
RU2 - Rural Landscape	881.059	44.835
RU3 - Forestry	249.465	12.695
RU4 - Primary Production Small Lots (Vineyards)	132.612	6.748
RU5 - Village	5.012	0.255
Total - Rural Zones	**1268.148**	**64.53**
Residential Zones		
R1 - General Residential	2.329	0.119
R2 - Low Density Residential	27.124	1.380
R3 - Medium Density Residential	5.452	0.277
R5 - Large Lot Residential	13.848	0.705
Total - Residential Zones	**48.753**	**2.481**
Business & Industrial Zones		
E1 - Local Centre	0.392	0.020
E2 - Commercial Core	0.209	0.011
E3 - Productivity Support	0.544	0.028
E4 - General Industrial	11.905	0.606
E5 - Heavy Industrial	1.293	0.066
MU1 - Mixed use	3.199	0.163
Total - Business & Industrial Zones	**17.542**	**0.893**
Special Provisions		
SP2 - Infrastructure (including Hunter Expressway)	19.216	0.978
SP3 - Tourist	6.698	0.341
Total - Special Provisions Zones	**25.914**	**1.319**
Recreation Zones		
RE1 - Public Recreation	2.742	0.140
RE2 - Private Recreation	2.297	0.117
Total - Recreation Zones	**5.039**	**0.256**
Environmental Protection Zones		
C1 - National Parks & Nature Reserves	567.858	28.897
C2 - Environmental Conservation	27.596	1.404
C3 - Environmental Management	3.451	0.176
C4 - Environmental Living	0.815	0.041
Total - Environmental Protection Zones	**599.72**	**30.518**
Total combined zones (area km2)	1965.116	100.000
Total LGA boundary area (area km2)	**1964.91**	
Area Difference (comparing LGA boundary - v - combined Land Zoning Data)	-0.206	

Population and People

2021 Census data highlights that Cessnock had a total population of 63,632 people, being 32,030 males and 31,603 females. The median age of the population is 37.

The population of Cessnock City in 2021 compared to NSW shows that there was a significantly larger proportion of people who spoke English only, and a smaller proportion of people speaking a non-English language (either exclusively, or in addition to English).

Overall, 90.1% of the population spoke English only, and 4.4% spoke a non-English language, compared with 67.6% and 29.5% respectively for NSW.

The dominant language spoken at home, other than English, in Cessnock City was Filipino/Tagalog, with 0.3% of the population, or 179 people speaking this language at home.

In 2021, there were 20,413 separate houses in the area, 1,731 medium density dwellings and 300 flats or apartments.

Analysis of the types of dwellings in Cessnock City in 2021 shows that 90.5% of all dwellings were separate houses; 7.7% were medium density dwellings, and 1.3% were flats or apartments, compared with 65.6%, 11.7%, and 21.7% in the NSW respectively.

Analysis of the car ownership of the households in Cessnock City in 2011 compared to Regional NSW shows that 94.2% of the households owned at least one car, while 4.4% did not, compared with 89.5% and 9% respectively in NSW.

Of those that owned at least one vehicle, there was a smaller proportion who owned just one car; a larger proportion who owned two cars; and a larger proportion who owned three cars or more.

Overall, 31.7% of the households owned one car; 37.6% owned two cars; and 24.9% owned three cars or more, compared with 37.8%; 34.1% and 17.5% respectively for Regional NSW.

An analysis of the jobs held by the resident population in Cessnock City in 2021 shows the three most popular occupations were:

- Technicians and Trades Workers (5,110 people or 18.8%)
- Community and Personal Service Workers (3,945 people or 14.5%)
- Labourers (3,498 people or 12.9%)

In combination these three occupations accounted for 12,553 people in total or 46.6% of the employed resident population.

Population

Cessnock City - Total people (Usual residence)	2021			2016			Change
Population group	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**2016 to 2021**
Males	32,030	50.3	49.2	27,633	49.7	49.2	+4,397
Females	31,603	49.7	50.8	27,928	50.3	50.8	+3,675
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	6,484	10.2	6.6	4,012	7.2	5.5	+2,472
Australian citizens	57,566	90.5	89.2	49,518	89.1	88.7	+8,048
Eligible voters (citizens aged 18+)	43,290	68.0	69.5	36,991	66.6	68.3	+6,299
Population over 15	50,788	79.8	82.1	44,189	79.5	81.6	+6,599
Employed Population	27,117	94.4	95.4	21,623	91.3	93.4	+5,494
Overseas visitors (enumerated)	43			174			-131

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021 (Usual residence). Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id (informed decisions).

The age profile of residents within the Cessnock LGA provides a key insight into the level of demand for services and facilities.

The age profile suggests that the Cessnock LGA when compared to Regional New South Wales has a higher percentage of younger population groups. For instance, the Cessnock LGA has:

- A *larger* percentage of 'babies and pre-schoolers' aged 0 to 4 (6.7% compared to 5.5%)
- A larger percentage of 'young workforce' persons aged 25 to 29 (7.2% compared to 5.7%)
- A larger percentage of the 'thirties' aged 30 to 34 (7.1% compared to 5.9%)
- A smaller percentage of 'seniors' aged 75 to 79 (3.0% compared to 4.3%)

Age structure - Five-year age groups

Cessnock City - Total persons (Usual residence)	2021			2016			Change
Five-year age groups (years)	Number	%	Regional NSW %	Number	%	Regional NSW %	2016 to 2021
0 to 4	4,283	6.7	5.5	3,792	6.8	5.8	+491
5 to 9	4,333	6.8	6.1	3,994	7.2	6.4	+339
10 to 14	4,220	6.6	6.3	3,590	6.5	6.1	+630
15 to 19	3,736	5.9	5.7	3,454	6.2	6.0	+282
20 to 24	3,846	6.0	5.4	3,443	6.2	5.6	+403
25 to 29	4,612	7.2	5.7	3,520	6.3	5.5	+1,092
30 to 34	4,492	7.1	5.9	3,634	6.5	5.5	+858
35 to 39	4,195	6.6	5.9	3,301	5.9	5.4	+894
40 to 44	3,695	5.8	5.6	3,567	6.4	6.1	+128
45 to 49	3,777	5.9	6.1	3,611	6.5	6.4	+166
50 to 54	3,970	6.2	6.2	3,373	6.1	6.8	+597
55 to 59	3,703	5.8	6.6	3,731	6.7	7.1	-28
60 to 64	3,936	6.2	6.9	3,443	6.2	6.7	+493
65 to 69	3,494	5.5	6.4	3,208	5.8	6.4	+286
70 to 74	3,081	4.8	5.9	2,314	4.2	5.0	+767
75 to 79	1,928	3.0	4.3	1,458	2.6	3.7	+470
80 to 84	1,156	1.8	2.9	1,080	1.9	2.6	+76
85 and over	1,167	1.8	2.8	1,052	1.9	2.7	+115
Total population	**63,624**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**55,565**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**+8,059**

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled

Dwelling type

Cessnock City	2021			2016			Change
Dwelling type	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**2016 to 2021**
Occupied private dwellings	23,659	91.6	89.2	20,623	90.7	87.3	+3,036
Unoccupied private dwellings	2,108	8.2	10.5	2,047	9.0	12.3	+61
Non-private dwellings	50	0.2	0.3	67	0.3	0.4	-17
Total dwellings	**25,817**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**22,737**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**+3,080**

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled and presented by .id (informed decisions).

Dwelling structure

Cessnock City - Dwellings (Enumerated)	2021			2016			Change
Dwelling type	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**2016 to 2021**
Separate house	23,138	89.8	80.6	20,241	89.3	80.2	+2,897
Medium density	2,462	9.6	14.6	2,167	9.6	14.3	+295
High density	3	0.0	2.9	3	0.0	2.5	0
Caravans, cabin, houseboat	52	0.2	1.2	60	0.3	1.7	-8
Other	40	0.2	0.4	59	0.3	0.7	-19
Not stated	60	0.2	0.4	148	0.7	0.7	-88
Total Private Dwellings	**25,755**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**22,678**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**+3,077**

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled and presented by .id (informed decisions).

Household type

Cessnock City - Total households (Enumerated)	2021			2016			Change
Households by type	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**2016 to 2021**
Couples with children	6,636	28.0	24.8	5,825	28.2	25.4	+811
Couples without children	5,998	25.4	27.7	5,067	24.6	27.0	+931
One parent families	3,626	15.3	10.9	2,914	14.1	11.0	+712
Other families	239	1.0	0.9	209	1.0	0.9	+30
Group household	565	2.4	3.1	523	2.5	3.1	+42
Lone person	5,500	23.2	26.1	4,827	23.4	25.5	+673
Other not classifiable household	820	3.5	4.5	1,095	5.3	5.1	-275
Visitor only households	276	1.2	2.0	166	0.8	2.0	+110
Total households	**23,660**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**20,626**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**+3,034**

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled and presented by .id (informed decisions).

Housing tenure

Cessnock City - Households (Enumerated)	2021			2016			Change
Tenure type	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**2016 to 2021**
Fully owned	7,222	30.5	36.3	6,434	31.2	35.5	+788
Mortgage	8,756	37.0	29.4	6,865	33.3	28.6	+1,891
Renting - Total	6,205	26.2	25.7	5,300	25.7	25.3	+905
Renting - Social housing	656	2.8	3.8	680	3.3	4.2	-24
Renting - Private	5,511	23.3	21.7	4,585	22.2	20.9	+926
Renting - Not stated	38	0.2	0.2	35	0.2	0.2	+3
Other tenure type	322	1.4	2.3	299	1.4	2.2	+23
Not stated	1,160	4.9	6.4	1,728	8.4	8.4	-568
Total households	**23,665**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**20,626**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**+3,039**

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled and presented by .id (informed decisions).

Language used at home – Summary

Cessnock City - Total persons (Usual residence)	2021			2016			Change
Language summary	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**Number**	**%**	**Regional NSW %**	**2016 to 2021**
Speaks English only	57,361	90.1	86.8	49,847	89.7	87.1	+7,514
Non-English total	1,755	2.8	6.6	1,040	1.9	5.7	+715
Not stated	4,516	7.1	6.6	4,682	8.4	7.2	-166
Total Population	**63,632**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**55,569**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**+8,063**

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled and presented by .id (informed decisions).

Language used at home - Ranked by size

Cessnock City - Total persons (Usual residence)	2021			2016			Change
Language (excludes English)	Number	%	Regional NSW %	Number	%	Regional NSW %	2016 to 2021
Filipino/Tagalog	179	0.3	0.4	85	0.2	0.3	+94
Thai	131	0.2	0.2	80	0.1	0.1	+51
Spanish	90	0.1	0.3	51	0.1	0.2	+39
Vietnamese	86	0.1	0.2	18	0.0	0.1	+68
Mandarin	83	0.1	0.4	37	0.1	0.4	+46
Afrikaans	74	0.1	0.1	38	0.1	0.1	+36
German	65	0.1	0.2	59	0.1	0.3	+6
Cantonese	60	0.1	0.2	46	0.1	0.2	+14
Punjabi	60	0.1	0.3	31	0.1	0.2	+29
Italian	50	0.1	0.4	49	0.1	0.5	+1
Auslan	49	0.1	0.1	25	0.0	0.0	+24
Malayalam	48	0.1	0.2	14	0.0	0.1	+34
Australian Indigenous Languages	47	0.1	0.1	16	0.0	0.1	+31
Arabic	44	0.1	0.3	20	0.0	0.3	+24
French	41	0.1	0.1	30	0.1	0.1	+11
Hindi	40	0.1	0.1	37	0.1	0.1	+3
Nepali	37	0.1	0.2	12	0.0	0.1	+25

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id , the population experts.
Excludes languages with fewer than 20 people speaking them at home, or less than 0.1% of the total population. (Usual residence data)

Transport Routes and Facilities

The Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA) covers approximately 1,966 square kilometres. A significant proportion of this area is dedicated state forest and national park.

Roads

Cessnock road network consist of more than 1100 kilometres with approximately 317 kilometres of these being unsealed roads. The LGA also has approximately 118 bridges including footbridges and 75 major culverts in both urban and rural areas.

A list of Critical Assets and Service Level Objectives is provided below:

Critical Assets and Service Level Objectives

Asset Id	Critical Assets	Address	X & Y Coordinate	Critical Failure Mode	Operations & Maintenance Activities
45	Burgesses Bridge	Congewai Road, Congewai	X - 338279.66 Y - 6351293.69	Structural failure or deteriorated condition of asset affecting the use/ availability/ capacity/ function of the asset	Regular inspections and early intervention /identification of major renewal items.
13	Cedar Creek Bridge	Cedar Creek Road, Cedar Creek	X - 331860.60 Y - 6361139.86		
168	Culvert #1 Great North Road	Great North Road, Laguna	X - 324357.8269 Y - 6346476.194		
153	Culvert #1 Wollombi Road	Wollombi Road, Millfield	X - 333013.4319 Y - 6360622.895		
164	Culvert #2 Broke Road	Broke Road, Pokolbin	X - 338102.6021 Y - 6373032.579		
169	Culvert #2 Great North Road	Great North Road, Laguna	X - 326176.5798 Y - 6342589.005		
154	Culvert #2 Wollombi Road	Wollombi Road, Sweetmans Creek	X - 331518.6912 Y - 6360660.737		
165	Culvert #3 Broke Road	Broke Road, Pokolbin	X - 336655.308 Y - 6373680.677		
155	Culvert #3 Wollombi Road	Wollombi Road, Sweetmans Creek	X - 331210.2801 Y - 6360093.023		
156	Culvert #4 Wollombi Road	Wollombi Road, Wollombi	X - 327264.6684 Y - 6357360.129		

149	Culvert Congewai Road	Congewai Road, Congewai	X - 339551.7 Y - 6357292.1		
194	Culvert Hunter Lodge	Upper Yango Creek Road Road, Laguna	X - 321019.0268 Y - 6347302.996		
172	Culvert Kent Street	Kent Street, Greta	X – 48406.444196 Y 6384160.643657		
157	Culvert Lynchs Gully	Wollombi Road, Wollombi	X – 327238.059045 Y 6355899.336164		
143	Culvert Tunnel Road	Tunnel Road, Cessnock	X – 348867.12 Y 6366580.20		
90	Culvert Watagan Creek Arch	Watagan Creek Road, Laguna	X 338380.759146 Y 6344127.652256		
173	Culvert York Street	York Street, Greta	X 348485.241484 Y 6384287.827769		
177	Cunneens Bridge	Paynes Crossing Road, Wollombi	X - 325846.9 Y - 6354457.4		
20	Dairy Arm Bridge	Diary Arm Road, Laguna	X - 325969.83 Y - 6344234.56		
64	Dog Hole Road Bridge	Dog Hole Road, Stockrington	X - 369256.82 Y - 6363494.63		
16	Milsons Arm Bridge	Milsons Arm Road, Laguna	X - 326158.81 Y - 6351026.95		
23	Murrays Run 2 Bridge	Murrays Run Road, Laguna	X - 328794.32 Y - 6335863.07		
7	Paynes Crossing Bridge	Paynes Crossing Road, Paynes Crossing	X - 320277.43 Y - 6361562.66		
123	Stockyard Creek 2 Culvert	Stockyard Creek Road, Paynes Crossing	Disposed in 2020		
14	Stockyard Creek Bridge	Stockyard Creek Road, Paynes Crossing	X - 320323.15 Y - 6361041.33		
8	Thompsons Bridge	Great North Road, Laguna	X - 326031.30 Y - 6343226.23		

Asset Id	Critical Assets	Address	X & Y Coordinate	Critical Failure Mode	Operations & Maintenance Activities
43	Thursby's Bridge	Thursbys Road, Congewai	X - 338580.64 Y - 6354898.94	Structural failure or deteriorated condition of asset affecting the use/ availability/ capacity/ function of the asset	Regular inspections and early intervention /identification of major renewal items.
113	Vermont Bridge	Vermont Road, Mulbring	X - 349321.75 Y - 6355761.76		
17	Watagan Creek 1 Bridge	Watagan Creek Road, Laguna	X - 325498.25 Y - 6347652.71		
18	Watagan Creek 3 Bridge	Watagan Creek Road, Laguna	X - 328822.82 Y - 6345318.48		
19	Watagan Creek 4 Bridge	Watagan Creek Road, Laguna	X - 338028.39 Y - 6344133.16		
197	Williams Bridge	Paynes Crossing Road, Wollombi	X - 324661.10 Y - 6355545.54		
15	Yango Creek Bridge	Yango Creek Road, Wollombi	X - 325981.99 Y - 6354014.85		
192	Crawfords Bridge	Congewai Road, Congewai	X - 340452.08 Y - 6347921.98		
187	Culvert Debeyers Road	Debeyers Road, Pokolbin	X - 338203.01 Y - 6370264.62		
190	Culvert Lowes Bridge	Congewai Road, Congewai	X - 338824.28 Y - 6354003.37		
189	Culvert Murrays Run 1	Murrays Run Road, Laguna	X - 326929.00 Y - 6342043.86		
178	Culvert Thompsons	Great North Road, Laguna	X - 326041.48 Y - 6343224.05		
182	Narone Creek Bridge	Wollombi Road, Wollombi	X - 326979.83 Y - 6354733.86		
181	Slacks Creek Bridge	Wollombi Road, Wollombi	X - 328388.24 Y - 6358851.08		
180	Sweetmans Creek Bridge	Wollombi Road, Millfield	X - 330708.90 Y - 6359643.16		

Cessnock City Council LGA is bisected by the State-owned Hunter Expressway (HEX) which crosses the LGA East to West. This is a significant freight and transport corridor with approximately 13,179 vehicle movements per day, with 20% of those being heavy vehicles (2,603)[1]. In addition to this significant corridor Cessnock is also bisected by other State Roads which cross the LGA North/East to South/West and form a valuable link for freight and transport to the HEX.

Roads	km	Type
State Highway	88.5	
Regional Roads Total	96	
	10.5	Urban
	85.4	Non-Urban
Local Roads (Sealed) Total	573.1	
	330.2	Urban
	242.9	Non-Urban
Local Roads (Unsealed) Total	317	
	66.9	Urban
	260.6	Non-Urban

Links between the New England Highway (NEH) and the HEX are via John Renshaw Drive (State Road) and Buchanan Road (Local Road) in the east, centrally via Cessnock Road (State Road) and to the west via Allandale Road (Local Maitland Council Road) and Wine Country Drive (State Road).

In addition, a number of other significant roads exist within the LGA. These include:

- Broke Road - a regional road connecting Cessnock to Broke to Singleton;
- Wollombi Road, Great North Road and George Downs Drive - all Regional Roads connecting Cessnock to Bucketty and onto Kulnura;
- Cessnock Road & Lang Street - a state road connecting Cessnock via Kurri Kurri to the HEX and the towns of Heddon Greta, Gillieston Heights and Maitland. This road is subject to inundation at a number of locations at Testers Hollow north of Heddon Greta and also within the Maitland LGA between Gillieston Heights and Maitland;
- Leggetts Drive, Lake Road, Allandale Street (Kearsley), Caledonia Street, Greta Street (Aberdare), Colliery Street (Aberdare), Aberdare Road, Vincent Street - a state road network connecting Cessnock to the Pacific Motorway to the South.

[1] TfNSW Traffic Volume Viewer – www.maps.transport.nsw.gov.au

Cessnock Airport

Cessnock Airport is located 5km north of the city of Cessnock in the vineyard area and is owned and operated by Cessnock City Council. Cessnock Airport is a registered aerodrome and the following activities occur at the facility: flying schools adventure flights, scenic flights, charter flights, airport transfers, medical transfers, recreational flying and aircraft maintenance. The Cessnock State Emergency Services (SES) and Pokolbin Rural Fire Service (RFS) also have a unit/station located at Cessnock Airport.

The current runway is 1,097m in length (with a width of 30m including a centre sealed section of 23m). There is a full-length parallel taxiway (with a 10m wide sealed pavement) on the western side of the runway with four connecting taxiways to the runway, as well as an eastern taxiway connecting the runway to the main apron.

The main apron on the eastern side (95m x 70m sealed) services the eastern terminal area. There are a number of unsealed and natural surface aprons used by general aviation aircraft. The runway and eastern taxiway are equipped with pilot activated lighting and an aircraft fuelling facility is located on the north-eastern end of the site.

Airport Name	Cessnock
Call Sign	YCNK
Airport Location	324715S 1512030E
Cessnock CTAF	CTAF frequency 122.65 mHz
Airport Chart	SYDNEY WAC 3456
Airport Elevation	210 ft AMSL
Runway Bearing	RWY 17/35 – 174 deg magnetic
Runway length & width	Length 1,097m x 30m wide *Note: centre sealed section is on average 23 metres wide*
Slope	0.4% down to North.
Length of Clearway	150m Southern End.
Dimensions of Runway Strip	Length 1,217m x 90m wide.
Pavement Surface/Strength	5700/450 (65 PSI)

Hunter Line Trains

NSW Trains run local passenger trains between Newcastle Interchange and Maitland/Telarah, Dungog and Scone. This rail line passes through the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA) from Greta to Branxton and serves as a crucial transportation route, primarily catering to freight, especially coal from the Hunter Valley coal fields. Passenger Stations are located at Greta and Branxton.

Economy and Industry

The Cessnock LGA has a long history of coal mining, manufacturing, construction, agriculture (e.g. grazing, poultry), viticulture and related tourism activities. With the decline in the prominence of traditional industries such as mining and manufacturing for Cessnock LGA, diversification into the visitor economy has proven critical to rebuilding a sustainable and resilient community and now tourism related employment is significant. Whilst important to the Cessnock LGA economy, mining is no longer the only major industry with significant investment having occurred to build Cessnock City into a thriving centre, the region is now harnessing the benefits of being a vibrant place to live and visit. The population growth already experienced within the region is expected to continue with new developments under way, and the enhanced liveability of the towns.

There are around 3,367 registered businesses, currently employing 18,242 people within the LGA. The total workforce is 27,167 and the region has a growing working-age population. Business is well supported in Cessnock LGA, with a range of business chambers and associations within an active economic development partnership driving business advancement.

Annexure B – Hazards and Risks Summary

The Hunter Central Coast Regional Emergency Management Committee has supported the identification of the following hazards as having risk of causing loss of life, property, utilities, services and/or the community's ability to function within its normal capacity. These hazards have been identified as having the potential to create an emergency. This table identified the risk priority and the agency responsible. Each Hazard has a Consequence Management Guide (CMG) outlining control, command, triggers, strategies, actions and associated recovery required.

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Biosecurity Emergency (Animal & Plant)	An agriculture/horticulture incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation.	Likely	Major	Extreme	Department of Primary Industries
Bridge Collapse	Failure of a major bridge structure with or without warning owing to structural failure or as a result of external/ internal events or other hazards/ incidents.	Rare	Moderate	Medium	LEOCON
Building Collapse	Collapse of building owing to structural failure or impact from external/internal event of other hazards /incidents.	Rare	Moderate	Medium	FRNSW (USAR) LEOCON
Human Pandemic	Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human population.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Department of Health

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Dam Failure	A dam is compromised that results in localised or widespread flooding.	Rare	Major	High	Dam Owners NSW SES
Earthquake	Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage.	Rare	Catastrophic	High	LEOCON
Fire (Bush or Grass)	Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands.	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW RFS FRNSW
Fire (Industrial)	Serious industrial fire in office complexes and/or warehouses within industrial estates.	Possible	Moderate	High	FRNSW NSW RFS
Fire (Commercial)	Serious commercial fires in shopping centres, aged persons units, nursing homes and hospitals.	Possible	Major	Extreme	FRNSW NSW RFS
Fire (Residential)	Serious residential fire in medium/high rise apartments.	Possible	Major	Medium	FRNSW NSW RFS
Flood (Flash)	Heavy rainfall causes excessive localised flooding with minimal warning time	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW SES

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Flood (Riverine)	River flows exceed the capacity of normal river systems resulting in flood waters escaping and inundating river plains	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW SES
Hazardous Release	Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident.	Almost Certain	Moderate	Extreme	FRNSW
Heatwave	A sequence of abnormally hot conditions having the potential to affect a community adversely.	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	SEOCON
Landslip	Landslip/landslide resulting in localised or widespread damage.	Almost Certain	Minor	Medium	LEOCON
Storm	Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localized flooding (includes tornado).	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW SES
Transport Emergency (Animal)	Transport incidents that involve animals require coordinated response to manage the health and safety of rescuers, public and maintain animal welfare.	Possible	Moderate	High	Department of Primary Industries
Transport Emergency (Air)	Aircraft crashes in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Unlikely	Major	High	LEOCON

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Transport Emergency (Rail)	A major rail incident that disrupts one or more major rail routes that can result in risk to restriction of supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Possible	Major	High	LEOCON
Transport Emergency (Road)	A major road incident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in heavy traffic congestion, restrict supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Almost Certain	Minor	High	LEOCON
Tsunami	A tsunami wave of magnitude that presents a risk to land and marine elements.	Rare	Catastrophic	High	NSW SES
Utilities Failure	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Possible	Major	Extreme	LEOCON

Annexure C – Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies

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

Local sub/supporting plans are developed in consultation with the Cessnock LEMC and the community.

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

These plans are retained by the LEMO on behalf of the LEMC and public release versions are available on the agency website.

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
State EMPLAN (2023)	The State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) describes NSW's approach to emergency management, governance and coordination arrangements, and roles and responsibilities of agencies. The plan is supported by hazard-specific sub plans and functional area supporting plans.	State Emergency Operations Controller
Hunter Central Coast Regional Emergency Management Plan (2021)	The plan describes the arrangements at a Regional level to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and provides policy direction for the preparation of Sub Plans and Supporting Plans.	Regional Emergency Operations Controller
LHFCC SOPs for EOC operation	Standard operating procedures (SOPs) for use of the Lower Hunter Fire Control Centre (LHFCC) as the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).	Local Emergency Operations Controller
Cessnock Flood Plan	This plan covers preparedness measures, the conduct of response operations and the coordination of immediate recovery measures from flooding within the Cessnock City Council area. It covers operations for all levels of flooding within the council area.	SES

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) Flood Procedures Manual for the Lower Hunter Flood Mitigation Scheme	This manual has been prepared to inform all personnel involved with the response to flooding emergencies in the Lower Hunter area including DECCW planning and responsibilities during and immediately following an event.	Other
Lower Hunter Bush Fire Management Committee - Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (2023)	The aim of the Lower Hunter Bush Fire Risk Management Plan is to minimise the risk of adverse impact from bush fires on life, property and the environment.	NSW Rural Fire Service
NSW SUPPORTING PLANS		
Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area (2023)	This plan is prepared as a supporting plan to NSW State Emergency Management Plan to detail coordination arrangements for response to, and initial recovery from, events in which Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area plays a supporting role to a combat agency.	NSW Department of Primary Industries
NSW Energy & Utility Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (EUSPLAN) 2022	This Plan details and scopes the coordination of information, advice, actions and resources from energy and utility services providers to support emergency management stakeholders in NSW, including LEMCs/ REMCs/ SEMCs, Combat Agencies, and other Functional Areas, during PPRR phases of the emergency management cycle.	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and water (DCCEEW)
Engineering Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (EngPLAN) 2021	This plan identifies the necessary arrangements at State level to effectively and efficiently coordinate the mobilisation of all engineering resources available within the State for emergency response and initial recovery operations.	Public Works Advisory (NSWPW)
Environmental Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (2019)	The aim of EnviroPlan is to establish the NSW EnvSFA emergency management arrangements for the protection of the environment prior to, during and after an emergency.	NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
NSW Health Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (2013)	The purpose of the NSW HEALTHPLAN is to ensure health resources are effectively and efficiently coordinated in the event of emergencies. This includes emergencies where the State response is coordinated under EMPLAN.	NSW Health
Public Information Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (2019)	The aim of this plan is to outline the arrangements for the coordination of the collection, collation of information, advice and warnings for dissemination to the public during times of emergency or imminent emergency events.	State Emergency Operations Controller
NSW Recovery Plan (2023)	The NSW Recovery Plan 2023 has been developed to guide coordination across government agencies and with other stakeholders – local councils, industries, businesses, non-government organisations, community groups and others on the ground – for the delivery of successful recovery	NSW Reconstruction Authority
Telecommunications Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (TelcoPlan) 2023	The Supporting Plan provides the blueprint for coordinating emergency telecommunications support and resources for communities, ESOs and other essential services across the four phases of an emergency.	NSW Telco Authority
NSW Transport Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (TSFA PLAN) 2022	The TSFA Plan identifies the arrangements at State, Regional and Local levels to effectively and efficiently coordinate the mobilisation and deployment of transport resources under the control of the Functional Area available within the State for emergency response and recovery operations.	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Welfare Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (2023)	This State Welfare Services Supporting Plan describes the strategic emergency management arrangements for providing welfare services to disaster affected people in NSW. The Plan details the Department of Communities and Justice management arrangements for coordination of disaster welfare services and support to emergency management in New South Wales.	Department of Communities & Justice (DCJ)

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
NSW Sub-Plans		
NSW Aviation Emergency Sub Plan (2020)	The State Aviation Emergency sub plan details the arrangements for control and co-ordination of the response to, and initial recovery from an aviation impact emergency.	Local Emergency Operations Controller
NSW Biosecurity (Animal & Plant) Emergency Sub-Plan v6 (2022)	This State Biosecurity (Animal and Plant) Sub Plan describes the strategic emergency management arrangements for any biosecurity emergency affecting New South Wales, including Lord Howe Island. Biosecurity emergencies are caused by a biosecurity risk or impact, such as animal and plant pests and diseases (terrestrial and aquatic), and invasive species, including insects, other invertebrates, vertebrate pests and weeds.	NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI)
State Bush Fire Plan (2023)	The Plan aims to establish bush fire management arrangements in NSW, to reduce the impact of bush and grass fires on human life, communities, essential and community infrastructure, industry, agricultural assets, the economy, and the environment, before, during and after an emergency.	NSW RFS & FRNSW
NSW Counter Terrorism Plan (2018)	The NSW Counter Terrorism Plan is the NSW Government plan to inform the general public, business, those working in the counter terrorism field and government about NSW's counter terrorism arrangements. It outlines responsibilities, authorities and the mechanisms to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism within NSW.	NSW Police

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
NSW Cyber Security Incident Emergency Sub Plan (2018)	This plan outlines the strategic intent, procedures and coordination arrangements for the NSW Government in prevention of, preparation for, response to, and initial recovery from a significant cyber security incident or crisis	NSW Government Chief Information Security Officer
NSW Disaster Waste Sub Plan (2023)	The State Disaster Waste Sub Plan (the Sub Plan) describes the arrangements for managing waste generated from emergencies and disasters in New South Wales (NSW), including Lord Howe Island.	NSW Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA)
Electricity Supply Emergency Sub Plan (2018)	This Sub Plan details the emergency management arrangements regarding prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from, consequences and effects of a black system or electricity supply emergency in NSW.	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and water (DCCEEW)
NSW State Flood Plan (2021)	The purpose of this plan is to set out the state level multi-agency arrangements for the emergency management of flooding in New South Wales including Lord Howe Island.	NSW State Emergency Services (NSW SES)
Food Safety Emergency Sub Plan (2021)	The aim of the NSW Food Safety Emergency Sub-plan is to: - identify the strategic emergency management arrangements, and - ensure that resources within the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) and those available from participating and supporting agencies are effectively and efficiently coordinated; in response to, and recovery from, the impacts and effects on public health and businesses in the food supply chain from a food safety emergency.	NSW Food Authority

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
NSW Hazardous Materials/Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Emergency Plan (2019)	This Plan is the New South Wales Hazardous Materials (Hazmat)/Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Emergency Plan. It covers the whole of NSW including Lord Howe Island.	Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW)
State Heatwave Sub Plan (2023)	This state Heatwave Sub Plan describes the strategic emergency management arrangements for heatwaves affecting New South Wales, including Lord Howe Island.	State Emergency Operations Controller
NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan (2018)	This plan outlines the strategic intent, coordination arrangements, responsibilities and mechanisms to prepare for, respond to and recover from an influenza pandemic in NSW. It does not require specific activation as the arrangements it describes are always 'active	NSW Health
State Major Structure Collapse Sub Plan (2021)	The aim of this subplan is to describe the arrangements for the control and coordination of, the preparation for, response to, and immediate recovery from a major structure collapse. It also details the response to an event where a USAR capability may be required for an event other than a Major Structure Collapse.	Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW)
Mine Sub Plan (2023)	The aim of this sub plan is to detail the arrangements for the notification, control and coordination of emergency operations at a mine within NSW in a timely manner, where the arrangements within the Mine Emergency Plan are inadequate to deal with the event.	State Emergency Operations Controller

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
Natural Gas Supply Disruption Plan (2019)	This plan aims to detail arrangements for the coordination and management of a significant natural gas incident in NSW. This plan should be read in conjunction with the Energy and Utility Services Functional Area Supporting Plan.	Energy and Utility Services Functional Area Coordinator (EUSFAC)
NSW State Storm Plan (2023)	The purpose of this NSW Storm Emergency Sub Plan (NSW State Storm Plan) is to set out the state-wide multi-agency arrangements for the emergency management of storms in NSW including Lord Howe Island	NSW SES
NSW State Tsunami Plan (2023)	The purpose of this NSW Tsunami Emergency Sub Plan (NSW State Tsunami Plan) is to set out the state-wide multi-agency arrangements for the emergency management of tsunamis in NSW including Lord Howe Island.	NSW SES
NSW Wildlife in Emergencies Sub Plan (2023)	This Wildlife in Emergencies Sub Plan (the Sub Plan) describes the strategic emergency management arrangements for any emergency affecting wildlife in New South Wales, including Lord Howe Island. All native birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals (except the dingo) are protected in New South Wales by the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.	NSW EPA