

Map 2: Proposed Non-Metropolitan Regions



Map 3: Proposed Metropolitan Sub-Regions

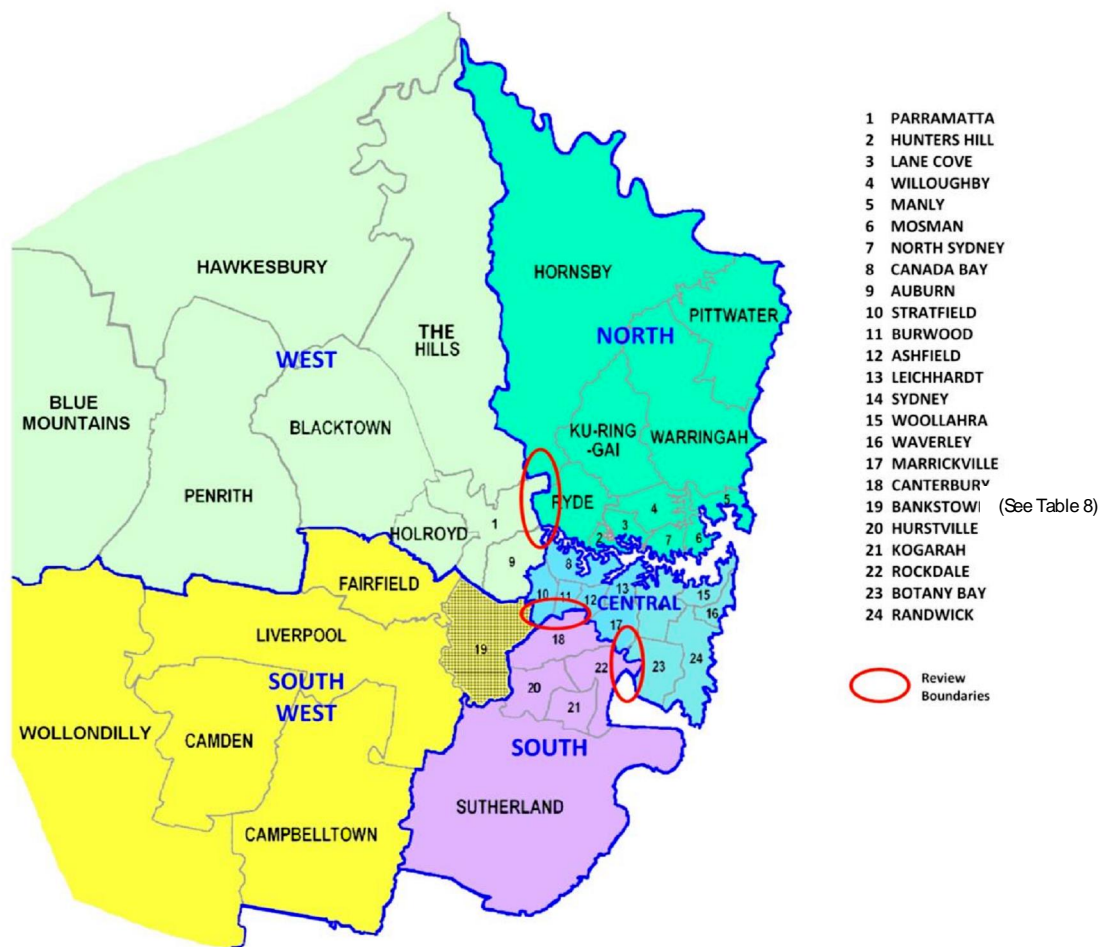


Table 5: Future of Existing County Councils

County Council	Member Councils	Functions	Future Options
Castlereagh-Macquarie	Walgett, Coonamble, Warren, Gilgandra, Warrumbungle	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of Orana JO; service agreement with Walgett (if required)
Central Murray	Berrigan, Conargo, Murray, Deniliquin	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of Mid-Murray JO
Central Tablelands [^]	Blayney, Cabonne, Weddin	Water supply to 5,500 connections	Subsidiary of Central West JO
Far North Coast	Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Kyogle	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of Northern Rivers JO
Goldenfields Water [^]	Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Harden, Junee, Temora, Young, part Narrandera	Bulk water supply to Cootamundra town plus Harden and Young shires; reticulation to remainder (10,600 connections)	Amalgamate with Riverina Water as subsidiary of Riverina JO and establish service agreements with adjoining JOs* as follows: " With Tablelands JO for bulk supply to Harden and Young " With Murrumbidgee JO for Narrandera " With Upper Murray JO for Urana and Greater Hume
Hawkesbury River	Hawkesbury, Penrith, Blacktown, The Hills	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Retain or incorporate as subsidiary of Western Sydney JO
MidCoast Water [^]	Greater Taree, Great Lakes, Gloucester	Water and sewerage services (supply and reticulation) to 40,000 households	Subsidiary of Mid-North Coast JO
New England Tablelands	Armidale, Guyra, Walcha, Uralla	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of New England JO
Richmond River	Lismore, Ballina, Richmond Valley	Floodplain Management	Subsidiary of Northern Rivers JO
Riverina Water [^]	Wagga Wagga, Lockhart, Urana, Greater Hume	Water supply to 25,700 connections, mostly in Wagga Wagga	Amalgamate with Goldenfields Water with service agreements as above
Rous Water [^]	Lismore (excluding Nimbin), Ballina (excluding Wardell), Byron (excluding Mullumbimby), Richmond Valley	Bulk potable water supply	Subsidiary of Northern Rivers JO
Southern Slopes	Boorowa, Harden, Young, Yass Valley	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of Tablelands JO
Upper Hunter	Muswellbrook, Upper Hunter, Singleton	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of Hunter JO
Upper Macquarie	Bathurst Regional, Lithgow, Oberon, Blayney	Eradication of Noxious Weeds	Subsidiary of Mid-West JO; service agreement with Blayney (if required)

[^]These former County councils should both maintain their current functions and provide a platform for regional water alliances across the whole JO area

* Service agreements should be with JOs rather than individual councils to facilitate integrated network planning and water cycle management

Table 6: Options for Amalgamations around Regional Centres

Centre	Potential Amalgamation	Comments
Albury	+ Greater Hume (part or whole) Combined 2031 population 68,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Greater Hume’s long term sustainability is questionable, but it could continue as a council for some time “ Boundary changes to merge the southernmost parts of Greater Hume with Albury and/or Corowa appear warranted
Armidale-Dumaresq	+ Guyra + Uralla/Walcha Combined 2031 population 46,700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Amalgamation has been proposed on several previous occasions and strongly resisted . but the evidence from neighbouring Tamworth is that it would bring considerable benefits “ Community Boards should be established in the former shires “ An alternative is to merge Guyra (5,300)with Armidale (32,100), and Uralla (7,600) with Walcha (2,600)
Bathurst	+ Oberon Combined 2031 population 57,900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Oberon’s long term sustainability is questionable: it could continue as a council for some years but amalgamation would provide a higher capacity base “ A Community Board should be established in the former Shire
Deniliquin	+ Conargo + Murray Combined 2031 population 18,400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Conargo and Murray create a doughnut around Deniliquin “ Conargo Shire is based in Deniliquin and its projected population of just 2,000 is considered too small to warrant a separate entity “ Deniliquin is at present the largest urban centre but by 2036 Murray Shire will have a much larger population “ Wakool might also be included and would increase projected population to 21,200 “ Community Boards should be established in the former LGAs
Dubbo	+ Narromine + Wellington Combined 2031 population 60,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Narromine and Wellington may be sustainable into the medium-long term, although Wellington has a Weak FSR “ Community Boards should be established for Narromine and Wellington if amalgamation occurs
Griffith	+ Murrumbidgee Combined 2031 population 21,900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Murrumbidgee’s projected population of 1,400 is considered too small to warrant a separate entity, especially given its proximity to Griffith: a Community Board would be appropriate “ Also adjust boundary with Carrathool to reduce doughnut effect around Griffith
Orange	+ Cabonne Combined 2031 population 64,400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Cabonne may well be sustainable into the long term, but its recent and projected growth is overspill from Orange “ Some areas on the northern and western fringes of Cabonne are seeking to move to adjoining councils “ Blayney could also be added and would increase the projected population to 73,100: it could remain sustainable as a separate council for several decades but amalgamation would provide a much higher capacity base “ Community Boards should be established as required in the former LGAs
Queanbeyan	+ Palerang Combined 2031 population 77,100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Palerang was created in 2004 and has been through a difficult establishment period: its financial position remains questionable and projected substantial growth is essentially ACT and Queanbeyan overspill “ There may be a case to divide Palerang amongst all its adjoining councils, but this would be very disruptive
Wagga Wagga	+ Lockhart Combined 2031 population 75,900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ A Community Board would need to be established for Lockhart if a merger proceeded