

3 Yass Valley LGA

The following profile of the Yass Valley LGA provides information on its location, social, economic and natural resource features within rural areas. It also provides a comparison with rural areas in surrounding LGAs. The relevant legislation and policies impacting on development in the rural areas are also provided.

Where possible the profiles consider recent trends and the impacts that these are likely to have on future land use requirements. It should be noted that the most recent available statistics and land use information are used wherever possible. The mapping that describes the natural resources is the latest available and where it is incomplete some extrapolation of the information has been required to enable coverage over the whole LGA.

Each section concludes with a summary of the issues that need to be considered by the Study, and the implications of these for developing a future land use strategy. Due to the size of the report, accompanying Appendices are contained in a separate document.

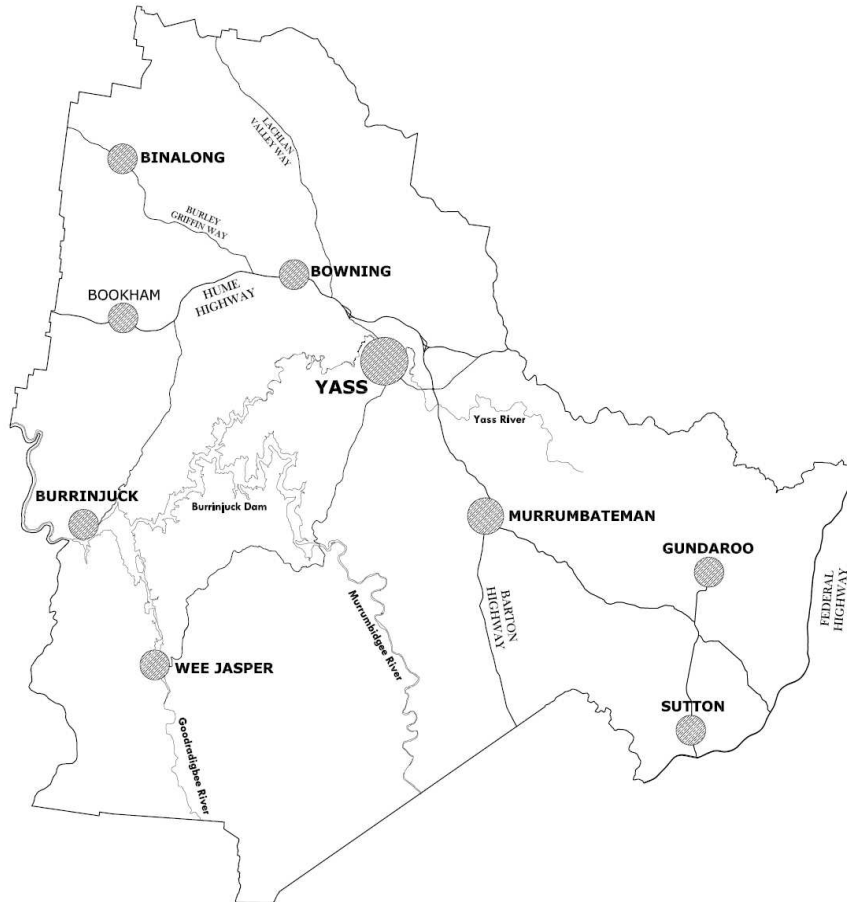
3.1 Location

The Yass Valley LGA is located within the Southern Tablelands of NSW, approximately 250 kilometres south west Sydney and 55 kilometres north of Canberra. The Yass Valley LGA is approximately 3,999 km². A map of the LGA is provided in Figure 1.

The Hume Highway traverses the northern part of the LGA from east to west and is bisected by the Barton Highway from the south. The Federal Highway marks the LGA's south eastern boundary.

The Yass Valley LGA is situated within the Sydney to Canberra Corridor between Sydney and Canberra. This corridor is recognised for its role in supporting adjoining metropolitan areas and for providing various services and facilities. As the cities of Canberra and Sydney continue to grow, the corridor will benefit from that growth and play an increasing support role.

Figure 3.1 Yass Valley Local Government Area



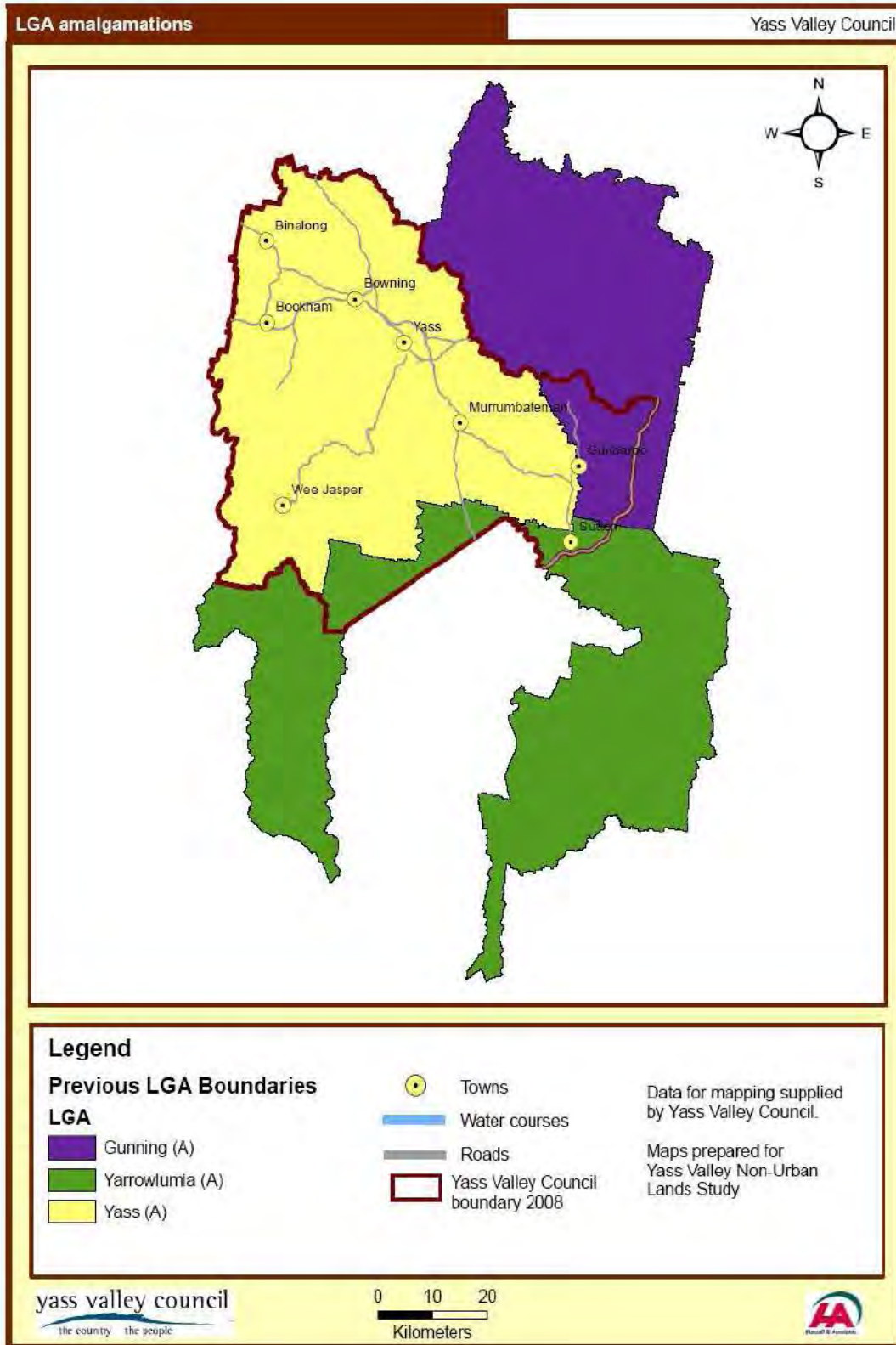
The Yass Valley LGA is adjoined by the LGAs of Boorowa, Upper Lachlan, Palerang, Tumut, Harden and Gundagai and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) as shown in Figure 2.

The Yass Valley LGA was created by the amalgamation of the former Yass Shire Council and parts of the former Gunning and Yarrawlunla Shires. The former LGAs are shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3.2 LGAs surrounding the Yass Valley LGA



Figure 3.3 Former LGAs which created the Yass Valley LGA



3.2 Census Analysis

In order to undertake an analysis of Census data for the rural areas of the Yass Valley LGA, it was necessary to define the rural and urban areas of the LGA for the purpose of Census data.

This was undertaken through a categorisation of Census Collection Districts as either rural or urban. Unfortunately, Census Collection Districts do not align with LEP boundaries and in some cases, Census Collection Districts comprise both rural and urban land. Where this has occurred, the consultants have made a judgement as to whether the Collection District is either rural or urban. Figure 4 shows which Collection Districts are deemed to be urban and rural for the purpose of this Study.

It is also important to note that Census Collection Districts changed between the 2001 and 2006 Census. As a result of the change in Collection District boundaries, there will be some inconsistencies between data. The consultants however consider that the data is suitable for comparative use to inform the Study. Figure 4 shows the changes to Census Collection Districts boundaries between 2001 and 2006.

Figure 3.4 Collection Districts for 2001 and 2006 Census

