



COUNCIL POLICY

Works

1.5.2

Title:	ROAD CLOSURES
Adopted:	17 July 2019
Reviewed:	
Associated Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Section 3.50
Associated Documents:	
Review Responsibility:	Works Supervisor
Delegation:	Chief Executive Officer

Previous Policy Number/s: Nil

Objective:

To manage road closures in a manner that preserves the safety of road users and lifespan of the Shire's road transportation network.

Policy Statement:

Section 3.50(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 provides for a local government to close any road it manages, wholly or partially for a period not exceeding four weeks.

If, in the opinion of the delegated officer, there is a risk of damage to Shire road infrastructure, due to inclement or persistent wet weather, or road conditions present an unacceptable hazard to road users, the Chief Executive Officer may close roads:

- a) for all vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5 tonnes or greater; and/or
- b) for all vehicles without four wheel drive; or
- c) for all vehicles

The Chief Executive Officer may close:

- a) A single road, or section of road; in the case of very localised risk; and/or
- b) All unsealed roads within an area of the Shire; in the case of somewhat localised risk; or
- c) All unsealed roads in the Shire of Mingenew; in the case of widespread risk

Permits to Travel on Closed Roads:

Those with legitimate and pressing reasons for travel and/or in emergency situations may apply to the Chief Executive Officer for permission to traverse closed roads.

In issuing such a permit, the Chief Executive Officer may give consideration to:

1. Any potential road damage that may arise from the permitted use
2. Weather forecasts
3. Planned road maintenance activities
4. Animal welfare of livestock, including livestock in transit

The following activities may be considered for such a permit:-

- food and grocery supplies to community stores



- fuel supplies to power stations
- building supplies for urgent housing projects
- access for businesses to ensure continuity of essential work processes
- funerals or other significant personal or cultural reasons
- emergency services response
- such other activities which may be determined from time to time by the CEO

The permit may be cancelled at any time by the CEO if circumstances warrant.

The following exemptions apply:

- Local residents seeking to access their homes, providing they do not enter any hazard, give consideration to their own personal safety and the safety of others
- Emergency services vehicles

Notification of Road Closures:

As soon as practicably possible after the decision has been made to close a road or roads, the Shire shall:

- a) Send a text message to the Road Notifications database
- b) Place notice of closures on the Shire website
- c) Post notice of closures on relevant social media channels

Road Closed signs will also be erected where it is safe and practicable to do so.

A mandatory review time is to be provided with a notification of a road closure.