

Attachment 5- draft Wet Weather Road Closure policy

WET WEATHER ROAD CLOSURE

TS***

DRAFT



NARRANDERA SHIRE COUNCIL

WET WEATHER ROAD CLOSURE

Policy No:	TS**
Policy Title:	Wet Weather Road Closure
Department Responsible:	Technical Services
Minute No:	**/*
TRIM File No:	ED/**
Next Review Date:	As required

Purpose

Ensure safety to all road users and to mitigate damage to road infrastructure, in particular unsealed roads.

Commencement of Policy

This policy will commence from 1st July 2016. It replaces all previous wet weather road closure policies of Council.

Scope of the Policy

- (1) This policy applies to:
 - a) Vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5 tonne or greater;
 - b) Vehicles which travel over road under the care and control of Narrandera Shire Council.

- (2) Local traffic (For example: where a residence is situated on a roads which have been closed) shall be exempt from this policy regardless of the weight requirements provided that any vehicle exceeding 4.5 tonne is unloaded.

- (3) The delegated officer may exempt other certain vehicles that require access (for example school buses).

- (4) Affected agencies shall include but are not limited to:
 - a) Heavy Haulage carriers;
 - b) Roads and Maritime Services;
 - c) Neighbouring Local Authorities;
 - d) Farm business owners;
 - e) Local residents; and
 - f) Bus companies, Public Transport Authority.

(5) This policy does not apply during flood or emergency situations where roads may be closed to all vehicles for public safety or other reasons.

(6) This policy may apply to singular, multiple or all roads.

(7) **Breach of this policy will attract fine of \$ 1000/vehicle OR cost to bring the road infrastructure to original stage, whichever is greater.**

Policy Statement

(1) If there is a risk of damage to Council road infrastructure and/or to public safety due to inclement or persistent wet weather the Council shall exercise its right under the Local Government Act to close affected roads.

(2) The Deputy General Manager Infrastructure is delegated the power to:

- a) Close Roads; and
- b) Define and impose conditions for road use.

(3) Condition of delegated power:

- a) Installing "Road Closed" signs where possible;
- b) Providing an information bulletin to affected agencies, distributed via email, local radio and by posting on the Narrandera Shire Council website.

Legislation Relating to the Policy

- *Local Government Act 1995, s3.50.*
- Under s3.50 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the local authority is permitted to close an unsealed road to particular traffic in wet conditions. This is done to prevent unreasonable damage to roads due to excessive vehicle movements.
- *Road Traffic Act 1974, s84*

Variation

Council reserves the right to review **from time to time**, vary or revoke this policy in accordance with award, legislation and regulation changes.

Policy History

Adopted

DD/MM/YY

Reviewed

Amended

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge:

- **receiving the Council Policy;**
- **that I will comply with the Policy;**

Name: _____

Classification: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____