



Shire of West Arthur Council Policy – Road Closure

Policy Number	W2.1 Works
Policy Title	Road Closure
Related Legislation	Local Government Act 1995 (WA)
Strategic Outcome Supported	Outcome 3.1 - A well maintained road system.
Adopted by Council	27 July 2021
Review	CEO Annually

1. Objective

To manage road closures in a manner that preserves the safety of road users and lifespan of the Shire's road network, in particular unsealed roads, due to inclement weather

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- (a) vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5 tonne or greater
- (b) vehicles which travel over roads under the care and control of the Shire of West Arthur.
 1. Local traffic
 2. The delegated officer may exempt other certain vehicles that require access (for example school busses)
 3. Affected agencies shall include but are not limited to:
 - (a) Heavy Haulage carriers;
 - (b) Main Roads WA;
 - (c) Neighbouring Local Authorities;
 - (d) Department of Transport;
 - (e) Local residents; and
 - (f) Bus companies, Public Transport Authority
 4. This policy does not apply during flood or emergency situations where roads may be closed to all vehicles for public safety or other reasons. The delegated officer may exempt other certain vehicles that require access (for example school busses)
 5. This policy may apply to singular, multiple or all roads.

3. Policy Statements

- (1) If there is a risk of damage to Shire road infrastructure and/or public safety due to inclement or persistent wet weather the Shire shall exercise its right under the Local Government act to close affected roads
- (2) The Chief Executive Officer is delegated the power to:
 - (a) Close Roads: and
 - (b) Define and impose conditions of 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, SMS system, local radio and by posting on the Shire of West Arthur website

and social media channels

4. Legislation Relating to this 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

5. Records Management

All records associated with the process must be recorded and retained including;

- rainfall data
- internal documentation;
- evaluation documentation;
- enquiry and response documentation;
 - notification documentation.

Record retention shall be in accordance with the minimum requirements of the State Records Act, and the Shire's internal records management policy.