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# INFRASTRUCTURE POLICIES

## Temporary Road Closures – Wet Weather



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Policy Number:	I1
Relevant Delegation:	1.1.6 Close Thoroughfares to Vehicles
Adoption Details:	26 September 2023
Last Review Details:	N/A

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### **POLICY OBJECTIVE:**

Provide guidelines for the management of road closures due to wet weather, in a manner that preserves the safety of road users and lifespan of the Shire's road transportation network

### **POLICY SCOPE:**

This policy applies to all vehicles which travel over road under the care and control of the Shire of York.

Vehicles exempt from this policy include:

- (a) Emergency Services vehicles;
- (b) Other vehicles as approved by the delegated officer.

This policy applies to the closing of singular, multiple or all roads, of an unsealed nature.

### **POLICY STATEMENT:**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Shire of York has a responsibility to ensure roads are safe for use by all road users, including protecting roads from damage during periods of wet weather. This policy is to ensure the Shire has a clear approach to the closure of roads and when this process can be implemented.

#### **APPLICATION OF THIS POLICY**

If, in the opinion of the delegated officer there is a risk to public safety or damage to Shire road infrastructure due to inclement or persistent wet weather, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) 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 CEO may close:

- (a) A single road, or section of road, in the case of specific risk; and/or
- (b) All unsealed roads within a localised area of the Shire, in the case of a centralised risk; or
- (c) All unsealed roads in the Shire of York; in the case of widespread risk.

The Chief Executive Officer may exempt certain vehicles that require access, which may include:

- (a) Local traffic that is proceeding to a place of garaging;
  - (a) Other vehicles that require access on the road, such as school buses;
  - (b) Access relating to perishable goods or animal welfare;
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(c) Vehicles not exceeding a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5 tonnes or greater.

Those with legitimate and pressing reasons for travel and/or in emergency situations may apply to the CEO for permission to traverse closed roads. The permit may be cancelled at any time by the CEO if circumstances warrant.

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

In the event of a temporary road closure, a public notice will be provided on the Shire of York website, social media and other platforms where appropriate.

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

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.

**PENALTIES:**

Not applicable

**KEY TERMS/DEFINITIONS:**

**Gross Vehicle Mass:** is the maximum permissible weight of a vehicle when fully loaded, including the weight of the vehicle itself, any passengers or cargo, fuel, and any other equipment or accessories that may be on board.

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Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Infrastructure and Development Services  
Contact Officer: Chief Executive Officer  
Relevant Legislation: Local Government Act 1995  
Relevant Documents: Nil

Review History:

<b>Date Review Adopted:</b>	<b>Resolution Number</b>
Adopted	040923
<b>Former Policy No:</b>	NEW