Unsealed Road Classification Policy

Policy Number	E2
Responsible Officer(s)	Manager Strategic Asset Planning.
Policy Adopted	October 2023
Next Review Date	October 2027
Minutes reference	2023/10-08
Applicable Legislation	Local Government Act 1999; *Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia) Act 2013.*
Related Documents	Infrastructure Asset Management Plan – Transport.

1. POLICY PRINCIPLE

Wakefield Regional Council's Asset Management Plan (Transport) sets out the characteristics for unsealed road categories, the construction/renewal standards and maintenance requirements. This Policy establishes a basis for assigning road categories by considering a combination of traffic volume, strategic location and heavy vehicle use to inform the category.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To provide clear and measurable criteria to allow categories of unsealed roads to be confirmed or adjusted as part of Council's ongoing review process.

3. POLICY DETAIL

Council's unsealed roads are categorised based on the key criteria which include:

1. Connectivity to other major roads and settlements

2. Primary access for commercial businesses/industries

3. Primary access to residential homes

4. Local traffic use (average vehicles per day).

5. Seasonal heavy vehicle use (average vehicles per day).

6. School Bus Routes

It is recognised that over time, the use of Council's road network will change due to the establishment of new businesses/industries, consolidation of primary production land, development and use of new farming equipment, increased heavy vehicle use and residential developments.

Because of ongoing changes to how Council's unsealed road network is used, Council has developed this Policy to ensure Council's road network is able to progressively evolve to meet the current and future needs of road users. This Policy provides guidance on:

- Road categories
- Other considerations
- Data collection process (traffic counts)
- Re-classification process

Electronic version on the Central Server Computer System is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.

Page 1 of 3

3.1 Road Categories

Council has established 5 sheeted and 2 un-sheeted road categories, as set out below:

Category 1 – these are rural arterial roads that carry traffic through the Council area, connecting to neighboring Councils, settlements and with the State Road network.

Category 2 – these are collector roads for local traffic and local producers, which funnel traffic from lower categories. These roads often form part of the school bus route and have regular heavy vehicle movements.

Category 3 – these are local access community connector roads for local traffic and primary producers. The road often forms part of the school bus route, access to intensive agriculture (such as poultry farms and piggeries) and have regular heavy vehicle movements.

Category 4 – these are local community access medium use roads for local traffic, with seasonal heavy vehicle access. These roads make up the bulk of the sheeted network.

Category 5 - these are local community access low use roads for local traffic that provide all weather access to rural residential homes.

Category 6 – these are natural surface, dry weather roads only and do not service residential homes, but service primary producers for access to their land and are maintained by Council.

Category 7 – these roads owned by Council and are not maintained (tracks and road reserves).

3.2 Other Considerations

The assignment of road categories needs to remain flexible and adaptable to changing road use. The following criteria provides the basis for confirming or altering roads categories:

1. When business or primary producer operations change the use of the road;

2. Where residents no longer live on the road allowing it to be downgraded (subject to vehicles per day count)

3.3 Data Collection Process

Council will implement a program of data collection across its unsealed road network. Road categories 1 to 6 will be monitored twice per year with 2 counts conducted in peak periods and 2 counts conducted outside of peak periods. Data for each road will be collected over a 2 year period with data used to assist in the assessment process.

The traffic counter results will be aligned with category verification table.

Category Verification Table

Road Category	Average vehicles per day (vpd)
1	60+
2	40-59
3	26-39
4	5 - 25
5	1+

3.4 Re-classification Process

1. Administrative review;

2. Strategic Infrastructure Committee review and recommendation to Council;

Electronic version on the Central Server Computer System is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.

Page 2 of 3

3. Council review and decision;

4. Community advised.

4. REVIEW

This Policy shall be reviewed every 48 months, or more frequently if required by legislation or Council.

Document history:

Version	Adopted	Description of Change
1.0	October 2023	New Policy.