

ROADS – HEAVY VEHICLE ACCESS

DIVISION	BUSINESS UNIT	RESPONSIBILITY AREA
Works and Services	Infrastructure	Roads

OBJECTIVE

To provide clear guidelines to the Council, its staff and heavy vehicle transport operators for Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network requests and access to roads under the care, control and management of the Shire of Plantagenet.

The Council wishes to balance road safety, transport efficiency for Shire economic benefits, community amenity and preservation of the road asset.

The Policy supports ‘as of right’ vehicles as defined by Main Roads WA (MRWA) or approved RAV routes, except where roads are closed for safety reasons.

POLICY

1. Scope

This Policy applies to any heavy vehicle transport operator using RAV on roads managed by the Council.

2. Legislation

The *Road Traffic Act 1974* and the *Road Traffic (Vehicle) Regulations 2014* govern the use of heavy vehicles on roads within Western Australia and define items such as compliance notices, exemptions, permits and notices for heavy restricted access vehicles. These regulations also contain provisions for mass and loading, load restraints, vehicle modifications and vehicle maintenance.

The *Land Administration Act 1997* Section 55 and *Local Government Act 1995* Section 3.53(2) gives the Shire of Plantagenet management responsibility for roads within its boundaries.

3. Definitions

3.1 Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network

The RAV Network is a list of roads which have been assessed and classified by MRWA according to the type and size of heavy vehicle that may access them. It is administered by the Heavy Vehicles Section (HVS) of MRWA.

3.2 Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS) Network

The AMMS scheme allows for three (3) concessional mass tiers that are available to approved heavy vehicle transport operators with appropriate loading control methods. This scheme uses a network approach similar to the existing RAV Network.

Both the RAV and AMMS Networks are published in the form of road tables and a visual Mapping Tool is available on the MRWA website.

4. Request to Access Roads

- a) RAV Classified Roads - If required, heavy vehicle transport operators may request use of a classified road on the RAV Network by applying to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for approval.
- b) Unclassified Roads - If the road is not classified on the RAV Network then the applicant will first need to apply to MRWA (HVS). Upon receipt from MRWA (HVS), the Shire of Plantagenet will assess the request in accordance with MRWA approved guidelines and if supported, a submission will be made to MRWA (HVS) for their consideration including any conditions that may apply to the use of the road.
- c) AMMS Network - Heavy Vehicle transport operators may apply for a road already classified on the RAV Network to be approved for an AMMS Network level by applying to MRWA (HVS). Upon receipt from MRWA (HVS) the Shire of Plantagenet will assess the request in accordance with MRWA approved guidelines. If supported, a submission will be made to MRWA (HVS) for their consideration
- d) Should the road access request be declined, the Shire of Plantagenet will inform MRWA (HVS) who will advise the applicant.
- e) Depending on the need for access, a RAV access request may be supported if the applicant accepts responsibility to carry out any road upgrades or vegetation pruning necessary to qualify the road for the RAV network level requested.

5. RAV Road Reclassification

The Shire may withdraw support for an approved route at any time if:

- (i) The route is deemed unsafe for RAV use;
- (ii) The route is deemed unsuitable for RAV use; or
- (iii) The heavy vehicle transport operator has breached approval conditions.

ADOPTED: 28/02/2017

LAST REVIEWED: NEW POLICY