

**POLICY TITLE: RURAL ROADS MAINTENANCE POLICY**  
**(adopted by Council 25/09/06)**

**Policy No. 416**

**POLICY PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to guide maintenance activities for rural roads. Council as a highway authority has responsibility for road maintenance to ensure safe access. Maintenance practices must minimise potential for erosion and dust, and be sustainable within the natural environment.

Road reserves also perform a number of other important functions. These include location of services such as electricity, telephone, and other services. They can also act as habitat refuges and corridors, and provide opportunities for revegetation and enhancement of the natural environment.

The Council also has responsibility to ensure that roads maintained by it do not constitute a fire hazard to adjoining property, and for the control of weeds.

Conflict between competing uses does occur from time to time. This policy provides guidance to manage conflicts between road maintenance requirements and desire by property owners to improve the natural environment.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

The Council recognizes that roads are an important transportation medium and must be developed/maintained according to its statutory functions and duty of care to road users. Vegetation can be developed/encouraged by landholders on the reserve where the resulting effects from that vegetation will not conflict with Council's obligations as a highway authority, or interfere with other services situated within the reserve.