

## Unformed Roads

### Roads in the Wollondilly Shire

The Wollondilly Shire manages the upkeep of over 870km of sealed roads and 80km of unsealed roads, with a total surface area of 5,945,253m<sup>2</sup>. Roads form the largest part of Council's asset register and as such have the highest budget allocation to manage the ongoing maintenance requirement.

Under Council's 2020/2021 Road Renewal Program, Council have allocated \$10,765,595 increasing to \$11,023,827 in 2021/2022.

Further details can be found on Council's website at:

<https://www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/shire-projects/council-projects/>

### What is an Unformed Road?

An unformed road, "paper road" or "Crown road" is one that is legally established but not formally constructed with a bitumen sealed surface or constructed to the standard of an unsealed road. These are often dirt style tracks that are used to access a private property.

### Maintenance of Unformed Roads

Within the shire there are many unformed roads. These roads can deteriorate over time and in poor weather. It is when a road reaches this stage that customers tend to approach Council requesting maintenance, however it is not Council's responsibility to maintain unformed roads. Council is not required to be accountable for a road's maintenance unless the road is plausibly required for general public use (i.e. solely for property access) and has been constructed by Council or as part of a contract/development then handed over to Council.

Customers who want to upgrade an unformed road they use for property access to a formed road are required to obtain Council or Department of Lands (for Crown roads) approval to do so. Approval for Council road upgrades are applied for by way of a Section 138 (ROL) permit. Permit application forms can also be found on Council's website. A complete application form and any

proposal is subject to approval by council resolution and consultation internally within Council.

### Transferring from Crown to Council

The Department of Lands has outlined that if large scale works are to be done on a crown road, then they will consider if it is more appropriate to transfer the road to Council. Criteria is used when making this decision, which can be found on their website.

### Helpful Links

- <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/access/roads>
- <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/access/roads/transfer-to-council-criteria>
- <https://www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/shire-projects/council-projects/>
- <https://www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/roads/working-on-the-roadroad-management-application-permits-sec-138/>