1. Policy Statement

This policy sets out to accurately define Council strategy regarding maintained roads in accordance with the Road Hierarchy and adopted levels of services versus all other access roads which are referred to under the Road Hierarchy as Class 6 Roads.

This policy specifically deals with gravel roads and the maintenance carried out on these roads to ensure they remain trafficable and safe.

Works carried out on the maintained gravel road network is done so in an effort to meet the levels of service defined in the road hierarchy for Class 4 and 5 gravel roads. There is more than 140km of formed and unformed roads which do not fall under Class 4 and 5. Council cannot afford to maintain these roads to the same levels of service. In many cases these roads Unmaintained Roads (Class 6) only serve to provide access between individual properties and higher order roads, or to rail siding infrastructure used to transport sugar cane via rail to the regions mills.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all formed or gravel roads under the jurisdiction of the Hinchinbrook Shire Council.

The gazetted road network far exceeds the length of roads that Council undertakes to maintain and upkeek for public use as the limited amount of funding available to Council means that it is not possible, nor feasible to construct and maintain roads in all gazetted reserves.

Local Governments are required to keep an up to date register and map of roads in their areas (Section 74, Local Government Act 2009). The register and map are to be open to public inspection.

3. Responsibility

3.1 Councillors are responsible for adopting the defined road network, including the maintained road network.

3.2 The Chief Executive Officer has overall responsibility for the implementation and execution of the policy.

3.3 The Executive Manager Infrastructure Delivery Services has responsibility for the ongoing management of the network extents, including maintenance extents.

4. Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorised Person</th>
<th>The Chief Executive Officer of the Council or a person delegated by the Chief Executive Officer as being authorised.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintained Road</td>
<td>A road which is listed as maintained on Council's Road Register.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private road</td>
<td>A road constructed outside a road area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access road</td>
<td>A road constructed within a road area that is not listed as maintained on Council's road register. Is also a road that provides properties access to a higher order road.</td>
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</table>
5. **Policy**

5.1. A set maximum quarantined budget will be set aside in the operational budget, designated to be spent on Class 6 Roads.

5.2. Inspections on Class 6 roads will be done upon a Customer Request being lodged.

5.3. Access Roads or Class 6 Roads are not maintained roads in accordance with a level of service defined under the road hierarchy however Council is obligated to act should these roads become unsafe. This will be demonstrated by acting on reported hazards and undertaking an inspection to determine a course of action which may include:

(a) warning signage, barricading of hazard until resources allow further works to be undertaken.

(b) closing the road if there is alternative access for the properties.

5.4. Written approval of the Executive Manager Infrastructure Services Delivery is required before any road works commences.

5.5. Approved road works will be booked to standing works order numbers linked to each Class 6 road.

5.6. A report will be presented to Council defining expenditure on Class 6 Roads every three months or as determined appropriate by Council.

5.7. All other Council funds designated for road infrastructure shall only be expended on roads and sections of roads included in the register as maintained roads.

5.8 **Review of Policy**

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related documents are amended or replaced.

2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than two years.

6. **Legal Parameters**

Local Government Act 2009

Regulations under the Act

Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995

7. **Associated Documents**

- Appendix A - Road Safety Risk Assessment
- Appendix B – Hinchinbrook Shire Council Road Hierarchy
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<td>R Ferguson</td>
<td>A/CEO</td>
<td></td>
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