



SHIRE OF
DOWERIN
TIN DOG TERRITORY

MINUTES

Asset & Works Committee Meeting

Held in Council Chambers

13 Cottrell Street, Dowerin WA 6461

Wednesday 12 November 2025

ABN: 35 939 977 194

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Shire of Dowerin Asset & Works Committee Meeting Wednesday 12 November 2025



1. Official Opening

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and declared the Meeting open at 6:00pm.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies / Leave of Absence

Committee Members:

Cr AJ Metcalf	Chair
Cr RI Trepp	Deputy Chair
Cr CJ Meakins	
Cr AR Jones	Proxy

Councillors

Cr DP Hudson

Staff:

Ms M Barthakur	Chief Executive Officer
Mr B Forbes	Manager of Infrastructure and Projects
Ms K Rose	Manager of Governance and Community Services

Apologies:

Approved Leave of Absence:

3. Disclosure of Interest

Nil

4. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)

4.1 Asset & Works Committee Meeting held on 18 March 2025

[Attachment 4.1A](#)

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/ Resolution – 4.1

Moved: Cr Trepp

Seconded: Cr Metcalf

1204

That, by Simple Majority pursuant to Sections 5.22(2) and 3.18 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Minutes of the Asset & Works Committee Meeting, held on 18 March 2025 as presented in Attachment 4.1A, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED 3/0

For: Cr Metcalf, Cr Trepp, Cr Meakins

5. OFFICER'S REPORTS

5.1 Regional Road Group – Revised 5-Year Plan

Asset & Works		 SHIRE OF DOWERIN TIN DOG TERRITORY
Date:	30 October 2025	
Location:	Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer:	Ben Forbes, Manager of Infrastructure and Projects	
Author:	Ben Forbes, Manager of Infrastructure and Projects	
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>	
SharePoint Reference:		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	<u>Attachment 5.1A – Revised RRG 5-Year Plan</u>	

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Summary

This report seeks endorsement of the updated RRG 5-Year Plan, which guides the Shire's forward works program for road preservation and renewal. The updated plan incorporates revised priorities based on current road-condition data, traffic loading, safety risk, and lifecycle cost modelling.

Background

The Wheatbelt North Regional Road Group (RRG) coordinates regional funding allocations in accordance with the *State Road Funds to Local Government Procedures* and the *Roads 2040 Regional Strategies for Significant Local Roads*.

Funding is distributed on a two-thirds State / one-third Local Government basis through Road Project Grants. Each participating local government maintains a rolling 5-Year Plan to identify and prioritise projects according to regional significance, asset condition, and economic impact.

The Shire's current plan was endorsed by Council on 17 September 2024 and forms part of the Wheatbelt North RRG program. Over the past 12 months, further network inspections and geotechnical testing have revealed accelerated pavement distress on key freight and school-bus routes, warranting a reprioritisation of works.

Comment

The revised plan introduces several key adjustments:

- Sections of Tampu Road, Benjaberring Road, and Culbin Boreen Road have moved up the program due to increased heavy-vehicle movements and evidence of subgrade shear.
- Projects for the 2030/2031 financial year have been added to maintain a consistent rolling five-year pipeline, supporting long-term funding stability and alignment with the Shire's Asset Management Plan.
- Following advice from Main Roads WA and recent RRG technical reviews, the Shire will complete both seal coats within the same construction season to improve adhesion, surface integrity, and cost efficiency. This approach also eliminates the need for temporary traffic management over multiple years and reduces mobilisation costs by up to 10%.
- The plan integrates data from RAMM (condition rating), traffic counts, and geotechnical reports to rank projects on a weighted-scoring basis covering condition, connectivity, and economic importance.
- The updated priorities improve access for agricultural freight operators, emergency services, and school buses, particularly in the northern and eastern localities where deterioration has accelerated following the 2022-23 wet season.

Adoption of the revised RRG 5-Year Plan ensures the Shire's funding submissions remain competitive within the regional pool and that project delivery aligns with asset management principles, engineering standards, and community expectations.

Consultation

Manisha Barthakur, Chief Executive Officer
Ben Forbes, Manager of Infrastructure and Projects
Allison Hunt, Main Roads WA
Siva Thillainath, Civil Engineer

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Economy
Objective: Ensure the road network is safe and capable of the freight task
Outcome: 2.1
Reference: 2.1a, 2.1b, and 2.1d

Asset Management Plan

Identified key controls and actions associated with asset management are factored into the Asset Management Plan.

Shire of Dowerin Road Strategy 2023.

Long Term Financial Plan

Identified key controls and actions associated with financial management are factored into the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Statutory Implications

The *Local Government Act 1995*

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Asset Management Practices
Risk Category	Project Time
Risk Description	\$200,001 - \$500,000
Consequence Rating	Moderate (3)
Likelihood Rating	Unlikely (2)
Risk Matrix Rating	Moderate (5)
Key Controls (in place)	RRG 5 Year Plan AMP and LTFP
Action (Treatment)	Regional Road Sub-Group Meetings
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 5.1

Moved: Cr Meakins

Seconded: Cr Trepp

1205

That, by Simple Majority, the Committee endorse the Revised Regional Road Group 5-Year Plan, as presented in Attachment 5.1A.

CARRIED 3/0

For: Cr Metcalf, Cr Trepp, Cr Meakins

Asset & Works Committee does not have delegated authority to make decisions.

All recommendations of the Asset & Works Committee are presented to Council for ratification.

5.2 Regional Road Group – Dowerin-Meckering Road Reseal – Surplus Funding Allocation	
Asset & Works	
 SHIRE OF DOWERIN TIN DOG TERRITORY	
Date:	06 November 2025
Location:	Not Applicable
Responsible Officer:	Ben Forbes, Manager of Infrastructure and Projects
Author:	As Above
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
SharePoint Reference:	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Summary

Main Roads WA recently contacted all Wheatbelt local governments regarding the availability of surplus Regional Road Group (RRG) funding for shovel-ready projects deliverable within the 2025–2026 financial year. Eligible projects were required to be listed in each Shire’s 2024 Road Strategy or on approved Commodity Routes, ensuring compliance with RRG funding criteria.

Given the short submission timeframe and current construction commitments, the Shire of Dowerin identified reseal works on Dowerin-Meckering Road as the most suitable shovel-ready project for completion this financial year.

The approved project covers a reseal (S45R – 14 mm) treatment from SLK 21.50 to SLK 23.84, connecting last year’s reseal section (just before Hindmarsh Back Road) through to this year’s RRG reconstruction section. Once complete, this will provide a fully upgraded and continuous section from town through to the Black Spot project.

Background

On receipt of Main Roads’ invitation for shovel-ready projects, the Manager of Infrastructure and Projects undertook a rapid assessment of available and deliverable options within the Shire’s current road program.

Given resourcing, timing, and readiness constraints, resealing was the most realistic and achievable project type that could be commenced and completed within the financial year.

A conservative submission was made for a short section of Dowerin-Meckering Road to ensure eligibility and deliverability within operational capacity. Main Roads WA has since confirmed funding approval for the project.

On 5 November 2025, the Shire received confirmation from Main Roads WA that the shovel-ready project had been approved, including the following funding allocation:

Preservation/Improvements	Road Name	Total Funding Required	Grant Funding	Shire	Scope of Works
Preservation	Dowerin Meckering Road	\$162,115.00	\$108,077.00	\$54,038.00	S45R 14mm Reseal @ 7.4m width

Comment

The total approved project cost is \$162,115, comprising:

- RRG Funding: \$108,077 (67%)
- Shire Contribution: \$54,038 (33%)

The works are scheduled for delivery in the current construction season and will form part of the Shire's annual bitumen preservation program.

This outcome represents a strong preservation investment in one of the Shire's highest-use freight routes, extending the service life of the pavement and maintaining network performance along a key link.

The project will be completed by the Shire's Works Crew in coordination with the annual bitumen program to optimise contractor mobilisation costs.

To enable delivery, the Committee's recommendation is sought to approve the additional capital expenditure of \$54,038, to be funded from the Road Reserve, which currently holds \$151,122. The physical transfer of funds from the reserve is not proposed until the mid-year budget review, at which time the Road Reserve will be replenished using the forecast operating surplus of the Municipal Fund.

Consultation

Ben Forbes, Manager of Infrastructure and Projects

Manisha Barthakur, Chief Executive Officer

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority:	Our Economy
Objective:	Enhance and maintain the road transport network
Outcome:	2.1
Reference:	2.1d

Asset Management Plan

Identified key controls and actions associated with asset management are factored into the Asset Management Plan.

Long Term Financial Plan

Identified key controls and actions associated with financial management are factored into the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Statutory Implications

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.8 – Expenditure from municipal fund not included in annual budget

- (1) "A local government is not to incur expenditure from its municipal fund for an additional purpose except where the expenditure –
- (a) is authorised in advance by resolution; or
 - (b) is authorised in advance by the mayor or president in an emergency; or
 - (c) is authorised in advance by the CEO under delegated authority."

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Asset Management Practices
Risk Category	Project Time
Risk Description	\$50,001 - \$200,000
Consequence Rating	Minor (2)
Likelihood Rating	Unlikely (2)
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (4)
Key Controls (in place)	RRG 5 Year Plan AMP and LTFP
Action (Treatment)	Regional Road Sub-Group Meetings
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate

Financial Implications

The Shire's contribution of \$54,038 will be temporarily funded from the Road Reserve, with funds to be replenished during the mid-year budget review using the available municipal operating surplus

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 5.2

Moved: Cr Trepp

Seconded: Cr Meakins

1206

That, by Simple Majority, the Committee endorse:

1. The allocation of surplus Regional Road Group funding for the Dowerin-Meckering Road reseal project (SLK 21.50 - 23.84) with a total project cost of \$162,115; and
2. Approve the Shire's contribution of \$54,038, to be temporarily funded from the Road Reserve for the purpose of funding commitment, with funds to be replenished at the mid-year budget review using available municipal operating surplus.

CARRIED 3/0

For: Cr Metcalf, Cr Trepp, Cr Meakins

Asset & Works Committee does not have delegated authority to make decisions.

All recommendations of the Asset & Works Committee are presented to Council for ratification.

6.	Questions from Members
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7.	Date of the Next Meeting
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March 2026

8.	Closure
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The Chair thanked those in attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 6:06pm

UNCONFIRMED