



## **DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT**

13 March 2007

<b>DSS9</b>	<b>MID NORTH WEIGHT OF LOADS GROUP</b>
<b>FILE: 122 NJT</b>	<b>{ Folio No. * }</b>

### **SUMMARY:**

Reporting on further participation in the Mid North Weight of Loads Group.

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### **DESCRIPTION:**

The current agreement for participation in the Mid North Weight of Loads Group expires on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

Council has been asked to provide early advice to the Mid North Weight of Loads Group of its continued participation in the scheme.

The volume of heavy vehicles on the shire roads is continually on the increase each year. Council is no doubt aware that the damage caused to our roads can be attributed to heavy vehicles.

This ongoing problem can be exacerbated by allowing overloaded heavy vehicles onto local roads. The only solution open to Council is to police this activity through the Mid North Coast Weight of Loads Group.

The Roads and Traffic Authority Inspectors patrol the major arterial roads, or roads under the control of the Roads and Traffic Authority.

The Group was established in 1986 with the purpose of minimising pavement damage by overloaded vehicles and thus reducing maintenance and reconstruction costs on our roads. Whilst the Group feels that it has made progress in weight enforcement and, more importantly, loading education, the task is ongoing and Council is requested to consider continued participation in the Group for a further 4 years.

The costs of participation are in the order of \$9,500 per year, a very small portion of Council's total roads expenditure.

### **REPORT IMPLICATIONS:**

- *Environmental*

*Nil*

- *Social*

*Nil*

- *Economic (Financial)*

*The financial implication of the following recommendation would be the commitment of funds for a further 4 years.*

- *Policy or Statutory*

*Nil*

- *Director's Review*

*The benefits and resultant savings from reduced road maintenance costs by Council's participation in the Weight of Loads Group far outweighs the relatively minor costs of the scheme.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council agree to jointly employ Ordinance Inspectors with other Councils currently participating in the Mid North Weight of Loads Group for a further term of 4 years effective from 1 July 2007 and the relevant documents be completed under Council seal.**

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**A P Vermeulen**  
**DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**