

Network Outcomes Contract Governance & Management Group Clarification

Reference Number:	NOCC No. 20
Subject Title:	Seal Widening Costs
Issue Date:	26 September 2017
Clarification Purpose	Clarification is provided to ensure the NOC is being interpreted consistently. The clarification does not remove or supersede the Network Outcomes Contract documentation.

SUBJECT

Work Category 341: Minor Improvements funds improvement projects that may be undertaken as part of the Safety Projects Programme (Clause 5.5.2, NOC Maintenance Specification – Volume 4).

The Safety Projects Programme may include Seal Widening projects undertaken:

- In conjunction with an Area Wide treatment on National – High Volume, National, Regional roads (One Network road classification) following completion of the 'AWT Pre Design Project Scope' template.
- As a standalone safety project at sites where there are clear safety issues and seal widening has been identified as an appropriate treatment to reduce the risk.

In both cases the decision to proceed with the seal widening will be made following confirmation that the DSI's saved/ 10 years/ \$100¹ spent will support the widening.

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

Clarification is required where Seal Widening is undertaken as a standalone safety project to confirm whether the second coat seal laid in the year following construction of the main project should be funded as an improvement or a renewal.

¹ 'X' fatal and serious casualties will be saved over the next 10 years by spending \$100m on the proposed treatment

RESPONSE

The source of funding will depend on whether a maintenance reseal is scheduled for the year following construction of the seal widening.

No maintenance reseal scheduled in year following construction:

In this situation if a second coat seal is required to complete the project it should be funded as an improvement from Work Category 341.

In terms of programming this will mean that funding for the physical works will need to be split over two financial years. Several options exist to ensure funding is available, i.e:

- Option 1/ In the year preceding when the second coat seal is required create a new project within SWIPP and give it a 'local ranking' to ensure that funding is made available as part of the subsequent financial years funding bid.
- Option 2/ In the year that funding is required create a new project within SWIPP and fund the project from within the approved allocation.
- Option 3/ In the year that funding is required create a new project within SWIPP and overspend the approved allocation.

Note that the decision of which option to adopt will depend on the cost of the work associated with the second coat sealing, e.g. this may vary significantly between seal widening associated with the installation of bridge guardrail approaches versus seal widening.

Maintenance reseal scheduled in year following construction:

If a reseal is scheduled for the year following construction then the resealing of the widening should be funded as a maintenance activity.

The decision on how to proceed will depend on conversations between Safety Engineers and Network Managers.

CONCLUSION

If a maintenance reseal is scheduled in the year following construction then the second coat seal associated with the widening should be funded as a maintenance activity. In all other cases the second coat seal should be funded as an improvement from Work Category 341.