

Main Roads in-house delivery of road maintenance and some minor capital works

The last of our transitions for 2023 took place in the Pilbara region on 1 November, with 31 new and transitioning staff joining the team.

Attended by the Member for Pilbara Kevin Michel, Chief Operating Officer Des Snook and Acting General Manager Regional Operations Brett Belstead were in the Region to welcome the new crew to Main Roads.

"The team here in the Pilbara will be responsible for routine maintenance across the network and the delivery of some Minor Capital Works, supported by local contractors" Des said.

"Our crews will be able to respond more effectively to emergency scenarios and natural disasters in the region, such as Tropical Cyclone Isla that occurred earlier this year.

"The valuable experience that these new members of staff will bring will increase the capability, capacity and sustainability of Main Roads in the region ensuring that the State road network is well maintained and contribute to keeping our road users safe" added Des.

The Pilbara region will also be home to a new 2,656m² Depot on Beadon Creek Road in Onslow. Replacing the existing Nanutarra depot, Onslow will be the fourth major base for Main Roads in the region. The Depot includes two large sheds, a small office, staff amenities area, and a one-bedroom dwelling, and will help reduce operational costs, improve the attraction and retention of employees, and improve serviceability to the road network in the southern coastal and western areas of the Pilbara.

The 31 new employees in the Pilbara region join more than 270 current employees who have already made the move to Main Roads in the Wheatbelt, Mid West-Gascoyne, Perth Metropolitan and Goldfields Esperance Regions.

[Watch our video from the day here.](#)



With the Pilbara transition now complete, attention turns to our Great Southern and South West Regions, who are in the final stretch of preparations for their transition events on 1 February.

Great Southern Update

Work continues at pace across all workstream areas to ensure that the Great Southern Region is ready for the transition of services on 1 February 2024.

From a human resource perspective, the offer and acceptance process has concluded with an excellent response received. The proposed onboarding and induction process has been agreed and will occur in January 2024. Access to training records of transitioning staff is being resolved so that a detailed training plan can be developed.

Major plant procurement remains a critical area, with lease extension on existing plant items being agreed until the arrival of new plant. The procurement of minor plant items continues with all long lead time items secured.

Significant progress has been made in the supply chain area with all regional contracts either awarded or in the award phase. The business rules for these contracts are well advanced and agreement has been reached on the approach to tracking work orders, dockets and monthly claims.

The construction of a new leased depot in Katanning is currently being completed. The installation of materials bins, emulsion tank and the implementation of a cleaning contract are currently under way.

Thank you to Wheatbelt and Mid West-Gascoyne Regions who have hosted some of Great Southern Region's staff over recent months so they can learn from your experiences. Representatives from the Great Southern Region will also be travelling to Goldfields Esperance Region in December to understand their transition journey and discuss future collaboration opportunities.

South West Update

The South West Region is also working to implement the final requirements in preparation for transition.

The Region has been focussed on the engagement of staff for their maintenance crews with third round offers recently made. Training and induction for human resources, safety and environment are scheduled to take place in late January, prior to the changeover.

Minor works contracts to support regional work activities are well advanced and a number have been awarded.

Delivery of new Information Technology and mobile phones is expected in January along with PPE for new staff. Corporate branding of new Main Roads vehicles is also underway.

The Kimberley Region has also commenced their transition process, en-route to a changeover date of November 2024.

A transition team has been established and is working to formalise the Region's transition plan. A proposed organisational structure has been developed for approval, prior to Depot visits by Main Roads and MACA in late November and early December 2023. The Depot visits will provide an opportunity for staff to hear about the transition, what's involved and what opportunities will be available to them.

Regional town visits are also on the agenda, to brief industry on the business opportunities that will be available once the Region transitions to in-house maintenance delivery.

Several additional panel contracts have been identified for implementation and will supplement those already in place for the direct-managed work currently undertaken in the Kimberley Region.

The Transition team is also looking to secure office facilities in Broome along with staff housing across the Region. The light vehicle fleet and maintenance plant are being finalised and orders are being placed.

Further information

For further information on the transition process, visit [iRoads](#) or our external [webpage](#).