

POLICY NAME: NAMING of ROADS, BRIDGES & PLACES

POLICY REF: NO1

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OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to:

- a) create a policy for naming of roads and bridges and that is in accordance with the requirements of the *Roads Act 1993* and the *Roads Regulation 2018*.
- b) provide guidelines for selecting place names that are consistent with the requirements Geographical Names Board of NSW (GNB);
- c) ensure that the naming of roads is consistent with the requirements in the *New South Wales Address Policy* and the *Rural and Urban Addressing Standard AS/NZS 4819:2011*;
- d) ensure that the naming of roads, bridges and places conforms to established guidelines that will not compromise the provisions of emergency, utility and postal services;
- e) ensure a transparent and consistent approach to the naming of roads, bridges and places in the Ballina Shire which reflect its history and character.
- f) To ensure consistency, clarity and timeliness for addressing and naming

POLICY

Council's policy is to support the naming of roads, bridges and places in accordance with appropriate guidelines and standards. The policy encourages the use of names associated with historical themes and people that have shaped the history of the shire including Aboriginal, European and other peoples.

In addition, the selection of names for roads, bridges and places will be in accordance with the NSW Address Policy.

1. The process of naming roads, bridges and places

- 1.1 The process for the naming of roads, bridges and places is summarised in the flowchart contained in **APPENDIX A**
- 1.2 If a public park, reserve or place adjoins a road, the preferred option is for the street name to be applied to the public park or place. Extenuating circumstances such as recognising significant local heritage will be taken into account when considering a proposal for a name.
- 1.3 In cases where road names are determined by public authorities such as the RMS, Council will liaise with the appropriate authority to ensure that the road design and selected names address key elements of Council's policy and the NSW Address Policy.

2. Private Roads

- 2.1** All formed roads, including private roads that are generally open to the public or to services shall be named in accordance with the AUM Addressing Principles. This includes, but is not limited to, bike paths, walking tracks, roads within hospitals, retirement villages, national parks and pedestrian only roads, such as malls.

3. The Development Process

- 3.1** Development proposals incorporating new roads, bridges and places can generate the need to name such facilities. In some cases, residential developments such as retirement villages and caravan parks require the provision of a privately owned road network.
- 3.2** Proposed names for roads, bridges or places are to be considered early in the development process. Where new names are required, a condition of development consent will require the applicant to have the names finalised, or authorise Council to allocate a name before the subdivision certificate is issued. A proposed name may be selected from any source in accordance with the naming policy guidelines.
- 3.3** All road names are to be gazetted with the GNB, and must be shown on the final subdivision plan prior to issue of the subdivision certificate and lodgement of the plan with NSW Land Registry Services (LRS) for registration.
- 3.4** The appropriate naming of private internal roads within a development that services separate domiciles is also important from an addressing and emergency response perspective. Council has not traditionally had a statutory role in approving private road names and can do so through the development consent process via a condition of consent. Under this policy the naming of private roads must be finalised prior to the issue of an occupation certificate.

4. Dual Naming

- 4.1** In accordance with the GNB Dual Naming Guidelines, Council encourages the dual naming of geographic features and recognised cultural sites in the Ballina Shire. The support of the dual naming of geographic features and recognised cultural sites seeks to acknowledge the shire's Aboriginal community. It also promotes the value of the shire's Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural recognition as an important facet of the Reconciliation process.
- 4.2** Dual naming may be applied to situations where it can be established that a proposed name was historically associated with a particular geographic or cultural feature; it does not apply to roads or bridges.
- 4.3** The dual naming of geographic features and recognised cultural sites is an option in addition to any proposal to apply other names to roads, bridges and places that recognise the history and heritage of Aboriginal people in the shire. This can include contemporary historical themes or personalities associated with post-European Aboriginal experience in the shire.

The application of dual naming in the shire is in accordance with the GNB Dual Naming Guidelines.

BACKGROUND

It is important that the naming of roads, bridges and places in the Ballina Shire is standardised to ensure that the process is transparent, understandable and, if appropriate, provides opportunities for community consultation.

A consistent approach also benefits emergency services, transport and goods delivery.

The GNB's primary directive is to give precedence in using names of Aboriginal origin associated with the place, OR a name that recognises the social history of an area.

The naming of private and public roads, bridges, places and geographical features provides an opportunity to recognise all aspects of a place's history. This may include names associated with historical themes, natural features, industry and local work practices and the presence or achievements of individuals or groups in the community that have contributed to shaping local history.

The naming of roads and places after people who are still living is not considered appropriate. The GNB's experience is that proposals of this kind can lead to division in the community and other associated problems. Jurisdictions around the world prohibit the use of names of living persons. The GNB strongly recommends that local councils do not name public places to honour living persons and suggests alternative ways of commemorating living persons. Other means of commemoration may include plaques or the naming community facilities.

DEFINITIONS

AP	NSW Address Policy
AUM	NSW Addressing User Manual
Council	Ballina Shire Council
GNB	Geographical Names Board of New South Wales
Name	a proposed identification for a road, bridge or place that satisfies the requirements of this policy
Place	means any geographical or topographical feature or any district, division, locality, region, city, town, village, settlement, railway station or school or any other place within New South Wales. The definition does not include any road, any local Government area, urban area, county council district or electoral district by virtue of the regulations.
Private Road	is any road that is not a public road and may include roads to battle-axe blocks, roads indicated on community subdivision plans, roads in various cluster developments, roads on private property such as roads in caravan parks and other forms of 'rights of way'.

Public Road is any road that is opened, dedicated or declared to be a public road, whether under the *Roads Act 1993* or any other Act.

RMS Transport for NSW - Roads & Maritime Services

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- Council employees
- Councillors
- Community members
- Committees of Council
- Consultants/Contractors
- Developers

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

As a minimum this policy should be read in conjunction with:

- *Local Government Act 1993*
- *Roads Act 1993*
- Crown Land Management Act 2016
- Geographical Names Act 1966
- Australian Standard AS / NZS4819 - Rural and Urban Addressing
- Roads Regulation 2018
- NSW Addressing User Manual
- NSW Road Naming Policy
- NSW Road Naming Procedure and Process

REVIEW

This policy is to be reviewed every four years to ensure that it meets legislation and guidelines.

APPENDIX A - Flowchart – Overview – Naming Roads, Bridges & Places