

Council Policy



Policy Title:	Naming of Roads and Bridges
Policy Number:	11.14
Focus Area:	CS2 Great Support
Responsibility:	Asset Planning
Meeting Adopted:	28 June 2022 [Resolution 280622/16]

OBJECTIVE

Council is the authority responsible for property addressing within the Richmond Valley Local Government area (LGA). This policy defines Council's legislative requirements, standards and requirements for naming and renaming roads.

Road naming is a component of an address that forms the identification of a property. Clarity in identification is imperative for residents for emergency services, service delivery, mail identification and connection and supply of utility services.

Council is the owner, and responsible for the maintenance of bridges that form part of a public road. The principles of bridge naming will follow the same overall guidelines as naming roads. A bridge name does not form part of a property address however naming provides clear locational identification for emergency and disaster response with a benefit to first responders, the public and the overall community.

The objective of this policy is to provide to Council staff and the community a consistent overview of the importance of the requirements and provide guidance when considering proposed names or the renaming of roads and bridges. The policy will also provide an understanding of how road and bridge naming will assist the community, Council, emergency services and mapping services when locating properties/facilities.

POLICY

This policy formalises Council's requirements regarding the naming of roads and bridges for which Council is the managing Authority in accordance with the below legislation and guidelines:

NSW Address Policy and User Manual

The policy and user manual provide a complete overview of the principles, procedures and processes relating to road naming and addressing. The manual outlines what to consider when proposing a road name including rules and standards that must be applied.

Geographical Names Board of NSW (GNB)

The Geographical Names Board is the authority for geographical names in NSW and operation under the *Geographical Names Act 1966*.

Roads Act 1993	NSW legislation that provides the framework and authority for roads within NSW. Specifically, Section 162 provides the authority for the naming of public roads and Section 163 provides for the keeping of records by the managing authority (Council).
Roads (General) Regulation 2018	Part 2 Division 1 Clause 7 defines the procedure requirements for naming roads.

Road Naming Reference Documents

- Road names are required to meet the standards within the NSW Address Policy and User Manual as published by The Geographical Names Board of NSW.
- Bridge naming should follow the general principles of the NSW Address Policy and User Manual as published by The Geographical Names Board of NSW.

Name Considerations

Council promotes gender diversity and consideration of our multicultural and Indigenous heritage in the selection of names. Where suitable names relating to roads and bridges should consider:

- Persons who have significantly contributed to the heritage of the Richmond Valley.
- Local history themes.
- Local flora or fauna.
- Names of early settlers or war service persons.
- Significant landmarks.

Council will consider and adhere to the below when selecting names:

- Road/Bridge names will not be offensive, racist, derogatory or demeaning.
- Road/Bridge names will not be misspelt. Particularly, the spelling of a person's name to ensure the validation by reference to a primary source.
- Commercial and business names will not be used, particularly where the name can be construed to be promoting the business. However, business names no longer in use with a significant heritage to the Richmond Valley are suitable.
- Road types are not to be used as a road name e.g. Court Road or Bypass Street.
- Only one name should be used for commemorative naming e.g. given name or surname.

Aboriginal names are also supported and shall be in a local language chosen in consultation with the Local Aboriginal Land Council and/or relevant Aboriginal community.

All road and bridge naming requests are to be made in writing to Council for consideration and review, with reference to be given to the history and origin of the name and any supporting information. Any proposed name that does not comply with the NSW Address Policy and User Manual will not be supported by Council.

DEFINITIONS

Managing Authority Road naming is legislated under the *Roads Act 1993*. This Act empowers the authority in charge of the road with the rights to name it. Council is the authority responsible for roads dedicated as public roads.

For the purposes of Crown Roads, the GNB advises that Local Government (with jurisdiction over the area in which the road is located) is responsible for endorsing the authoritative road name and ensuring it is approved by the GNB and gazette.

LGA Local Government Area.

GNB Geographical Names Board of NSW.

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) road names TfNSW naming of roads is only undertaken for purposes of administration. TfNSW assigned road names are not considered to be the official names for the purposes of addressing unless they have been approved by the Local Government, endorsed by the GNB and gazette.

Public Road 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.

REFERENCES

1. Australian Standards AS1742.5-1997 and AS4590-2006
2. Geographical Names Board of NSW (GNB)
3. Naming of Roads and Bridges Procedure
4. NSW Address Policy and User Manual
5. *Local Government Act 1993*
6. *Roads Act 1993*
7. Roads (General) Regulation 2018
8. *Crown Land Management Act 2016*
9. *Geographical Names Act 1966*

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed by Council at the time of any relevant legislative changes, compliance requirements or at least every four years.

Version Number	Date	Reason / Comments
1	28 June 2022	New policy