



Road Naming Policy





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1. Background

In accordance with the Roads Act 1993, Council is the roads authority for all public roads within its Shire boundary, other than the following:

- Freeways
- Crown roads, or
- Any public roads for which another public authority is declared by the regulation to be the road authority.

This Policy established the parameters by which Council will endorse the naming, or renaming, of all public roads for which it is the roads authority.

In exercising its power to name roads, Council is also required to follow procedures set out in the Roads (General) Regulation 2018.

2. Policy Scope

This policy applies to all public roads for which Council is the roads authority,

3. Definitions

The following definitions apply throughout this policy.

Act	means the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> (NSW).
Application	means an application for consent under Part 4 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> to carry out development and includes an application for a complying development certificate and an application to modify a development consent.
Code of Conduct	means the Code of Conduct adopted by Council.
Council	means Bellingen Shire Council.
Councillor	means a person elected or appointed to civic office as a member of the governing body of council who is not suspended, including the mayor.
GNB	Geographical Names Board.



4. Related Legislation, Guidance and Policies

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following legislation:

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Roads Act 1993*
- *Roads (General) Regulation 2018*

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- NSW Online Road Naming System
- New South Wales Address Policy (May 2021)
- New South Wales Addressing User Manual (May 2021)
- Australian Standards AS1742.5-1997 and AS4590-2006

In the implementation of this Policy, Council Officers give due consideration to the provisions contained with the following documents of Council:

- Road Naming Procedures.
- Community Engagement Policy
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Council's adopted Revenue Policy, Schedule of Fees and Charges

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5. Policy Statement

Bellingen Shire Council is committed to encouraging road names that include Gumbaynggirr Language words, and/or relevant local, cultural, historical, and natural influences of the region.

The following are the key principles that Council will consider when determining a road name proposal.

- 5.1 The provisions of the New South Wales Road Naming Policy – Geographical Names Board of New South Wales, (May 2021) and the New South Wales Address Policy (May 2021) must be observed in the naming and re-naming of roads.
- 5.2 Emergency situations must be considered when proposing road names, it is critical that the road names are unique and easily pronounced to avoid misunderstanding. Duplication of similar and like sounding road names be avoided as these names can cause confusion for operational dispatch and delay emergency response times.
- 5.3 Council prefers road names that are based on one, or a combination of the following themes;
 - local flora,
 - local fauna,
 - names connected to the region's indigenous history.
- 5.4 Unless in exceptional and rare circumstances, the names of individual people (living and deceased) will not be considered as a source of road names.
- 5.5 Unless there is a significant historical reference, and demonstrated community support, the use of family names is discouraged and will not be considered as a source of road names.
- 5.6 Council will consult with the Local Aboriginal Land Councils' and representatives of the Gumbaynggirr people to develop a list of proposed road names for each area of the Shire, that Council can endorse and forward to the Geographical Names Board for pre-approval.
- 5.7 Council's schedule of fees and charges is to include a reduced application fee for road naming applications to encourage the selection of a Council Proposed Name.
- 5.8 Council reserves the right to reject any proposed road name and propose an alternative road name of their choosing.
- 5.9 All proposed road names must be adopted by formal resolution of Council



6. Document Governance Information

6.1 Document Management Information

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Section / Department:	Governance Services
Responsible Officer:	Senior Governance and Risk Officer
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6.2 Strategic Alignment

Community Vision 2035	2 Community Wellbeing
Objective	2.3 We value, honour and actively acknowledge our Gumbaynggirr culture and heritage
Strategy	2.3.4 Gumbaynggirr place language is acknowledged through signage and other mechanisms
Community Vision 2035	5 Civic Leadership
Objective	5.1 Council is an organisation that embraces business excellence
Strategy	5.1.4 Best practice, sustainability principles, accountability and good governance are incorporated in all that we do

7. Review

This Council Policy should be reviewed at least every four years or as required due to significant legislative changes.