

## SELECTION OF ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMES

### POLICY

#### 1. Objective

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a clear framework for selecting and adopting new and replacement names for private and public roads and public places within The Flinders Ranges Council (Council).

#### 2. Scope

This policy applies to all existing and proposed public and private roads and public places within the Council (*as defined in section 3.0 below*).

A Council has the power under section 219 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the "Act") to assign a name to, or change the name of:

- a public road;
- a private road; and
- a public place.

Council *must* assign a name to each public road created by land division under section 219(1)(a) of the Act; and

Council *must* prepare and adopt a policy relating to the assigning of names under section 219(5) of the Act.

*[Note: The naming of State roads is the responsibility of Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)].*

#### 3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions extracted from the Act will apply:

**private road** means a road in private ownership;

**public notice** means notice published in the Gazette and in a newspaper circulating generally throughout the State;

**public place** means a place (including a place on private land) to which the public has access, but does not include any part of a community parcel divided by a plan of community division under the *Community Titles Act 1996*;

**public road** means:

- (a) any road or land that was, immediately before the commencement of this Act, a public street or road under the repealed Act; or
- (b) any road—
  - (i) that is vested in a council under this or another Act; or
  - (ii) that is placed under a council's care, control and management as a public road after the commencement of this Act, but not including an alley, laneway, walkway or other similar thoroughfare vested in a council; or
- (c) any road or land owned by a council, or transferred or surrendered to a council, and which, subject to this Act, is declared by the council to be a public road; or
- (d) any land shown as a street or road on a plan of division deposited in the Lands Titles Registration Office or the General Registry Office and which is declared by the council to be a public road; or
- (e) any land transferred or surrendered to the Crown for use as a public road that was, immediately before the transfer, held by a person in fee simple or under a lease granted by the Crown, (and includes any such road that is within the boundaries of a public square).

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOVERNANCE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SELECTION OF ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMES POLICY</b></p>	Policy Number Version Number Issued Last Review Next Review GDS	G1.17 4 July 2012 June 2023 June 2028 9.63.1.1
--	--	--	---

#### 4. Policy

It is Council's policy that all sealed public roads and all formed public roads within the Council area that are regularly accessed will be assigned a name. This does not include 'unmade' road reserves.

All formed private roads that are accessible to the public (with the exception below) will also be assigned a name. This includes roads within complexes such as hospitals, retirement villages, and roads in forests or parks etc.

**Exception:** Private roads with five or less property addresses do not need to be named. In these cases address numbers will be assigned off the road that the private road exits onto.

All roads that can be used as part of an address for an address site will be assigned a name.

Road name signs that identify each public road will, as far as practicable, be placed at every road intersection and will clearly indicate the road to which it applies.

For this Policy, the same process will apply whether it is the assigning of a name to a 'road' or a 'place'.

#### 5. Initiating the Road and Public Place Naming Process

A road naming process may be initiated if:

- a request is received by the Council from an affected land owner or their agent;
- Council resolves that a name change be investigated;
- Council staff determine it is in the public interest to investigate a change in road name;
- Council opens or forms a road; or
- Council receives an application for a land division.

A public place naming process may be initiated if:


- a request is received by Council from a member of the public, business, association etc;
- Council resolves that a naming process be investigated; or
- Council determine it is in the public interest to investigate a place name.

#### 6. Names of Roads and Public Places

In the naming and renaming of public roads the following principles will be observed –

##### 6.1 Uniqueness

- A road will have only one name. However, road or place names with recognised Aboriginal names may be additionally acknowledged on the road or place name sign;
- A road name will be unique within the Council district and any duplicate road names will be resolved in order to avoid confusion (eg emergency services response). The only exception will be that road names within a defined town boundary will be unique within that town but may be the same as that in another defined township (eg Main Street);
- Roads that are maintained by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport and (DIT) will be named by DIT. Council will consult with DIT in relation to naming these roads;
- Similar sounding names (eg Paice, Payce or Pace Roads) within a suburb or locality will be avoided where possible;
- Roads crossing Council boundaries should have a single and unique name; and
- Wherever practicable, road names will be continuous from the logical start of the road to the logical end of the road, irrespective of Council boundaries, landforms and intersecting roads.

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOVERNANCE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SELECTION OF ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMES POLICY</b></p>	Policy Number Version Number Issued Last Review Next Review GDS	G1.17 4 July 2012 June 2023 June 2028 9.63.1.1
--	--	--	---

## 6.2 Name Sources

As a mark of respect, Council's first preference for road and place names will be the surnames from the Honour Rolls in the respective localities of people who laid down their lives in the service of their country in the various theatres of war.

Notwithstanding, other sources for road and place names may be considered where appropriate and may include:

- early explorers, pioneers, and settlers;
- eminent persons (deceased);
- Aboriginal names taken from the local Aboriginal language;
- thematic names such as flora, fauna, ships etc; and
- local history.

Names will be selected so as to be appropriate to the physical, historical or cultural character of the area concerned. The origin of each name will be clearly stated and recorded as part of the Council's historical records. The local Aboriginal community will be consulted when choosing Aboriginal names or using words from relevant Aboriginal languages.

Where the naming of a public place is requested, Council will liaise with family in relation to the request and in making its decision will take into consideration factors such as, but not limited to:

- Significant contribution to the place where the name is requested e.g. sporting contributions for sporting place
- Preference for eminent persons (deceased)
- Likelihood of disrepute of persons in the long term.

Generally, Council will not approve the naming of whole public places in family names but may consider the naming of parts/structure of public places or the erection of plaques to recognise contributions and such at public places.

## 6.3 Propriety

Names of living persons should be avoided.

Names, which are characterised as follows, will not be used:

- Offensive or likely to give offence;
- Incongruous - out of place; or
- Commercial or company names.

## 6.4 Communication

Names will be reasonably easy to read, spell and pronounce in order to assist service providers, emergency services and the travelling public.

Unduly long names and names composed of two or more words should be avoided:

- a given name will only be included with a family name where it is essential to identify an individual or where it is necessary to avoid ambiguity. The use of given names will generally be avoided;
- whilst street and cul-de-sac names should have only one word, it is recognised that some roads require a two-word name because of their geographic relationship eg Proof Range Road; or
- roads with double destination names will be avoided. (*For example Quorn / Carrieton Road or Cradock / Hawker Road*).

## 6.5 Spelling

Where it is intended that a road have the same name as a place or feature with an approved geographical name, particular care will be taken to ensure that the correct spelling of the official place name is adopted as shown in the Government Gazette.

Where the spelling of names has been changed by long established local usage, unless there is a particular request by the local community to retain the original name, the spelling that is sanctioned by general usage will be adopted.

Generally road names proposed or approved will not contain abbreviations eg the 'Creek' in 'Wallaby Creek Road' must not be abbreviated. There are, however, two exceptions, 'St' will always be used in place of 'Saint' and it is acceptable to use 'Mt' for 'Mount'.

## 6.6 Form

The apostrophe mark (') will be omitted in the possessive case eg 'Smith's Road' will be 'Smiths Road'.

Names will avoid the use of the possessive 's' unless the euphony becomes harsh eg 'Devil Elbow'.

The use of hyphens will be avoided. However, hyphens may be used when naming a road after a person with a hyphenated name.

## 6.7 Type or Road or Public Place

Road names will include an appropriate road type suffix conforming to the following guidelines:

- The suffix chosen will be compatible with the class and type of road. Assistance to both the motorists and pedestrians is a major consideration in choosing the suffix.
- When a suffix with a geometric or geographic connotation is chosen it will generally reflect the form of the road, eg Crescent - a crescent or half-moon, re-joining the road from which it starts;
- For a cul-de-sac use Place, Close, Court or a suffix of similar connotation.
- Highway (HWY) will be specifically reserved for roads associated with the state arterial road network. Its use will be restricted to roads of strategic importance constructed to a high standard.

The following list of suitable road type suffixes is included as examples. [The list has been sourced from Australian Standards AS 1742.5 -1986 and AS 4212 – 1994. An expanded road type list and acceptable abbreviations can be sourced from AS 4590:2006. In most instances the connotations are clear but where necessary a definition can be checked in a dictionary.] Only road types shown in the standard documents will be used.

Alley	Avenue	Boulevard
Bypass	Circle	Circuit
Circus	Close	Court
Crescent	Drive	Esplanade
Grove	Lane	Mews
Parade	Parkway	Place
Plaza	Promenade	Road
Row	Square	Street
Terrace	Walk	Way

## 6.8 No Prefix or Additional Suffix

The use of a compass point prefix/suffix or an additional suffix such as 'north' or 'extension' will be avoided, particularly where new roads are to be named. Where an existing road is subsequently bisected as a result of traffic management planning or some other reason, it may be appropriate to delineate each half of the road by the addition of a compass point suffix for the purposes of assisting the community and the emergency services to locate the appropriate part of the road.

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOVERNANCE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SELECTION OF ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMES POLICY</b></p>	Policy Number Version Number Issued Last Review Next Review GDS	G1.17 4 July 2012 June 2023 June 2028 9.63.1.1
--	--	--	---

## 7. Naming of Private Roads

This policy covers all formed roads that are regularly accessed and therefore includes private roads. Private land owners are not obliged to seek Council approval for naming their roads. However, there is a public interest in encouraging private land owners and developers to select suitable names, preferably in accordance with this policy, and to obtain Council endorsement for the name. Where Council proposes to assign a name to a private road it will consult with the owner of the land over the proposed name and the signage requirements for the road.

The erection of signage on private roads is to be at the owner's cost and must comply with the appropriate Australian Standards. Notwithstanding, the Council retains discretion to install road name signage on private roads that it determines is in the public interest.

## 8. Consultation with Adjoining Councils

If Council decides to change the name of a public road that runs into the area of an adjoining Council, the Council will give the adjoining Council at least two (2) months notice of the proposed change and consider any representations made by the adjoining Council in response to the notice. [see s.219(2) of the Act]

## 9. Public Notice of Name Assignment or Change

Council will give public notice of the assigning or changing of a road name or assigning a place name. This will be by publication in the Government Gazette and by notice in a newspaper circulating generally throughout the State, as required under the Act. Public notice will include the date that the new name takes effect (*see 11.0 below*) and notice will also be published on the Council's website <[www.frc.sa.gov.au](http://www.frc.sa.gov.au)>, a local newspaper and Council's community Newsletter.

## 10. Advise Relevant Parties of New Name or Name Change

Council will provide written notice of Council's decision on a new road name or name change to all relevant parties, including (but not limited to):

- Registrar-General;
- Surveyor-General;
- Valuer-General [see s.219(3)(a) of the LG Act]
- the owner of the road (if a private road);
- owners of abutting properties;
- Australia Post;
- Utilities; and
- Emergency Services.

## 11. Date of Effect for New Names or Name Changes

The date of effect of the new or changed road name will be determined at the time the decision to assign the name so as to allow sufficient time for all stakeholders to make arrangements to ensure a smooth transition.

The date of effect will be determined after considering:

- In respect of renaming an existing road, the impact on existing property owners, residents, tenants and occupiers. For example the time required to advise relevant parties to change letterhead stationery and advertising references;
- Potential confusion for people using maps and street directories that effectively become out of date; and
- The desire of some developers to sell property 'off the plan' and the opportunity for new owners to know their future address at an early stage.

Council will update the Register of Public Roads as required by s.231 of the Act.

## 12. Road Name Signage

Council will ensure road naming signage in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard (AS 1742.5 – 1997) is erected. (Signage may be erected during construction of a sub-division).

*Note: The erection of road naming signage of State roads is the responsibility of Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI).*

## 13. Display of Building and Allotment Number

An owner of land must, at the request of the Council, ensure that the appropriate number for the owner's building or allotment is displayed in a form directed or approved by the Council [see s.220(6) of the Act].

Council retains discretion to install appropriate numbering signage for a building or allotment itself, including on private roads that it determines is in the public interest, and to charge the owner a fee at a rate set by Council.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief Executive Officer is accountable for ensuring the proper operation of this Policy.

## LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1999  
Road Traffic Act 1961  
Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991  
Community Titles Act 1996

## REFERENCES

Nil

## REVIEW

To be reviewed within 12 months after a General Election, in line with legislation and any legislative changes or by resolution of Council.

Adopted by Council      12 June 2012  
Resolution 101/2012

Review Date	Version Number	Change	Resolution
13 August 2013	1	Nil	180/2013
15 March 2016	2	Add Review Clause, correct spelling Clause 10	102/2016
14 August 2018	3	6.1 recognition of Aboriginal names, remove 14 (duplicated)	xxx/2018

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOVERNANCE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SELECTION OF ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMES POLICY</b></p>	Policy Number Version Number Issued Last Review Next Review GDS	G1.17 4 July 2012 June 2023 June 2028 9.63.1.1
--	--	--	---

20 June 2023	4	Minor grammar and formatting changes and reference to public places	149/2023
--------------	---	---	----------