

The naming and addressing of private roads and roads in community subdivisions



The process to name public roads in New South Wales is outlined in the *Roads Act 1993* and its associated *Roads Regulation 2000*. It is important to note that this legislation is not applicable for the naming of private roads or roads that fall within community subdivisions.

What is a public road?

A 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.

A public road can be created by:

- the registration of a plan at the Office of the Registrar General
- the dedication by way of notice in the NSW Government Gazette by the Roads Authority or Minister
- by the publication of a proclamation by the Governor.

What is a private road?

A private road is any road that is not a public road. Private roads can include:

- some roads or driveways to battleaxe blocks
- roads indicated on community subdivision plans
- roads in various cluster developments
- roads on private property, for example, roads in caravan parks
- other forms of 'rights of way'.

How do I name a private road?

There is no legislated process for the naming of private roads. However, the Geographical Names Board of NSW (the Board) strongly recommends that individuals or organisations naming these roads comply with the *Guidelines for the Naming of Roads* published by the Board.

Once a name is chosen it is advisable to notify the local council of this decision. It is also highly recommended that notification be sent to:

Team Leader, Topographic Data
Land and Property Management Authority
PO Box 143
Bathurst NSW 2795

And

The Manager,
AddressPOST NSW
PO Box 316
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

This notification should include the name chosen for the road. A map showing the extent of the road in relation to built public roads and contact details.

How to apply address numbers to properties on private roads?

There are no legislative requirements to address properties on private roads. To ensure consistency, however, the Board endorses the Australian Standard AS/NZS 4819:2003, Geographic information – Rural and Urban Addressing. If individuals or organisations wish to apply address numbers to properties on private roads it should be done in compliance with this standard.

As with the naming of private roads, it is advisable to notify local council of the allotted address numbers.



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This notification should include a map showing the location of address numbers along the private road and contact details.

What happens if I don't follow the process?

It is important to ensure addresses are consistent. If road names do not comply with well established guidelines or address numbering fails to conform to standards the provisions of emergency services, utilities and post maybe compromised.

References

- *The Roads Act 1993*
- *The Roads (General) Regulation 2000*
- Australian Standard, AS/NZS 4819:2003, Geographic information – Rural and Urban Addressing
- Guidelines for the Naming of Roads, Geographical Names Board of NSW

For further advice or assistance

For further advice or assistance on road naming in NSW contact the GNB.

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