

GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL ROAD NAMING POLICY

Part A Introduction

1. Policy Objective

The aim of the Gore District Council Road Naming Policy is to ensure the consistent selection of road names that reflect the identity of the local community. In addition it also ensures ease of location identification for the Council, the public and key services such as emergency and delivery services.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the naming and renaming of roads within the territory of the Gore District Council. It is to apply from the date the policy is adopted by the Council and does not apply to road naming completed prior to that date.

3. Legislation and Authorities

Section 319 of the Local Government Act 1974 assigns to the Council general powers in respect of roads. Specifically section 319(j) empowers the Council “to name and alter the name of any road and to place on any building or erection on or abutting on any road a plate bearing the name of the road.”

4. Definitions

This policy applies to roads as defined by the Local Government Act 1974 (the Act).

Terms used in this policy

Road – land defined as road by section 315 of the Act, which includes land intended for use by the public generally. This includes access ways and service lanes.

Private Roads - as defined by the Act being roads on private land, but intended for the use of the public generally.

Private Ways – as defined by the Act being roads on private land with restricted access (eg rights of way).

Legal Road – any road legally established as a public road (section 315 (a) - (f) of the Act).

Service Lane – legal road established for the purpose of providing alternate service vehicle access to non-residential property or similar purpose.

Access Way – legal road established for the purpose of providing pedestrian access usually between roads and/or public land.

Right of Way – private way being an easement granted to one or more parties over land for the purposes of access.

Access Lot – private way being a parcel of land with shared ownership used for the purposes of access to the respective properties of the owners.

Part B Gore District Council Road Naming Policy

1. Roads to be named under the policy

The following roads can be named under the policy.

- 1.1. New legal road, including service lanes and access ways.
- 1.2. Existing unnamed legal roads to be formed for vehicular traffic or public walkway
- 1.3. New private roads and private ways (including rights of way, access lots) where there are more than five allotments to use this road for their primary access and addressing.
- 1.4. Any other road where there are clear benefits to the community in establishing a formal name.
- 1.5. Existing names roads where alteration of the name is proposed.

2. Selection of a road name

- 2.1. New road names shall not be the same as, or similar to, existing road names within the district.
- 2.2. Roads are to only have one name.
- 2.3. New road names are to be based on broad themes which accentuate the key attributes of the community. Therefore in Gore road names based around famous artists, country music, trout fishing or whiskey distilling may be used, while in Matura, a theme based on that community's heritage or industrial heritage may be adopted.
- 2.4. Council staff shall submit a report on profiling suggested names within each theme that can be considered for utilisation when a new road needs to be assigned a name.

3. Altering the name of an existing named road

- 3.1. Altering the name of an existing named road will only be undertaken if the Council considers that the change will result in a clear benefit to the community.

4. Road names that can be used for the allocation of addresses

4.1. All road names approved under this policy can be used in the allocation of property numbers and addresses, except for new service lanes and access ways.

5. Names for roads created by subdivision

5.1. A developer of a private subdivision may propose a name for each new road created by the subdivision. The name proposed must be in line with the broad themes listed in clause 2.3 above. For the avoidance of doubt the final decision on the naming of a road, rests with the Council.

6. Macrons

6.1. Macrons can be used in the spelling of Maori road names.

6.2. Macrons are to be considered only for a few names where other changes to the spelling of a road name are proposed or where the use of macrons is of demonstrable importance to mana whenua.

6.3. Where a road name that includes macrons is approved, the spelling of the road name without these macrons is discouraged but permitted.

7. Consultation

7.1. Anyone directly affected shall be consulted about proposals for the naming of roads.

Mana whenua are to be consulted for all proposals involving Maori names. The general public will be consulted about proposals to alter a road name.