Street Naming & Numbering

1. Acts of Parliament

The naming and numbering of streets and buildings within the Stroud District is a statutory function that Stroud District Council provides in exercise of its powers and duties under the Public Health Act 1925 (for street naming) and The Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847 (for building numbering).

2. British Standard BS7666 - Address Data Entry Conventions

In addition to the traditional method of addressing a property the Government has introduced a British Standard (BS7666) for the precise identification of a property or plot of land. Each property has been allocated a 12 digit Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN). This permits additional information such as co-ordinates to be accessed allowing the property to be located on a map.

Stroud along with all the other local or unitary authorities has created and maintains a Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) to the above standard. Updates to this information are submitted daily to the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) which is marketed commercially. This precise location information is then used internally to aid the provision of the Councils statutory functions and externally by the likes of Royal Mail, the Emergency Services and Utility Companies. In recognition of the quality and completeness of our LLPG data, in May 2015 we received the following awards:

The appropriate naming of streets and naming and numbering of buildings forms the basis for identifying property related information which is used by:

- Royal Mail and other services for delivery of post and goods
- The ambulance, police and fire services for responses to emergencies
- Statutory organisations e.g. the Council, HM Land Registry and HM Revenue & Customs

As part of the process the location and naming of new streets is an essential starting point. Whilst this is strictly a District Council function any new streets are notified to Gloucestershire County Council maintains the Local Street Gazetteer (LSG). This is essential for their highway management responsibilities. They in turn provide updates to the National Street Gazetteer (NSG).
It should be noted that the LLPG provides geographic location information for all properties in the district and whilst most addresses are the same as those held by the Royal Mail for postal delivery services there will be some incidences of variation in address format between that held by Royal Mail and within the Council’s LLPG.

3. **Applying for a New Postal Address**

Only properties that have the appropriate planning consent and or building regulation approval will be given official addresses and reported to Royal Mail for entry into their Postcode Address File.

Applications should be made by:

- Individuals or developers building new dwellings, commercial or industrial premises
- Individuals or developers undertaking conversions of existing residential, commercial or industrial premises which will result in the creation of new separately addressed units

Developers who use a marketing name for a site must make it clear to any prospective purchasers that it will not form part of the official addresses on the site. Additionally, developers are advised to check with the local authority that any marketing name will not conflict with any established addressing in the area.

Applications for new addresses should be submitted as soon as work commences. In the case of new street names this is essential as the time from receiving a proposed name until it is formally adopted can take several months.

On developments requiring new street names the developer may put forward a naming proposal or the Council will request that the relevant Parish or Town Council provide a suitable name. If the developer has suggested a street name the Parish or Town Council can either accept the proposed name or suggest an alternative. The Council does not consult where the application is solely for the numbering or naming of a single building.

4. **Street Naming Protocols and Conventions**

When a new development is built, the responsibility for naming the new street(s) rests with the Council. The street name(s) should be consistent with the Council's protocols for street naming:

When possible, the name(s) should have a proven historical connection to the land intended for development.

- The name(s) will not be the name(s) of people unless there is a historical connection to the town or parish within which the development falls.
- The name(s) will not be the same or similar to any existing name(s) in the area.
- If the development contains a new network of streets a theme may be chosen, taking care not to repeat a theme already being used locally.
- Aesthetically unsuitable names or names capable of deliberate misinterpretation will not be permitted.
- Difficult to pronounce or awkward to spell street names will be avoided.
To prevent confusion and adopt a standardised approach, apostrophes will not be used in street names.

Street names should end with one of the following suffixes

- **Avenue** | **Bank** | **Circle** - For circular roads only | **Close** - Only for a cul-de-sac | **Corner** | **Crescent** - For crescent shaped roads only | **Croft** | **Drive** | **Edge** | **Farm** | **Field(s)** | **Gardens** (provided it will not be confused with any local open space) | **Gate** | **Green** | **Grove** | **Hill** | **Lane** | **Lawn** | **Mead** | **Meadow** | **Mews** | **Orchard** | **Paddock** | **Park** | **Place** | **Rise** | **Road** | **Row** | **Square - For a Square** | **Street** | **Triangle - For triangular roads only** | **View** | **Way** | **Wharf - Only near a navigable watercourse** | **Yard**

Pedestrian only access thoroughfares should end with: **Walk** | **Path** | **Way**

Please note

- No street name should start with "The"
- "Court" is not acceptable as a street name suffix but may be used for large multi-occupied buildings
- "Terrace" should only be used as a subsidiary name within another road
- Private access ways or driveways will not be officially named
- A public street with unrestricted access or a private road will serve a minimum of three properties before any official street naming process is considered

On receipt of a proposed new street name, the Council's Street Naming and Numbering Officer will check that it will not duplicate existing names, and is in accordance with the naming protocols and conventions, shown above.

### 5. Property Numbers

When numbering new buildings (including residential properties and commercial units) the following conventions will be followed:

- Wherever possible a new street should be numbered with the odd numbers on the left and the even numbers on the right from the entrance of the street.
- In the case of a cul-de-sac, consecutive numbering in a clockwise direction is preferred.
- All numbers will be used in the proper sequence including 13. If a developer specifically requests that 13 is not included, this may be permitted after consideration.
- Where an existing street is extended, it would be appropriate to continue to use the same street name. This would include the continuation of the street numbering.
- Buildings will be numbered according to the street in which the main entrance is to be found. If a building has entrances on more than one street, is a multi-occupied building and each entrance leads to a separate occupier, each entrance should be numbered in the appropriate road.
- Where a building with an already approved number is subdivided then the use of letters or numbers to indicate the newly separated elements is acceptable.

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• Where an established property numbering scheme exists, new properties will be allocated appropriate numbers on the street. This may require the use of an alphabet suffix.

6. Property Names

There is no statutory requirement to register a house name in association with a numbered property and therefore the Council will not process requests of this nature.

• Where a numbering scheme is in place a house name can only be in addition to the allocated property number and not a replacement. Please note that the original number should always be displayed on the property and quoted within an address on all correspondence. Please also note that house names used with numbered properties will form no part of the officially recorded postal address.
• If you are intending to rename an existing named property, it is advisable that you contact the Council to check whether your preferred name is already in use in the immediate area. If there is the possibility of confusion or the name chosen is deemed to be inappropriate you will be requested to select another name.
• We will not accept house names that are the words for numbers. For example “NINE”.
• We will not accept house names that incorporate a number. For example “HILLSIDE 2”.
• Where a named only property exists on a street with an established property numbering scheme, any request to rename the property will be refused and an appropriate number will be allocated. This will occur even if the use of an alphabet suffix is required.

7. Postcodes

The Council is responsible for establishing property addresses up to and including the town or village name. The allocation of postcodes is the responsibility of Royal Mail. In creating and establishing new addresses the Council will liaise with Royal Mail's Address Development Team to provide a suitable postcode.

When a new address, including the postcode, has been created, it will be held by Royal Mail in the Not Yet Built section of the Postcode Address File. When Royal Mail are satisfied that the property is complete and is in a state to be occupied, they should make the address live on the Postcode Address File. If you are occupying a new build property and the address is not shown on postcode listings you should contact Royal Mail directly on 08456 011 110 option 3, option 1.

8. Distribution of All New and Changed Addresses

Once an address has been created or amended we distribute this information to a variety of organisations. These include:

Internally: Council Tax, Elections, Refuse and Recycling
Externally: Royal Mail, HM Land Registry, Emergency Services, Utility Companies