

# Street Naming & Numbering Policy Revision

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Sustainability & Transport Overview Scrutiny

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# Reason for change: why do we need a new policy?



## Ground Floor

Heaton House Lofts 121 Camden Street, Birmingham  
Heaton House Lofts 125 Camden Street, Birmingham  
Heaton House Lofts 127 Camden Street, Birmingham  
Heaton House Lofts 131 Camden Street, Birmingham

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# The Main Changes

| Existing Policy  | Proposed Policy  |
|--|--|
| <p>Allows naming after a person no longer living (without time limit or special consideration).</p> <p>Current practice is to delay for 50 years.</p>  | <p>Person must have been deceased for 25 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National Code of Practice recommends 50 years.</li><li>• Reduced period enables promotion of good relations between groups with special characteristics, as well as other groups.</li></ul> <p>New procedure to consider suggestions for non-specific developments and recently deceased people.</p> |
| <p>Number 13 is not used due to cultural preferences.</p>  | <p>All cultures/religions treated equally as all numbers are used to ensure logical number sequences, which are easy to locate.</p>  |
| <p>Renaming of existing streets requires 2/3rds majority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wide-ranging and detrimental effects on residents and businesses have been underestimated in the past</li></ul> | <p>The ability to resist renaming of existing streets has been increased except where redevelopment dictates.</p>  |

# Naming a Street after a Person recently deceased

This is a complex matter:

- Research – no information available on internet, books are rare.
- Need personal contacts to check for good character, interview people.
- High level of personal skills required to draw out any sensitive information.
- Naming after people cannot be processed quickly enough to facilitate most new developments as we have a statutory period of 1 month to reject anything unsuitable; if this expires then the name should come into being.
- With internet & social media information is expected to be available >25 years, vastly reducing research required to obtain a full picture of the individual.





# Procedure for the Approval of Suggested Street Names for unspecified Developments



- SNN Officers to check that the name complies with BCC criteria.
- If naming after a person no longer living, verify reasons for suggesting the name, personal details, information submitted.
- Check that the suggested name would not cause offence, consideration of all groups with special characteristics.
- Consult the local Ward Councillor on acceptability of the suggested name with special consideration of names after people recently deceased. Ward Councillor would be expected to vouch for the candidate's good character.
- Annual report to Cabinet Member for Transport, to include all new street names for unspecified developments accepted by Ward Councillors.
- Approved names are added to a list for use by Developers who do not have suitable suggestions for new roads in their developments.

# Advantages of the Revised Policy

- Use of all numbers along a street allows an unambiguous numbering system, easy to locate properties, which does not lend preference to a single culture.
- Consideration of names of people only recently deceased allows new communities to be represented in the fabric of Birmingham society, encouraging good relations between people with protected characteristics and others.
- Deferring the use of peoples' names >25 years after their death protects the Council against potential reputational damage should unexpected information about that person be revealed.
- A pool of pre-approved street names will be available to Developers with limited knowledge of the area enabling them to choose relevant, quality names for their sites.





# Thank You

## Any Questions?



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