

Process to revoke and re-determine a public place name.

What criteria is applied to change a public place name in the ACT?

Consider the reasons for a request to change a place name, such as:

- reports of addressing confusion;
- the proponent believing the name is derogatory or offensive;
- a change to the road configuration;
- an error in the original place name determination;
- a desire to recognise a person (now deceased) who had a particular connection with the place name location.

Investigate the basis for the change of name request to determine how to proceed.

Consult with other agencies, with knowledge relevant to the request, to establish whether the grounds for the name change are justified. For addressing issues seek advice from Australia Post and the ACT Emergency Services Agency.

Consult with property owners, residents and/or businesses using the place name to establish the impact of a potential change of address and to determine if a change of name is supported.

Make a decision about whether the request is reasonable and determine if the matter requires referral to the ACT Place Names Committee. If the Committee agrees that a change of name is warranted, research a replacement name in accordance with the *Public Place Names (Naming of Public Places) Guidelines 2014 (No 1)* (guidelines)

<https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/ni/2014-643/>

If the name to be revoked:

- commemorates a person with national standing, who may also have other national commemorations, act in collaboration with the relevant Commonwealth authorities;
- commemorates a personal name, and the name is considered to cause offense, it is preferable that the replacement name is **not** of another person but some other feature or object;
- commemorates a personal name, notify the family, or other relevant contact, of the proposed course of action. If it is appropriate, a commitment will be given to investigate the possible commemoration of the person in a different place in the future.

The Place Names Unit will recommend a replacement name and course of action to the Committee for approval.

The Committee's recommendation and draft instrument will be referred to the Minister, or the Minister's delegate, for approval.

Examples of approved changes to road names:

Wilpena Street in Harrison, revoked in 2006 because the place name duplicated the name of a private road within the University of Canberra. The name Whiskey Bay Street was determined in its place to commemorate the Tasmanian geographical feature. In 2007 Whiskey Bay Street was renamed Flagstone Street following a complaint from a resident who considered the name to be offensive. Support for the change of name was gained from all neighbouring property owners.

Caley Place in Narrabundah was renamed because of apparent addressing confusion relating to duplicate numbering in Caley Crescent. Roach Place was chosen to replace Caley Place however residents did not support the name (Cockroach). Further consultation was carried out and the name Mosman Place was determined. Francis Roach Lane was later named in Kingston.

Well Station Drive, Gungahlin – Wells Station Drive revoked in 2009 to amend spelling to reflect the correct historical property name.

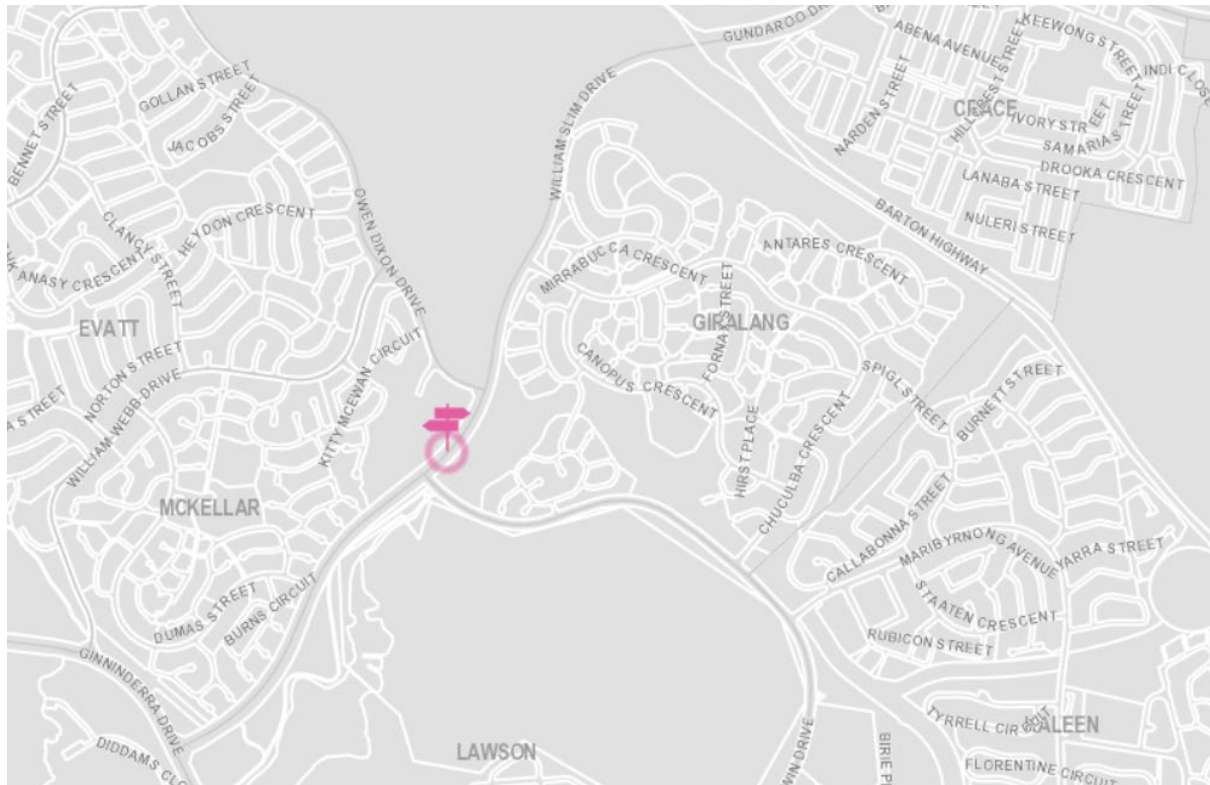
Part Gribble Street, Gungahlin renamed Efkarpidis Street for addressing reasons;

In 2007 Minnie Bruce Street, Franklin was revoked following consultation with a family member who requested commemoration of the writer's full name – Mary Grant Bruce. The road was renamed Morris West Street.

Attachment E

William Slim Drive Belconnen – alignment between Barton Highway and Ginninderra Drive

Extract ACTmapi Place Names search



Note – there are no allocated addresses from William Slim Drive.

<https://www.tccs.act.gov.au/roads-paths/current-projects/belconnen/william-slim-drive-duplication>



Summary of Recommendations	
Recommendations for the Committee Terms of Reference	Priority/Stage
> The Terms of Reference should be updated to include a section on Powers of the Committee to reinforce the non-statutory and advisory nature of the Committee and outline its power/role in place names decision-making.	> Stage 2
> The Terms of Reference should be updated to establish a clear mandate and responsibility for the Committee to advise the Minister or delegate on contentious place naming issues, including where commemoration of particular names may no longer represent community standards. This will strengthen the role of the Committee to collect and source evidence to support their advice to the Minister or delegate, including information held by Government.	> Stage 2
> The Terms of Reference should be updated to outline the process for appointing the Chair/Co-Chairs, i.e. Ministerial appointment. The Terms of Reference should also consider whether there is a need for the appointment of a Deputy-Chair or acting arrangements should the need arise. This section should also detail any requirements or restrictions on who can be appointed to the role of Chair.	> Stage 2
> The Terms of Reference should be updated to outline the operations of the Committee, including who provides Secretariat support, how often the Committee will meet, who can call a meeting and who can attend meetings, what conditions are required for a meeting to proceed (quorum) and how the Committee will capture and document its decisions/advice.	> Stage 2
> The Terms of Reference should be updated to outline the process by which the Committee undergoes regular monitoring or evaluation of its performance, for example through the EPSDD Annual Report.	> Stage 2
Recommendations for the Committee expansion of membership	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The membership section of the Terms of Reference should be amended to ensure representatives on the Committee reflect a broader diversity in age, experience and identity, including adding the following representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A young person (under the age of 30) o A representative with a background in, or knowledge of, Indigenous languages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Expression of Interest process for new Committee appointments should include a broad and multi-faceted communications approach which targets new members and seeks to reach a diverse range of candidates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > EPSDD consider adopting a remuneration or participation payment policy to remove barriers to Committee participation and to recognise the expertise and contribution of Committee members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 2
<p>Recommendations for the Guidelines, including community standards, community input and capacity to raise concerns</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Guidelines be updated to require the Committee to consider current community standards before naming a place after a person and to provide some guidance as to what such consideration would entail. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 2

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Community input is sought on potential themes for new divisions, including nominating new themes and consulting on potential themes raised by the Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 3 and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Government invite increased community feedback on proposed names, seeking community input prior to the formal decision being made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o This could be in the form of a call for community feedback, noting the need to balance community input with the rights of families, such as through the Yoursay website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 3 and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Guidelines be updated to require the decision-maker to consider the result of any community feedback process on the draft name. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Updates be made to the place names website and to the communications strategy for place-naming proposals and decisions so that the community is more aware and has the opportunity to become more engaged with the place-naming process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 1
<p>Recommendations for the consideration of community proposals and renaming</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Committee develop a feedback/complaints process and publish it on the place names website. The process should detail how a member of the community can provide feedback/complaints, provide an online portal for providing the feedback and provide information on how the Committee will assess the feedback and advise the Minister or delegate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The Committee update the renaming policy to provide further criteria to assist the community in providing relevant information for the Committee's consideration, and providing the criteria against which the Committee will assess community proposals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Improvements be made to the place names website to develop an online portal for providing feedback to the Committee on naming proposals, renaming proposals and other feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Stage 1



Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on
Advanced Technology and Space Industries
Manager of Government Business
Member for Brindabella

19/00166

Co-Chair
ACT Place Names Committee

Dear Dr Headon

I write to inform you about the outcome of the ACT Places Names Committee and Guidelines Review (the review) that I will soon be tabling in the ACT Legislative Assembly.

As you are aware, on 28 November 2018 the Assembly called on the ACT Government to review a number of matters relating to the naming of public places in the ACT.

I thank you and the Committee for your input into the review and for your ongoing contribution to the ACT community through the ACT Place Names Committee.

The review makes a number of recommendations in relation to the Committee's terms of reference, membership, policies and processes. I have considered the recommendations of the review, and in consultation with my Ministerial colleagues, I advise that the Government will be accepting all recommendations from the review. I would appreciate the Committee's attention to implementing these recommendations in conjunction with the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate.

As you know, one of the items of the resolution called for the review of particular place names that have been the subject of community disquiet, specifically William Slim Drive and Haig Park.

In relation to William Slim Drive, I have considered your advice and made the decision to rename this road. This has been a difficult and complex decision and one that is not taken lightly. However, on balance, and considering the values of the Territory, I have decided that it is appropriate to change the name.

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I now request the Committee's assistance in providing me with options for a new name for this road so that I can make a formal decision on the re-naming. In preparing your advice, I would like you to consider whether it is appropriate to adopt the name of an existing adjoining road, or whether there are any names of prominent women or indigenous words that could be used. I would also like you to undertake appropriate consultation with the community and provide the outcome of this when providing the options for re-naming to me.

In relation to Haig Park, I have considered the Committee's recommendation and decided to keep the name of the park and install new signage to tell the disputed history of Haig's military legacy. I feel this strikes an appropriate balance that allows the community to engage in a constructive debate about the legacy of war.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Committee into the future.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman-MLA
Minister for Planning and Land Management

3/6/19

Review ACT Place Names Committee and Guidelines Summary of Options and Recommendations

Part A

Recommendations for the Committee Terms of Reference

1. The Terms of Reference should be updated to include a section on Powers of the Committee to reinforce the non-statutory and advisory nature of the Committee and outline its power/role in place names decision-making.
2. The Terms of Reference should be updated to establish a clear mandate and responsibility for the Committee to advise the Minister or delegate on contentious place naming issues, including where commemoration of particular names may no longer represent community standards. This will strengthen the role of the Committee to collect and source evidence to support their advice to the Minister or delegate, including information held by Government.
3. The Terms of Reference should be updated to outline the process for appointing the Chair/Co-Chairs, i.e. Ministerial appointment. The Terms of Reference should also consider whether there is a need for the appointment of a Deputy-Chair or acting arrangements should the need arise. This section should also detail any requirements or restrictions on who can be appointed to the role of Chair.
4. The Terms of Reference should be updated to outline the operations of the Committee, including who provides Secretariat support, how often the Committee will meet, who can call a meeting and who can attend meetings, what conditions are required for a meeting to proceed (quorum) and how the Committee will capture and document its decisions/advice.
5. The Terms of Reference should be updated to outline the process by which the Committee undergoes regular monitoring or evaluation of its performance, for example through the EPSDD Annual Report.

Expansion of membership

1. The membership section of the Terms of Reference should be amended to ensure representatives on the Committee reflect a broader diversity in age, experience and identity, including adding the following representatives:
 - A young person (under the age of 30)
 - A representative with a background in, or knowledge of, Indigenous languages.
2. The expression-of-interest process for new Committee appointments should include a broad and multi-faceted communications approach that targets new members and seeks to reach a diverse range of candidates.
3. EPSDD consider adopting a remuneration or participation payment policy to remove barriers to Committee participation and to recognise the expertise and contribution of Committee members.

Part B

Report on the review of the ACT Public Place Names Guidelines

Recommendations for the Guidelines (ie *Public Place Names (Naming of Public Places) Guidelines*), including community standards, community input and capacity to raise concerns

1. The Guidelines be updated to require the Committee to consider current community standards before naming a place after a person and to provide some guidance as to what such consideration would entail.
2. Community input is sought on potential themes for new divisions, including nominating new themes and consulting on potential themes raised by the Committee
3. The Government invite increased community feedback on proposed names, seeking community input prior to the formal decision being made:

- This could be in the form of a call for community feedback, noting the need to balance community input with the rights of families, such as through the Yoursay website.
- 4. The Guidelines be updated to require the decision-maker to consider the result of any community feedback process on the draft name.
- 5. Updates be made to the place names website and to the communications strategy for place naming proposals and decisions so that the community is more aware and has the opportunity to become more engaged with the place-naming process.

Public Place Names (Naming of Public Places) Guidelines 2014 (No 1) are made under section 4A of the Act and are notified at <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/ni/2014-643/default.asp>.

Part C

Report on the consideration of community proposals for place naming

Recommendations for the consideration of community proposals and renaming

1. The Committee develop a feedback/complaints process and publish it on the place names website. The process should detail how a member of the community can provide feedback/complaints, provide an online portal for providing the feedback and provide information on how the Committee will assess the feedback and advise the Minister or delegate.
2. The Committee update the renaming policy to provide further criteria to assist the community in providing relevant information for the Committee's consideration, and providing the criteria against which the Committee will assess community proposals.
3. Improvements be made to the place names website to develop an online portal for providing feedback to the Committee on naming proposals, renaming proposals and other feedback.

Part D

Report on the review of specific place names

Recommendations for William Slim Drive and Haig Park

1. William Slim Drive
 - Option 1. No name change
 - Option 2. Change the name
2. Haig Park
 - Option 1. No name change, but new signage detailing contested history
 - Option 2. Co-naming of the park (as a geographical feature with a local Aboriginal name)
 - Option 3. Change the name