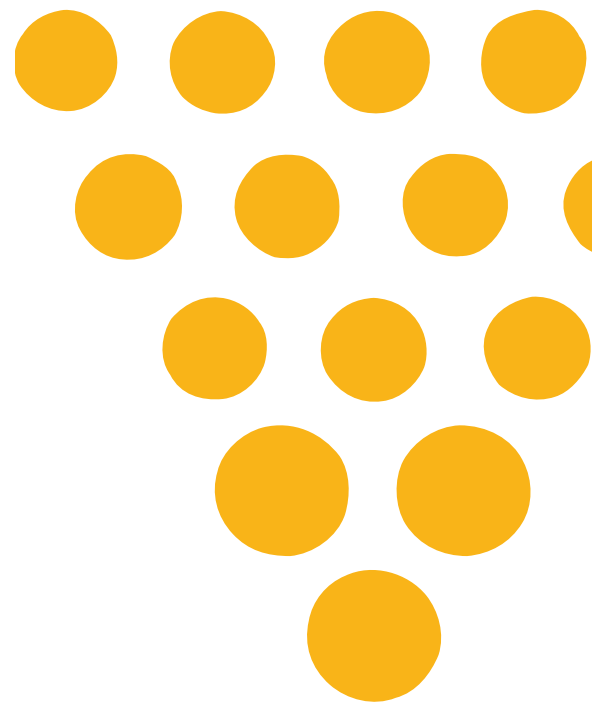




Naming New Development and Streets in Cornwall: Use of Cornish Language

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Introduction: Using the Cornish language

1. Cornwall is extremely fortunate in having its own living Celtic language. The Cornish Language is recognised as a unique asset which has an important role to play in expressing Cornwall's cultural distinctiveness.
2. The language is firmly embedded in the landscape of Cornwall through the historic names for settlements and geographical features. Cornish has also been used in street names throughout Cornwall, and developers are increasingly using the language for new building and housing developments.
3. Keeping existing names retains the history of the area for local communities and using Cornish language names for new schemes contributes to our Cornish distinctiveness. The use of the language retains the connection between place, the site and our community's heritage.
4. The aim of this guidance is to enable building and housing developers, local councils and residents to retain existing Cornish names and to create Cornish language names for new development.

Policy

5. The Cornwall Council Street Naming and Numbering Policy and Guidance states that there is a presumption in favour of:
 - Street names in the Cornish language, in line with the European Charter for Regional & Minority Languages and the Cornish Language Strategy 2015-2025.
 - Street names that refer to local historical heritage, natural or landscape features of the local area.
6. Cornwall Council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy strongly recommends that developers consult with the Parish, Town or City Council for the area where their development is situated to determine an appropriate street name as soon as possible, since the naming process can take several months.

7. Where consultation with the local council has been undertaken, evidence of consultation should be submitted along with an application to Cornwall Council.

Naming Developments and Streets

8. Existing place names, such as farm or field names, should be retained and used as much as possible and street names should usually reflect the local history and geography.
9. New street names are encouraged to be in Cornish. If a Cornish language form is approved for a street name, an English translation is not necessary.
10. If an English language street name is used, all new and replacement English language street nameplates must also carry a Cornish translation under Cornwall Council policy.
11. Mixed Cornish and English names are discouraged e.g. Breanek Close. In this case *Breanek* is the Cornish for St Agnes, and *close* is the English generic street name. The Cornish **Kew Vreanek** would be the preferred form.
12. On brownfield sites, previous uses of the site can be referenced to give a new street or building name in Cornish, eg. “**Chi an Velin**”, (Mill House) for the conversion of an old mill.
13. Greenfield sites also have history in terms of previous uses of the land and Cornish language field names from historic tithe maps. Landscape features can also be used to formulate a Cornish street name.

Examples of street nameplates in Cornwall	
Bi-lingual – English language street name with Cornish translation below	Cornish language street name
	

Getting a Cornish translation

14. Developers should contact The Cornish Language Office at an early stage of planning. The Office consults the Akademi Kernewek which has a team of experienced translators who will be pleased to help. They will ensure that the Cornish language name is accurate grammatically and check the cultural and historical interest of the site and its surroundings.
15. Contact the Cornish Language Office:
 - Tel: 01872 323497
 - E-mail: cornishlanguage@cornwall.gov.uk

Applying to Address Management

16. Developers should consult with the Address Management Team before assigning an unofficial marketing name to the development. Problems can arise if purchasers have bought properties which have been marketed under an unofficial name and then legal documentation has been drafted.
17. All proposed names in the Cornish language submitted in a Street Naming and Numbering application to Cornwall Council will be passed to the Cornish Language Office for comment.
18. For detailed advice on street naming, consult the Cornwall Council “Street Naming and Numbering Guidance Notes”:
 - <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/property-and-street-naming-and-numbering/policy-and-guidance-for-address-managment/>
 - E-mail: addressmanagement@cornwall.gov.uk

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