

West Somerset Council Street Name Sign Specifications

West Somerset Council specifies the following requirements,

- General name signs must be made of 3mm 11 SWG Die Pressed Aluminium.
- Lettering and colours are subject to current specifications required at Parish level (*details can be obtained by contacting the Street Name sign Officer*)
- Name plates must be fitted by either of the following two methods,
 1. Pavement areas / Conservation areas, Black Galvanized Frame
 2. Roads or Highways, Black Re-cycled plastic units.
- Nameplates should be sited at a 40 ° splay to the junction
- The top of the street nameplate should be 915mm above ground level
- The signpost legs should be set in a depth of at least 400mm.

Plastic Signs

Plastic name signs maybe permitted, however these are normally required for locations situated at the roadside or areas where the likelihood of damage is high

Conservation Area

Where the nameplates are to be erected within an area of conservation plastic signs and post sets must **NOT** be used, only metal is permitted. If unsure you are advised to contact the council at an early stage to establish the classification of the area and whether consultation with other agencies is required i.e. Exmoor national park etc as other specifications may come into force

Nameplate Locations

1. Street nameplates should be fixed as near as possible to street corners, so as to be easily readable by drivers as well as pedestrians. The nameplate should normally be within 3 meters of the intersection of the kerb lines, however given some more rural locations this may not be practicable and so may be varied up to a maximum of 6 meters.
2. Street nameplates should be mounted so that the lower edge of the sign plate is approximately 1 metre above ground level at sites where they are unlikely to be obscured by pedestrians or vehicles, and at approximately 2.5 meters where obscuration is a problem. They should not be lower than 0.5 meters or higher than 3.5 meters.
3. Street nameplates should normally be fixed at each street corner. At minor crossroads, particularly in residential areas, one street nameplate on the side of the street positioned on the offside of traffic emerging from the road may be sufficient, except where road names join.

4. At T-junctions the street nameplate should be placed directly opposite the traffic approaching from the side road.
5. Where the street name changes at a point other than cross-roads, both names should be displayed at the point of change. It has proved useful to include arrows to indicate clearly to which parts of the street the names refer.
6. On straight lengths of road without intersections nameplates should be repeated at reasonable intervals with priority given to places such as well-frequented areas such as car parks and places of interest and large road intersections. Given the rural and remote locations of our area sign repetition must be decided upon carefully.
7. Where two streets branch off obliquely from a common junction with a third street, plates on fingerpost mountings can be useful, however they must not obscure any traffic sign or cause reasonable vision for drivers.
8. The nameplates should be fixed so that there is a clear space of a least 300mm in every direction between them any other notices, advertisements or other printed or written signs. They should not be incorporated in other direction sign assemblies, but kept distinct and mounted in as standardised manner as possible.
9. Care should be taken when deciding on the sign location to avoid trees and other plantings that may obscure the sign.
10. If possible nameplates should be fixed so that they will be illuminated by streetlights.

The council can provide details of suitable suppliers on request and will be happy to arrange a site visit if required to assist in the proper and suitable street nameplate sighting.

The Council can also arrange sign installation work and developers/contractors can be invoiced accordingly.