



Subject:	Proposal for dual language street signs
Date:	7 th November, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager, ext. 2430 Roisin Adams, Property and Legal Coordinator, ext. 2454

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? Yes No

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes No

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
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1.1	To consider applications for the erection of dual language street signs for six existing streets within the city.																												
2.0	Recommendation																												
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree to the erection of a second street nameplate in Irish at, Ligoniel Place, Mountainhill Road, Norfolk Parade, Ladybrook Grove, Greenan and Alliance Avenue.																												
3.0	Main Report																												
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The Council may erect a second street nameplate in a language other than English pursuant to Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.																												
3.2	Members are asked to consider the following applications to erect a second street nameplate showing the name of the street expressed in a language other than English. The second language is Irish.																												
3.3	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>English Name</th> <th>Non- English Name</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Persons surveyed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ligoniel Place, BT14</td> <td>Plás Lag an Aoil</td> <td>Off Ligoniel Road , BT14</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mountainhill Road, BT14</td> <td>Bóthar Chnoc an tSléibhe</td> <td>Off Ligoniel Road , BT14</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Norfolk Parade, BT11</td> <td>Paráid Norfolk</td> <td>Off Glen Road, BT11</td> <td>125</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ladybrook Grove, BT11</td> <td>Garrán Shruthán na Bantiarna</td> <td>Off Ladybrook Park, BT11</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenan, BT11</td> <td>An Grianán</td> <td>Off Shaws Road, BT11</td> <td>138</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance Avenue, BT14</td> <td>Ascaill an Chomhaontais</td> <td>Off Ardoyne Road, BT14</td> <td>336</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Persons surveyed	Ligoniel Place, BT14	Plás Lag an Aoil	Off Ligoniel Road , BT14	16	Mountainhill Road, BT14	Bóthar Chnoc an tSléibhe	Off Ligoniel Road , BT14	38	Norfolk Parade, BT11	Paráid Norfolk	Off Glen Road, BT11	125	Ladybrook Grove, BT11	Garrán Shruthán na Bantiarna	Off Ladybrook Park, BT11	21	Greenan, BT11	An Grianán	Off Shaws Road, BT11	138	Alliance Avenue, BT14	Ascaill an Chomhaontais	Off Ardoyne Road, BT14	336
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3.4	The translations were authenticated by Queens University, the approved translator for Belfast City Council.																												
3.5	In accordance with the Council's policy for the erection of dual language street signs, surveys of all persons appearing on the electoral register plus owners or tenants in actual possession of commercial premises, for the above streets were carried out and the following responses were received.																												
3.6	<p>Ligoniel Place, BT14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 occupiers (25%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 12 occupiers (75%) did not respond to the survey. 																												
3.7	Mountainhill Road, BT14																												

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 occupiers (28.95%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 27 occupiers (71.05%) did not respond to the survey.
3.8	<p>Norfolk Parade, BT11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 47 occupiers (37.6%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 2 occupiers (1.6%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 1 occupier (0.8%) had no preference either way. • 75 occupiers (60%) did not respond to the survey.
	<p>One resident from Norfolk Parade who is not in support of the dual language street sign has stated that the sign is a waste of money.</p>
3.9	<p>Ladybrook Grove, BT11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 occupiers (47.62%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 2 occupiers (9.52%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 9 occupiers (42.86%) did not respond to the survey.
3.10	<p>Greenan, BT11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58 occupiers (42.03%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 80 occupiers (57.97%) did not respond to the survey.
3.11	<p>Alliance Avenue, BT14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 86 occupiers (25.60%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 7 occupiers (2.08%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 4 occupiers (1.19%) had no preference either way. • 239 occupiers (71.13%) did not respond to the survey.
	<p>One resident from Alliance Avenue who is not in support of the dual language street sign feels that funds could be spent on more important items for the area.</p>
3.12	<p><u>Assessment against policy</u></p> <p>The Council's policy on the erection of a second street nameplate requires that at least fifteen percent (15%) of the occupiers surveyed must be in favour of the proposal to erect a second street sign in a language other than English, to progress to Committee for consideration.</p>
3.13	<p>All of the surveys listed above demonstrate compliance with the threshold contained within the Policy. However, the Committee is reminded that the Council retain a residual discretion under the Policy to decide to erect or not to erect a street sign in a language other than English in certain circumstances. This will be done on a case-by-case basis.</p>
3.14	<p>The Policy states that it may be appropriate to depart from the procedures in this Policy when there are clear reasons for doing so. This may include taking into account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the views of the Occupiers of the street; (b) the results of the initial assessment for the application, including any identified potential adverse impacts on equality, good relations and rural needs;

<p>3.15</p> <p>3.16</p>	<p>(c) consideration of the local context of the application; (d) any other Council policies or strategies related to the application; and (e) all material considerations relating to the application.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There is a cost of approximately £2,610 to cover the cost of the manufacturing and erection of approximately 21 dual language street signs. The cost for these street signs has been allowed for in the current budget.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>Each application for a dual language street sign is subject to an initial assessment for any potential adverse impacts on equality, good relations and rural needs.</p> <p>The initial assessments and elected member notification carried out for the 6 applications being considered did not identify any potential adverse impacts to prevent the surveys being carried out. However, the Committee is entitled to take into account the concerns raised by the residents as set out above in arriving to their decision.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>