



Subject:	Proposals for dual language street signs
Date:	13 th January 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley - Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer:	Ian Harper - Building Control Manager Heather Wylie - Property and Legal Coordinator

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 <input type="text"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. 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 matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues																		
1.1	To consider applications for the erection of dual language street signs for three 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 Delhi Street, Lagmore Downs and Rosetta 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 dual language street nameplates 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>Delhi Street</td><td>Sráid Dheilí</td><td>Off Ormeau Road, BT7</td><td>123</td></tr> <tr> <td>Lagmore Downs</td><td>Mulláin an Laig Mhóir</td><td>Off Lagmore Avenue, BT17</td><td>152</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rosetta Avenue</td><td>Ascaill Rosetta</td><td>Off Ormeau Road, BT7</td><td>87</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Persons surveyed	Delhi Street	Sráid Dheilí	Off Ormeau Road, BT7	123	Lagmore Downs	Mulláin an Laig Mhóir	Off Lagmore Avenue, BT17	152	Rosetta Avenue	Ascaill Rosetta	Off Ormeau Road, BT7	87
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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	Delhi Street, BT7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37 occupiers (30.08%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. 5 occupiers (4.06%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. 																		
3.7	Lagmore Downs, BT17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 53 occupiers (34.86%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. 1 occupier (0.65%) had no preference either way. 																		

3.8	<p>Rosetta Avenue, BT7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 occupiers (42.52%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 13 occupiers (14.94%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 1 occupier (1.14%) had no preference either way.
3.9	<p>One resident commented that 'As a Catholic who embraces Irish culture, I feel this would be divisive'.</p>
3.10	<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>
3.11	<p>All the surveys listed above demonstrate compliance with the threshold contained within the Policy.</p>
3.12	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There is a cost of approximately £1200 to cover the cost of the manufacturing and erection of the dual language street signs. The cost for these street signs has been allowed for in the current budget.</p>
3.13	<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 and an elected member notification process to identify any potential adverse impacts on equality, good relations and rural needs.</p>
3.14	<p>The initial assessment for Delhi Street identified that the carrying out of the survey had the potential to cause adverse impacts on the grounds of good relations. This application was subsequently screened and the draft screening identified that the carrying out of a survey in itself in this street had the potential to give rise to community tension, as could the erection of the street signs and therefore had the potential to give rise to adverse impact on the grounds of good relations. It was acknowledged however the process could alternatively assist in promoting cultural and linguistic diversity. The elected member notification carried out for Delhi Street did not identify any potential for adverse impacts. The application was presented to Committee prior to survey in line with the agreed process referencing the initial assessment and screening and the street was approved for survey by Committee and full Council.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>