



Subject:	Proposals for dual language street signs
Date:	9 th June 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager, ext. 2430 Heather Wylie, Property and Legal Coordinator, ext. 2464

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="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 After Council Decision Sometime in the future Never	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <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 eleven 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 Ladybrook Park, Flax Street, Blacks Gate Crescent, Upper Castle Park, Teeling View, Larkspur Rise, Laurelbank, Meadow Grove, Fairyknowe Park, Deanby Gardens and Areema Drive.																																																		
2.2	Members are asked to note the update in relation to the further report following the debate at Council on the 1 st June 2026.																																																		
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	<u>Key Issues</u>																																																		
3.1	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>Ladybrook Park</td> <td>Páirc Shruthán na Bantiarna</td> <td>Off Finaghy Road North, BT11</td> <td>241</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flax Street</td> <td>Sráid an Lín</td> <td>Off Crumlin Road, BT14</td> <td>166</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blacks Gate Crescent</td> <td>Corrán Gheata Mhic Giolla Dhuibh</td> <td>Off Blacks Gate Avenue, BT10</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Upper Castle Park</td> <td>Páirc an Chaisleáin Uachtarach</td> <td>Off North Circular Road, BT15</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Teeling View</td> <td>Radharc Thaoiling</td> <td>Off Teeling Grove, BT17</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larkspur Rise</td> <td>Ard na Sál Fuiseoige</td> <td>Off Suffolk Road, BT11</td> <td>44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Laurelbank</td> <td>Bruach an Labhrais</td> <td>Off Bell Steel Road, BT17</td> <td>440</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meadow Grove</td> <td>Garrán na Cluana</td> <td>Off Stratheden Street, BT15</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fairyknowe Park</td> <td>Páirc Chnocán na Sióg</td> <td>Off Whitewell Road, BT36</td> <td>103</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deanby Gardens</td> <td>Gairdíní Deanby</td> <td>Off Oldpark Road, BT14</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Areema Drive</td> <td>Céide Loch an Mhadhma</td> <td>Off Upper Dunmurry Lane, BT17</td> <td>193</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Persons surveyed	Ladybrook Park	Páirc Shruthán na Bantiarna	Off Finaghy Road North, BT11	241	Flax Street	Sráid an Lín	Off Crumlin Road, BT14	166	Blacks Gate Crescent	Corrán Gheata Mhic Giolla Dhuibh	Off Blacks Gate Avenue, BT10	28	Upper Castle Park	Páirc an Chaisleáin Uachtarach	Off North Circular Road, BT15	32	Teeling View	Radharc Thaoiling	Off Teeling Grove, BT17	38	Larkspur Rise	Ard na Sál Fuiseoige	Off Suffolk Road, BT11	44	Laurelbank	Bruach an Labhrais	Off Bell Steel Road, BT17	440	Meadow Grove	Garrán na Cluana	Off Stratheden Street, BT15	23	Fairyknowe Park	Páirc Chnocán na Sióg	Off Whitewell Road, BT36	103	Deanby Gardens	Gairdíní Deanby	Off Oldpark Road, BT14	28	Areema Drive	Céide Loch an Mhadhma	Off Upper Dunmurry Lane, BT17	193
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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>Ladybrook Park, BT11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 105 occupiers (43.57%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 4 occupiers (1.66%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 4 occupiers (1.66%) had no preference either way.
3.7	<p>Flax Street, BT14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46 occupiers (27.71%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
3.8	<p>Blacks Gate Crescent, BT10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 occupiers (39.29%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 1 occupier (3.57%) had no preference either way.
3.9	<p>Upper Castle Park, BT15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 occupiers (56.25%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 1 occupier (3.13%) was not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 1 occupier (3.13%) had no preference either way.
3.10	<p>Teeling View, BT17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 occupiers (26.32%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
3.11	<p>Larkspur Rise, BT11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 occupiers (29.55%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
3.12	<p>Laurelbank, BT17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 71 occupiers (16.14%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
3.13	<p>Meadow Grove, BT15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 occupiers (34.78%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
3.14	<p>Fairyknowe Park, BT36</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 occupiers (31.07%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 4 occupiers (3.88%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
3.15	<p>Deanby Gardens, BT14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 occupiers (46.43%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate. • 3 occupiers (10.71%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.

3.16

Areema Drive, BT17

- 54 occupiers (27.98%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
- 16 occupiers (8.29%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate.
- 2 occupiers (1.04%) had no preference either way.

Assessment against policy

3.17

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.

3.18

All the surveys listed above demonstrate compliance with the threshold contained within the policy.

Applications failing to meet the 15% threshold, for information.

3.19

Members are advised that the following applications to erect dual language street nameplates failed to meet the 15% threshold. Each applicant was given the opportunity to advise the Council of any special circumstances in relation to their application. The council did not receive notification of any special circumstances from the applicants for each of the streets listed below. In line with the policy, where there are no special circumstances, these applications are considered to have ended and have been closed.

Street	Language	Surveys Issued	For	Against	No preference
Knockeden Crescent	Irish	100	13 (13%)	32 (32%)	1 (1%)
Willowfield Gardens	Irish	69	6 (8.70%)	31 (44.93%)	1 (1.45%)
Pilot Street	Irish	92	9 (9.78%)	1 (1.09%)	0
Caffrey Avenue	Irish	162	24 (14.81%)	0	0
Glenwood View	Irish	54	7 (12.96%)	0	0

Data Collection and Review of Dual Language Street Sign Policy

3.20

A number of issues were raised at the Council meeting on the 1 June 2026 relating to the data collection report considered at last months committee and the review of the Dual Language Street Sign Policy.

3.21

It was stated at Council that a further report would be brought before members on the matters raised. Due consideration will need to be given to the matters and a potential timetable and process for review of the Dual Language Street Sign Policy. It is therefore intended that the further report encompassing all such matters will be brought to the August 2026 Committee.

Financial and Resource Implications

<p>3.22</p> <p>3.23</p> <p>3.24</p> <p>3.25</p>	<p>There is a cost of approximately £3750 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> <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> <p>The initial assessments and elected member notification carried out for the applications being considered did not identify any potential adverse impacts to prevent the surveys being carried out.</p> <p>The elected member notification carried out for 5th March 2025 did not identify any potential for adverse impacts.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>