



Belfast  
City Council

## City and Neighbourhood Services Department

Our ref: N/A

Your ref: N/A

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Ms. Amy Holmes  
Head of Air and Environmental Quality  
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.  
Klondyke Building, Cromac Avenue  
Gasworks Business Park, Malone Lower  
Belfast  
BT7 2JA

Via email: [amy.holmes@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:amy.holmes@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Dear Amy,

**RE: Designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area, pursuant to the requirements of the Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC) and the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.**

You will be aware that on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016, and in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Noise Directive and Regulation 40 of the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs commenced a consultation into the designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area. As part of the consultation process, the Department confirmed that the Lagan Meadows fulfilled all of the qualifying criteria as set out in the Department's Policy Guidance on the Identification, Designation and Management of Quiet Areas.

This matter was formally considered at the People and Communities Committee meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and a consultation response was provided subsequently to the Department indicating that the People and Communities Committee had considered the proposed designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area and confirming that the Committee welcomed and was supportive of such a designation. The consultation response additionally indicated that the Committee was mindful of the public health and wider environmental benefits of protecting appropriate Quiet Areas across the city.

Whilst the Committee noted that the consultation period was to conclude on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016, the Committee has been unaware subsequently as to the outworkings of the consultation process and

**Siobhan Toland** M.Sc. , F.C.I.E.H  
Director of City Services

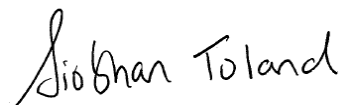
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regarding the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs' intentions and timetable for formally designating the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area.

Accordingly, the People and Communities Committee, at its meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021, agreed that I would write on behalf of the Committee to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs confirming the Committee's continuing support for designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area and seeking a written update as to the Department's next steps and timeframe concerning the designation. The Committee has been advised concerning the schedule for identification of Quiet Areas as provided for via Regulation 40 of the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 and concerning the implications of Commission Directive 2015/996 of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015, establishing common noise assessment methods according to Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, for the fourth round of noise mapping.

I look forward to your response in respect of these matters however, if you would like to discuss any aspect of this letter in detail, please feel free to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siobhan Toland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services  
City and Neighbourhood Services**