



Subject:	Proposal for dual language street signs
Date:	12 th September, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
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Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider applications for the erection of dual language street signs for six existing streets within the city.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree to the erection of a second street nameplate in Irish at, Stockmans Drive, Whiterock Gardens, Dermott Hill Drive, Dermott Hill Park, Linview Court and Thornberry Glen.
3.0	Main report
	<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 a second street nameplate showing the name of the street expressed in a language other than English. The second language is Irish.

3.3

English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Persons surveyed
Stockmans Drive, BT11 9AU	Céide Mhic Giolla Stoic	Off Stockmans Avenue , BT11	74
Whiterock Gardens, BT12 7PS	Gairdíní na Carraige Báine	Off Whiterock Road,BT12	159
Dermott Hill Drive, BT12 7GG	Céide Chnoc Dhiarmada	Off Dermott Hill Road, BT12	37
Dermott Hill Park, BT12	Páirc Chnoc Dhiarmada	Off Whiterock Road, BT12	64
Linview Court, BT12 5LS	Cúirt Radharc an Lín	Off Grosvenor Road/Roden Street, BT12	19
Thornberry Glen, BT14 8EQ	Gleann Thornberry	Off Thornberry Hill, BT14	28

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>Stockmans Drive, BT11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 occupiers (32.43%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 2 occupiers (2.70%) were not in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 1 occupier (1.35%) had no preference either way • 47 occupiers (63.51%) did not respond to the survey
3.7	<p>Whiterock Gardens, BT12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 occupiers (28.30%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 114 occupiers (71.69%) did not respond to the survey
3.8	<p>Dermott Hill Drive, BT12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 occupiers (62.16%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 14 occupiers (37.83%) did not respond to the survey
3.9	<p>Dermott Hill Park, BT12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 occupiers (43.75%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 36 occupiers (56.25%) did not respond to the survey
3.10	<p>Linview Court, BT12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 occupiers (63.16%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 7 occupiers (36.84%) did not respond to the survey
3.11	<p>Thornberry Glen, BT14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 occupiers (35.71%) were in favour of the erection of a second street name plate • 18 occupiers (64.28%) did not respond to the survey
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</p>

	<p>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> <ul 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; (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><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.15	<p>There is a cost of approximately £1,100 to cover the cost of the manufacturing and erection of approximately 8 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>
3.16	<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.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None