

Report on	Rural Address Initiative
Date of Meeting	8th May 2018
Contact Officer	William Wilkinson

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to advise Members in relation to highlighting the importance of rural house owners prominently displaying their house numbers across Mid Ulster District Council area.
2.0	Background
2.1	In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) NI Order 1995 – Article 11 the Council has responsibility for approving Street Naming and Numbering of buildings erected thereon.
2.2	The Pointer Addressing Database which is continuously updated with the approved street names of the roads/developments and the numbers allocated to each building, acts as the main point of reference for “Blue Light Services” in identifying the position of properties in rural locations.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Following a recent Home Fire Safety Check initiative by the NIFRS in the Mid-Ulster District Council Area, their officers noted that in many occasions dwellings in rural locations did not have their allocated postal number displayed prominently and in some cases road signage did not appear to be in place.</p> <p>When “Blue Light Services” are called to an emergency incident, it is imperative that the property being the source of the incident can be easily located as valuable time can be wasted in attempting to identify the property in question. The Emergency Services using their Satellite navigation will direct them to the general location of the property in question but delays can be encountered in identifying the property’s exact location, particular in rural locations, where house numbers are not prominently displayed in many cases.</p> <p>It would be beneficial to work in partnership with the PSNI, NIFRS and NIAS to promote the importance of having house numbers erected and clearly visible. This could be achieved through a press release including photoshoot from the Council with a representative from each of the “Blue Light Services” and an elected representative emphasising the need to prominently display house numbers at their property especially in rural locations.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

	Financial: Within current resources
	Human: Within current resources
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: Improvement of access to “Blue Light Services” as the result of an emergency incident
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	The Members consider a promotional event in partnership with the “Blue Light Services” to highlight the importance of prominently displaying house numbers especially in rural locations.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None