



**Report of
Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of Mid Ulster District
Council**

Report of Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of Mid Ulster Council held on Monday 16th April 2018 in the Council Offices, Dungannon

Attendees **Members:** Cllr J Mc Namee (Chair), Cllr P Bateson, Cllr T Wilson, Cllr M Kearney, Cllr S McGuigan, Cllr R McGinley,
Cllr S Mc Peake

Officers: T McCance, D Ó Doibhlin

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
1.0	Apologies	
	Cllr K Ashton, Cllr D McKinney, A McCreesh	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
	No declarations of interest submitted.	
3.0	Report on previous meeting held on 15th January 2018	
	A report of the previous meeting of 15 th January was presented to the Working Group.	

4.0	Signage Programme update	
	<p>T McCance provided the meeting with an update on the Council's Signage programme and explained the process for approval of new external signage. All designs are required to be approved by Council. Once approved the designs then pass to Council's Technical Team to coordinate delivery on the ground, including preparation of specifications, compliance with procurement requirements and installation and where planning permission is required, this needed to be factored into timescales for eventual installation. T McCance assured the meeting that there would be significant movement in signage at council facilities within the next 3-5 month period. Cllr McGinley highlighted that if planning is an issue then this needs to be addressed. Mr McCance clarified that in most cases for external signage, planning is not an issue as most signs would be erected under permitted development, particularly those locations where we are replacing existing external signage.</p>	T McCance
5.0	Irish Language Action Plan and Funding Update	
	<p>D Ó Doibhlin presented to councillors a draft Irish language action plan for the year 2018/19. The plan shows a continuing emphasise on the development of the spoken language in the home/family and community in order to encourage the maintenance of a bilingual society in Mid Ulster.</p> <p>Councillors welcomed the plan and commended the officers involved in the good work being carried out to safeguard and promote linguistic diversity within the district.</p> <p>D Ó Doibhlin informed the meeting that a public notice had been placed in local press for the week commencing 23 April advertising the opening of the RML Bursary Scheme, the Irish Language Activities Scheme, and the Tutors/Facilitators scheme. Deadline for applications is 4pm Friday 11 May 2018.</p>	D Ó Doibhlin
6.0	Schedule of Meeting Dates for 2018/19 (B)	
	<p>T McCance presented a schedule for RML group meetings for the remainder of the 2018/19 year. It was proposed by the Chair that the meetings should be held centrally in Council Offices, Cookstown</p>	T McCance

	and this was accepted by the meeting. T McCance agreed to amend the schedule of meeting dates to reflect the change of meeting to the central Cookstown office location.	
7.0	A.O.B.	
	<p>T McCance reported that Rebecca Ní Dhonnaile has commenced work based in Ranfurly and Burnavon as maternity cover for Ursula Ní Dhonnaile. Councillors noted this and looked forward to welcoming her to the next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Wilson requested that Deirdre Speer White of the Ulster Scots Community Network be contacted as a follow up to her previous presentation to the committee to see if Council can assist with potential cultural projects. Mr McCance agreed to follow this up</p> <p>Cllr McGinley requested that the name Gaelfest Lár Uladh currently in use as a local brand for the national language festival Seachtain na Gaeilge be changed to Seachtain na Gaeilge to avoid confusion and maximise potential marketing opportunities. All present were in agreement with this.</p> <p>Cllr Kearney asked officers to note that St Mary's High School Clady has now amalgamated with St Paul's Kilrea to form St Conor's College on a split campus. He hoped this would not lead to any adverse impact in terms of the Irish language service previously received from Council.</p>	<p>T McCance</p> <p>D O Doiblin</p>
<i>Meeting concluded at 6.45pm</i>		

Reports of Working Groups: Finalised Reports of Working Groups should be forwarded to Democratic Services on committees@midulstercouncil.org with a cover report to be scheduled on the agenda of the next available relevant committee meeting

