

Report on	Dual Language Signage Requests
Date of Meeting	12 th October 2021
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise Members of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on the streets/roads in question.
2.0	Background
2.1	In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) NI Order 1995 – Article 11 the Council is tasked with the responsibility to erect dual language signs or second nameplates, adjacent to the nameplate in English.
2.2	The Policy for Dual Language Nameplate Signage as adopted forms the basis for considering requests expressing the name in a language other than English, to both existing and new streets.
2.3	In accordance with the Policy as adopted, the Environment Committee will be informed of requests which have been validated and are proceeding to survey.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Building Control Service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Directorate have received valid letters signed by occupiers of the street in each case requesting signage to be erected in a second language being “Irish” in each case adjacent to the nameplate in English as follows:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gortview Park, Coalisland (See Appendix 1) 2. Lake View Cottages, Ardboe, Dungannon (See Appendix 2) 3. Georges Street, Dungannon (See Appendix 3) 4. Lisnagowan, Dungannon (See Appendix 4)
3.2	The occupiers signing the requests in each case have been confirmed as residents of their particular street which has been evidenced by their listing on the current Electoral Register as required in accordance with the Policy as adopted. See letters of request attached in Appendices 1-4.
3.3	It should also be noted that the Electoral Office are now permitting access to members of the Public including Officers of the Council for 60 minutes per visit. In

	<p>addition, the time required to gain the necessary information has increased considerably due to the number of individuals which have been added to the Electoral Register in September. The September addendum of the Electoral Register has in the region of 1500 additional pages of names to be checked in terms of the up to date occupiers which are to be surveyed. As a result, applications are being now being processed at a much slower rate due to the limited access.</p>
3.4	<p>T:BUC Housing Developments – Following an issue being raised by an elected member with regards to the strict guidance in relation to T:BUC Developments, contact was made with representatives of the Radius Housing Association which has responsibility for the “Earls Court Development” as well as the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. See attached in Appendix 5, the Department for Communities Guidance Document for the Shared Housing Programme.</p>
3.5	<p>The representatives from both organisations indicated that shared housing schemes are not envisaged as being sterile environments but rather shared spaces and it is hoped that the 5 year Good Relations plans will support the development of confident shared communities and residents who feel able to be proud of their own identity and culture while being open and respectful of their neighbours.</p>
3.6	<p>The representatives indicated that there is an Advisory Group for the development in question which meets on a quarterly basis, whereby issues of this nature could be discussed. It was indicated that there are currently six local elected members invited to attend the Advisory Group meetings.</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: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note the content of this report

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Letter received from a resident of Gortview Park, Coalisland
6.2	Appendix 2 – Letter received from a resident of Lake View Cottages, Dungannon
6.3	Appendix 3 – Letter received from a resident of Georges Street, Dungannon
6.4	Appendix 4 – Letter received from a resident of Lisnagowan Road, Dungannon
6.5	Appendix 5 – DFC Guidance on Delivery of Shared Housing Programme