

# MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Dual Language Signage Nameplates

(Article 11 of The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995)

## Revised Policy and Procedure

### 6.0 DUAL LANGUAGE SIGNAGE NAMEPLATES

6.1 The Council will apply this policy when considering applications for dual language signage expressing the name of the street in a language other than English, to both existing and new streets.

6.2 The 1995 Order gives the Council a discretionary power to erect dual language signs or second nameplates, adjacent to the nameplate in English. In exercising this discretionary power the Council must have regard to any views on the matter expressed by the occupiers of premises in that street.

#### 6.3 Criteria - General

The Council in making arrangements and providing opportunities for dual language signage within street naming shall;

1. Have regard to any views on the matter expressed by occupiers of the street
2. For the purposes of the policy, “occupiers” shall mean any person who resides in a dwelling, including a house, flat, maisonette or house in multiple occupancy and which has its frontage immediately adjoining the street, hereafter referred to as ‘property’. Only the views of occupiers aged 18 or over in each property that is occupied and listed on the Electoral Register at the date of survey will be considered.
3. In relation to properties , the ‘occupier’ will include the owner and family members or tenants as listed on the current Electoral / Rates Register as residing at that address or tenants in actual possession of the premises, but not employees within such premises at the date of the survey.
4. The naming of the street in a language other than English does not authorise or require its use as, or part of, the address of any person or the description of the land for the purpose of any statutory provision; e.g., Building Control applications.

6.4 The provision of dual language Street Names will normally only be considered in the following circumstances:

- In the case of existing streets, where the Council has been petitioned and/or consulted with the occupiers of premises in that street and other persons it deems appropriate, in accordance with these arrangements.

### **Dual Language Signage Nameplates: *Procedure***

In deciding whether it should exercise its discretionary powers in relation to erection of dual language nameplates under Article 11 of the 1995 Order, the Council shall only do so after having regard to the views of occupiers of premises which has its frontage immediately adjoining that street.

The procedure for seeking and assessing the views of occupiers and criteria to be applied in deciding whether to erect a dual language nameplate in a language other than English is;

1. A valid petition or letter, signed by occupiers of the street must be made to Council to enable this matter to be considered. Requests should be made to Building Control Service within the Public Health and Infrastructure Department. A petition / letter request shall be valid if; it is from an occupier who appears on the Electoral Register as maintained by the Electoral Office for NI; the address of the petitioner is contained on the petition / letter and; the individuals name is clearly stated and the letter has been signed by the petitioner (who must be an occupier of premises on the street). A petition / letter may be received by email but it must be attached as a file and signed. The Council shall not accept a request made within the body of an email.
2. The Environment Committee will receive notification of submitted requests by way of valid petition as referenced at 1, above. A petition will be deemed to be valid where it is completed by a minimum of one householder on that street. Approval will be sought from the Environment Committee to undertake the survey requested by the valid petition / letter.
3. Upon agreement, the Council will canvass, by post, all occupiers listed on the Electoral Register and the Pointer addressing system of that street; seeking their views on the request to erect a dual-language street nameplate. Each letter will contain survey forms for the number of occupiers registered on the Electoral Register for that property at that time.
4. The occupiers will be advised of the date by which completed surveys must be returned. Incomplete or illegible survey returns will not be counted. Completed surveys must be returned in the self- addressed envelopes provided for that purpose. Only replies received by the specified date shall be considered.
5. For purposes of assessment where 51 % (rounded to nearest whole number) of the occupiers that respond indicate that they are in favour of the erection of a dual language street nameplate, then this shall be presented to the Environment Committee for decision recommending that the dual language street nameplate be approved and erected. The Environment Committee having considered the request and the result of the survey may agree to permit or not permit the erection of the dual language nameplate.
6. Where 51 % of occupiers (rounded to nearest whole number) that respond indicate that they are not in favour of the erection of a dual-language street nameplate, then this shall be presented to the Environment Committee for decision recommending that the dual language street nameplate shall not be approved or erected.
7. If the request is refused by those households surveyed, further requests will not be considered until the expiry of 12 months from the date at which the Environment Committee refuses it.

## Appendix 1

8. Where the request is granted and the other language is Irish, the Irish Language Section within Department of Culture and Leisure and / or an approved translator will provide the Irish language form of the street name. Any other language shall be obtained from an approved translation service the cost of which will be notified to the Environment Committee when receiving the report on the outcome of the survey. The other language will not be used to express the name of the street for statutory purposes
9. The font and size of lettering of the other language shall be in accordance with that as shown in Appendix E.
10. Following the Council's decision on the matter all occupiers of the street will be notified of the decision.
11. Where agreed, a new dual language nameplate will be erected at the start and finish of the street or road in question and at such points along it as required e.g. at other road junctions, in accordance with any operational requirements as determined by the Property Services Team.

## Appendix 2

Willie Wilkinson  
C/O Building Control Service  
Directorate of Public Health & Infrastructure  
Mid-Ulster District Council

Greenvale Drive  
Cookstown  
BT80 8HW

12<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Mr Wilkinson,

### **Request to Implement Mid-Ulster District Council Policy & Procedure for Dual Language Signage**

I am writing to ask if you would initiate the Council Procedure for Irish language signage at Greenvale Drive

In line with the dual language policy, by way of my signature below I am giving consent, as a resident of the area, for you to now carry out the relevant procedure as agreed by Mid Ulster Council.

Yours sincerely,



### Appendix 3

Mr William Wilkinson  
Public Health and Infrastructure Department  
Building Control Services  
Mid-Ulster District Council  
50 Ballyronan Road  
Magherafelt  
Co Derry  
BT45 6EN

Dear Sir/madam

I am a resident of ..... Drumuck R.d Maghera .....  
.....and I wish to make a formal request to have my road/street name in the Irish language  
as per Mid-Ulster District Council's bi-lingual Street name policy.

Regards



Appendix 4

Gortallowry Park  
Cookstown  
BT80 8JJ

26-3-2018  
~~26-3-2018~~

Mr Willie Wilkinson  
Building Control Service  
Public Health and Infrastructure Department  
Comhairle Ceantair Lar Uladh/ Mid Ulster District Council

Dear Mr Wilkinson,

I would like to request that you give consideration to providing bilingual (Irish/English) street signage for the Gortallowry Park area, where I live

Kind regards,



## Appendix 5

Mr William Wilkinson  
Public Health and Infrastructure Department  
Building Control Services  
Mid Ulster District Council  
50 Ballyronan Road  
Magherafelt  
BT45 6EN

Dear William

I am a resident of MANOGALL ROAD and I wish to make a formal request to have my road/street name in the Irish Language as per Mid Ulster District Council's bi-lingual Street name policy.

Regards

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

BLOCK CAPITALS \_\_\_\_\_



**Appendix 6**

Mr William Wilkinson

Public Health and Infrastructure Department

Building Control Services

Mid-Ulster District Council

50 Ballyronan Road

Magherafelt

Co Derry

BT45 6EN



Dear Sir/madam

I am a resident of ..... *Hillhead Road, Castledawson* ..... and I wish to make a formal request to have my road/street name in the Irish language as per Mid-Ulster District Council's bi-lingual Street name policy.

Regards

## Appendix 7

Willie Wilkinson  
C/O Mid-Ulster District Council

Lisnastrane Park  
Coalisland  
BT71 4PW

26/03/2018

Dear Mr Wilkinson,

**RE: Dual Language Signage**

I am writing to ask you to initiate the Council Procedure for dual language signage on Lisnastrane Park.

In accordance with the Policy, by way of my signature below, I am giving consent, as a resident of the road, to now carry out the relevant Procedure recently agreed by Council.

Yours sincerely,



Appendix 8

Mullinderg  
Ballinascreen  
Co. Derry  
BT45 7FD

Mid Ulster District Council

- 6 APR 2018

RECEIVED  
(Magherafelt Office)

A Dhuine Uasail,

Ba mhaith liom cur in iúl dóibh nach bhfuil ach Béarla scríofa ar ár gcomhartha eastáit Mullinderg agus tá mé ag achainí go mbeidh comhartha dátheangach curtha in airde ina áit.

Where I live, the signage for the estate Mullinderg is in English only. As an Irish speaker raising a family through the medium of Irish I would appreciate if the correct signage with the Irish translation was put in its place.

Lea dea-mheas

## Process for Dual Language Signage Requests

1	Request received for dual language signage
2	Request verified, either <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Verified using information within Office, or</li> <li>ii. Verified by a Visit to local EONI</li> </ol>
3	Acknowledgement letter sent to requester
4	Request to Environment Committee for survey to proceed in relation to Dual Language Signage
5	All residents are identified requiring a visit to Electoral Office in Newtownabbey
6	Correspondence prepared to allow survey be sent to each Resident – depending on number of Residents on a road this may result in 200-300 surveys being prepared.
7	Correspondence mailed to all residents as noted on Electoral Register
8	Survey returns collated and recorded as received
9	Following completion of survey, results are accessed and then a report prepared for approval by Environment Committee of Council
10	Following decision by Council, correspondence is prepared for each Resident of road to confirm result of survey