



**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 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in the Council Offices, Cookstown.

**Attendees Members:** Cllr J Mc Namee (Chair), Cllr T Wilson, Cllr M Kearney, Cllr S McGuigan.

**Officers:** T McCance, D Ó Doibhlin, Rebecca Ní Dhonnaile.

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Cllr Kim Ashton, Cllr Derek McKinney, Cllr R McGinley, Cllr S McPeake, Cllr P Bateson, A McCreesh	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
	No declarations of interest submitted.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Presentation by Colm Ó Baoill, Foras na Gaeilge Re: Community Support Programmes</b>	
	Colm Ó Baoill presented information to the group about the support available to groups and businesses from Foras na Gaeilge. Colm answered a number of questions from members of the group with regards to this and circulated examples of resources which are provided to groups or businesses seeking funding support from Foras na Gaeilge. Councillors felt this information would be of great interest to the public and it was agreed that an event be organised to disseminate this information locally.	D Ó Doibhlin, R Ní Dhonnaile

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Report on previous meeting held on 25th June 2018</b>	
	A report of the previous meeting of 25th June was presented to the Working Group.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Signage Programme Update</b>	
	T. McCance provided an update on the progress of the signage programme. He advised that new signage is now in place in Council play parks and Council cemeteries throughout the district. He also advised the group that Moneymore Recreational Centre has been refurbished and now includes both internal and external bi-lingual signage. T McCance advised the Working Group that the Road and street name signage programmes was currently on hold pending a revised procurement process being developed. An internal audit is currently taking place throughout all council facilities and once complete, will assist in the installation of internal bi-lingual signage across all Council facilities.	T McCance
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Ulster Scots language and cultural activity proposals</b>	
	T. McCance presented to the group a proposal on potential Ulster Scots activities. The proposal outlined the information regarding the activities which included workshops and taster sessions for Ulster Scots language. Cllr T. Wilson proposed that the language project be approved and delivered as outlined, the proposal received the unanimous support of all present.	T McCance
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Irish Language Programme Update A.O.B.</b>	
	<p>R. Ní Dhonnaile updated the meeting on the Irish Language Programme with the following information:</p> <p><b>Celebrations of Achievement:</b> In order to achieve our objective of recognising and celebrating the language in the broader context of linguistic and cultural diversity across the District, a number of celebratory events have been held over recent weeks:</p> <p><b>Diploma in Irish in conjunction with University of Ulster:</b> A celebration was held in the Burnavon, Cookstown on the 28th August to mark another successful group of students graduating from the Ulster University Diploma course. Chair of Mid Ulster District Council, Councillor Seán McPeake welcomed Provost of Magee Campus, Ulster University, Dr Malachy</p>	T McCance, D Ó Doibhlin, R Ní Dhonnaile

Ó Néill; Ulster GAA President, Michael Hassan; past and present students of the Diploma course, their teachers and the successful class of 2017-18. He also formally acknowledged and thanked Ulster GAA for their continued financial support of students undertaking this course alongside the funding provided by Mid Ulster District Council

**GCSE course in conjunction with South-West College:** A celebration was held in Ranfurly House, Dungannon on the 30<sup>th</sup> August to mark the success of the students who completed the course in its inaugural year. Of the 16 students registered, 15 completed the course and of that, 14 achieved a pass grade.

**National Award Winners:** A celebration was held in Burnavon Theatre, Cookstown on the 20<sup>th</sup> September to mark the success of three Mid Ulster community groups who received awards from national organisation Glór na nGael as a result of their efforts in promotion of the Irish Language.

#### **Promoting Opportunities to Learn**

**Burnavon:** The classes held at the Burnavon continue with an additional class added to support increase in uptake. The Burnavon now hosts a Bunrang for beginners and a Meánrang for intermediate learners every Tuesday morning.

**Tús / Nasc Bootcamps:** A new term of Bootcamps has now begun and both Irish learners and speakers, both new and familiar are welcomed back to Ranfurly House, Dungannon. The dates for the next quarter are as follows:

20<sup>th</sup> October

17<sup>th</sup> November

15<sup>th</sup> December

	<b>Staff Course in Council:</b> In line with our policy objective of offering appropriate training to staff, an 8 week course in conversational Irish begins on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> October. The course will run concurrently across all 3 offices with two levels on offer, beginners and refresher.	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>A.O.B.</b>	
	No further business discussed	
<b><i>Meeting concluded at 6.45pm</i></b>		

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

