



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle
**Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSraitha Báin**

Derry Cittie & Stràbane
Deistrick Cooncil

Code of Practice for producing dual language signs

Code of Practice for the production of dual language signs in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.

Derry City and Strabane District Council has established a code of practice to ensure that dual language signage conforms to a series of design and accessibility standards outlined below. This document complements the Council's Streetnaming and Property Numbering Policy and is intended to provide practical guidance to existing and prospective sign suppliers helping to provide consistency of approach in terms of dual language signage throughout the city and district.

1. Street Signage

All text must be presented as shown in the template below (A).

- (a) Text in English and Irish must be presented at the same size and using the same font. No Caps or italics.
- (b) Even in cases where the Irish text is longer, the text must be presented at the same size and in the same format as the English text.
- (c) The Council's Irish Language Officer will supply the Irish translation for each sign on the approved template below and will approve draft signage prior to production in conjunction with the Technical Support Officer.
- (d) The acute diacritic marker on vowels (commonly known as the *fada*) must be included where advised by the Irish Language Officer as any omission of the acute constitutes a spelling error.

A: Street Sign Template

Danesfort Crescent
Corrán an Dúnáin

2. Rural Road Signage

All text must be presented as shown in the template below (B).

- (a) Text in English and Irish must be presented at the same size and using the same font. No Caps or italics.
- (b) The Irish form of the road name only is presented in green. All other text including the townland name is black.
- (c) The townland name is presented at a smaller size with English to the left and Irish to the right.
- (d) The Council's Irish Language Officer will supply the translation using the approved template and will approve draft signage prior to production in conjunction with the Technical Support Officer.
- (e) The acute diacritic marker on vowels (commonly known as the *fada*) must be included where advised by the Irish Language Officer as any omission of the acute constitutes a spelling error.

B: Road Sign Template

Carnanreagh Road
Bóthar an Charnáin Riabhaigh

Carnanreagh

An Carnán Riabhach

3. Procuring Irish language versions of street and road names

The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages encourages local and regional authorities to use and/or adopt traditional or correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages, which in our local context, refers to Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The Council's Irish Language Officer will undertake research in relation to the source, origins and etymology of the street/road/townland name in question citing all relevant sources and will make a recommendation in relation to the most appropriate form. The following sources will form the pillar of any research undertaken but may be supplemented with additional sources as required:

- a) The Placenames Database of Ireland (Dublin City University);
- b) The Northern Ireland Place-name Project (Queens University Belfast);
- c) Irish Townlands Database;
- d) Derry Streetnames Index (Conradh na Gaeilge 1993);
- e) A Dictionary of Ulster Place-Names (Patrick McKay)

In cases where the origins of the name in question are unclear, or in cases where a number of variant traditional names are identified as part of the research, the Irish Language Officer will make a recommendation.

Further Information:

Policy Officer (Irish Language) or Irish Language Officer
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