

Report To:	CABINET
Date:	21 FEBRUARY 2023
Heading:	REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL – NOTICE OF MOTION RELATING TO STREET NAMING
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR JASON ZADROZNY, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	YES

Purpose of Report

For Cabinet to consider the Motion referred to it by Council on 2 February 2023 relating to street naming. The report outlines the Council's current Street Naming Policy and Process.

Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is asked to note:

- 1. The Motion referred to it by Council on 2 February 2023 relating to street naming as set out in the report.**
- 2. The existing policy and process for the naming of streets as appended to and detailed in the report.**
- 3. That the Leader of the Council is already working with the families mentioned in the motion with a view to street names being named after the fallen soldiers in the future.**

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

The report is presented following a motion being referred to it by the Council on 2 February 2023. The motion was referred to Cabinet as the function is an Executive one. The recommendations in the report are to note the motion and the existing policy for the naming of streets in order to ensure Members are aware of the legislation, the Council's duty and its process. The Leader wishes the Cabinet to be made aware that he is already working with the families of the fallen soldiers mentioned in the motion. The Leader has delegated authority to make decisions in relation to the naming of streets.

Alternative Options Considered

As the recommendations are largely for noting, the only alternatives would be for the Cabinet to make further recommendations as part of its considerations of the motion.

Detailed Information

The Motion

Councillors Chris Baron and Phil Rostance proposed a Notice of Motion to Council on 2 February 2023 as follows:

Rifleman Adrian Sheldon tragically died in Afghanistan in May 2009, after 10 years of military service. Justifiably his family and his regiment will never forget him.

Equally, Lance Corporal Paul Sandford from Hucknall was tragically killed in Afghanistan after military service with the Worcester and Sherwood Foresters. He too is still sadly missed.

Paul was educated and lived in Hucknall all his life and followed the military route of joining the local regiment.

Adrian lived in Kirkby all his short life, and they both and gave their lives to safeguard the future of others from tyranny and dictatorship. Adrian's final resting place is at Kingsway Cemetery and Paul's final resting place is in Hucknall Cemetery, with a plaque erected in St Mary's Magdalene Church in Hucknall.

As former Hucknall and Kirkby in Ashfield residents, isn't it time to honour their lives through the naming of a street after them?

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.4, because the business of the motion (street naming) is the responsibility of Cabinet, after the motion was moved and seconded at the Council meeting the motion was referred to Cabinet for consideration without debate.

The Policy and Process

Ashfield District Council has a statutory duty to name and number streets and to approve and register official property addresses within its District boundary. The Council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy is attached to the report as Appendix 1.

The main purpose of the Policy is to ensure all properties within Ashfield are assigned consistent postal addresses. Having consistent and logical addresses will ensure that properties are easily located by the Council, the emergency services, Royal Mail and other organisations, allowing for quick and efficient delivery of goods and services to properties.

Whilst there is no statutory requirement for consultation in respect of new street names, the Council's policy includes consultation with the developer, emergency services, Royal Mail and Local Councillors. Following this consultation, notices will be placed on site for 4 weeks informing the public of a proposed new street name. The Council, as the Street Naming Authority has the final say on the names proposed.

Assignment of new addresses follows the guidance in GeoPlace Data Entry Conventions and Best Practice for Addresses. The Council also applies a number of local conventions including the following:

- New street names should not duplicate any similar name already in use in the District or the locality
- Street names should not be difficult to pronounce or awkward to spell
- Generally, names of more than three syllables are avoided
- Aesthetically unsuitable names are avoided
- Phonetically similar names are avoided within a postal area and within a town
- **Names of living people will not be considered at all, and names of the deceased will only be considered 50 years after their death. An exception may be made however, if the person has made some contribution of nation or local significance, i.e. died in military service, significant community involvement**
- The consent of the Lord Chamberlain's office must be obtained if a name with any reference to the Royal Family or the use of the word "Royal" is suggested
- The use of North, East, South or West is only acceptable where the road is continuous and passes over a major junction
- Where possible names should reflect the history of the site or acknowledge the geography of the area
- Names that could be seen as advertising are not acceptable.

As can be seen by the convention highlighted in bold above, the Council's policy would allow the naming of a street after someone who has died in military service as suggested by the Notice of Motion.

The existing policy is soon to be reviewed.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Themes running throughout the Corporate Plan aim to make residents Proud of the District, its natural, cultural and industrial heritage. The conventions set out in the Street Naming and Numbering Policy aim to promote this heritage and culture.

Legal:

The Council is the Street Naming Authority and its policy reflects the legislative requirements set out in the Public Health Act 1925 (chiefly sections 17 and 18)

Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, Section 1.6 sets out the Executive Functions – Scheme of Delegations in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000. All functions of the Council are Executive Functions except those reserved by law or by the Constitution to the Council or to Council Committees. The Leader of the Council is personally responsible for the discharge of all Executive Functions and may take any decision in relation to any such function. Street Naming is an Executive function. [RLD 09/02/2023]

Finance: [PH 10/02/2023].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	Applicable charges for street naming or numbering are clarified in the policy and on the Council’s website. There are no financial implications identified in the report or recommendations.
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
There are no risks identified as part of the report or the recommendations.	

Human Resources:

There are no human resources implications identified in the report or recommendations.

Environmental/Sustainability

There are no environmental or sustainability issues identified in the report or the recommendations.

Equalities:

There are no environmental or sustainability issues identified in the report or the recommendations.

Other Implications:

None.

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable.

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable.

Background Papers

None.

Report Author and Contact Officer

Ruth Dennis

DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

ruth.dennis@ashfield.gov.uk

01623 457009