

Development Management Sub Committee

Wednesday 30 July 2014

Proposed street naming at the King's Buildings Campus

Item number	4.11
Report number	
Wards	A15 - Southside/Newington

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek the Sub Committee's approval of the naming of two new streets within The University of Edinburgh's campus at King's Buildings. The names put forward to the ward councillors for their consideration was Marion Ross Road and James Hutton Road.

Unanimous agreement was not achieved in a councillor consultation and, in consequence, the matter has been referred to the Sub-Committee for a decision.

Links

[Policies and guidance for this application](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/2858/planning_committee_policies_and_guidance_for_this_application)

Report

Proposed street naming at the King's Buildings Campus

Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee agrees the street names Marion Ross Road and James Hutton Road.

Background

- 2.1 Currently all of the properties within the University of Edinburgh campus at King's Buildings share one of two addresses, either 40 West Mains Road or 192 Mayfield Road, with one central mail delivery point.

The Council has been approached by the University with a request to name all of the individual roads within the campus, to allow each building to have its own unique address and mail delivery point. The University requested that this be carried out by no later than the beginning of September, ready for the start of the new semester.

In total this would mean naming 13 new streets, and numbering 32 buildings into those streets. (see Appendix 1)

The University requested that all of the street names chosen reflect renowned scientists and mathematicians in line with the departments on the campus, and submitted a list of possible names for consideration.

All of the streets within the campus are private and are maintained by the University. However under section 97 of The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 the authority to name private roads still lies with the Council.

Main report

- 3.1 In April the Council was approached by consultants, acting on behalf of the University of Edinburgh, with a request that all of the streets within their campus at King's Buildings be individually named. A list of 13 possible names was submitted for consideration, all of which related to renowned scientists and mathematicians associated with the departments on the campus.

- 3.2 During discussions of the 13 suggested names, it was pointed out to the University that some of the names were overly long and cumbersome, and that any signs would be large and possibly difficult to site. The University maintained that these issues would not be a problem and that they wanted all of the names to be considered.

Two of the proposed names were rejected as unsuitable as they did not meet the Council's criteria for new street names: *Christina Miller* was deemed to be too similar sounding to *Christie Miller*, who already appears in three street names; and *Robert Edwards*, does not meet the Council's current 10 year requirement for deceased people.

On 29 May a revised list of proposed names was submitted by the University, substituting Marion Ross Road for Christina Miller Road and James Dewar Road for Robert Edwards Road. The University was particularly keen to maintain as many women's names as possible on the list, stating that this was felt to be important as they were under represented.

3.3 The revised list of 13 names was sent to the four ward councillors for consideration on 11 June. The street naming process allows the ward councillors 21 days to consider the proposal. If no reply is received, there is an assumption of support for the proposed name. Two of the councillors agreed the proposed names, one did not respond, and one councillor objected to the two names James Hutton Road and Marion Ross Road.

3.4 The objection to the use of these names is based on the possibility of confusion with Ross Road, Place and Gardens and also Hutton Road and Close, leading to problems locating the streets. However the Council's normal practise for street naming is to not use a person's first name, unless additional identification is necessary to prevent a duplication or confusion with existing streets. In this instance it is felt that the inclusion of the Christian names is significant enough to make the new names stand apart, and that James Hutton Road and Marion Ross Road can therefore be supported.

Financial impact

4.1 The financial impact has been assessed as follows:

There are no financial implications to the Council as the University has agreed to pay for all signage requirements.

Risk, Policy, compliance and governance impact

5.1 The recommendations in this report are in accordance with the policy on street naming set out in the Council's Statutory Addressing Charter.

Equalities impact

6.1 The equalities impact has been assessed as follows:

The application has been assessed and has no impact in terms of equalities or human rights.

Sustainability impact

7.1 The sustainability impact has been assessed as follows:

The application has been assessed and has no impact in terms of sustainability.

Consultation and engagement

8.1 Pre-Application Process

N/A

8.2 Publicity summary of representations and Community Council comments

N/A

Background reading / external references

Statutory Development

Plan Provision

Date registered

Drawing numbers/Scheme

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Links - Policies

Relevant Policies: Statutory Addressing Charter

Appendix 1

Site Layout and Proposed Names



