



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Briefing Note

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**Des McKibbin**

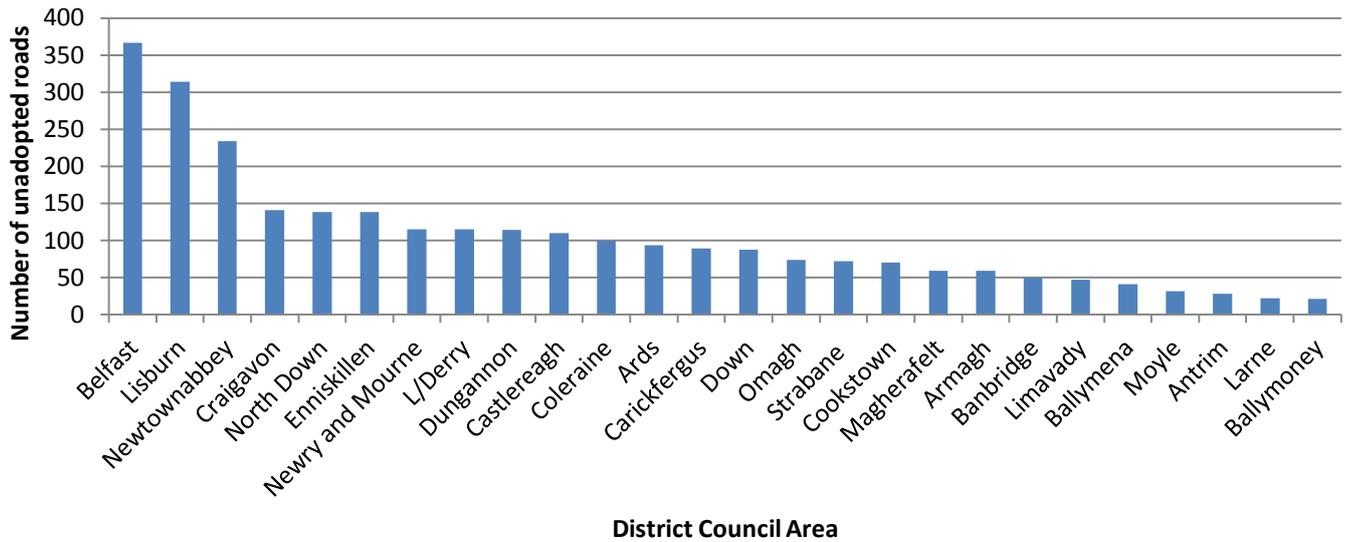
# Unadopted roads in private developments

## 1 Background

Following consideration of RalSe publication 155-11 entitled: '[Adoption of New Roads in Private Developments and the use of Bonds](#)' members requested further information on the number of unadopted roads in Northern Ireland, classified by District Council Area.

## 2 Unadopted roads by District Council Area

- There are a total of 2732 unadopted roads in Northern Ireland;
- Belfast City Council area has the largest number of unadopted roads (367);
- Lisburn City Council area has 314 unadopted roads;
- Collectively Belfast, Lisburn and Newtownabbey councils have over one third of the unadopted roads (915);
- Ballymoney has the fewest unadopted roads (21).

**Figure 1: Unadopted roads classified by District Council Area**

Number of unadopted roads Classified by District Council Area	
Council Area	No. of Unadopted Roads
Belfast	367
Lisburn	314
Newtownabbey	234
Craigavon	141
North Down	138
Enniskillen	138
Newry and Mourne	115
L/Derry	115
Dungannon	114
Castlereagh	110
Coleraine	100
Ards	94
Carickfergus	89
Down	88
Omagh	74
Strabane	72
Cookstown	70
Magherafelt	59
Armagh	59
Banbridge	50
Limavady	47
Ballymena	41
Moyle	32
Antrim	28
Larne	22
Ballymoney	21

**Notes:**

The definition of an unadopted road is a road/footpath, or portion of road/ footpath or housing development, that has been determined for adoption through the planning process, however, construction work has either not yet started, or is not yet completed.

Some of the unadopted roads listed in the table above are bonded extents, which can form parts of complete developments.

Roads Service does not hold information on property management companies which are no longer in operation. I would also advise that Roads Service is not routinely notified once a developer has gone into liquidation/administration and it may be some months before officials become aware that an individual or a company has gone into insolvency.