

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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**MR BRIAN KINGSTON MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
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**16th July 2026
AQW 49850 22-27**

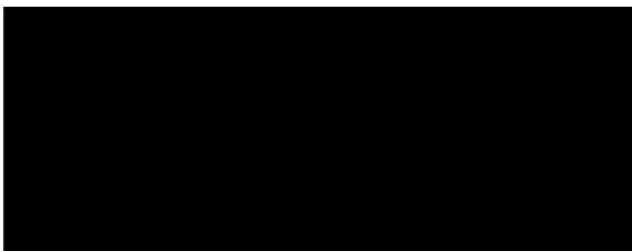
MR BRIAN KINGSTON (North Belfast) has asked:

To ask the Minister of Justice whether time spent in prison is excluded from the period of a disqualification from driving, included in a court sentence.

ANSWER

At present, disqualifications from driving take effect from the date of sentence. Accordingly, where a custodial sentence is also imposed, the driving ban runs concurrently with time spent in prison.

However, my Criminal Justice (Sentencing etc) Bill includes provision to allow an extended disqualification period to reflect the custodial period imposed. This will ensure that disqualifications will normally be served post release from custody



NAOMI LONG MLA