



Department for the

Economy

An Roinn

Geilleagair

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Date: 05 10 2026

Dear Peter

**SL1 – THE HEALTH AND SAFETY (MISCELLANEOUS REPEALS,
REVOCATIONS AND AMENDMENTS) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND)
2026**

Powers under which Rule is being made

The Department for the Economy ("DfE") proposes to make a new Statutory Rule, the Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Repeals, Revocations and Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 ("the proposed Regulations") under powers conferred by Articles 2(5), 17(1) to (6), 40(2) to (4), 54(1) and 55(2) of, and paragraphs 1(1) and (2), 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 and 19 of Schedule 3 to the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 (S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)) ("the 1978 Order") and Article 3(2) of the Offshore, and Pipelines, Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 (S.I. 1992/1728 (N.I. 17)).

The Rule is subject to the negative resolution procedure before the Assembly.

Purpose of the Statutory Rule

For the most part, the proposed action will bring Northern Ireland legislation into line with that in Great Britain, where the Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 2014 were introduced to implement recommendations arising primarily from the Löfstedt Review and the "Red Tape Challenge – Health and Safety".

Background/EU Implications

The proposed Regulations will revoke six items of Northern Ireland legislation that have been identified as being redundant or that have been overtaken by more up-to-date Regulations. A further two Acts will be substantially repealed, with only those provisions remaining in force that have been deemed necessary for the continued functioning of related legislation where, for example, they depend on definitions contained therein. The opportunity is also being taken to effect a total of eight corrections across five Statutory Rules.

The legislation proposed for removal is the:

- Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 (sections 40, 115, 117, 119, 120, 154, 163, 169 and 170) (1965 c.20);
- Office and Shop Premises Act (Northern Ireland) 1966 (sections 42, 43, 45, 56, 59, 61, 63, 65, 68, 73, 75, 76, 77, 78 and 80) (1966 c.26);
- Fire Services (Factories) (Repeals) Order (Northern Ireland) 1986 (S.I. 1986/350);
- Fire Services (Office and Shop Premises) (Repeals) Order (Northern Ireland) 1986 (S.I. 1986/351);
- Factories (Modification for Docks, Building and Engineering Construction, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1939 (S.R. 1939 No. 69);
- Factories Act (Northern Ireland), 1938 (Extension of Section 47) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1948 (S.R. 1948 No. 151);
- Office and Shop Premises Act (Repeals and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979 (S.R. 1979 No. 284); and
- Factories Legislation (Repeals and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979 (S.R. 1979 No. 246).

The legislation proposed for amendment is the:

- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R. 1997 No.455);
- The Biocidal Products and Chemicals (Appointment of Authorities and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 (S.R. 2013 No. 206);
- The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (S.R. 2015 No. 325);
- The Offshore Installations (Offshore Safety Directive) (Safety Case etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 (S.R. 2016 No. 406); and
- The Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019 (S.R. 2019 No. 185).

Consultation

HSENI conducted a public Consultation exercise between 9 March and 11 May 2026. Letters were issued to around 400 consultees, including individuals and bodies representative of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and other organisations with an interest in equality and related issues (including each member of the Northern Ireland Assembly).

During the Consultation period one formal reply was received, which did not suggest or require any changes to the text of the draft Statutory Rule. Please see Annex 1.

Position in Great Britain

In Great Britain, the Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/486) came into force on 6 April 2014.

Equality Impact

The Rule has been screened for any possible impact on equality of opportunity affecting the groups listed in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, and no adverse or differential impacts were identified. There is no evidence to suggest that the proposals will impact disproportionately on any Section 75 group.

Rural Proofing

HSENI has considered this matter as part of the development of the proposed Statutory Rule and concludes that it will not impact differentially on the needs of people in rural areas of Northern Ireland.

Regulatory Impact

It is HSENI policy to use an Impact Assessment (IA) to assess and understand the impact, regarding both costs and benefits, of all new Regulations. No IA has been completed in this case, as it is anticipated that these changes will have no impact in the operation of business. Furthermore, HSENI expects that, owing to the nature of the changes, there will not be any familiarisation costs associated with them.

Financial Implications

The Rule has no effect on businesses, charities or the voluntary sector, and there are no cost implications for HSENI or the Department for the Economy.

Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

The Department has considered the matter of Convention rights etc. and is satisfied that there are no matters of concern.

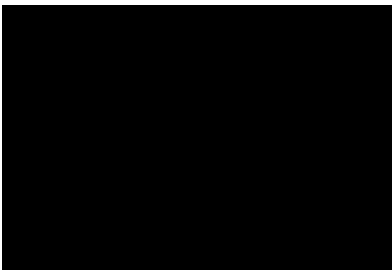
Operational Date

It is proposed that the Statutory Rule come into operation on 7 December 2026.

When the Rule together with the Explanatory Memorandum has been laid at the Assembly Business Office the Business Office will submit copies to the Committee.

You will wish to bring this matter to the attention of the Committee for the Economy.

Yours sincerely



Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer