

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
The Rates (Regional Rates) Order (Northern Ireland) 2027
S.R. 2027 No.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Finance to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under Article 7(1) and (3) of the Rates (Northern Ireland) Order 1977 (S.I. 1977/2157 (N.I. 28)) and is subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The Order fixes the amounts of the regional domestic and regional non-domestic rates that are to be used in the assessment of rates and the billing of ratepayers in Northern Ireland for the year ending 31st March 2028.
- 2.2. Under this Order different regional rates are made and levied on the rateable net annual values of hereditaments (non-domestic) and the rateable capital values of hereditaments (domestic).
- 2.3. Article 1 contains the citation and commencement provisions.
- 2.4. Article 2 provides that the Order applies to the financial year ending 31st March 2028.
- 2.5. Article 3 sets out the non-domestic (paragraph (1)) and domestic (paragraph (2)) regional rates for 2027/28.

3. Background

- 3.1. The annual regional rates are a key element in the annual financial cycle. The regional rates set for the 2027/28 rating year will contribute funding towards services provided by Northern Ireland Departments.

4. Consultation

- 4.1. This annual Statutory Rule is required to facilitate the billing of domestic and non-domestic regional rates.
- 4.2. No consultation has been undertaken by the Department in relation to this specific Order which constitutes an expected outworking of the taxation system.

5. Equality Impact

- 5.1. There are no equality impact implications associated with this Rule which applies at taxbase level. The Order applies the regional rate to all domestic and non-domestic property in Northern Ireland through the billing and collection of rates.

6. Regulatory Impact

- 6.1. No Regulatory Impact Assessment was prepared. The Order applies the regional rate to all domestic and non-domestic property in Northern Ireland through the billing and collection of rates.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. For the purposes of funding public expenditure for 2027/28, the regional domestic rate for 2027/28 is set at x.xxxx pence in the pound and the non-domestic regional rate for 2027/28 is set at xx.xx pence in the pound.

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- 8.1. It is the view of the Department that this Order is compatible with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

9. EU Implications

- 9.1. Not applicable.

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

- 10.1. There is no corresponding Great Britain legislation.

11. Additional Information

- 11.1. Not applicable.