

SL1 – To Departmental Committee Clerk

Dear Michael

The Drumnagoon Road, Portadown (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

The Department for Infrastructure proposes to make a Statutory Rule under powers conferred by Article 68 of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993. The Statutory Rule is subject to negative resolution procedure before the Assembly.

Article 68 of the 1993 Order enables the Department, by Order, to provide for the abandonment of any road. On the coming into operation of an Order for abandonment the Department is no longer responsible for maintenance of the road and any public right of way over the road shall be extinguished. The 1993 Order further provides that the Department should not make an Abandonment Order unless (a) it is of the opinion that the road is not necessary for road traffic or that another road is available which provides, or is capable, if improved, of providing alternative facilities for road traffic; or (b) the Order provides for the carrying out by the Department or any other person of such works as the Department considers necessary for the provision of alternative facilities for road traffic before the road is abandoned.

Purpose of the Statutory Rule

The Rule will abandon an area of 87 square metres of road to the front of No. 48 Drumnagoon Road, Portadown commencing at a point 13.8 metres south-east of the junction of the realigned road with the former Drumnagoon Road and continuing for 17.1 metres in a north-easterly direction.

The proposal has been requested by Sheely Consulting to facilitate the outworking of a planning application for the construction of 48 dwellings and associated road realignment.

Previous Engagement with the Committee

None.

Consultations

The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection to the proposal. Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council has also been advised of the proposal but has not commented.

Following completion of the required statutory consultation process, which opened on 20 November 2025 and closed on 5 January 2026 and included advertising the Notice of Intention in respect of the proposed abandonment in the local press for two consecutive weeks; a notice being posted on site and statutory undertakers being notified of the proposal, no objections were received during the objection period. A copy of the Notice of Intention is attached.

Equality Impact

There are no known Section 75 implications. Following publication of the Notice of Intention in the local press, no Section 75 issues have been raised.

Regulatory Impact

A Regulatory Impact Assessment was not considered necessary as the proposal does not result in any costs or savings for businesses, charities or voluntary bodies.

Rural Needs Impact

A Rural Needs Impact Assessment was not considered necessary.

Data Protection Impact

A Data Protection Impact Assessment was not considered necessary.

Child Rights Impact

A separate Child Rights Impact Assessment was not considered necessary as impacts on children and young people have been captured in the appropriate section of the Section 75 screening form.

Position in Great Britain

Not applicable.

Any Other Information

None.

Financial Implications

Spend will be incurred in 2025-26 and relates to departmental staff costs as well as any physical infrastructure costs, for which there is sufficient budget. The applicant has signed an undertaking to reimburse the Department's costs and expenses and to pay any compensation due as a result of making the Rule.

Compliance with Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

The Department has carried out a Human Rights Act Screening Analysis and no human rights issues have been identified.

Consideration by the Executive

Not required.

Proposed Timing of Consideration of the SL1

This SL1 has been submitted in accordance with the minimum four-week timeframe and it is proposed the Committee considers the SL1 as soon as possible.

Proposed Operational Date

It is proposed that the Rule will come into operation on 25 March 2026.

A draft of the proposed Statutory Rule and explanatory Memorandum along with the related map are attached and you will wish to bring this matter to the attention of the Committee for Infrastructure.

Yours sincerely



JOSEPH HEATH
Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer

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Date: 22 January 2026

cc: Human Rights Commission
Equality Commission