

SL1 – To Departmental Committee Clerk

Dear Michael,

The Traffic Weight Restriction (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

The Department for Infrastructure proposes to make a Statutory Rule under powers conferred by Article 4 the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 which enables the Department, by Order, to provide control of traffic measures, including vehicle weight restrictions, to prohibit or restrict vehicles exceeding a certain weight from using any public road. The Statutory Rule is not subject to any procedure before the Assembly.

Purpose of the Statutory Rule

The proposed Rule will prohibit vehicles weighing in excess of 7.5 tonnes from using Craigarogan Road, Mallusk. The prohibition is being introduced as information signs currently displayed declaring the road unsuitable for HGV's are being ignored making it necessary to legally formalise the weight restriction. Vehicles are exempted from the prohibition in certain circumstances.

Previous Engagement with the Committee

None.

Consultations

The PSNI has confirmed it has no objection to the proposal. Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council has also been notified of the proposal but has not commented.

Following completion of the required statutory consultation process, which opened on 2 April 2026 and closed on 24 April 2026 and included advertising of the Notice of Intention in the Antrim Times and Antrim Guardian, no objections or other representations were received. 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 were raised.

Regulatory Impact

A regulatory impact assessment was not considered necessary as the proposals do not result in any costs or savings on 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 during 2026-27 and relates to departmental staff costs and advertising costs as well as any minor infrastructure costs e.g. additional signage/lining.

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 the Rule will come into operation approximately one month following its consideration by the Committee.

The draft of the proposed Statutory Rule 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,



**Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer
Signed for the Department for Infrastructure**

Committee for Infrastructure Clerk
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3XX

Date: 21 May 2026

cc: Human Rights Commission

Equality Commission