

## **SL1 – To Departmental Committee Clerk**

Dear Michael,

### **The Mayfield High Street, Newtownabbey (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 road shall cease to be maintainable by the Department 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 32 square metres of road and footway at Mayfield High Street, Newtownabbey.

The proposal has been requested by South Bank Square Limited which owns the bed and soil of the area of land in question. The abandonment of this area of road and footway will permit a change to the layout within a housing development.

#### **Previous Engagement with the Committee**

None.

#### **Consultation**

The PSNI has no objections to the proposal. Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council has been notified of the proposal and advised it has no interest in these lands and the Council officers have no objections to the proposal.

Following completion of the required statutory consultation process which opened on 24 March 2026 and closed on 5 May 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.

#### **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 Assessment**

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**

The applicant has signed an undertaking to reimburse the Department's costs and expenses and 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.

**Operational Date**

It is proposed the Rule will come into operation within 8 weeks of its consideration by the Committee.

The draft of the proposed Statutory Rule and Explanatory Memorandum 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  
Signed for The Department for Infrastructure**

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

**Date:** 21May 2026

**cc: Human Rights Commission  
Equality Commission**