

SL1 – To Departmental Committee Clerk

Dear Michael

The Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

The Department for Infrastructure proposes to make a Statutory Rule under powers conferred by Articles 37 and 38 of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (“the 1997 Order”). The Statutory Rule is not subject to any procedure before the Assembly.

Article 37 of the 1997 Order makes a road a restricted road subject to a 30 miles per hour speed limit if a system of street lighting is provided on the road and enables the Department, by Order, to make a road a restricted road. It also enables the Department, by Order, to remove a 30 miles per hour speed limit from a road, even if a system of street lighting is provided on the road. Article 38 of the 1997 Order enables the Department, by Order, to apply speed limits to roads that are not restricted roads.

A speed limit defines the maximum legal speed that vehicles are permitted to travel on a road. Speed limits are generally introduced for road safety reasons but can also be introduced for traffic progression purposes, or for environmental and accessibility reasons.

Purpose of the Statutory Rule

The proposed Rule will apply a 40 miles per hour speed limit to a length of:

- Annagher Road, Coalisland. Following consideration of requests received from a local Councillor and a resident of a new housing development it was subsequently agreed to reduce the speed limit to improve safety for road users;
- Brokerstown Road, Lisburn. Following a review carried out in line with the level of new development carried out on this stretch of road it was subsequently agreed to reduce the speed limit to improve safety for road users; and
- Farmhill Road, Omagh. Following a speed survey and assessment carried out due to increased development of the area it was subsequently agreed to reduce the speed limit to improve safety for road users; and
- Tempo Road, Omagh, to amend an existing description.

The Rule will also apply a 50 miles per hour speed limit to a length of Drumnakilly Road, Omagh. Following a speed survey and assessment carried out in conjunction with the PSNI due to increased development of the area, it was subsequently agreed to reduce the speed limit to improve safety for road users; and

The Rule will revoke existing speed limits relating to Annagher Road, Coalisland and Tempo Road, Tempo so that the speed limits specified above can take effect.

Previous Engagement with the Committee

None.

Consultations

The PSNI has been informed and has no objection to any of the proposals. Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Mid Ulster District Council were also notified of the proposals but did not comment.

Following completion of the required statutory consultation process which opened on 17 June 2026 and closed on 9 July 2026 and included advertising of the Notice of Intention in the Belfast Telegraph, Irish News and News Letter for one week, 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 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 relates primarily to departmental staff costs as well as any physical infrastructure costs and will be funded from indicative allocations.

Compliance with Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

The Department has carried out a Human Rights 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 consideration by the Committee.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'M'.

DARREN MURRAY
Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer
Signed for the Department for Infrastructure

Committee for Infrastructure Clerk
Northern Ireland Assembly
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Date: 14 August 2026

cc: Human Rights Commission
Equality Commission