

SL1 – To Departmental Committee Clerk

Dear Michael,

The Loading Bay and Parking Place (Church Street, Antrim) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

The Department for Infrastructure proposes to make a Statutory Rule under powers conferred by Articles 10 and 13 of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (“the 1997 Order”).

Article 10 of the 1997 Order enables the Department, by Order, to provide parking places and Article 13 enables it to make provision as to how the parking place is used, the persons or vehicles who may use it and the conditions under which it may be used.

The Statutory Rule is not subject to any procedure before the Assembly.

Purpose of the Statutory Rule

The Statutory Rule will make permanent the authorisation of a length of Church Street, Antrim for the use as a loading bay and a parking place, initially introduced as an experimental traffic control scheme (ETCS) on 23 February 2026.

Vehicles are excepted from the conditions and prohibitions in certain circumstances.

The ETCS was originally implemented to facilitate the request from a local business owner to provide a loading bay on this part of Church Street, Antrim and to improve traffic progression. Since the introduction of the ETCS, it has been established that the objective of improving traffic progression on the main route through Antrim has been met.

Previous Engagement with the Committee

None.

Consultations

The PSNI has been informed of the proposal but has not commented. Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council has also been notified of the proposal but has not commented.

Following completion of the required statutory consultation process and advertising of the Notice of Intention in the local press relating to the implementation of the ETCS for an initial period of 6 months, no objections or other representations were received. The ETCS came into operation on 23 February 2026 for a period of 6 months. No objections were received during this 6-month period. The scheme was extended on 23 August 2026 for a further 3 months. 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 (if appropriate).

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 but no later than 28 October 2026.

Proposed Operational Date

It is proposed that the Rule will come into operation on 23 November 2026.

A 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,



DARREN MURRAY
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: 10 September 2026

**cc: Human Rights Commission
 Equality Commission**