EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The A25 Newtown Road, Camlough (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2011

S. R. 2011 No. 207

1. Introduction

1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Regional Development to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.

1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under Article 68(1) and (5) of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

2.1. The purpose of the Rule is to abandon an area of 160.8 square metres of road comprising verge on the A25 Newtown Road, Camlough from a point 141 metres north-west of its junction with Old Road, Camlough and extending for 41 metres in a north-westerly direction. On the coming into operation of the rule, the area of road in question shall cease to be maintainable by the Department and the public right of way over it shall be extinguished.

2.2. The rights of statutory undertakers to keep and maintain their existing equipment in the area of road to be abandoned shall be retained.

3. Background

3.1. The abandonment has been requested by the owner of No. 27 Old Road, Camlough who wishes to incorporate the area of road in question into the curtilage of his property.

3.2. The Department owns the bed and soil of the road and following the abandonment it will be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with the procedures laid down for the disposal of government owned land.

3.3. A request from BT for an easement will be dealt with as part of the disposal process.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection. Newry and Mourne District Council was notified about the proposal. A notice in respect of the proposed abandonment was published in the local press for two successive weeks, a notice was posted on site and statutory undertakers notified of the proposal. No objections were received.

5. Equality Impact

5.1. Consideration has been given to compliance with Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. No equality issues have been identified by the Department and no issues were raised following the publication of the notice in the press.

6. Regulatory Impact

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

7. Financial Implications

7.1. None

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

8.1. Consideration has been given to compliance with Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. No human rights issues have been identified by the Department and no issues were raised following the publication of the notice in the press.

9. EU Implications

9.1. Not applicable.

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

10.1. Not applicable.

11. Additional Information

11.1. Not applicable.