EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Belvoir Road, Belfast (Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2025

S. R. 2025 No. 180

1. Introduction

1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Infrastructure 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), (3) 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 stop-up two lengths of Belvoir Road, Belfast.

3. Background

3.1. The Rule will stop-up two lengths of Belvoir Road, Belfast at the existing right-hand turn facility on the north bound carriageway at a point 200 metres north-east of its junction with Newtownbreda Road.

3.2. The stopping-ups have been requested by the Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland (DfI) for road safety purposes. The stopping-ups will remove access to the right turn pocket which previously provided access to a former Roads Service depot which has since been demolished. The right turn pocket now serves no purpose and allowing it to remain in use has been idintified as a potential hazard to road users.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and no objection has been received. Belfast City Council has also been advised of the proposed stopping-up, however no comments have been received.

4.2. In accordance with the statutory consultation process a notice in respect of the proposed stopping-up was published in the local press for two successive weeks. In addition, a notice was posted on site and the statutory undertakers, neighbouring landowners and frontagers were consulted as part of the formal consultation process.

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. Spend will be incurred in 2025-26 relating to departmental staff costs to process the Stopping-Up Order and there will be works needed to construct raised kerbs as continuation of the existing central reservation. This will be managed within the current year's budget allocation.

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.