**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

**The Circular Road, Larne (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023**

**S.R. 2023 No. 100**

## 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) 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 71.11 square metres of former road on the Circular Road, Larne comprising a car park, from a point 154 metres west of its junction with Circular Road Roundabout.

2.2. The area in question is no longer maintained by the Department, and has already been transferred to Mid and East Antrim Borough Council. The abandonment is linked to the project to provide councils with Certificates of Title for those off-street car parks that transferred to them on 1 April 2015.

## 3. Background

3.1. The Circular Road (West) car park transferred to Mid and East Antrim Borough Council as part of the exercise which transferred the Deparment's off-street car parks to councils on 1 April 2015.

3.2. The area in question previously formed part of the of the road network but now forms part of the Circular Road car park.

## 4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and no objection has been received. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council has also been advised.

4.2. 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 the statutory undertakers were 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.