EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Comber Road, Dundonald (Abandonment and Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

S. R. 2026 No. 85

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 abandon an area of 608 square metres of former road at Comber Road, Dundonald and to stop-up four lengths of Comber Road, Dundonald to motor vehicles, after completion of such works as the Department considers necessary to provide alternative facilities.

3. Background

3.1. On the coming into operation of the Rule, the area of road to be abandoned shall cease to be maintainable by the Department and the public right of way over it shall be extinguished. The area of road in question will be abandoned after completion of such works as the Department considers necessary.

3.2. The abandonment and stopping-up has been requested to remove part of the existing Comber Road from the roads network on completion of realignment works which form part of an adjacent development. The developer will provide an alternative route for vehicular traffic.

3.3. The bed and soil of the areas to be abandoned and stopped-up is owned by several private landowners and following the abandonment and stopping-up the land will revert to the control of the registered landowners.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been informed and has no objection to the proposals. Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council has also been advised of the proposed abandonment and stopping-up and no objection has been received.

4.2. In accordance with the statutory consultation process a notice in respect of the proposed abandonment and 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.

4.3. Following completion of the statutory consultation process, 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 businesses, charities or the voluntary bodies.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. The applicant has signed an undertaking to reimburse the Department and to pay compensation due as a result of making the Order.

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.