EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Kings Lane, Warrenpoint (Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2024

S.R. 2024 No. 135

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 Kings Lane, Warrenpoint at a line commencing 62 metres north-east of its junction with Church Street and at a line commencing 3.5 metres north-east of its junction with Church Street.

3. Background

3.1. The stopping-up is part of a planning condition, relating to pedestrian safety, arising from planning application (LA07/2018/1952/F) for redevelopment in the immediate vicinity, which will comprise of a mix of retail and residential elements.

3.2. Departmental officials are of the view that the road is no longer necessary for road traffic purposes and may be stopped-up.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been informed and has no objection to the stopping-up. Newry Mourne and Down District Council has been advised and no objection has 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, a notice was posted on site and the statutory undertakers were notified of the proposal.

4.3. Following completion of the statutory consultation process one hundred objections were received. Eight objections have been subsequently withdrawn. The remaining objections were considered and the Department has responded to the objectors but the objections have not been withdrawn.

4.4. The Department is satisfied that the appropriate processes have been followed in relation to the proposed stopping-up and that the issues raised by the objectors have been fully addressed.

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. The applicant has signed an undertaking to reimburse the Department and to pay any 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.