EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Mayfield High Street, Newtownabbey (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

S.R. 2026 No. 131

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 32 square metres of road and footpath at Mayfield High Street, Newtownabbey commencing at a point 70 metres east of the Mayfield Link Road junction for a distance of 7.5 metres.

3. Background

3.1. The abandonment has been requested by the South Bank Square Limited who are the owners of the bed and soil. Following the abandonment the land will become part of a housing development.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection to the abandonment. Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council has also been notified of the proposed abandonment but has not commented during the consultation period.

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 voluntary bodies.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. The applicant has signed an undertaking to reimburse the Department's costs and expenses and to pay any compensation due as a result of the making of the Rule.

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.