EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Meenan Square, Derry/Londonderry (Footways) (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

S. R. 2026 No. 98

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 totalling 382.54 square metres of road at Meenan Square, Derry/Londonerry comprising of three separate areas of footway

2.2. The areas of road in question will be abandoned after the completion of works to provide alternative facilities for road traffic.

3. Background

3.1. The abandonment has been requested by the Department on behalf of Apex Housing and The Executive Office. The areas of land to be abandoned is owned by the Deparment and following the abandonment Apex Housing as the Developer will redevelop Meenan Square to include housing and retail units.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection to the abandonment. Derry City and Strabane Distict Council has also been advised of the proposed abandonment.

4.2. In accordance with the statutory consultation process a notice in respect of the proposed abandonment was published in the local press for two successive weeks. In addition, a notice was posted on site and the statutory undertakers were notified of the proposal. Following the advertisement of the notice in the local press, 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. The applicant has signed an undertaking to reimburse the Department's costs and expenses and to pay any compensation due as a result of making 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.