EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The U5390 Church Hill, Jonesborough (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2025

S.R. 2025 No. 194

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 21 square metres at Church Hill, Jonesborough located at a point 62 metres north-east of its junction with Church Hill Road.

2.2. On the coming into operation of the rule, the Department will no longer be responsible for maintenance of the area of road in question and the public right of way over it shall be extinguished.

3. Background

3.1. The property at no. 18 Church Hill was aquired by the Department in 2004 in order to facilitate the construction of the A1/N1 link road. The property along with the land at this location has now been declared surplus to the Department's requirements. However, it contains a small portion of the superseded Church Hill which requires to be abandoned before the disposal can proceed. Following the abandonment, the land will be disposed of in accordance with the statutory procedures laid down for the disposal of government owned land.

4. Consultation

4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection. Newry Mourne & Down District Council has also been notified of the proposed abandonment but has not commented.

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.

4.3. 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 voluntary bodies.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. Spend will be incurred in 2025-26 and relates to departmental staff costs as well as any physical infrastructure costs, for which there is sufficient budget.

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.