

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Road Traffic Offenders (Prescribed Devices) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012

SR 2012 No. 77

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of the Environment to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under Article 23(9) of the Road Traffic Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The purpose of the Order is to prescribe a type of speed detection device for the purposes of Article 23 of the Road Traffic Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (speeding offences etc: admissibility of certain evidence).

3. Background

- 3.1. The records produced from the approved devices can be adduced as evidence in proceedings for certain road traffic offences when accompanied by an appropriate signed certificate as to the circumstances of its production. The Order permits the use of devices that record the time it takes for a vehicle to travel between two points on a road by manual activation and which are capable of measuring the distance between those two points by means of odometer pulses of the vehicle to which they are fitted.

4. Consultation

- 4.1. Consultation is not required. The introduction of speed detection equipment was part of the consultation for the Road Safety Strategy for Northern Ireland 2002-12. More recently, Action Measure 87 of the Road Safety Strategy to 2020 relates to the continued targeting of the safety camera at sites which have high numbers of people killed or seriously injured and the continued enforcement of speed limits in villages and towns through the community concerns aspect of the safety camera scheme. This strategy was also subject to public consultation.

5. Equality Impact

- 5.1. No adverse impact as the introduction of this equipment is intended to reduce road deaths and serious injuries for all groups identified under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

6. Regulatory Impact

- 6.1. The speed detection device is intended to contribute positively to a reduction in the number of speed related fatalities and serious injuries on

Northern Ireland roads. Any reduction in casualties is only likely to have a positive impact on businesses, charities or the voluntary sector.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. PSNI will cover costs of introducing speed detection devices into current road policing fleet of vehicles. Use of this new speed detection device is intended to reduce the numbers killed and seriously injured due to this risky behaviour. Prevention of one fatality is estimated at £1.585m and prevention of one serious injury valued at £178,610.

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- 8.1. The Department has considered the matter of Contravention Rights and Community Law and is satisfied that there are no matters of concern.

9. EU Implications

- 9.1. Not applicable.

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

- 10.1. The Order replicates S.I. 2008 No. 1332, The Road Traffic Offenders (Prescribed Devices) Order 2008.

11. Additional Information

- 11.1. Not applicable.