

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences)(Amendment No. 3) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

S.R. 2015 No. 357

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 Articles 4(7) and (8), 5(3), (4) and (5), 11(4), 13(1) and (3)(a), 14(4) and 19(C)(1), (1A)(a) and (f) and (2) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. These Regulations amend the Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) Regulations (NI) 1996 to correct anomalies which exist between the legislation in Great Britain and the legislation in Northern Ireland, with the aim of improving parity of driver licensing law throughout the United Kingdom.

3. Background

- 3.1. The proposed amendments will amend the Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) Regulations (NI) 1996 in matters relating licence photographs, charging of fees, disabled drivers, residency requirements for driving tests, categorisation of high risk offenders and British licence holders from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

4. Consultation

- 4.1. No consultation has taken place as these are minor amendments to maintain parity between Northern Ireland and Great Britain regulations.

5. Equality Impact

- 5.1. An equality screening analysis has been carried out. No equality issues have been identified, and accordingly, and EQIA is not considered necessary.

6. Regulatory Impact

- 6.1. A Regulatory Impact assessment is not being prepared as no adverse impact on the costs of the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. None

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- 8.1. The Department has considered the matter of Convention Rights and Community Law and is satisfied that the proposed legislation is compatible with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

9. EU Implications

9.1. Not applicable

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

10.1. These Regulations amend the Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) Regulations (NI) 1996 to correct anomalies which exist between the legislation in Great Britain and the legislation in Northern Ireland, with the aim of improving parity of driver licensing law throughout the United Kingdom.

11. Additional Information

11.1. Not applicable.