

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

### **The Rann Road/Annacloy Road, Downpatrick (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

**S. R. 2016 No. 320**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Regional Development 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 91 square metres of road at the Rann Road/Annacloy Road junction, Downpatrick. The Department is of the opinion that the area of road is no longer necessary for road traffic.

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Department holds the unregistered title to the area of road in question. The abandonment has been requested by the adjacent landowners who have encroached onto the Department's land and the abandonment is required to regularise the situation on the ground.
- 3.2. Following the abandonment the land will be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with the statutory procedures laid down for the disposal of government owned land.
- 3.3. Adjacent property owners, not the applicant, have registered an interest in acquiring the land.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has also been advised of the proposed abandonment.
- 4.2. 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, neighbouring landowners and frontagers were consulted as part of the formal consultation process. Following publication of the notice, 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. None.

## **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.