

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

### **The College Street, Belfast (Stopping-Up) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016**

#### **S. R. 2016 No. 36**

#### **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), (3) 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 stop-up College Street, Belfast to motor vehicles at its junction with College Avenue and College Square East, Belfast.

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The stopping-up forms part of a scheme to provide improved cycling facilities throughout Belfast and this is the third of 5 schemes identified for implementation in the city centre. The scheme includes provision for a mandatory contra flow cycle lane on Queen Street and the stopping-up of College Street is necessary for the operation of the cycle lane.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. The PSNI has been consulted and no objection has been received. Belfast City Council has also been advised of the proposed stopping-up but no acknowledgement was received.
- 4.2. In accordance with the statutory consultation process a notice in respect of the proposed stopping-up 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.
- 4.3. Following publication of the notice, two objections were received. These objections, from Northern Ireland Electricity Limited and Atkins Telcoms on behalf of Vodafone, have since been withdrawn.

#### **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.