

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**  
**The Woodtown Road, Ballymena (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland)**  
**2018**

**S.R. 2018 No. 13**

**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 581 square metres of former road comprising 320 square metres of former carriageway and an area of 261 square metres of former road verge in front of No. 111 Woodtown Road, Ballymena.
- 2.2. On the coming into operation of the abandonment the area of road in question shall cease to be maintainable by the Department and the public right of way over it shall be extinguished.

**3. Background**

- 3.1. Following completion of a road scheme this section of old carriageway was filled over and incorporated into the grounds of the adjacent property.
- 3.2. The Department considers the area of road to be no longer required for roads purposes and therefore proposes to abandon it. A fence has been erected along the boundary of the area the Department proposes to retain.
- 3.3. The Department is the owner of the bed and soil of the area to be abandoned. Following the abandonment the land will be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with the procedures laid down for the disposal of government owned land. The adjoining landowner has expressed an interest in acquiring the land.

**4. Consultation**

- 4.1. The PSNI has been informed and has no objection to the abandonment. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council has been advised and has no objection.
- 4.2. A notice in respect of the proposed abandonment was published in the local press for two successive weeks, a notice was posted on site and the statutory undertakers were notified of the proposal. 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.