

Regulatory Impact Assessment Screening

A consultation to consider making careless driving a fixed penalty notice offence

Regulatory Impact Assessment Screening	Response to Screening Questions	Full Impact Assessment Required		Justification / Key issues and groups to focus on
		Yes	No	
Regulatory Impact Assessment Screening				

	<p>Is the policy or amendment to the policy likely to have a direct or indirect impact on businesses?</p>	<p>X</p>		<p>X</p>	<p>Legislation already exists to enforce careless driving in Northern Ireland. But the current process – where all cases are prosecuted through the courts system – is overly bureaucratic and resource intensive for police, the courts and prosecution services.</p> <p>The policy objectives are to improve the efficiency of the enforcement regime and allow remedial training to be provided for low level offenders.</p> <p>Fixed penalties are a recognised way of delivering proportionate justice for low level offending as they offer a quick and effective disposal option. They also provide a swift and simple method of deterrence and reduce the amount of time that police officers spend completing paperwork and attending court while simultaneously reducing the burden on prosecution services.</p> <p>A further objective is to consider how any move to make careless driving a fixed penalty offence may enable police to use dash-cam footage, submitted from private motorists and riders, to investigate and enforce poor driving behaviour through an offer of remedial training or a fixed penalty notice.</p> <p>The intended effects of this policy are that the police will be able to improve the level of enforcement without substantial extra costs and in combination</p>
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Endorsement

I can confirm that the proposed policy has been screened for regulatory impact and has been screened out for a full regulatory impact assessment.

Signed: Donald Starritt

Agency/Division: Safe & Accessible Travel Division

Date: 29 October 2021