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Liam Hannaway  
Chief Executive  
Newry Mourne and Down District Council  
O'Hagan House  
Monaghan Row  
Newry  
BT35 8DJ

Our Ref: DR1-09-2293

Date: 30 September 2015

Dear Mr Hannaway,

### **STRANGFORD FERRY TIMETABLE – PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

Following requests from the public and public representatives, TransportNI proposes to commence a consultation process on a proposed amendment to the Strangford Ferry timetable.

The amended timetable will include an additional weekday morning sailing from Portaferry at 07.20. The 22.30 sailing from Strangford and the 22.45 sailing from Portaferry (Sunday to Friday) will be dropped during the winter months (1 October to 31 March). There are no proposals to change the overall number of sailings throughout the year.

A copy of the consultation document is attached for your information and consideration. The document can also be viewed at [www.drdni.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.drdni.gov.uk/consultations).

The consultation will commence on Monday 5 October and will remain open until 27 November 2015.

Yours faithfully,



**Mark McPeak**  
Transport NI Design & Consultancy Services



**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO  
THE STRANGFORD LOUGH FERRY SERVICE TIMETABLE**

**A CONSULTATION PAPER**

**The consultation period will end on 27 November 2015**

**Transport NI  
Design and Consultancy Services  
Rathkeltair House  
Market Street  
Downpatrick  
BT30 6AJ**

**September 2015**

**transportni**

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## Background

TransportNI is considering an amendment to the Strangford Lough Ferry Service timetable to provide an additional early morning sailing from Portaferry on weekday mornings.

Over recent years TransportNI has received several requests for a permanent early morning sailing from Portaferry. The first sailing from Portaferry on weekdays is at 07.45 and is generally at full vehicle capacity.

Since 2011, an additional sailing at 07.15 from Portaferry has been provided during the annual refit of the MV Portaferry II. During the refit the smaller ferry, the MV Strangford, is in service and does not have the capacity to cope with the demand for the normal first sailing at 07.45. The early sailing is welcomed by many commuters from Portaferry who either have to travel by road to get to work on time or get to work later than they would prefer.

Passenger count records show that, on weekdays, the early morning demand exceeds the demand for the last sailings in the evening. In response to this demand and requests from the public and public representatives, TransportNI has decided to explore the possibility of making the early sailing permanent.

## Constraints

- An extension of the ferry operating hours would result in an increase in operating costs and would require significant changes to the terms and conditions of employment of the ferry crews. It has therefore been decided that an additional early sailing would have to be offset by cutting back the timetable somewhere else.
- To comply with legislation on noise nuisance during specified hours at night, it will not be possible to provide an earlier sailing from Strangford.  
(<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/noise-nuisance-and-neighbours>)

## Proposed Timetable Change

The proposed change is to introduce a sailing from Portaferry at 07.20 on weekdays all year round. This would be offset by dropping the last two sailings in the evening (Sunday to Friday) from 1 October to 31 March. From 1 April to 30 September the existing evening sailings will be unchanged. Over the course of the year, the total number of sailings offered by the ferry service will be the same.

Times are proposed new timetable. Times in brackets are existing sailings.

<b>From Strangford Departs on the hour and half hour</b>	<b>First Sailing</b>	<b>Last Sailing 1 April – 30 September</b>	<b>Last Sailing 1 October – 31 March</b>
Weekdays	07.35 (07.30)	10.30	10.00 (10.30)
Saturday	08.00	11.00	11.00
Sunday	09.30	10.30	10.00 (10.30)

<b>From Portaferry Departs at quarter past and quarter to the hour</b>	<b>First Sailing</b>	<b>Last Sailing 1 April – 30 September</b>	<b>Last Sailing 1 October – 31 March</b>
Weekdays	07.20 (07.45)	10.45	10.15 (10.45)
Saturday	08.15	11.15	11.15
Sunday	09.45	10.45	10.15 (10.45)

## Passenger Numbers

The numbers of passengers and vehicles on the early and late sailings during the 2014 – 2015 financial year are given below.

	<b>FROM STRANGFORD</b>			
	<b>April 14– September 14</b>		<b>October 14– March 15</b>	
	<b>Avg Passengers per sailing</b>	<b>Avg Vehicles per sailing</b>	<b>Avg Passengers per sailing</b>	<b>Avg Vehicles per sailing</b>
<b>07:30</b>	11	6	15	8
<b>08:00</b>	9	4	9	5
<b>22:00</b>	15	5	8	3
<b>22:30</b>	11	4	8	3

	FROM PORTAFERRY			
	April 14– September 14		October 14– March 15	
	Avg Passengers per sailing	Avg Vehicles per sailing	Avg Passengers per sailing	Avg Vehicles per sailing
<b>07:15</b>			15	10
<b>07:45</b>	57	23	73	21
<b>08:15</b>	69	17	104	17
<b>22:15</b>	7	2	3	1
<b>22:45</b>	6	2	3	1

## Comments

TransportNI would like to hear your comments on the proposed timetable change.

Comments may be submitted in writing, by e-mail or by telephone. The consultation is open until 27 November 2015. A summary of all comments received will be published on the Department's website at the end of the consultation period.

Comments can be sent to: Mrs Katrina McMahon  
TransportNI  
Strangford Lough Ferry Service  
Rathkeltair House  
Market Street  
Downpatrick  
BT30 6AJ

Telephone: 0300 200 78 98

E-mail : roads.strangfordferry.feedback@drdni.gov.uk

## Decision on the proposed timetable changes

TransportNI will make a decision on the way forward following consideration of all comments received.

## **Legislative Background**

The Department operates the Strangford Lough Ferry Service under Part VIII of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993. Article 103 gives the Department the authority to publish a timetable as it considers fit.

## **Consultees**

Members of the Legislative Assembly

Newry Mourne and Down District Council

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Ms Margaret Ritchie MP

Lady Sylvia Hermon MP

Jim Shannon MP

The Consumer Council

Portaferry Community Collective

Strangford Community Association

Strangford Community Association Developments

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

General Public

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Targeted Consultation: Human Trafficking Secondary Legislation</b>
<b>Date:</b>	2 November 2015
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Patrick Green, Legal Advisor

### Decisions Required

I refer to the above and write on behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down Council with its response to the Department's targeted consultation in regard to its proposed secondary legislation under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act 2015 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council welcomes proposals that seek to improve the effectiveness of legislation combatting human trafficking and modern slavery in Northern Ireland.

Please find Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's consultation response below.

#### **Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act – Statutory Rule 1**

The Council welcomes this proposed Statutory Rule which will allow courts in Northern Ireland to make Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders (STPO) in respect of offenders who have been convicted of human trafficking and slavery offences in other parts of the United Kingdom. Council believes this cross-jurisdictional approach will strengthen public authorities' ability to combat human trafficking and modern slavery throughout the United Kingdom.

#### **Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act – Statutory Rule 2**

In relation to Statutory Rule 2, Council also welcomes this proposal to enhance the existing notification regime for offenders who are subject to STPOs. The proposal to seek bank account and credit card details of those subject to STPOs will strengthen the ability of the Police Service of Northern Ireland to detect offenders who have failed to comply with the requirement to notify. The proposed requirements for those offenders subject to STPO to notify the PSNI of any travel outside the UK except to the Republic of Ireland, save where such travel to the Republic of Ireland is for a period of 3 days or longer; and for those offenders subject to STPO of no fixed abode to notify the PSNI on a weekly basis, will assist the PSNI in the effective monitoring of those subject to STPO.

#### **Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act – Associated Issues**

Council is in agreement with the views of the PSNI and Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland that the power to make an application to Court for an STPO should remain with the PSNI, and that the Department should not add any other person or body to the list of those organisations who can make such an application to Court.

Council is again in agreement with the Department's proposal to amend the existing guidance and arrangements in place in Northern Ireland, rather than introduce regulations, in relation to the release or transfer of offenders who are subject to an STPO and who are serving a custodial sentence or detained in a hospital. As a Council area with a border with the Republic of Ireland, Council would take this opportunity to suggest that the effectiveness of measures to combat human trafficking and slavery would be improved when public authorities on both sides of the border are aware of the location of those subject to an STPO and who has taken responsibility for them.

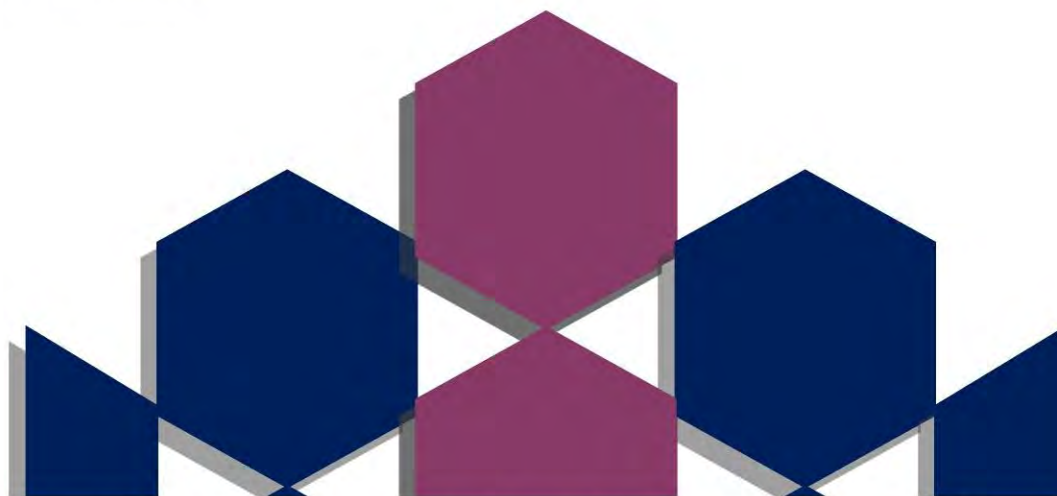


**Modern Slavery Act – Statutory Rule 1**

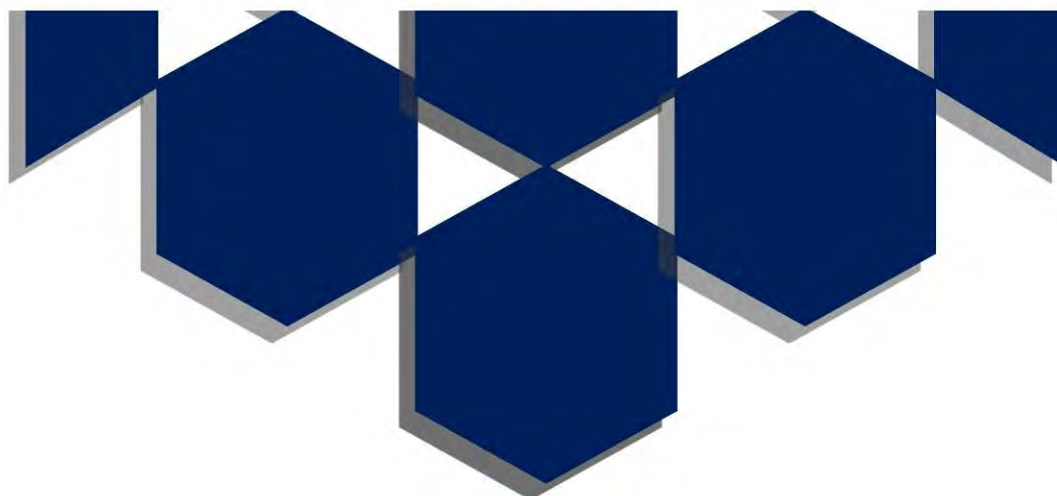
Council agrees with the Department's proposal to specify that the Chief Constable of the PSNI, the Regional Health and Social Care Board, the five Health and Social Care Trusts and the Department of Justice have a duty to co-operate with the UK Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner.

The Council does not see a requirement, at this stage, for local councils to be a specified public authority under this Statutory Rule. This Council believes that Policing and Community Safety Partnerships would be able to provide assistance and support to the Department of Justice in its role as a specified public authority.

Please note that the above response will be tabled at the next Council meeting scheduled for 2nd November 2015 for retrospective approval and for any additional comments from Members which can be forwarded at that time.



## **Proposal for secondary legislation under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015**



### Targeted consultation

This consultation begins on 30 July 2015 and closes on 22 October 2015.

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5.	Annex A: draft Statutory Rule: <i>The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Amendment of Slavery or Human Trafficking Offences and Relevant UK Orders) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015</i>	Attached separately
6.	Annex B: draft Statutory Rule: <i>The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders) (Notification Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.</i>	Attached separately
7.	Annex C: draft Statutory Rule: <i>The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Duty to Co-operate with Commissioner) (Northern Irish Public Authority) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015</i>	Attached separately

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper sets out the Department of Justice's proposals to make secondary legislation under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015<sup>1</sup>. The Department intends to bring forward three pieces of secondary legislation at this stage. Background information and further detail on each Statutory Rule is outlined in this paper. Copies of the draft Statutory Rules are attached separately.
- 1.2 Copies of this document in other formats, including Braille, large print, computer disk etc may be made available on request. Please let us know if you need copies in an alternative language or format.
- 1.3 Consultees are invited to submit any comments to the Department no later than 22 October 2015. Responses should be emailed to [htconsultation@dojni.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:htconsultation@dojni.x.gsi.gov.uk) or posted to the following address:

Human Trafficking Team  
Protection and Organised Crime Division  
Department of Justice  
Room B4.20  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
Belfast  
BT4 3SG

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<sup>1</sup> Copies of the Acts are available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2015/2/enacted> and <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted>

- 1.5 If you require any additional information, or would like to discuss any aspects of the consultation, please contact Alison Redmond by telephone: 028 90 528677 or by email [Alison.Redmond@dojni.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.Redmond@dojni.x.gsi.gov.uk)

## 2. **Secondary legislation under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015**

### **Background**

- 2.1 The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015<sup>2</sup> (the “HT Act”) received Royal Assent on 14 January 2015. Section 11 of, and Schedule 3 to, the HT Act, taken together, introduce a regime for Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders (STPOs).
- 2.2 The HT Act provides the courts in Northern Ireland with power to make STPOs in two circumstances. The first is that a court dealing with an adult who has been convicted of a slavery or human trafficking offence may make an order if the court is satisfied that there is a risk that the defendant may commit a slavery or human trafficking offence and it is necessary to make the order to protect persons generally or particular persons from harm which would be likely to occur if the defendant committed such an offence. Paragraph 1 of Schedule 3 refers.
- 2.3 STPOs may also be made by a court of summary jurisdiction against a person aged 18 or over, on the application of the PSNI, if the court is satisfied that the defendant has been convicted of a slavery or human trafficking offence and since the defendant offended he or she has acted in a way which means that there is a risk that he or she may commit a slavery or human trafficking offence and it is necessary to make the order to protect the persons generally or particular persons from harm which would be likely to occur if the defendant committed such an offence. This is set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 3. A STPO may prohibit the defendant from doing anything described in the order or require the defendant to do anything described. In line with paragraph 4 of Schedule 3, an order will have affect for a fixed period of at least 5 years or until a further order by the courts.

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<sup>2</sup> A copy of the Act can be found at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2015/2/contents/enacted>

The Explanatory Notes to the Act are available at:  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2015/2/notes/contents>

- 2.4 The Department intends to commence section 11 of, and Schedule 3 to, the HT Act in Autumn 2015. In tandem with this the Department proposes to make two Statutory Rules (SRs) which are intended to give effect to the STPO regime. Further details on the two SRs are set out below.

### **Statutory Rule No 1**

- 2.5 The first proposed SR is entitled:

**The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Amendment of Slavery or Human Trafficking Offences and Relevant United Kingdom Orders) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015**

- 2.6 This Order would be made in accordance with sub-paragraphs 1(5) and 17(1) of Schedule 3 to the HT Act and would be subject to the draft affirmative procedure in the Assembly. A copy of the draft SR is attached separately (Annex A).
- 2.7 The purpose of the Order is to ensure that STPOs may be made in Northern Ireland in respect of offenders who have been convicted of human trafficking and slavery offences in other parts of the United Kingdom. In deciding whether to make a STPO in such cases, the court would apply the same test as outlined above. The Order would also allow the courts to enforce equivalent or similar protection orders, made in other parts of the United Kingdom, so that breach of such orders in Northern Ireland, would be a criminal offence in Northern Ireland. To this end the Order:
- amends the list of relevant human trafficking and slavery offences under paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 3 for which a court may impose a STPO, to include the new offences under sections 1, 2 and 4 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and equivalent Scottish offences which are to be provided for under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation

(Scotland) Bill, which is currently progressing through the Scottish Parliament<sup>3</sup>; and

- adds civil orders under Part 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and equivalent orders under the Scottish Bill to the list of orders specified under paragraph 16(1) of Schedule 3. This will facilitate cross-border enforcement of relevant civil prevention orders across the United Kingdom. As such, breach of those orders whilst the offender is in Northern Ireland would be a criminal offence, enforceable by the courts in Northern Ireland.

2.8 Reciprocal arrangements are in place to ensure that an offender who breaches a Northern Ireland STPO whilst in England and Wales would have committed a criminal offence in that jurisdiction. It is the intention to include equivalent provision in the Scottish Bill.

2.9 **Consultees are invited to provide any comments on the Department's approach and on the draft SR at Annex A.**

## **Statutory Rule No 2**

2.10 The second proposed SR is entitled:

**The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders) (Notification Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.**

2.11 These proposed regulations would enhance the existing notification regime for offenders who are subject to a STPO (as set out in Schedule 3 to the Act) and

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<sup>3</sup> A copy of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Bill can be found at: [http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Human%20Trafficking%20Bill/b57as4-stage2.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Human%20Trafficking%20Bill/b57as4-stage2.pdf)

Please note that references in the draft SR at Annex A, to offences in Scotland, are provisional until the Scottish Bill receives Royal Assent.



would be made in accordance with powers under paragraphs 10(2)(h), 11(8)(a)(ii), 12(5) and 14(1) of Schedule 3 to the HT Act. The regulations would be subject to the negative resolution procedure. A copy of the draft SR is attached separately (Annex B).

2.12 The basic notification requirements are already set out in Schedule 3 to the Act and are informed by existing notification regimes for violent and sexual offenders and by the notification regime for Violent Offences Prevention Orders<sup>4</sup>. In line with the existing provisions of Schedule 3, offenders subject to a STPO must make:

- initial notification of “required information” to the PSNI within three days of the STPO being made (including name; date of birth; national insurance number; any aliases; home address and any other address where he or she regularly resides) – paragraph 10;
- notification of any relevant change to the offender’s circumstances - paragraph 11;
- periodic notification to PSNI (in most cases annually), regardless of whether or not the offender’s circumstances have changed – paragraph 12; and
- notification of any absence of more than three days from the notified residence – paragraph 13.

2.13 In addition to these basic notification requirements, and following engagement with the PSNI, the Department is seeking to enhance the notification regime by placing additional requirements on offenders. These are:

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<sup>4</sup> For example, see notification requirements for sex offenders in Northern Ireland: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nidsr/2014/9780337992643>

Notification requirements in respect of Violent Offences Prevention Orders (VOPOs) are set out in the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2015/9/contents/enacted>

- a requirement to include information relating to bank accounts and credit cards in the initial notification to PSNI (made under paragraph 10(2)). This mirrors the notification requirements in place in respect of sex offenders in England and Wales<sup>5</sup>. PSNI has indicated that this information would strengthen the ability of the police to detect offenders who failed to comply with the requirements to notify and thus protect the public. This would be complemented by a requirement to notify any changes of information relating to bank accounts and credit cards to the PSNI (made under paragraph 11(8));
- more frequent periodic notification where the offender is of no fixed abode (made under paragraph 12(5)). In these circumstances notification would be on a weekly rather than an annual basis. The Department assessed that weekly notification by those of no fixed abode might prevent offenders from failing to tell police where they live by claiming they are homeless;
- a requirement to notify PSNI of any travel outside the United Kingdom, except to the Republic of Ireland (made under paragraph 14(1)). Offenders would be required to provide the date of departure; the country or countries to which they will travel; and the point of arrival in those countries. Details of accommodation arrangements, the carriers by which the offender is to travel and return dates to the United Kingdom must be provided. All notifications should be made at least seven days in advance of intended travel, where known, and no less than 24 hours before intended travel, except where the offender provides a reasonable excuse (eg family bereavement) in which case the offender must provide the information at least 12 hours in advance; and
- a requirement to notify PSNI of any travel to the Republic of Ireland if it is for a period of three days or longer (made under paragraph 14(1)).

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<sup>5</sup> See <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2012/9780111521410>

Given the land border, the Department considers that this is an appropriate and proportionate threshold which does not have an overbearing impact on policing resources. Again offenders would be required to provide the date of departure; the point of arrival; details of accommodation arrangements; carriers by which they will travel and return dates to the United Kingdom. All notifications should be made at least seven days in advance of intended travel, where known, and no less than 24 hours before intended travel, except where the offender provides a reasonable excuse in which case the offender must provide the information at least 12 hours in advance.

**2.14 Consultees are invited to provide any comments on the Department's proposed approach and the draft SR at Annex B.**

**Associated issues**

2.15 In addition to the two proposed statutory rules, the Department invites comments on two associated issues: (i) application to the court for STPOs and (ii) information about release or transfer of offenders.

*Application to the court for an STPO*

2.16 Paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 provides for an STPO to be made by the court following an application by the PSNI. Paragraph 2(7) provides a discretionary Order-making power for the Department to add to the list of persons or bodies who may apply to the court for a STPO.

2.17 The Department has carried out pre-consultation engagement with the PSNI and with the Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland (PPS) and is of the view that it is appropriate that the power to make application to the court for a STPO should remain with PSNI. PPS has also indicated that it is satisfied that in the course of its normal prosecutorial duties in a case where a person is being convicted of a human trafficking or slavery offence it can, if necessary, highlight to the court the need to consider whether a STPO should

be made. The Department does not therefore propose at this time to bring forward an Order under paragraph 2(7). Any comments on this approach are welcome.

*Information about release or transfer of offenders*

- 2.18 Paragraph 20 of Schedule 3 provides a discretionary power to make regulations about the release or transfer of offenders who are subject to a STPO and who are serving a custodial sentence or detained in hospitals. Such regulations would require the person responsible for the offender to give notice to specified persons of: the fact that they have become responsible for the offender; any occasion where the offender is released; or where a different person becomes responsible for the offender.
- 2.19 Initial engagement with the relevant authorities and agencies has suggested that specific regulations to require notification of release or transfer are unlikely to be needed in Northern Ireland and has highlighted existing guidance and arrangements. We believe that it would be sufficient to amend these to ensure that they also apply to offenders who are also subject to the STPOs. The Department does not at this stage, therefore, propose to make regulations under paragraph 20. Again, the Department invites views on the need for regulations in this context.

### 3. Secondary legislation under the Modern Slavery Act 2015

#### Background

- 3.1 The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (“the MS Act”) received Royal Assent on 26 March 2015<sup>6</sup>. Certain parts of the Act extend to Northern Ireland, by virtue of a Legislative Consent Motion agreed in the Assembly on 8 December 2015.<sup>7</sup> This includes Part Four of the MS Act, which provides for the appointment of a United Kingdom wide Independent Anti-slavery Commissioner<sup>8</sup>.
- 3.2 Under section 41 of the Act, the Commissioner’s functions are to encourage good practice in: the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of slavery and human trafficking offences; and the identification of victims of those offences.
- 3.3 Section 43 of the Act allows the Commissioner to request a specified public authority to co-operate with him in any way that he considers necessary for the purpose of his functions. In line with section 43(2), specified public authorities must, so far as reasonably practicable, comply with a request to co-operate made by the Commissioner. The draft SR specifies the relevant public authorities in Northern Ireland which would be subject to this duty to co-operate with the Commissioner.

#### Statutory Rule No. 1

- 3.4 The proposed SR is entitled:

**The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Duty to Co-operate with Commissioner)  
(Northern Irish Public Authority) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015**

- 3.5 This SR is made in accordance with section 43(8) of the MS Act. It would be subject to negative resolution, unless the Department modifies the application

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<sup>6</sup> The Act can be accessed at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted>  
Explanatory notes are available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/notes/contents>

<sup>7</sup> A transcript of the debate can be found at pages 13 to 18:  
<http://data.niassembly.gov.uk/HansardXml/plenary-08-12-2014.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Details about the Commissioner’s appointment can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-first-independent-anti-slavery-commissioner-announced>

of the duty to co-operate in respect of any specified public authority in Northern Ireland. Where regulations modify the duty they would be subject to affirmative resolution. A copy of the draft SR is attached at Annex C.

- 3.6 In considering which public authorities in Northern Ireland should be specified under the proposed statutory rule, the Department has had regard to which public authorities in England and Wales have been specified under Schedule 3 to the Act. The Schedule 3 list there currently includes chief officers of police areas, NHS trusts, NHS foundation trusts, and Local Health Boards. Public authorities dealing with reserved matters, but who operate in Northern Ireland (namely the National Crime Agency, Gangmasters Licensing Authority and immigration and customs officers and officials) have also been specified under Schedule 3.
- 3.7 The Department proposes that the specified public authorities in Northern Ireland should broadly reflect those specified in England and Wales, whilst also covering any relevant authorities that are specific to this jurisdiction. As such, we propose that the following authorities should be specified under the regulations:
- the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland;
  - the Regional Health and Social Care Board; and
  - the five Health and Social Care Trusts.
- 3.8 We are proposing that the Department of Justice itself should be a specified public authority, given its policy development and legislative functions and the potential for some of its agencies (such as the Northern Ireland Prison Service and the Youth Justice Agency) to play a role in the identification of potential victims. We are keen to receive comments on this matter.
- 3.9 The Department recognises that there are a number of additional public authorities which are also involved in tackling human trafficking and slavery / forced labour and would welcome views as to whether any other public authorities should be specified. The Department is also considering whether

the application of the duty to co-operate needs to be modified in respect of any Northern Ireland public authority.

- 3.10 Views are invited on whether there are any additional public authorities that consultees believe should co-operate with the Commissioner and on any issues relating to the modification of the duty.**

#### 4. **Equality, regulatory and financial impact**

- 4.1 Consideration has been given to compliance with section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. An equality screening exercise has been carried out and no adverse impacts on the groups listed under section 75 have been identified. It has been concluded that a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required.
- 4.2 The proposals would not impose any restriction on business, charities or voluntary bodies and consequently the need for a full Regulatory Impact Assessment has been screened out.
- 4.3 There may be some minor costs linked to the management of the STPO notification regime for the PSNI or to the justice system for any breach of the notification requirements, which is a criminal offence. However the Department envisages that only a very small number of offenders will be subject to STPOs and so the associated costs can be absorbed within existing budgets. There may also be some minor resource implications for specified public authorities resulting from the duty to co-operate. Again the Department does not anticipate that these would be significant and believe that any associated costs would be absorbed within existing budgets.
- 4.5 **Consultees are invited to submit any additional equality, regulatory and financial implications which may be relevant to the implementation of the secondary legislation.**



*Draft Order laid before the Assembly under section 27(3) and (4) of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 for approval*

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DRAFT STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN  
IRELAND

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**2015 No. 0000**

**CRIMINAL LAW**

**The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Amendment of Slavery or Human Trafficking Offences and Relevant United Kingdom Orders) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Made* - - - - - \*\*\*

*Coming into operation* - - - - - \*\*\*

The Department of Justice makes the following Order, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 11 and 28(3)(a) of, and paragraphs 1(5) and 17(1) of Schedule 3 to, the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015(a).

In accordance with section 27(3) and (4)(d) and (f) of that Act, a draft of this Order was laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

**Citation and commencement**

**1.**—(1) This Order may be cited as the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Amendment of Slavery or Human Trafficking Offences and Relevant United Kingdom Orders) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

(2) This Order shall come into operation on the day following the date on which it is approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

**Interpretation**

**2.** In this Order “the 2015 Act” means the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.

**Amendment of Slavery or Human Trafficking Offences and Relevant United Kingdom Orders**

**3.**—(1) Paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 3 to the 2015 Act is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph 1(4) after (h) insert—

---

(a) C.2 2015 (N.I.).

“(ha) an offence under section 1 (slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour) or 2 (human trafficking) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015;

“(hb) an offence under section 1 (Human trafficking) or 4 (slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour) of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015;”.

4.—(1) Paragraph 16(1) of Schedule 4 to the 2015 Act is amended as follows.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1)(a), after “a slavery and trafficking prevention order,” delete “or”.

(3) After sub-paragraph (1)(b) insert—

“(c) a slavery and trafficking prevention order within the meaning of sections 14 and 15 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

(d) an interim slavery and trafficking prevention order within the meaning of section 21 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

(e) a trafficking and exploitation prevention order within the meaning of sections 13 and 14 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015, or

(f) an interim trafficking and exploitation prevention order within the meaning of section 20 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015.”.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Justice on \*\*\*\*

*David Ford*  
Minister of Justice

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order amends the definition of a slavery or human trafficking offence under paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 3 to the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (“the 2015 Act”), allowing the courts in Northern Ireland to impose slavery and trafficking prevention orders in respect of those convicted of human trafficking or slavery offences in other jurisdictions within the United Kingdom.

It also amends paragraph 16(1) of Schedule 3 to the 2015 Act to allow the courts in Northern Ireland to enforce equivalent civil orders which have been made by the courts in Great Britain. These include: slavery and trafficking prevention orders and interim slavery and trafficking prevention orders which have been made by the courts in England and Wales; and trafficking and exploitation prevention orders and interim trafficking and exploitation prevention orders which have been made by the courts in Scotland.

Breach of these orders will constitute a criminal offence in Northern Ireland, punishable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory minimum, or both. Conviction on indictment will attract imprisonment for a maximum term of five years.

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 STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND
 

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**2015 No. 0000**
**CRIMINAL LAW**
**The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders) (Notification Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Made* - - - - \*\*\*\*\*

*Coming into operation* - \*\*\*\*\*

The Department of Justice makes the following regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of and paragraphs 10(2), 11(3) and (8), 12(5) and 14(1) of Schedule 3 to, the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015(a).

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders) (Notification Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and shall come into operation on 1st August 2015.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“banking institution” means a bank, building society or other institution which provides banking services;

“business” includes any trade, profession or vocation;

“credit card” means a card which is a credit-token within the meaning of section 14(1)(b) of the Consumer Credit Act 1974(b);

“credit card provider” means a bank, building society or other institution which provides a credit card;

“debit card” means a card the use of which by its holder to make a payment results in a current account of the holder at a banking institution being debited with the payment;

“R” means a “relevant offender” subject to notification requirements; and

“Schedule 3” means Schedule 3 to Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.

---

(a) c.2. (N.I.).

(b) 1974 c.39.

### Notification of information about bank accounts and credit cards

3.—(1) The information set out in paragraph (2) to (7) is prescribed for the purposes of 10(2)(h) of Schedule 3 in a case where a relevant offenders holds—

- (a) an account with a banking institution in R's name, or in R's name and the name of another person, and in relation to each account, the information specified in paragraph (2);
- (b) an account with a banking institution in the name of an unincorporated business which is run by R, or run by R and another person, and in relation to each such account, the information specified in paragraph (3);
- (c) a debit card in relation to any account of which notification is given in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) or (b), and in relation to each such debit card, the information specified in paragraph (4);
- (d) an account with a credit card provider in R's name, or in R's name and the name of another person, and in relation to each such account, the information specified in paragraph (5);
- (e) an account with a credit card provider in the name of an unincorporated business which is run by R, or run by R and another person, and in relation to each such account, the information specified in paragraph (6); or
- (f) a credit card in relation to any account of which notification is given in accordance with sub-paragraph (d) or (e), and in relation to each such credit card, the information specified in paragraph (7).

(2) The information specified for the purposes of paragraph 91(a) of this regulation is—

- (a) the name of each banking institution with which R holds an account;
- (b) the address of the office at which each account is held and, if that office is outside the United Kingdom, the address of the principal office in the United Kingdom (if any) of the banking institution;
- (c) the number of each account; and
- (d) the sort code in relation to each account.

(3) The information specified of the purposes of paragraph (1)(b) of this regulation is—

- (a) the information specified in paragraph (2); and
- (b) the name of the business in whose name the account is held.
- (c) the expiry date of each debit card; and
- (d) the name of the business (if any) in whose name the card is held.

(4) The information specified of the purposes of paragraph (1)(c) is—

- (a) the card number in relation to each debit card;
- (b) the validation date of each debit card;
- (c) the expiry date of each debit card; and
- (d) the name of the business (if any) in whose name the card is held.

(5) The information specified for the purposes of paragraph (1)(d) is—

- (a) the name of each credit card provider with which R holds an account;
- (b) the address of the officer at which each account is held and, if that office is outside the United Kingdom, the address of the principal office in the United Kingdom (if any) of the credit card provider; and
- (c) the number of each account.

(6) The information specified for the purposes of paragraph (1)(e) is—

- (a) the information specified in paragraph (5); and
- (b) the name of the business in whose name the card is held.

(7) The information specified of the purposes of paragraph (1)(f) is—

- (a) the card number in relation to each credit card;
- (b) the validation date of each credit card; and
- (c) the expiry date of each credit card; and
- (d) the name of the business (if any) in whose name the card is held.

4. A notification given in relation to a prescribed change of circumstances under paragraph 11(1) of Schedule 3 must include the information specified in regulation 3(2) to (7) in relation to that account, or debit or credit card.

#### **Notification of changes**

5.—(1) The changes in circumstances set out in paragraph (2) are prescribed for the purposes of paragraph 11(8) of schedule 3.

(2) The changes of circumstances are where—

- (a) an account which R holds with a banking institution, as specified in regulation 3(1)(a) or (b), has been—
  - (i) opened, or
  - (ii) closed;
- (b) a debit card R holds in relation to any account specified in regulation 3(1)(a) or (b)—
  - (i) has been obtained by R, or
  - (ii) is no longer held by R;
- (c) an account R holds with a credit card provider, as specified in regulation 3(1)(d) or (e), has been—
  - (i) opened, or
  - (ii) closed;
- (d) a credit card R holds in relation to any account specified in regulation 3(1)(d) or (e)—
  - (i) has been obtained by R, or
  - (ii) is no longer held by R;
- (e) any information previously notified by R under regulation 3(1) has—
  - (i) altered, or
  - (ii) become inaccurate or incomplete

#### **Periodic notification of address where there is no sole or main residence**

6. For the purposes of paragraph 12(5)(a) of Schedule 3, the applicable period means the period of seven days.

#### **Travel outside the United Kingdom: Determination of point of arrival**

7.—(1) For the purposes of sub-paragraph 14(1) of Schedule 3 and of regulations 8 to 12, R's point of arrival in a country is determined to be in accordance with this regulation.

(2) In a case in which R will arrive in a country by rail, sea or air, his point of arrival is the station, port or airport at which he will first disembark.

(3) In the case in which R will arrive in a country by any means other than those mentioned in paragraph (2), his point of arrival is the place at which he will first enter the country.

### Notification to be given before leaving the United Kingdom

8.—(1) While R intends to leave the United Kingdom for a period of less than three days, except to travel to the Republic of Ireland, R must give a notification under paragraph 14 of Schedule 3 in accordance with these Regulations.

(2) Where R intends to leave the United Kingdom to travel to the Republic of Ireland for a period of three days or longer must give a notification under paragraph 14 of Schedule 3 in accordance with these Regulations

(3) Where R knows the information required to be disclosed under paragraph 14(2)(a) and (b) of Schedule 3 and in accordance with regulation 9 in relation to information prescribed under paragraph 14(2)(c), R shall give a notification which sets out the paragraph 14(2)(a) and (b) information and, in respect of the prescribed regulation 9 information, so much of that regulation 9 information that is within R's knowledge—

- (a) not less than seven days before that date (“the seven day notification requirement”) or
- (b) as soon as reasonably practicable but not less than 24 hours before that date, if and only if the relevant offender has a reasonable excuse for not complying with the seven day notification requirement.

(4) Where R does not know the information required to be disclosed by paragraph 14(2) of Schedule 3 more than seven days before the date of his intended departure R shall not give less than 12 hours before that date, a notification which sets out that information and as much of the information required by regulation 10 as R holds.

### Prescribed information to be disclosed in a notification

9. In addition to the information required by paragraph 14(2)(a) and (b) of Schedule 3 R must disclose where R holds such information—

- (a) where R intends to travel to more than one country outside the United Kingdom, R's intended point of arrival in each such additional country,
- (b) the dates on which R intends to stay in any country to which R intends to travel,
- (c) details of R's accommodation arrangements in any country to which R intends to travel,
- (d) the identify of any carrier or carriers R intends to use for the purpose of R's department from and return to the United Kingdom, and of travelling to any other point of arrival,
- (e) in a case in which he intends to return to the United Kingdom on a particular date, that date, and
- (f) in a case in which he intends to return to the United Kingdom at a particular point of arrival, that point of arrival.

10.—(1) Where—

- (a) R has given a notification under paragraph 14(2) of schedule 3, and
- (b) at any time prior to R's intended departure from the United Kingdom, the information disclosed in that notification becomes inaccurate or incomplete as a statement of all the information mentioned in paragraph 14(2) of Schedule 3 and regulation 9 which R currently holds.
- (c) he must give a further notification under paragraph 14(2) of Schedule 3.

(2) A further notification under paragraph (1) above must be given not less than 12 hours before the R's intended departure from the United Kingdom.

(3) R may not give notification under paragraph (2) less than 24 hours before the date of his intended departure unless he has a reasonable excuse for being unable to give such notification before that time.

### Notification to be given on return to the United Kingdom

11.—(1) This regulation applies to R who—

- (a) is required to give a notification under paragraph 14(2) of Schedule 3
- (b) has left the United Kingdom, and
- (c) subsequently returns to the United Kingdom.

(2) Except as provided by paragraph (3), R must give a notification under paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 3 within three days of R's return to the United Kingdom.

(3) R need not give a notification under paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 3 in any case in which he gave a relevant notification under 14(2) of Schedule 3 which—

- (a) disclosed a date under the provisions of regulation 9(e) above, and
- (b) disclosed a point of arrival under the provisions of regulation 9(f) above, provided R's return to the United Kingdom was on that date and at that point of arrival.

### **Information to be disclosed in a notification under paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 3**

**12.** A notification under paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 3 must disclose the date of R's return to the United Kingdom and his point of arrival in the United Kingdom.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Justice on \*\*\*\*

*David Ford*  
Minister of Justice

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

Schedule 3 to the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 allows the courts to impose slavery and trafficking prevention orders on offenders who have been convicted of an offence of human trafficking or slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. Part 2 of Schedule 3 places notification requirements on such offenders. These Regulations supplement the notification regime and are made in accordance with powers under Part 2 of Schedule 3.

Regulations 3 to 5 require offenders to notify to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) details of their bank accounts and credit cards and any subsequent changes to these accounts or cards.

Regulation 6 requires offenders of no fixed abode to make a notification to the PSNI on a weekly basis.

Regulations 7 to 12 deal with travel outside of the United Kingdom. An offender who intends to travel outside the United Kingdom for any period of time (apart from to the Republic of Ireland) must notify PSNI of date of departure; the country or countries to which he will travel; and the point of arrival in those countries. Details of accommodation arrangements, the carriers by which the offender travels and return to the United Kingdom must also be provided. Notifications should be made at least seven days in advance of intended travel, where known, and no less than 24 hours before intended travel. Where the offender provides a reasonable excuse he must provide the information at least 12 hours in advance. Offenders travelling to the Republic of Ireland are required to make similar notifications to the PSNI if travel is for a period of three days or longer.

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 STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND
 

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**2015 No. 0000**

**CRIMINAL LAW**

**The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Duty to co-operate with  
Commissioner) (Northern Irish public authority) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 2015**

*Made* - - - - \*\*\*\*\*

*Coming into operation* - \*\*\*\*\*

The Department of Justice makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 43(8) and 58(6) and (7) of the Modern Slavery Act(a).

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Duty to co-operate with Commissioner) (Northern Irish public authority) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and shall come into operation on 1st July 2015.

**Northern Irish Public Authority**

2. In Schedule 3 (Public authorities under a duty to co-operate with the Commissioner), after “The Gangmasters Licensing Authority.”, insert—

“Northern Irish public authority

*Law enforcement*

The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland

*Health bodies*

The Regional Health and Social Care Board

The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust

The South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

The Southern Health and Social Care Trust

The Western Health and Social Care Trust



Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Justice on \*\*\*\*

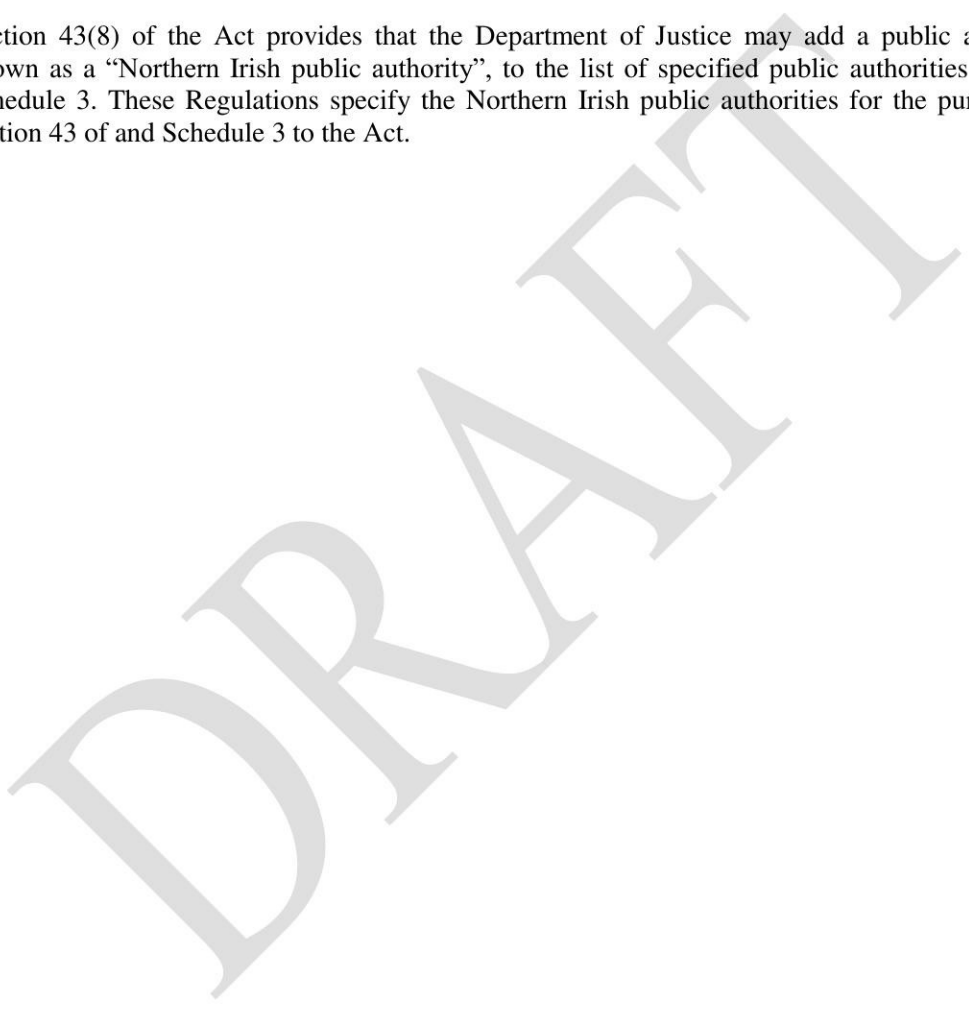
*David Ford*  
Minister of Justice

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

Section 43 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (“the Act”) empowers the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner to request a “specified public authority” to co-operate with the Commissioner in any way that the Commissioner considers necessary for the purposes of the Commissioner’s functions. Specified public authorities are listed in Schedule 3 to the Act.

Section 43(8) of the Act provides that the Department of Justice may add a public authority, known as a “Northern Irish public authority”, to the list of specified public authorities listed in Schedule 3. These Regulations specify the Northern Irish public authorities for the purposes of section 43 of and Schedule 3 to the Act.



Dear Chief Executive

At its meeting on 1 October, Belfast City Council passed the following resolution:

*“This Council regards cruelty against animals as a despicable crime; believes that more could be done to protect animals from cruelty and prevent reoffending. Therefore, this Council calls on the Minister for Justice to work with the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development and local councils to make it compulsory that those convicted of animal cruelty be prohibited from owning animals for a minimum period of time, establish and place those convicted of animal cruelty on a central register and outlaw the transferring of any animals to anyone on this register.”*

I would be grateful if you could bring the resolution to the attention of your Council, with a request that it support the stance which Belfast City Council has taken in this matter.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Regards

Suzanne

**Suzanne Wylie**  
**Chief Executive**

m/124

**Southern Division**  
 Marlborough House  
 Central Way  
 Craigavon  
 BT64 1AD

Telephone: (028) 3834 1144  
 Fax: (028) 3834 1867

The Chief Executive  
 Newry, Mourne & Down District Council  
 Monaghan Row  
 NEWRY  
 BT35 8DJ

Date: 15 October 2015

Your Ref:  
 Our Ref: TM/4/D

Being Dealt With By:

Dear Mr Hannaway

**PROPOSED ACCESSIBLE PARKING BAY AT 13 DUNDRUM ROAD,  
 NEWCASTLE**

Attached please find map showing proposed accessible parking bay (disabled parking bay) at 13 Dundrum Road, Newcastle.

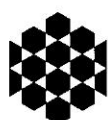
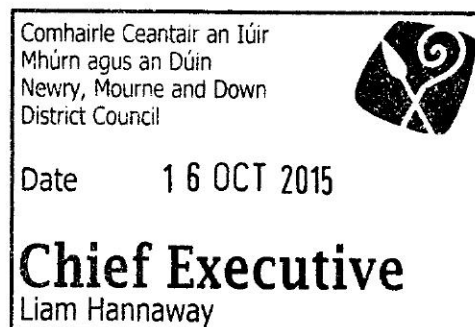
I would be obliged if you would inform the Council of this proposal.

Yours sincerely



**GEORGE SHILLIDAY**  
 Traffic & Network Development

Enc



Sarah Taggart - Council gender

DISABLED PARKING BAY FOR 13 DUNDRUM ROAD, NEWCASTLE.



Scale: 1:1250  
Date: 1st October 2015

Coords: x 337620.69  
y 331696.61

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Report to: Council meeting – 2 November 2015

Subject: Peace IV Co-Operation Programme

Date: 23 October 2015

Reporting Officer: Eddy Curtis, Director Strategic Planning and Performance

Contact Officer: Eddy Curtis, Director Strategic Planning and Performance

Decisions required:

Information for noting only.

1.0 Purpose and Background:

1.1 To up-date members on Peace IV Co-Operation Programme.

2.0 Key Issues:

2.1 The Special EU Programmes Body has contacted Council to advise that Peace IV Programme was submitted to the EU Commission on 2 October 2015 and they hope to have an agreed Programme by the end of December 2015.

2.2 They further advise they will commence their engagement with Local Authorities in the coming weeks in relation to the implementation of the Programme.

3.0 Resource Implications:

None

4.0 Appendices

None

October 2015



Dear colleague

## APSE Northern Ireland Seminar - Sustainable Development and the role of local authorities

- Tea/Coffee from **9:30am for 10:00am** start

**Date:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
**Time:** 9:30am Registration - tea, coffee on arrival  
 10:00am Start of meeting  
**Venue:** Craigavon Conference and Civic Centre, Lakeview Road, Craigavon, BT64 1AL

The pursuit of Sustainable Development remains a 'work in progress'. Interpretation of the topic and duty are wide, which often creates misunderstanding about where the responsibility lies for delivering against the duty. This is as much the case in local government as in other areas of the public sector.

The Sustainable Development Duty on councils has been augmented by new obligations in the 2014 Local Government Act. Councils' new powers can make a significant contribution to sustainable development objectives through corporate plans, community plans and service delivery.

Sustainable development has links to all areas of local government services and duties – from integration into the community planning process and local development plans through to reducing energy usage at the leisure centre and maximising recycling activity. It is vital that these activities are not tackled independently but that they are brought together into a holistic approach within each local authority and then within the whole local government sector.

If this is to occur, the message of sustainable development must be spread to a wider audience to enable all in local councils to understand the contribution that they and their services can make.

Those attending this event should be senior managers and officers with corporate responsibilities around resource management, community planning, policy, performance and service planning alongside those managing frontline services such as environmental, planning and leisure services.

**This is a free event for APSE members.** There will be a fee of £125 for non-members.

Please ensure you confirm attendance by responding to this e-mail or to Vicky Starmer on [vstarmer@apse.org.uk](mailto:vstarmer@apse.org.uk) before Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.

Yours sincerely

Phil Brennan on behalf of

Cllr Gerard Diver,  
Chair of APSE NI



GB 11409



GB 11132



GB 14074



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Association for Public Service Excellence  
 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Washbrook House  
 Lancastrian Office Centre  
 Talbot Road, Old Trafford  
 Manchester M32 0FP  
 Telephone: 0161 772 1810  
 fax: 0161 772 1811  
 email: [enquiries@apse.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@apse.org.uk)  
 web: [www.apse.org.uk](http://www.apse.org.uk)

## APSE Northern Ireland regional meeting – Agenda

Tea/Coffee from **9:30am for 10:00am** start

1. Welcome - Cllr Gerard Diver, Derry City and Strabane District Council, Chair of APSE NI
2. The Sustainable Development Duty
  - What is the policy context?
  - How are local authorities expected to approach it?
  - What tools/support are available?
 Speaker – Nichola Creagh, Acting Director, DoE
3. 'Sustainability – lessons from Wales'
  - What sustainability means in Wales
  - A developing agenda
  - How are councils meeting their sustainable development obligations?
 Speaker - Peter Davies, Wales Commissioner for Sustainable Futures
4. How do you prove it?
  - Providing evidence that you are complying
  - Links to the performance improvement duty?
  - Tracking information and measures
 Speaker - Prof Jim Kitchen, Director, Sustainable NI

Q&A and debate

11:30 am Break

5. 'Case Study 1 – Sustainability, integration and community planning in Ards and North Down'  
Speaker – Patricia Mackey, Community Planning Manager, Ards and North Down Borough Council.
6. 'Case Study 2 – Here's one I prepared earlier – lessons from Belfast'  
Speaker - Clare McKeown, Sustainable Development manager, Belfast City Council.
7. 'Case Study 3 – Sustainable Development Action Plans as a path to biodiversity gains – experience from Antrim and Newtownabbey'  
Speaker – Lindsay Houston, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
8. Getting the message out
  - Engaging staff, councillors the public and business
  - Building sustainability to the core of the authority
  - Sustainability, well being, development – what's in a name?
 Speaker – Leo Strawbridge, Energy Manager, Derry City and Strabane District Council and vice-chair SD Forum.

Q&A and debate

1:00 pm Close and Lunch





# Fax back attendance form

**APSE Northern Ireland Seminar**  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
 Tea/Coffee from **9:30am for 10:00am** start  
 Craigavon Conference and Civic Centre, Lakeview Road, Craigavon, BT64 1AL

**Authority:**.....  
**Address:**.....  
 ..... **Post Code**.....

Name	Email	To attend regional meeting	Apologies for regional meeting
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Please help us keep our records up-to date

- Persons contact details have changed, please amend as indicated
- Please add name and details to your database
- Person has left the organisation (if so please complete the details below for the replacement)

### Please print details

**Title**                      **First Name**                      **Surname**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Title**                      **Authority**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Department**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Address**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Post Code**  
 \_\_\_\_\_


**Telephone**                      **Fax**                      **Email**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**APSE Northern Ireland Seminar**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015

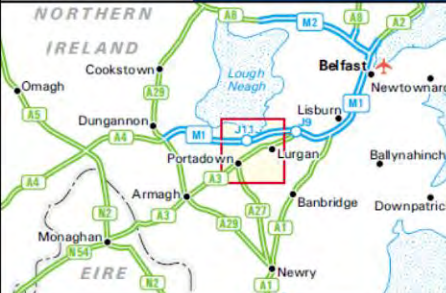
Craigavon Conference and Civic Centre, Lakeview Road, Craigavon, BT64 1AL

**Venue map**



**Craigavon Borough Council**  
Civic Centre,  
P.O. Box 66,  
Lakeview Road,  
Craigavon,  
County Armagh BT64 1AL

Tel: 028 38 312400  
Fax: 028 38 312444



**From M1 Junction 11**

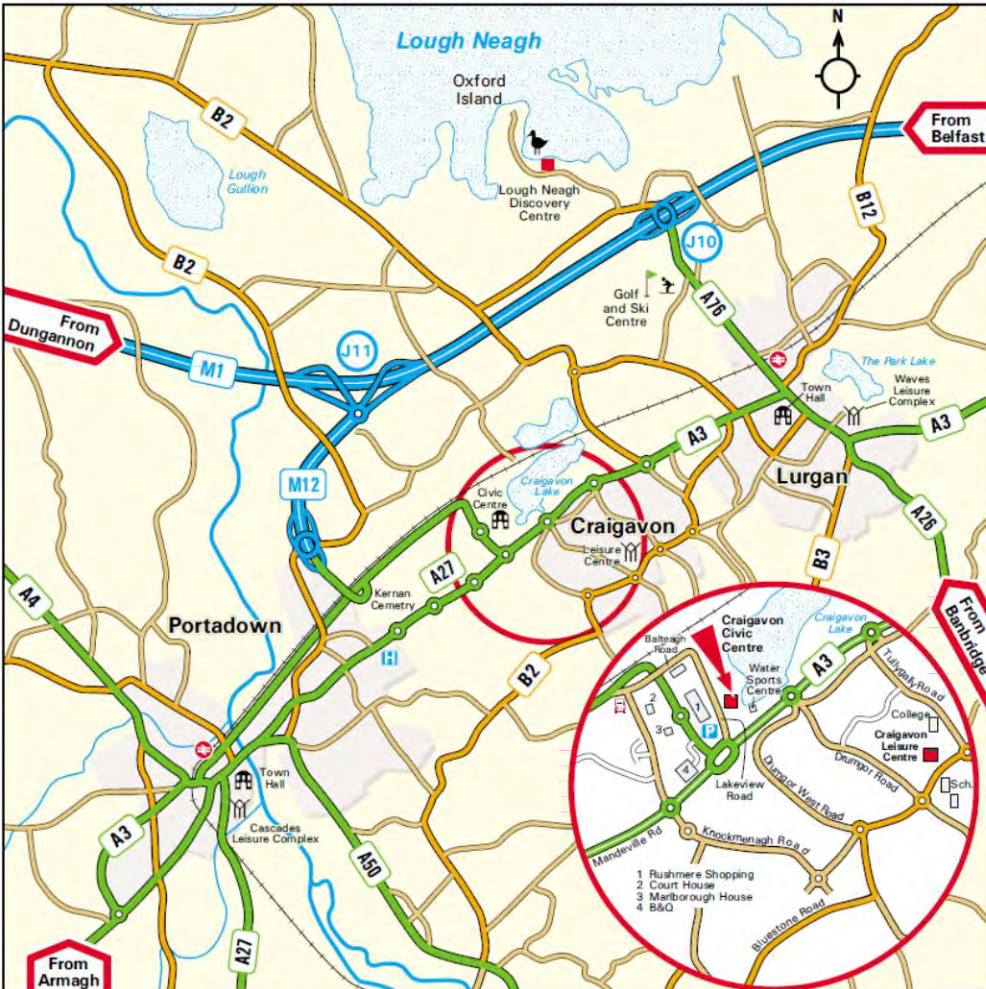
- From the slip road at Junction 11 join the M12.
- At the end of the M12 continue under the bridge and past the industrial estate.
- The road crosses over the railway and loops round to join the A3. At the T-junction turn right.
- Continue on this road for just under a mile and turn right into Balteagh Road.
- Pass the bus station and the retail park and into Lakeview Road.
- The Civic Centre will be found shortly on the left.

**From Lurgan**

- From the centre of Lurgan join the A3, signposted Craigavon.
- Continue on this road, straight over three roundabouts and at the fourth (with the lake to the right) turn right into Lakeview Road.
- The Civic Centre will be found shortly on the right.

**From Portadown**

- Leave Portadown on the A3, signposted Craigavon and Lurgan.
- After approximately three miles you pass the slip road for the M12.
- Follow the directions above from point four.



**Southern Division**  
Marlborough House  
Central Way  
Craigavon  
BT64 1AD

Telephone: (028) 3834 1144  
Fax: (028) 3834 1867

The Chief Executive  
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council  
O'Hagan House  
Monaghan Row  
NEWRY  
BT35 8DJ

Date: 12 August 2015

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: RAB/553/15/EM

Being Dealt With By: J Webb (Mrs)

Dear Sir

**RE: PROPOSED ABANDONMENT AND DISPOSAL AT RANN ROAD/  
ANNACLOY ROAD, DOWNPATRICK**

The Department proposes to abandon an area of road at the above location in order to regularise the situation on the ground and I enclose 2 maps.

**Map 1**

The area to be abandoned is shown coloured green and following abandonment the land along with the area shown hatched red will be declared surplus

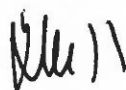
**Map 2**

The area coloured blue will be declared surplus to requirements.

I would advise that the 3 plots are in the ownership of this Department and the lands will be disposed of in accordance with statutory guidelines.

Please advise as soon as possible as to whether or not your Council have any objection to the proposal.

Yours faithfully



J WEBB (Mrs)  
Lands Section


Enc



MAP 1

# Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland ACE MAP



	DRD	Unregistered	355sqm	Surplus Land
--	-----	--------------	--------	--------------

## Surplus Land at Rann Road Annacloy Road Downpatrick

File Ref: ACC/38/14

Date: JUNE 2015

Map Ref: 205-14 SW & SE

Scale: 1:1250

**ROADS Service**

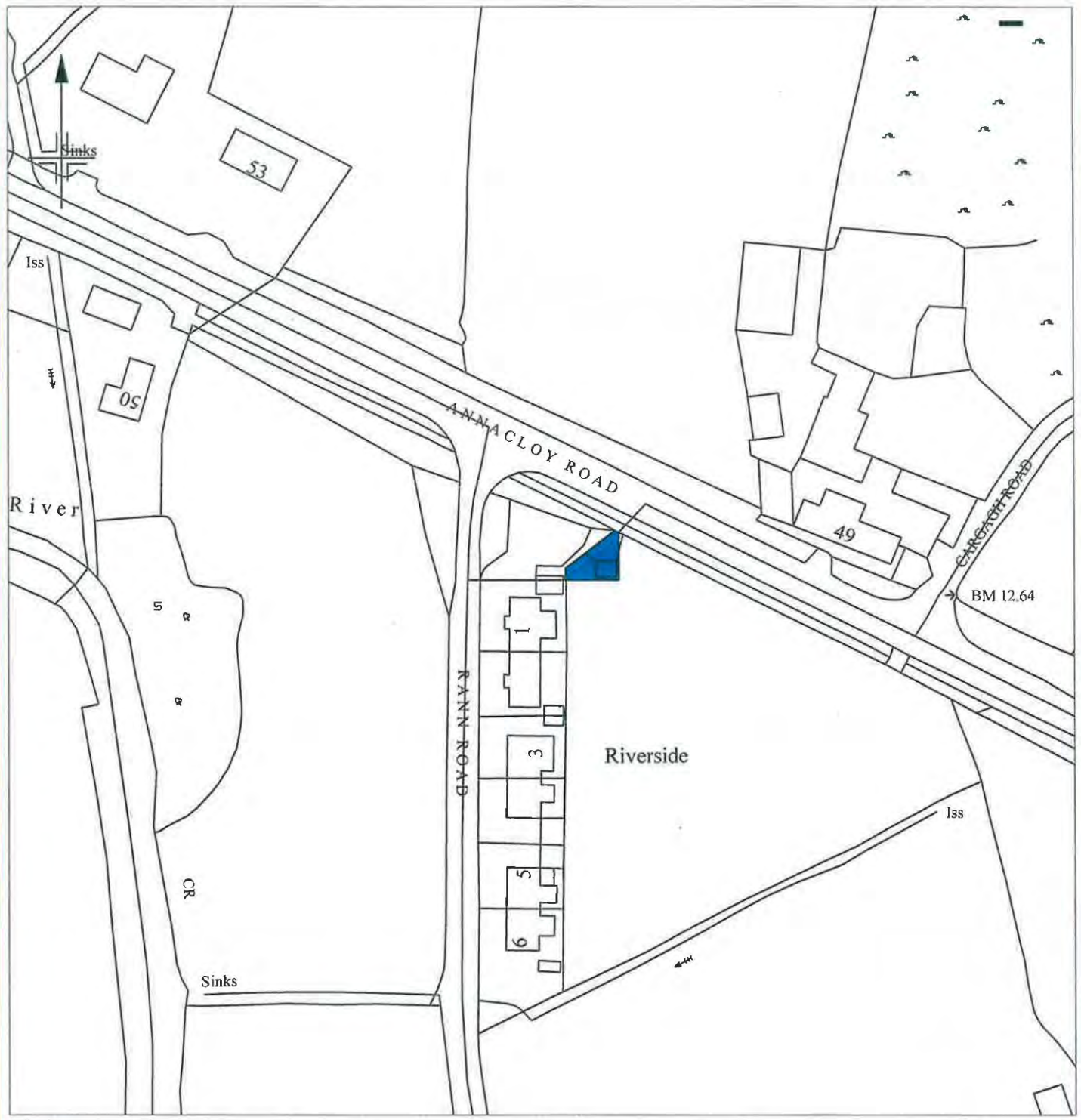
ROADS SERVICE CONSULTANCY  
 Marlborough House  
 Central Way  
 Craggavon  
 BT64 1AD

Telephone: 02838 341144  
 Fax: 02838 341867

Crown Copyright Reserved

# Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland ACE MAP



	DRD	Unregistered	80sqm	Surplus Land
--	-----	--------------	-------	--------------

## Surplus Land at Rann Road Annacloy Road Downpatrick

File Ref: ACC/38/14

Date: JUNE 2015

Map Ref: 205-14 SW & SE

Scale: 1:2500

**ROADS Service**

ROADS SERVICE CONSULTANCY

Marlborough House  
Central Way  
Crolgavon  
BT64 1AD

Telephone: 02838 341144  
Fax: 02838 341867

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919



141

Mr Liam Hannaway - Chief Executive  
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council  
Monaghan Row  
NEWRY  
BT35 8DJ

27 October 2015

Dear Mr Hannaway

**Saintfield Post Office®**  
**3 Main Street, Saintfield, Ballynahinch, BT24 7AA**

**Proposed move to new premises & branch modernisation**

I'm writing to let you know that we are proposing, with the Postmaster's agreement, to move the above Post Office branch to a new location – Kydd Maxol Spar, 11 Crossgar Road, Saintfield, Ballynahinch, BT24 7AS. I'm pleased to tell you that, if the move goes ahead, subject to consultation it will change to one of our new local style branches.

This change is part of a major programme of modernisation taking place across the Post Office network, the largest in the history of Post Office Ltd. The Programme is underpinned by Government investment and will see up to 8,000 branches modernised and additional investment in over 3,000 community and outreach branches.

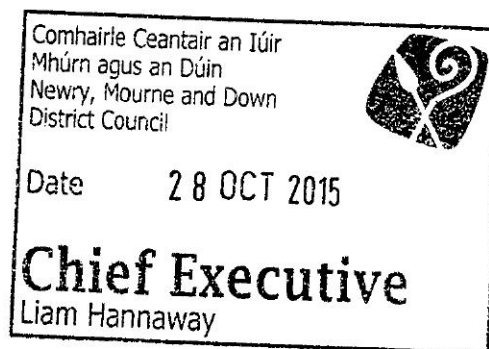
**What will this mean for customers?**

- Post Office services will be offered from two tills on the retail counter in a modern open plan branch
- Longer opening hours
- The majority of Post Office products and services will still be available
- Improved accessibility

**Consulting on the proposed new location**

We're now starting a 6 week local public consultation and would like you to tell us what you think about the suitability of the proposed new location. Before we finalise our plans, we would really like to hear your views on the proposed location, particularly on the following areas:

- How suitable you think the new location and premises are and how easy it is to get there?
- Are the new premises easy for you to get into and is the inside easily accessible?
- Do you have any concerns about the new location?
- If so, do you have any suggestions that could help us make it better for you?
- Any local community issues which you think could be affected by the proposed move
- Anything you particularly like about the proposed change



I've enclosed an information sheet that provides more details about the new location and the range of products that will be available. If you have any comments or questions, please email or write to me via our Communication and Consultation team, whose contact details are below. Please note that your comments will not be kept confidential unless you expressly ask us to do so by clearly marking them "In Confidence". Any information we receive will be considered as we finalise our plans for the new branch. Other people in your organisation may be interested in this proposal, so please let them know about it.

You can share your views on the proposed move through our easy and convenient new online questionnaire via the link below. When entering the site you will be asked to enter the code for this branch: 28070499.

[postofficeviews.co.uk](http://postofficeviews.co.uk)

#### Dates for local public consultation:

Local Public Consultation starts	28 October 2015
Local Public Consultation ends	09 December 2015
Proposed month of change	February/March 2016

Posters and leaflets will now be displayed in branch to let customers know about the changes and to ask their views. I've included information about the Code of Practice over the page and copies of the Code will also be available in branch.

Thank you for considering our proposal. At the end of the consultation I'll be in touch again to let you know our final plans.

Yours sincerely



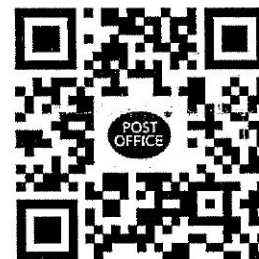
**Suzanne Richardson**  
Regional Network Manager

#### How to contact us:

-  [postofficeviews.co.uk](http://postofficeviews.co.uk)
-  [comments@postoffice.co.uk](mailto:comments@postoffice.co.uk)
-  Customer Helpline: 03457 22 33 44  
Textphone: 03457 22 33 55
-  FREEPOST Your Comments  
**Please note this is the full address to use and no further address details are required.**

Want to tell us what you think right here and now – scan here.

If you don't have a QR code scanner on your phone, you can find one in your app store.



Items sent by Freepost take 2 working days to arrive. Therefore, responses by Freepost should be sent in sufficient time to arrive before the end of the consultation period. Working days do not include Saturdays or Sundays. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered,

**To get this information in a different format, for example, in larger print, audio or braille please contact the Customer Helpline on 03457 22 33 44 or Textphone 03457 22 33 55.**

<b>Saintfield Post Office information sheet</b>																														
	<b>Current Post Office location</b>	<b>Proposed new Post Office branch location (subject to local public consultation)</b>																												
<b>Address</b>	3 Main Street Saintfield Ballynahinch BT24 7AA	Kydd Maxol Spar 11 Crossgar Road Saintfield Ballynahinch BT24 7AS																												
<b>Post Office opening hours</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 15%;">Mon</td><td>09:00 – 17:30</td></tr> <tr><td>Tue</td><td>09:00 – 17:30</td></tr> <tr><td>Wed</td><td>09:00 – 17:30</td></tr> <tr><td>Thu</td><td>09:00 – 13:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Fri</td><td>09:00 – 17:30</td></tr> <tr><td>Sat</td><td>09:00 – 12:30</td></tr> <tr><td>Sun</td><td>Closed</td></tr> </table>	Mon	09:00 – 17:30	Tue	09:00 – 17:30	Wed	09:00 – 17:30	Thu	09:00 – 13:00	Fri	09:00 – 17:30	Sat	09:00 – 12:30	Sun	Closed	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 15%;">Mon</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Tue</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Wed</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Thu</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Fri</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Sat</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> <tr><td>Sun</td><td>06:00 – 23:00</td></tr> </table>	Mon	06:00 – 23:00	Tue	06:00 – 23:00	Wed	06:00 – 23:00	Thu	06:00 – 23:00	Fri	06:00 – 23:00	Sat	06:00 – 23:00	Sun	06:00 – 23:00
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Sat	06:00 – 23:00																													
Sun	06:00 – 23:00																													
<b>Distance</b>	80 metres away from the current branch, along level terrain.																													
<b>Accessibility &amp; Accessibility works</b>	<p><b>Access and facilities</b> Current branch has a wide door and a step at the entrance. Internally, there is a hearing loop.</p> <p><b>Parking</b> Time restricted roadside parking is available nearby.</p>	<p><b>Access and facilities</b> The proposed premises would have a wide automatic door and level access. Internally, there would be a hearing loop and space for a wheelchair.</p> <p><b>Parking</b> There is dedicated parking with designated disabled bays outside the proposed premises.</p>																												
<b>Retail</b>	No Retails	Convenience store/Garage forecourt																												
<b>Local Public Consultation starts</b>	28 October 2015																													
<b>Local Public Consultation ends</b>	09 December 2015																													
<b>Proposed month of change</b>	February/March 2016																													



## Saintfield Post Office® services available

Your Postmaster our Customer Helpline on 03457 223344 will be happy to help you with any queries about product availability or provide you with details of maximum value of transactions. Customers can also shop online at [www.postoffice.co.uk](http://www.postoffice.co.uk)

	Current branch	New branch
<b>Mail</b>		
First & Second Class mail	✓	✓
Stamps, stamp books (1 <sup>st</sup> class 6 & 12 only, 2 <sup>nd</sup> class 12 only)	✓	✓
Special stamps (Christmas issue only) & postage labels	✓	✓
Signed For	✓	✓
Special Delivery	✓	✓
Home shopping returns	✓	✓
Inland small, medium & large parcels	✓	✓
Express & contract parcels	✓	✓
British Forces Mail (BFPO)	✓	✓
International letters & postcards (inc. signed for & Airtsure)	✓	✓
International parcels up to 2kg & printed papers up to 5kg	✓	✓
Parcelforce Worldwide International parcels	✓	✓
Articles for the blind (inland & international)	✓	✓
Royal Mail redirection service	✓	✓
Local Collect	✓	✓
Drop & Go	✓	✓
<b>Withdrawals, deposits and payments</b>		
Post Office Card Account	✓	✓
All personal and business banking cash withdrawals, deposits, balance enquiries & enveloped cheque deposits (card, barcoded or manual)	✓	✓
Postal orders	✓	✓
Moneygram	✓	✓
<b>Bill payments</b>		
Bill payments (card, barcoded or manual)	✓	✓
Key recharging	✓	✓
Transcash (without barcode)	✓	✓
<b>Driving</b>		
Car tax (you can pay in cash, by cheque or debit card)	✓	✓
<b>Travel</b>		
Pre-order travel money	✓	✓
On demand travel money	Euros/Dollars	Euros/Dollars
Travel insurance referral	x	✓
On demand travel insurance	✓	x
<b>Mobile Top-ups &amp; E vouchers</b>		
	✓	✓
<b>Payment by cheque</b>		
	✓	✓
Products marked x are available at <b>Ballynahinch</b> Post Office, 2-6 Lisburn Street, Ballynahinch, BT24 8BD	Ballynahinch Post Office Opening times: Mon - Fri 09:00 - 17:30 Sat 09:00 - 13:00	
Selected services are available at <b>Ballygowan</b> Post Office, 2 Saintfield Road, Ballygowan, Newtownards, BT23 6HB	Ballygowan Post Office Opening times: Mon - Sat 07:00 - 22:00 Sun 08:00 - 22:00	

## Code of Practice for changes to the Post Office® network

### What's a Code of Practice?

The Code of Practice contains guidelines we follow. They tell us how, and when to tell you about changes to your local Post Office services. We've worked with the independent statutory consumer watchdog on these guidelines, which in Great Britain is Citizens Advice and Citizens Advice Scotland, and in Northern Ireland, the Consumer Council.

### What kind of changes does it include?

Information about when we're planning to move or close one of our branches or outreach services. This also covers information about when a branch has suddenly closed unexpectedly because of something like a flood or fire.

### Who do we tell about changes?

You and your representatives (who are often local MPs or local authorities and councils).

### How will we tell you what's happening?

If there's a minor change – like changing opening times, then we'll let you know by putting up posters in the Post Office. If the plan is to move a Post Office then we'll put up posters and hand out letters in the branch as well as writing to your representatives. We'll have a press release and, the relevant information will be easy to find on our website.

### How long will it take?

We'll let you know about any changes as soon as we possibly can. Sometimes, change is out of our control but we'll try to keep you as up-to-date about what's happening as much as we can. We try to make sure you have 4 weeks' notice before anything happens. If we're going to make big changes, there'll be a 'consultation period' which lasts about 6 weeks. This means that you've got time to let us know how you feel.

### It's easy to let us know what you think...

We want to hear what you and your representatives think about change and to make sure it's easy for you to let us know, all of our contact details can be found on all our posters and letters. You can contact us by email, letter or 'phone.

### How will you find out about the final plans?

We'll be letting you know in as many ways as possible. There'll be posters put up in or around your local area, letting you know what's going on. We'll also write to local representatives and, the information will be on our website.

If you let us know what you think, we'll make sure you know about our final plans either by writing to you, or having the information easily available in the Post Office or on our website.

### What can you do if you think we haven't followed the Code of Practice?

If you don't think we've followed the Code, then please write to us or email us via the contact details included in this letter and let us know why.

To have a look at the full Code of Practice, it's on our website at [www.postoffice.co.uk/transforming-post-office](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/transforming-post-office)



Comhairle Ceantair an Iúir  
Mhúrn agus an Dúin  
Newry, Mourne and Down  
District Council



Date 22 OCT 2015

**Chief Executive**

Liam Hannaway



Office of the

**First Minister and  
Deputy First Minister**

[www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk](http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk)

Stormont Castle  
BELFAST  
BT4 3TT

TEL: 028 9037 8158

FAX: 028 9037 8040

e-mail: [ps.ministers@ofmdfmi.gov.uk](mailto:ps.ministers@ofmdfmi.gov.uk)

Mr Liam Hannaway  
O'Hagan House  
Monaghan Row  
NEWRY  
BT35 8DJ

Our Ref: COR/1070/15

19<sup>th</sup> October 2015

*Dear Liam,*

Over recent months, there has been a vast increase in the number of refugees fleeing Syria and elsewhere. This issue is clearly one of the greatest challenges facing countries across Europe today.

As responsibility for immigration lies with Westminster the only formal programme under which we might receive refugees is the UK Government's Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme. This scheme aims to identify those left most vulnerable by the Syrian conflict and resettle them where they can get the quality of support they need. The VPR scheme aims to support the most vulnerable individuals including victims of violence, women and children at risk and those in need of advanced medical care.

We signalled to the UK Government our willingness to welcome between 50 and 100 of the most vulnerable refugees by December, through the VPR, with the expectation that further groups would arrive on a phased basis.

To be able to accommodate vulnerable people we must ensure we can meet their needs effectively and we are currently making the necessary preparations to do so.

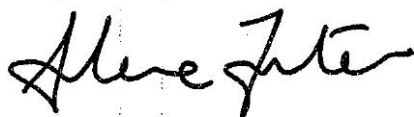
Officials have begun significant, cross-departmental preparatory work to ensure that we are in a position to respond effectively to the needs of what will likely be a very vulnerable group of refugees. We need to ensure that we can provide access to appropriate services such as healthcare, housing, education, community support and employment opportunities.

We have had discussions with NGOs who are already active in supporting refugees, about their capacity to assist with this, and will continue to liaise and engage with the

voluntary and community sector and wider society. This will include appropriate communication and meaningful engagement with receiving communities.

The UK Government has indicated that it will provide some additional funding to the Executive to meet the needs of any refugees received under the VPR scheme in their first year. The detail of this funding and resourcing for future years is currently under consideration.

We wish to assure you of our commitment to identifying what can be done to alleviate the ongoing situation and providing appropriate support where possible.

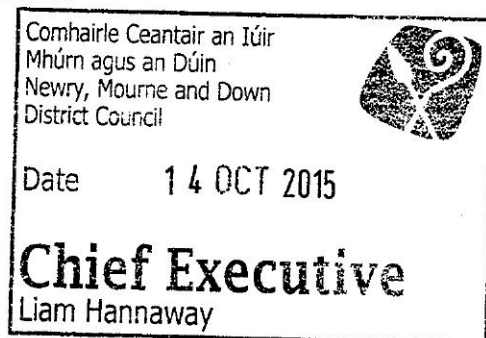


**ARLENE FOSTER MLA**  
(Exercising the functions  
of the First Minister)



**MARTIN McGUINNESS MLA**  
deputy First Minister

From the Office of the Minister  
Michelle O'Neill MLA



Department of

**Agriculture and  
Rural Development**

www.dardni.gov.uk

AN ROINN

**Talmhaíochta agus  
Forbartha Tuaithe**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Fairms an  
Kintra Fordèrin**

Room 438  
Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Ballymiscaw  
Belfast  
BT4 3SB  
Telephone: 028 9052 4140  
Email: private.office@dardni.gov.uk

Our Ref: : COR/1382/2015

Your Ref:

13 October 2015

Liam, a chara

Thank you for your letter, dated 17 September 2015, advising me of the resolution passed recently by the Council expressing support for dairy farmers and calling for action to be taken to address the issues that all farm sectors are currently facing.

We share a common concern about the fall in prices in the dairy and other key farm sectors. I am acutely aware of the impact of prices below the cost of production on business viability, farmers and their families.

Your councillors will by now be aware that I have been successful in my lobbying of both the Defra Secretary of State, Liz Truss, and Commissioner Hogan on the need for action to support dairy farmers during the current crisis which has seen the farm gate price for milk in the north of Ireland drop by around 34% since July last year. As part of the EU aid package announced on 7 and 15 September 2015, I have secured aid worth £5.1m for dairy farmers in the north from the total of £26m allocated to this Member State. This share recognises the unique and extreme set of circumstances facing our dairy farmers. I am anxious that payments are made to our hard-pressed farmers without delay and have asked the Defra Minister, George Eustice to make payments to farmers in the north first.

Whilst this aid package will help address the current cash-flow issues facing farmers, I recognise that action is required to stabilize the position for dairy farmers going forward. Mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure the long term viability of the dairy industry. That is why I have continually pressed Commissioner Hogan on the need to review the intervention price for milk which has not been reviewed since 2003 when it was set as part of the CAP reform programme. I have also asked our MEPs and Minister Coveney in the south to join with me in pressing the Commission on the need for such a review. I wrote to Commissioner Hogan again on 9

If you have a hearing difficulty you can contact the  
Department via Text Relay.  
Making a call from a textphone dial 18001 + number  
Making a call from a telephone dial 18002 + number



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE

September and fully intend to keep up the pressure on the Commission on this matter.

I recognise that farmers across all sectors in the north are facing very difficult market conditions at the present time and I have stated in the Assembly on a number of occasions recently that I am committed to supporting all farmers.


I understand how vital Direct Payments are to all farmers and am aware of the European Commission's recent announcement that they will allow advance payments of up to 70% to be paid from October. My focus remains on ensuring that full payments are made to as many farmers as possible in December 2015.

In addition, recent approval of our Rural Development Programme by the European Commission paves the way for up to £623m of funding to become available for improving farming and agri-food businesses, protecting our environment and supporting rural development projects across the north. It will introduce schemes to help farmers improve productivity, contain costs and review their business models.

Finally, at meetings with Defra, Scottish and Welsh Ministers, and with Commissioner Hogan we also discussed a range of other measures that could help strengthen the agri-food industry's foundations and help it manage global volatility in the medium to longer term. These include supporting fairness in the supply chain, promoting public procurement, working with the industry to open new markets, and establishing future markets.

I will continue to work with the industry, locally elected representatives, Defra, DAFM in the south and the European Commission to find a lasting solution to the issues facing our farming industry which is vital to the overall economy in the north.

Is mise le meas



**MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA**  
**Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development**



*Liam*  
*2 November*

**PHIL HOGAN**

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rue de la Loi, 200  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel. +32-2 295 52 86  
phil.hogan@ec.europa.eu

Brussels,  
(2015) 4696038

Dear Mr Hannaway,

I thank you for your letter of 17 September 2015 transmitting the resolution from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council about potential intervention measures on the milk market.

I am conscious of the current pressure on milk prices across Europe and the world market in general, which is mainly related to an imbalance between supply and demand, following higher milk production and less dynamic global demand. I note in particular that milk deliveries in the United Kingdom increased since May 2015, despite the prevailing oversupply situation.

The solidarity package for farmers, tabled at the Extraordinary meeting of the Council of Agriculture Ministers on 7 September and detailed at the informal meeting of the Council of 15 September in Luxembourg primarily addresses farmers' cash-flow difficulties by providing targeted aid for all 28 Member States and by allowing Member States to advance a higher percentage of direct payments (from 16 October) and of area-based rural development payments (from 1 October). It also aims to stabilise markets, through a new private storage scheme for cheese and an improved scheme for skimmed milk powder, with higher aid levels and longer storage periods to make the scheme effective in alleviating pressure on the supply side. The package also addresses the functioning of the supply chain and societal issues and provides for additional funding for the promotion of dairy products. Beside these, I would like to conclude rapidly the negotiations on the improvement of the school schemes.

I believe that the initiatives proposed by your Council are covered to a great extent in this package. However, I cannot agree with the suggested revision of intervention prices. In a situation where production quotas no longer exist, it is of paramount importance that

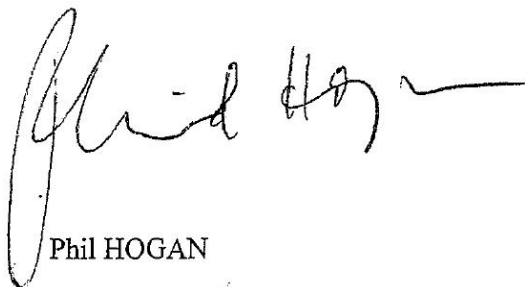
Mr Liam Hannaway  
Chief Executive  
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council  
e-mail: [council@nmandd.org](mailto:council@nmandd.org)



farmers and other economic operators follow market signals. Increasing intervention prices would do nothing but delay the inevitable and necessary adjustment and make it more painful. The objective is not to produce as much as possible but as much as there is a market for.

---

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Hogan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Phil HOGAN