

ROADS Service**Northern Key Transport Corridor
T7/M2 (A26) Ballee Road East to (M2) Ballymena Bypass Dualling
Scheme**

(in the townlands of Ballylesson, Ballycreggy and Ballykeel, County Antrim)

**Notice of Publication of Environmental Statement by the Department
for Regional Development Under Article 67A(3) of the Roads
(Northern Ireland) Order 1993**

The Department for Regional Development hereby gives notice in accordance with Article 67A(3) and (9) of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 that it has prepared an Environmental Statement on the effects of the proposed T7/M2 (A26) Ballee Road East to (M2) Ballymena Bypass Dualling Scheme.

The general effect of the project will be to provide a new dual carriageway/motorway underneath the Larne Road Roundabout to connect the present (A26) Ballee Road East dual carriageway to the southern end of the present (M2) Ballymena Bypass. New merge and diverge facilities will be constructed to south of the Larne Road Roundabout to connect the new dual carriageway/motorway to the Larne Road Roundabout. East of the new dual carriageway/motorway, Liminary Road will be realigned to connect directly to the Larne Road Roundabout. In addition to earthworks and drainage, landscaping will be carried out to lessen the visual impact of the proposed project.

**Notice of Determination by the Department for Regional Development
Under Article 67A of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993**

The Department for Regional Development hereby gives notice in accordance with Article 67A(1) and (9) of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 that it considers that its proposal to provide a new dual carriageway/motorway underneath the Larne Road Roundabout to connect the present (A26) Ballee Road East dual carriageway to the southern end of the present (M2) Ballymena Bypass is a relevant project within the meaning of Article 67(1) of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 and falls within Annex II of Council Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by Directive 97/11/EC.

The Department has determined after having regard to the selection criteria contained in Annex III of the directive that this proposal should be made subject to an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Directive.

M2/A26 (Ballee Road East Link) Order (Northern Ireland) 2006

The Department for Regional Development hereby gives notice in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 8 to the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 that it proposes to make an order under Articles 14(1), 15(1), 16(1) and (2) and 68(1) and (3) of that Order.

The proposed Order will—

- provide that 680 metres of proposed new road to be constructed in the townlands of Ballycreggy and Ballykeel, County of Antrim, under the Larne Road Roundabout, from a point 270 metres south-west of the centre point of the Larne Road Roundabout South Bridge to a point 278 metres north of the centre point of the Larne Road Roundabout North Bridge shall be special road and form part of the M2 Motorway and part of the trunk road system; and
- provide that 1685 metres of new roads in the townlands of Ballylesson and Ballycreggy, County of Antrim consisting of—
 - 990 metres, from a point 885 metres south-west of the junction of the existing A26 Ballee Road East and C46 Liminary Road, to a point 270 metres south-west of the centre point of the Larne Road Roundabout South Bridge;
 - 275 metres of slip road, from a point on the Larne Road Roundabout 65 metres west of the centre point of the South Bridge for a distance of 275 metres in a generally southerly direction; and
 - 420 metres of slip road, from a point on the Larne Road Roundabout 85 metres east of the centre point of the South Bridge for a distance of 420 metres in a generally south-westerly direction
 are to be constructed as trunk roads and form part of the Belfast-Coleraine-Londonderry Trunk Road T7;
- provide that Larne Road Roundabout, presently part of the Belfast-Coleraine-Londonderry Trunk Road T7, shall become part of the Ballymena-Kilwaughter Trunk Road T19;
- provide that 890 metres of Ballee Road East from a point 625 metres south-west of its junction with Liminary Road to its junction with Larne Road Roundabout shall cease to be trunk road;
- provide for the stopping-up of—
 - Ballee Road East at a point 625 metres south-west of its junction with Liminary Road; and
 - Liminary Road at points 160, 215 and 640 metres south-east of its junction with Ballee Road East to road traffic; and
 - Ballee Road East at a point 190 metres south-west of its junction with Liminary Road to vehicular traffic.

Notice of Intention to Make a Vesting Order

The Department for Regional Development proposes to make an order vesting certain lands in the townlands of Ballylesson and Ballycreggy, County Antrim in the Department under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 and the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993.

The Department proposes to acquire the lands for the construction of a road 1.6 kilometres in length (part dual carriageway/part motorway) linking the present A26 Ballee Road East dual carriageway underneath the Larne Road roundabout to the southern end of the M2 Ballymena Bypass and the construction of related connector roads.

All documents and maps relating to the Scheme may be inspected and further information relating to the proposals may be obtained by any person, free of charge, at all reasonable hours during the period from 20 September to 27 October 2006 at the offices of the:

- Department for Regional Development, Roads Service - Northern Division, County Hall, Castlerock Road, Coleraine BT52 3HS;
- Department for Regional Development, Roads Service - Northern Division, County Hall, 182 Galgorm Road, Ballymena BT42 1QG;
- Department for Regional Development, Roads Service - Northern Division, Ballymena & Larne Section Office, 190 Larne Link Road, Ballymena BT42 3HA;
- Department for Regional Development, Roads Service - Headquarters, Room 2-01, Clarence Court, 10-18 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8GB; and
- Ballymena Borough Council, Ardeevin, 80 Galgorm Road, Ballymena BT42 1AB.

An electronic version of the Environmental Statement (Non Technical Summary) is available for viewing at www.drndi.gov.uk/foi.

Any person who wishes to express an opinion on the Environmental Statement or to object to the making of the M2/A26 (Ballee Road East link) Order (Northern Ireland) 2006 or the proposed vesting order must, on or before 27 October 2006, write to the Divisional Roads Manager, Department for Regional Development, Roads Service - Northern Division, County Hall, Castlerock Road, Coleraine BT51 3HS, stating their opinion on the Environmental Statement and/or the grounds of their objection.

R. Sherman

A senior officer of the Department for Regional Development

15 September 2006

Public Exhibition

A public exhibition of proposals for a dual carriageway to connect Ballee Road East underneath the Larne Road Roundabout to the M2 Ballymena Bypass will be held in Ballymena Borough Council Offices, Ardeevin, 80 Galgorm Road, Ballymena on:

Wednesday 27 September 2006 from 3pm to 9pm; and

Thursday 28 September 2006 from 10am to 9pm

Please come along to the free exhibition. Staff from Roads Service and their advisors will be available to answer your questions.

**Temporary Closure of B 94 Knockan Road, Broughshane
Road Traffic Regulation (NI) Order 1997 Article 7**

Notice is hereby given that the B 94 Knockan Road Broughshane, will be closed to vehicular traffic from its junction with the A 43 Cushendall Road to its junction with the UR 136 Carncoagh Road on Monday 25th September for a period of eight weeks.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a trunk main and water main replacement scheme by Water Service.

A diversion will be signposted via the A 43 Cushendall Road and the C 63 Ballygarvey Road.

Authorised Officer: D Mackle
Network Development Manager

Date: 19th September 2006
An Agency within the Department for



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