



James House
2-4 Cromac Avenue
The Gasworks
BELFAST
BT7 2JA

14 August 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

TARGETED PUBLIC CONSULTATION: REVIEW OF THE CLASSES AND THRESHOLDS IN THE SCHEDULE TO THE PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2015

I am writing to inform you that the Department for Infrastructure has issued a targeted public consultation paper on proposals to update the Classes and Thresholds in the Schedule to the Planning (Development Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 ('the Development Management Regulations').

These proposals are part of the joint [Planning Improvement Programme \(PIP\)](#) being brought forward by the Department, working closely with local government and partners, to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the planning system.

This targeted consultation represents the second phase of the review of the Development Management Regulations and covers the Classes and Thresholds Schedule. Phase one covered legislative amendments to the Development Management Regulations, pre-application community consultation and pre-determination hearings provisions and procedures and came into operation on the 1 August 2025.

This targeted consultation proposes changes to classes of development to ensure they remain relevant to current and emerging technologies, future development trends, and evolving forms of infrastructure, particularly within the energy sector. The proposals also seek to ensure that the thresholds provide a balanced and proportionate approach to community consultation in planning applications for major development.

The public consultation paper can be accessed via the NI Direct – Citizen Space website at the link below, and submissions may be submitted online:

<https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/dfi-1/review-of-the-classes-and-thresholds>

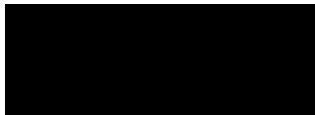
Alternatively, copies of the public consultation documents can be downloaded from the Department for Infrastructure [website](#), requested by emailing : Legislation.planning@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk, or by phoning NI Direct on 0300 200 7830.

The closing date for receipt of comments is **5.00pm Friday 9 October 2026**.

You have received this notification because your contact details are contained on a list of consultees used by the Department when issuing public consultations, surveys, and questionnaires. If you no longer wish to receive these notifications, please contact the Department using the details above and your information will be removed from the consultation mailing list.

Your views are important in helping shape these proposals, and we strongly encourage you to take part in this consultation.

Yours faithfully



ROSEMARY DALY
Chief Planner & Director