STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2025 No. 77

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

The Parking Places on Roads (Diplomatic Vehicles) Order (Northern Ireland) 2025

Made - - - -	*16th April 2025*
Coming into operation -	*2nd June 2025*

The Department for Infrastructure(**a**) makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 10(4) and 13(1), (13) and (16) of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997(**b**) ("the 1997 Order") and now vested in it(**c**).

In accordance with Article 10(1) of the 1997 Order it appears to the Department to be necessary to provide suitable parking places for diplomatic vehicles on the lengths of roads as specified in the Schedule to this Order.

In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 4 to the 1997 Order, the Department has consulted such persons as it considers appropriate.

The Department has published a notice in compliance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of that Schedule.

In compliance with paragraph 3(4) of Schedule 4 to the 1997 Order, the Department has taken such other steps as appear to it reasonably practicable for the purpose of bringing specifically to the knowledge of occupiers of land adjacent to the parking places the particulars specified in paragraph 3(2) of that Schedule.

Two objections have been received and duly considered and no other representations have been received.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Parking Places on Roads (Diplomatic Vehicles) Order (Northern Ireland) 2025 and shall come into operation on 2nd June 2025.

(2) In this Order—

"diplomatic vehicle" means a vehicle registered with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency as having a unique diplomatic vehicle registration number, consisting of three

(**a**) Formerly the Department for Regional Development; see section 1(6) and (11) of, and Schedule 1 to, the Departments Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (2016 c. 5 (N.I.))
(**b**) S.I. 1997/276 (N.I. 2)
(**c**) S.R. 1999 No. 481: See Article 6(d) and Schedule 4 Part IV

numbers preceding a centrally positioned letter D or X and followed by an additional three numbers, that identifies the vehicle as a diplomatic vehicle;

"medical practitioner" means a fully registered person within the meaning of section 55(1) of the Medical Act 1983(**a**);

"parking space" means a space which has been marked out by the Department in a parking place for the leaving of a diplomatic vehicle;

"postal packet" has the same meaning as in section 65(1) of the Postal Services Act 2011(**b**);

"universal service provider" has the same meaning as in section 65(1) of the Postal Services Act 2011.

Authorisation of parking places

2. Save as provided for in Article 5, the use as a parking place for diplomatic vehicles of the length of road specified in the Schedule is authorised.

Position within a parking place

3. Save as provided in Article 5, no person shall leave or cause a diplomatic vehicle to be left in a parking place unless it is wholly within a parking space where such has been marked out.

Use of parking places

4. Save as provided in Article 5, no person shall leave, or cause to be left, a vehicle other than a diplomatic vehicle in a parking place.

Exceptions

5.—(1) Nothing in Article 3 or 4 shall render it unlawful for a person to leave or cause any vehicle to be left in a parking place specified in the Schedule where the person in control of it is prevented from proceeding by circumstances beyond that person's control or to avoid an accident or for so long as may be reasonably necessary to enable—

(a) a person to board or alight from the vehicle provided that such boarding or alighting does not cause the vehicle to wait in the same place for more than 2 minutes;

(b) the vehicle to be used in an emergency by a medical practitioner, or for fire and rescue, ambulance, police or customs purposes or the purposes of the security forces;

(c) the vehicle to be used by or on behalf of a universal service provider for the purposes of the delivery to, or collection from, premises situated adjacent to the length of road of postal packets;

(d) the vehicle, if it cannot conveniently be used for such purposes outside that length of road, to be used—

(i) in connection with any building, repair or demolition operations;

(ii) in connection with the removal of any obstruction to traffic;

(iii) by or on behalf of a district council or a government department in pursuance of statutory powers or duties;

(iv) by or on behalf of a sewerage undertaker or a water undertaker in connection with the discharge of the undertaker's functions;

(v) in connection with the discharge of the functions of the holder of a licence granted under Article 10 of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(**a**) or a licence granted under Article 8 of the Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996(**b**); or

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(**a**) 1983 c. 54
(**b**) 2011 c. 5

(vi) in connection with the installation, laying, erection, alteration or repair of any electronic communications apparatus as defined in paragraph 5 of Schedule 3A to the Communications Act 2003(**c**).

Suspension of the use of a parking place

6. The Department may suspend the authorised use of a parking place or any part of it for so long as may be necessary for the purpose of enabling—

(a) a vehicle, if it cannot conveniently be used for such purpose outside that parking place, to be used in connection with any of the following operations—

(i) building, repair or demolition operations including works to property adjacent to that parking place;

(ii) the removal of any obstruction to traffic;

(iii) the cleansing, maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of the road; or

(iv) the installation, laying, erection, alteration or repair in the parking place, or in land adjacent to the parking place, of any sewer, main, pipe or apparatus for the supply of gas, water or electricity or of electronic communications apparatus as defined in paragraph 5 of Schedule 3A to the Communications Act 2003;

(b) the execution of street works as defined in Article 3(3) of the Street Works (Northern Ireland) Order 1995; or

(c) the implementation of any traffic management scheme.

Prohibition of the use of a suspended parking place

7. No person shall leave or cause any vehicle to be left in a parking place where the use of that parking place has been suspended by the Department in accordance with Article 6 other than a person using the vehicle in connection with any of the undertakings specified in that Article.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Infrastructure on 16th April 2025

(L.S.)

Mary Toner
A senior officer of the Department for Infrastructure

(**a**) S.I. 1992/231 (N.I. 1) as amended by S.I. 2003/419 (N.I. 6), S.R. 2007 No. 283, S.R. 2007 No. 284, S.R. 2007 No. 303, S.R. 2007 No. 320, S.R. 2007 No. 321, S.I. 2007/913 (N.I. 7) and S.R. 2011 No. 155
(**b**) S.I. 1996/275 (N.I. 2) as amended by S.R. 2006 No. 358, S.R. 2011 No. 155 and S.R. 2013 No. 92
(**c**) 2003 c. 21 Schedule 3A was inserted by section 4 of, and Schedule 1 to, the Digital Economy Act 2017 (2017 c. 30)

SCHEDULE

Article 2

Parking Places — Diplomatic Vehicles Only

	Column 1 *Location*	*Column 2* *Hours of operation*	*Column 3* *Days of operation*
1.	Brownlow Street, Comber (east side) – from a point 6.9 metres south of its junction with Glen Road for a distance of 5.5 metres in a southerly direction.	All hours	All days
2.	Glen Road, Comber (south side) – from a point 7.8 metres east of its junction with Brownlow Street for a distance of 5.5 metres in an easterly direction.	All hours	All days

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order authorises the use as parking places of the length of roads specified in the Schedule (Article 2) and prescribes the conditions under which the parking places may be used (Articles 3, 4 and 7). Vehicles are excepted in certain circumstances (Article 5). The Order also makes provision for the suspension of the use of a parking place (Article 6).

A penalty charge (£90) is payable with respect to a vehicle involved in a contravention of this Order in accordance with the Traffic Management (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and The Penalty Charges (Prescribed Amounts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.

Traffic signs indicating the effect of the Order will in due course be placed on the roads.