



By e-mail to:

**Council Chief Executives  
Council Representatives  
on Off-Street Parking Group**

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Our reference: IN1/25/418972

10 October 2025

Dear all,

### **Request for Update from Councils**

Over recent months the Department has been approached by a number of Councils requesting that it proceeds as soon as practicable to implement the legislative solution to address the anomaly which arose when off-street car parks were transferred across to Councils back on 1 April 2015. In response the Minister advised that officials would be re-engaging with councils to ascertain the current state of play to inform our plans with the intention of reaching mutual agreement on a suitable timescale for progressing the necessary legislative changes.

As previously advised the Department is keen to progress the legislation required to enable the solution to be implemented, however, as the legislation is using powers in the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, the agreement of the Northern Ireland Assembly is required to make the legislation law.

Therefore, I'd be grateful if you could confirm if your council has drafted or is in the process of drafting its equivalent to the Off-Street Parking Order (Northern Ireland) 2000 ("the 2000 Order") as it is imperative that all councils have their draft administrative orders ready to come into operation to coincide with the repeal of the 2000 Order as it currently applies to councils. Such action is essential to help ensure continuity of governance arrangements for the off-street parking car parks in question, which I anticipate will be a significant consideration and matter of interest to MLA's during the Assembly's scrutiny of the draft legislation.

Please email your response at the earliest convenience to:  
[TransportLegislationBranch@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk](mailto:TransportLegislationBranch@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

Once I have received responses from all councils, my intention is to arrange another meeting of the off-street parking group to discuss implementation, timetabling and any other issues you wish to discuss. Given the passage of time since our previous contact with your council, I'd be most grateful if you could advise of any changes to the main contacts to whom this has also been copied.

Yours faithfully,

**Ronnie Balfour**  
**Head of Transport Legislation Branch**

**cc**  
**Liam McEvoy**  
**Director of Road Asset Development**  
**TRAM Group**