

From the office of the Minister for Infrastructure
LIZ KIMMINS MLA

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Your reference:
Our reference: COR-X-2026
30 June 2026

Craig, a chara,

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL'S CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE – YORK STREET, BELFAST

Thank you for the letter of 26 May 2026, in which you forward a question on York Street, Belfast, raised by a member of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee after receiving an update on the 'A Bolder Vision' for Belfast Strategy.

In response to concerns regarding pedestrian and vehicular movements around the expansion of the university campus in York Street the department had proposed introducing a number of measures that included:

- prohibiting all vehicles other than buses, cycles and disabled persons' vehicles from part of York Street;
- prohibiting vehicles waiting at any time (loading and unloading permitted) on lengths of Curtis Street, Belfast and suspend pay and display parking places at the same location; and
- provide parking places with unlimited waiting for disabled persons' vehicles on lengths of York Street and suspend the pay and display parking places at the same location

During the consultation process which ran from 14 September 2022 to 6 October 2022 the department received several objections / representations.

On reviewing these objections and after on-site inspections it was observed that the pedestrian movements across York Street were managed effectively by the existing infrastructure and that on-street parking levels did not significantly change post the university opening.

As you will be aware the Department is currently developing the Eastern Transport Plan (ETP) 2035. The city centre elements of the ETP are at the most advanced stage and will be issued for public consultation in the coming weeks.

The ETP will set the framework for transport investment decisions up to 2035 across the eastern region, including Belfast City. This plan will consider the future of the York Street area including taking account of the civic spine aspirations for the area contained within A Bolder Vision for Belfast.

I am also aware that Belfast City Council has plans in the area and feel that York Street would be better served by its inclusion within a more comprehensive strategy. Officials will be happy to meet as future delivery of the ETP is taken forward to ensure that a holistic approach to the area is realised.

Is mise le meas,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Kimmins', written on a light-colored background.

LIZ KIMMINS MLA
Minister for Infrastructure