



Mr David Millar
Transport and Road Asset Management
Lands and Legislation Branch
James House 2-4
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Belfast
BT7 2JA

Marlborough House
Central Way
Craigavon
BT64 1AD
Tel: 028 3832 0438

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Our reference: A24 BB 09 (RIA)

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Dear David,

A24 BALLYNAHINCH BYPASS – REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The most recent Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Guidance published by the Cabinet Office includes a requirement to assess the impact of policy proposals on business, charities or voluntary organisations.

A Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) can be defined as a tool used to assess the need and economic impact of an imposed regulation on businesses, charities or voluntary organisations. The Department for the Economy (DfE) has published [Regulatory Impact Assessment \(RIA\) Guidance](#) on undertaking RIAs. This guidance states that an RIA sits within both the policy making and economic appraisal processes and, as such, care should be taken to avoid unnecessary duplication of work.

After considering legal advice on this topic, it has been determined that the promotion of a 'general' road construction project does not have any regulatory aspects in the sense that the Department is seeking to set down or enforce a regulatory framework. The fact that the Department itself is subject to regulation in bringing a scheme to fruition does not change this. Therefore, in line with the Cabinet Office Guidance, an RIA is considered unnecessary.

I trust that this assessment of the status of this scheme is sufficient.

Yours sincerely



Keith Cunningham
Project Sponsor