

20 May 2005

**Consultation on the Third Edition of Standardisation of PFI Contracts, Northern Ireland**

I am pleased to announce that Strategic Investment Board Limited has published the following draft documents for consultation on its website [www.sibni.org](http://www.sibni.org):

- Standardisation of PFI Contracts, Northern Ireland Version 3 ("SoPCNI 3") in clean copy together with a marked up copy showing the changes made to the Second Edition of Standardisation of PFI Contracts, Northern Ireland ("SoPCNI 2");
- Standardisation of PFI Contracts, Northern Ireland Version 3 – An Outline of Principal Changes; and
- Required and Suitable Drafting from SoPCNI 3 for use in updating PFI Contracts/standard forms.

Following on from the further guidance contained in SoPCNI 2, SoPCNI 3 updates the guidance to reflect the changes made in SOPC4 in England and Wales together with providing amended drafting and guidance in relation to certain NI specific matters (particularly Criminal Damage).

Further details of the main changes made from SoPCNI 2 are set out in the accompanying draft summary paper "Standardisation of PFI Contracts, Northern Ireland Version 3 – An Outline of Principal Changes".

The Required and Suitable Drafting from SoPCNI 3 document has also been published for consultation. This document is intended to assist those with the job of drafting PFI contracts and, in particular, to be a useful tool and checklist of what is required to be, and what is recommended to be, included in contracts which are required to be SoPCNI 3 compliant.

This draft Guidance was implemented in England and Wales on 21 March 2007 in the form of the Fourth Edition of Standardisation of PFI Contracts (SoPC 4). SoPCNI 3 continues to both be based exclusively upon SoPC and to only deviate from this where there is a need to reflect Northern Irish legal or policy matters.

The purpose of the consultation is to ensure that the draft Guidance is both legally appropriate for Northern Ireland and also to ensure that it accurately reflects the fast developing PFI market in Northern Ireland and Government policy on PFI in Northern Ireland.

Consultees are asked to give comments by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008. Any such comments should be sent by email to Gregor Hamilton, Legal Director at [gregor.hamilton@sibni.org](mailto:gregor.hamilton@sibni.org)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Gavaghan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

**David Gavaghan**

**Chief Executive**

**Strategic Investment Board Limited**