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Mr James Ferguson Operations Manager The Irish Stock Exchange 28 Anglesea Street Dublin 2

FACSIMILE 00-3531-6776045

6 January 2003

REGULATORY NEWS SERVICE NUMBER: 638967

Dear Mr Ferguson

We have received notification pursuant to section 67 of the Companies Act 1990 of the following interest in the issued share capital of Abbey plc.

| Effective Date | Notification Date | Shareholder | No. Shares | % of Issued Share Capital |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 06.01.2003 | 06.01.2003 | Jupiter Split Trust Plc | 1,350,000 | 3.96% |

Jupiter Asset Management Limited does not hold any of the above shares beneficially, but holds them as an investment manager acting on behalf of its discretionary clients.

Yours sincerely For and on behalf of ABBEY PLC

David J Dawson

Company Secretary