

Abbey House, 2 Southgate Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5DU, England. Tel: (01707) 651266. Fax: (01707) 645920

Mr James Ferguson Operations Manager The Irish Stock Exchange 28 Anglesea Street Dublin 2 **FACSIMILE** 00-3531-6776045

16 July 2003

## **REGULATORY NEWS SERVICE NUMBER: 974080**

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<br>Date | Notification<br>Date | Shareholder                         | No. Shares | % of Issued<br>Share Capital |        |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|--------|
| 10.07.2003        | 16.07.2003           | Bank of Ireland<br>Nominees Limited | 6,452,     | 156                          | 18.93% |

Of this holding 47,800 units are registered in the name of Nortrust Nominees Limited, 84,600 units are registered in the name of Citibank Nominees Limited and 6,319,756 are registered in the name of Bank of Ireland Nominees Limited, as registered owner only, on behalf of a range of clients who are each the beneficial owner of a portion of the shareholding.

Yours sincerely For and on behalf of ABBEY PLC

David J Dawson

Company Secretary