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SUSPENSION OF WORKPLACE 2010 PROCUREMENT

The Department of Finance and Personnel has announced a suspension, until early 2009, in the procurement of Workplace 2010.

Workplace 2010 is the major accommodation project in support of the wider reform agenda currently being implemented across the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS). It aims to create a modern, flexible working environment and to support new working practices.

A spokesman for the Department explained the reason for the move: “This decision has been taken as a result of continuing speculation that both bidders could come under common ownership, which has the potential to affect the Workplace 2010 procurement. The suspension will also give the Department time to assess the impact of recent changes in the financial and property markets.

“The Minister continues to affirm the importance of the Workplace 2010 principles, and the NICS remains committed to creating a modern, flexible working environment that will enable the delivery of better public services.”

Both Bidders are in agreement with this suspension.