

DEXIA CRÉDIT LOCAL, Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London, SE1 2RB

23 February 2011

Dear Sirs

Tender process relating to the North West Fire and Rescue Services PFI Project

We refer to the project agreement entered into on or about the date of this letter between Cumbria County Council, Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (“the Authorities”) and Balfour Beatty Fire and Rescue NW Limited (the “Contractor”) in connection with the financing, design and construction of and the provision of certain services in connection with the development of sixteen new community fire stations in accordance with the Government’s Private Finance Initiative (the “Project Agreement”).

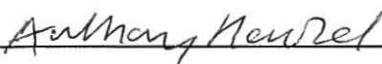
The Project (as defined in the Project Agreement) has been procured under the competitive dialogue procedure provided for in the relevant EU Directives and UK Statutory Instruments (the “Procurement Legislation”).

We confirm that:

- 1 following the decision of the Authorities to enter into the Project Agreement with the Contractor, Colin Schofield (Project Manager – North West Fire and Rescue Services PFI Project), on behalf of the Authorities wrote on 23 March 2010 to the bidders that submitted tenders to the Authorities at the CFT stage of the Project providing the information required to be included in the standstill notice under the relevant Procurement Legislation. We confirm that such letters complied with all relevant requirements of the Procurement Legislation applicable to the Project; and
- 2 as at the date of this letter, no court challenge or other legal proceedings have been commenced or threatened against the Authorities (or any one or more of them) for breach of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 or any other Procurement Legislation in respect of the Project.

This letter is governed by and shall be construed in accordance with English Law.

Yours faithfully



on behalf of Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

Headquarters

Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service
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