

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**  
**THE LAGANSIDE CORPORATION DISSOLUTION ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND)**  
**2006**

**2006 No. 527**

**1.** This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Social Development and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

**2. Description**

2.1 Laganside Corporation was established by Government in 1989 to secure the regeneration of its designated area by bringing land and buildings into effective use and by encouraging public and private investment. An independent review of the Corporation in 2001 confirmed that the Corporation had been successful in achieving its objectives. Following the Review, Government approved retaining the Corporation in its present form to 2006/07 to enable the Corporation to complete the work on its then current plans and the process of winding-up. This Statutory Rule will dissolve the Corporation and transfer the Corporation's functions, assets and liabilities to its parent Department (the Department for Social Development).

**3. Matters of special interest to the [Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments or the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments]**

3.1 None

**4. Legislative Background**

4.1 As an urban development corporation, Laganside Corporation was set up for a limited time to do a specific job of work, that of securing self-sustaining regeneration along the waterfront and riverside areas of Belfast. The Corporation has completed that job and it is right for it to be wound up.

**5. Territorial Extent and Application**

5.1 This instrument applies to Northern Ireland.

**6. European Convention on Human Rights**

In my view the provisions of the Laganside Corporation Dissolution Order (Northern Ireland) 2006 are compatible with the Convention rights.

**7. Policy background**

7.1 Laganside Corporation was established by Government under the Laganside Development (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 ('the 1989 Order') to secure the regeneration of Belfast's riverside and waterfront areas (the designated area). The 1989

Order also provided for the dissolution of the Corporation and the transfer of its functions and assets when its specific job of work was done. Following the second Quinquennial Review of the Laganside Corporation, completed in 2001, it was concluded that the Corporation had made good progress in fulfilling its statutory remit as set in the 1989 Order and could be expected to complete the regeneration of its designated area by Spring 2007. This Statutory Rule will achieve that policy objective by dissolving the Corporation and transferring its functions, assets and liabilities to its parent Department.

7.2 The decision to wind-up Laganside Corporation has been widely promulgated since early 2005. A consultation exercise which commenced on 15 September 2006 and concluded on 10 November 2006 was carried out in relation to the provisions of the draft Dissolution Order. Copies of the draft Order were distributed to interested parties within the designated area and to political representatives; notices in relation to the consultation exercise were placed in the local newspapers and copies of the draft Order and consultation letter were placed on the Department's website. A small number of responses, six in total, were received with none raising any issues consequential to the draft Order.

## **8. Impact**

8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

## **9. Contact**

Tracey Teague at the Department for Social Development Tel: 028 90277616 or e-mail: [tracey.teague@dndni.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.teague@dndni.gov.uk) can answer any queries regarding the instrument.