



NCF SUPPORTS CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CALL FOR GREATER TRANSPARENCY IN PUBLIC SECTOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

On 23rd September 2010 a report of the findings of a United Kingdom pilot project giving a snapshot of the current level of transparency in the in the UK construction sector was launched by UK members of CoST, (Construction Sector Transparency Initiative); a project team comprising the UK construction industry, public sector clients, NGOs and wider society members.

Whilst part of an international initiative designed to reduce corruption and mis-management in public sector construction projects in the developing world, this initiative provides a valuable baseline for improvements in the United Kingdom. The NCF will be actively participating in a further three months consultation and review of the findings (from 1 October to 31 December). Our aim will be to ensure that UK civil society and local front line consumers are better informed and better able to input to public construction initiatives across the UK.

Arnold Pindar, Chairman of NCF, in welcoming the initiative said "With 21st Century consumerism being far more complex and diverse than the 20th Century, the National Consumer Federation sees the CoST initiative's programme of work bringing transparency to public sector construction as a key development and exemplar for the whole consumer movement, bringing benefits in ethical behaviour, local consumer and public engagement, fairness and value for money for the consumer-as-tax-payer. The NCF is pleased to be working with CoST in bringing further organisations in civil society into this initiative."

Editors Notes:

See also CoST Press Release 23 Sept 2010

The National Consumer Federation

The NCF is the UK's grassroots consumer organisation, representing local front line consumer groups nationally and campaigning to improve consumer rights for everybody. Our aim is to help grassroots consumer help themselves, educate and inform consumers for the

public benefit, with reference to the key guiding principles of choice, information, representation, access to goods and services, quality, fairness, safety and redress.

The NCF promotes consumer education and research to increase the awareness and effectiveness of consumers to those issues that affect them.

The NCF provides a means of communication with government, commerce and industry, regulators and other interested parties.

The NCF encourages and supports members and member organizations to work together better and to promote their activities.

The NCF consults with and represents grassroots members, circulating, publishing and disseminating members' views, and responding to consultations on members' behalf.

For further information, please contact Peter Eisenegger, the NCF's representative on UK CoST via ncfpress@gmail.com

CoST web site <http://www.constructiontransparency.org/>

NCF web site <http://www.ncf.info/>

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