



Our ref: DJD/DD

1 October 2004

**TO: IRISH STOCK EXCHANGE
LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE**

ABBEY PLC
COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

REGULATORY NEWS SERVICE NUMBER : 057364

Retirement of Director

Abbey plc wishes to announce that with effect from 1 October 2004, Dennis Arthur Jackson has decided to retire from the Board after serving for twenty eight years on the Board and with the Group for a total of forty one years. The Board wish to thank Mr Jackson for his many years of service to the Group and wish him well in his retirement.

SIGNED:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David J Dawson".

David J Dawson

Company Secretary