

News Release



Department for
**Regional
Development**

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JOHN SPELLAR SPEAKS AT CONFERENCE TO MARK INTERNATIONAL CONSUMER RIGHTS DAY

Minister of State John Spellar MP, was the keynote speaker today at a conference organised by the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (GCCNI) to mark World Consumer Rights Day.

The theme for World Consumer Rights Day 2004 is Water.

The Minister emphasised the importance of investment in water and sewerage services not only to the health and well being of the community but also to the development of the economy and protection of the environment.

The Minister said: **“Water Service plans to invest £590 million over the next three years to upgrade water and sewerage infrastructure. This investment programme will involve more than 300 projects, which will bring benefits to consumers right across Northern Ireland”.**

The Minister stressed the important role that Water Reform will play in the ongoing investment programme.

“Water Reform will provide the secure long-term funding needed to ensure that Northern Ireland consumers can enjoy modern water and sewerage services which are delivered on an efficient and affordable basis for all consumers”.