# International Seminar on Strengthening Public Investment and Managing Fiscal Risks from Public-Private Partnerships

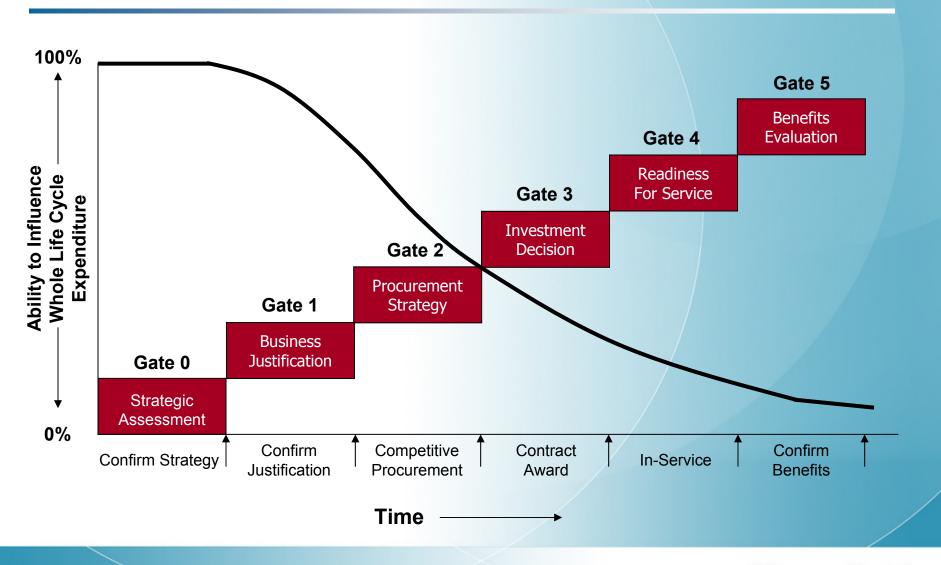
Budapest, Hungary March 7–8, 2007

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# Quality Control in Preparing and Managing PPP Projects

Edward Farquharson 8 March 2007

# **Impact**



# **Key Lessons From OGC Gateway ™ reviews/ Essentials for Project Success include:**

- Effective stakeholder communication
- Sound financial controls
- Market knowledge and procurement advice
- Contract Management and delivery skills
- Benefits realisation process

- Robust business case
- Adequate skills and resources
- Ongoing risk management process
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities
- Pre-agreed Critical SuccessFactors
- Project Governance

# **Tools**

Processes

• Incentives

Institutions



Queen Elizabeth Bridge, Second Dartford Crossing

# **Project process**

#### **Project identification**

#### **Project preparation**

- Affordability
- Output specs
- •VFM
- Risk allocation
- Managing advisors
- •Timing and management

#### **Project procurement**

- Project Boards
- Contract Standardization

#### **Project operation**

- Contract Management
- Feedback mechanisms

## Gate 2 check-list

- 1. Programme, project, procurement level review (scope, term)
- 2. Risk Allocation
- 3. Key Terms and Conditions
- 4. Indication of commercial interest
- 5. Affordability
- 6. Suitability of Proposed Advisers
- 7. Indicative Timetable
- 8. Project Team
- 9. Commitment of Sponsors/Users
- 10. Statutory Processes

Value for Money Assessment

> Commercial Interest Assessment

> > Project Management Assessment



## **Incentives**

- Peer review PRG
- Guidance
- Central funding conditionality
- Governance Project Boards
- Central support e.g.
  PUK's role on Project
  Boards



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#### **Project procurement**

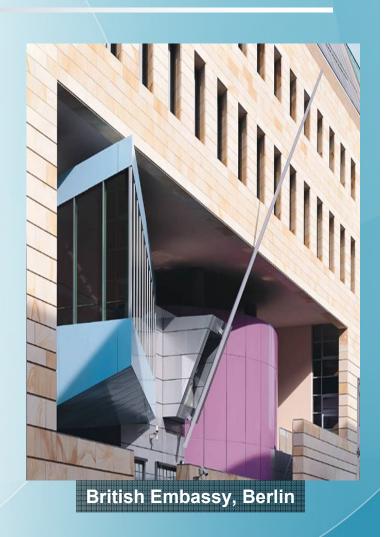
- Project Boards
- Contract Standardization

#### **Project operation**

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### **Procurement**

- '2 stages ahead' approach
- Bid evaluation methodology and teams
- Single parameter bidding vav quality/price evaluation
- Governance
- Standard contracts and enforcement



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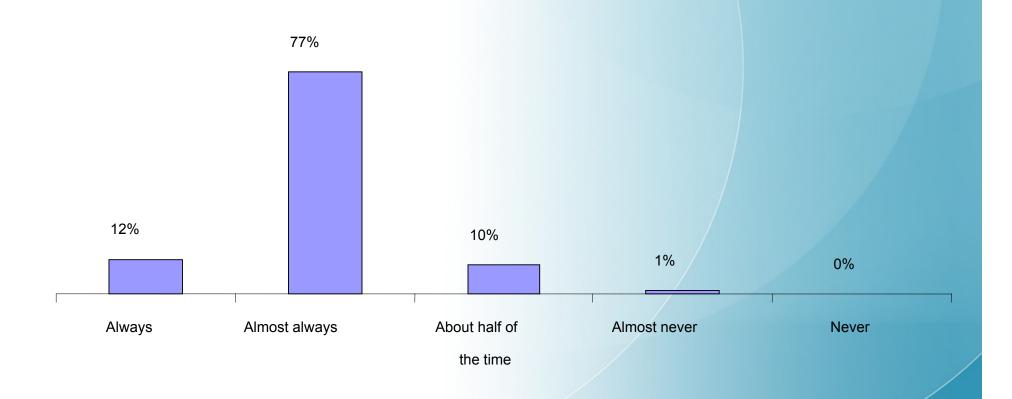
# Background

- Over 750 signed projects
- Over 500 operational projects
- "Central" focus hitherto predominantly on procurement
  - Project management support
  - Contract terms
  - Bid times and costs
- High profile "issues":
  - Contractor distress
  - Benchmarking
  - Major changes
- Proposition that focus needs to change!
- PUK Review of operational performance for HMT



## Service Provider Performance

Performance measurement shows that the contract service levels are being achieved...





# Relationships

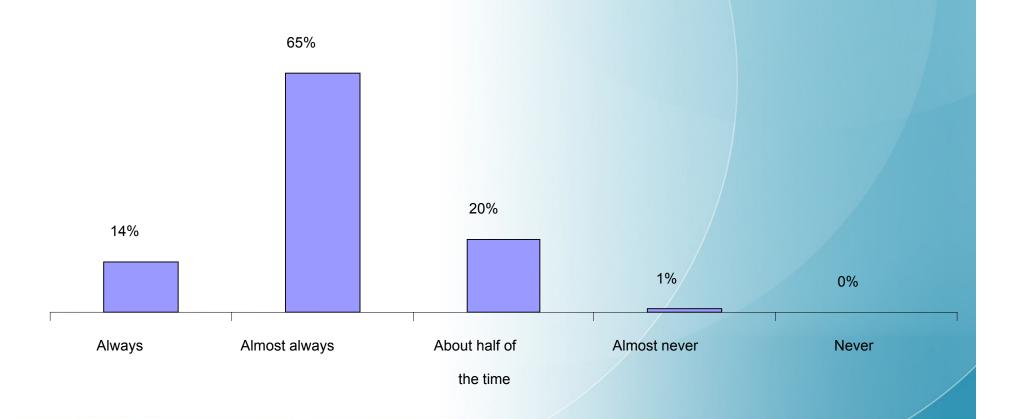
Please rate the day-to-day operational relationship between the public and private sector contract management teams





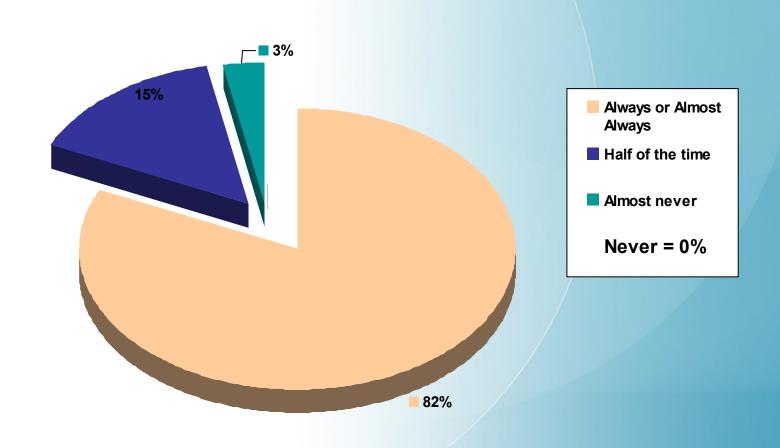
# **User Satisfaction**

Did the last user satisfaction assessment find that services were being delivered to an acceptable standard?





# Were operational problems resolved in the time allowed?





# Main Findings

- High standards of Performance
- High Levels of Contract Manager Satisfaction
- Good Relationships
- High Levels of User Satisfaction
- Problems Resolved in Time
- Payment Deductions Generally Effective
- Dispute Resolution Rarely Used



Forest Enterprise – Ardgartan Site

# **Operational Taskforce**

- To assist the public sector in improving the operational performance of PFI contracts
- To support individual projects in dealing with operational issues
- Run by PUK



**Nottingham Trams** 

# Helpdesk and Project Support Services

- Contract Management Strategy and Best Practice
- Benchmarking and Market Testing
- Contract variations
- Contractor difficulties
- Change in ownership
- Mediation
- Insurance costs for insurance reviews
- Refinancing
- Payment mechanisms



GCHQ

# **Programme Delivery Units**

- Opportunity created by long term national programmes
- Achieve optimum value and impact from strategic programmes
- Balance needs based prioritisation with deliverability and capacity
- Procurement and contract standardisation
- Removal of repeated bidding (for public and private)
- Strategic partnering drive economies of scale from long term volume



Centre.

# **Example: Partnerships for Schools**

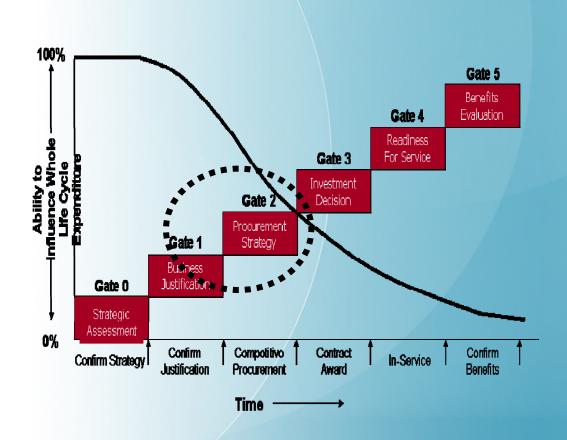
- National delivery vehicle (DfES/PUK)
- Roll out of national programme across c3500 schools ('Building Schools for the Future')
- Delivery model with standard procurement and contractual documentation
- Team to provide local transaction support
- Manage allocations of funding
- Plan timetable of prioritisation, procurement, construction and delivery
- Good practice examples and innovation opportunities/ideas
- Benchmark costs to facilitate long term local partnering



**Brentside School** 

# Recap

- Procurements have programme issues
- Quality control is a continuous process
- Critical importance of Gate prior to release to competition



# **Conclusions**

- Gateways
- Governance
- Standardisation
- Incentives
- Importance of operational phase
- Feedback mechanisms



HM Treasury