



The Competition Authority

An tÚdarás Iomaíochta

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT 24 JUNE 2013

Ladbrokes acquisition of Chronicle Group betting business cleared by the Competition Authority

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed transaction whereby Ladbrokes plc would acquire the on-course betting business and tele-betting business of the Chronicle Group. The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 27 May 2013.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State. The Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website (www.tca.ie) no later than 23 August 2013 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

Notes

Ladbrokes, headquartered in Harrow, Middlesex, UK is a global providers of on-course and off-course betting services. Ladbrokes plc provides betting services on a wide range of activities, including horse racing, other sports (e.g., cricket, football, GAA, golf, greyhounds, snooker and tennis), and other activities (e.g., poker, bingo and casino betting.)

Within Ireland, Ladbrokes is involved in on-course betting at six racecourses namely: The Curragh, Dundalk, Galway, Leopardstown, Listowel, and Punchestown. Ladbrokes is also involved in off-course betting as described above, including tele-betting, on-line betting and the operation of more than 200 betting shops.

The business to be acquired from the Chronicle Group is involved, in Ireland and the UK, in tele-betting and on-course betting (but not on-line betting or betting shops). Within the Ireland, the Chronicle Group is involved in on-course betting at 16 race courses, namely: The Curragh, Galway, Leopardstown, Listowel, Punchestown, Fairyhouse, Navan, Bellewstown, Naas, Thurles, Kilbeggan, Limerick, Killarney, Wexford, Gowran Park, and Tipperary.

For further information contact:

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