



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT - M/18/092

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears proposed acquisition by Formpress Publishing Limited of certain business assets of River Media Newspapers Limited

28 December 2018

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has today cleared the proposed transaction, whereby Formpress Publishing Limited would acquire certain business assets of River Media Newspapers Limited. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended (“the Act”) on 4 December 2018. Given that both Formpress Publishing Limited and River Media Newspapers Limited carry on a “media business” within the State, the proposed transaction constitutes a “media merger” for the purposes of Part 3A of the Act.

The Commission has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not substantially lessen competition in any market for goods or services in the State and, accordingly, that the acquisition may be put into effect subject to the provisions of section 28C(1) of the Act. The Commission will publish the reasons for its determination on its website no later than 60 working days after the date of the determination and after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information be removed from the published version.

Additional Information

Formpress Publishing Limited is a subsidiary of Iconic Newspapers Limited. It is the owner of regional newspapers including The Donegal Democrat, The Leinster Leader, The Kilkenny People, The Limerick Leader, The Longford Leader, The Tipperary Star, The Leinster Express, The Leitrim Observer, The Nationalist, The Dundalk Democrat, The Donegal People's Press, The Limerick Chronicle, The Letterkenny People and The Offaly Express.

River Media Newspapers Limited is the owner of regional newspapers including The Letterkenny Post, The Finn Valley Post, The Kildare Post, The Inish Times, The Donegal Post, Derry News (Monday and Thursday edition), Derry Now, County Derry Post, Donegal Now and Kildare Now.