



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT

Proposed acquisition by Landmark Digital Limited of sole control of BenchWarmers Limited

2 May 2017

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has today cleared the proposed transaction Landmark Digital Limited would acquire sole control of BenchWarmers Limited. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002 on 4 April 2017. Given that both Landmark Digital Limited and BenchWarmers Limited carry on a “media business” within the State, the proposed transaction constitutes a “media merger” for the purposes of Part 3A of the Competition Act 2002.

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

Landmark Digital Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Landmark Media Investments Limited, a collection of media businesses which publish a number of newspaper titles (e.g., *Irish Examiner*, *Evening Echo*, etc) and broadcast two local radio stations (*Beat 102 103* and *WLR FM*) in the State. Landmark Digital Limited operates the online news website, www.breakingnews.ie, and the online recruitment website, www.recruitireland.com.

BenchWarmers Limited owns the following two websites: www.benchwarmers.ie and www.couchwarmers.ie. The former is a sports news website while the latter, which is not yet live, will produce entertainment news content.