



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT

20 JULY 2010

Competition Authority clears the acquisition by Caird Capital LLP of joint control of Maynard & Harris Group Limited

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed transaction by Caird Capital LLP ("Caird Capital") of joint control of Maynard & Harris Group Limited ("M&H"). M&H is currently solely controlled by Lloyds Banking Group plc ("Lloyds"). Following completion of the proposed transaction, M&H will be jointly controlled by Lloyds and Caird Capital. The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 5 July 2010.

Caird Capital is a newly established management company in the UK. Caird Capital does not currently manage any assets, or supply any goods or services either worldwide or in the State.

Lloyds is a financial services group providing a wide range of banking and financial services to personal and corporate customers, primarily in the United Kingdom. Lloyds was formed in January 2009 following the acquisition of HBOS plc by Lloyds TSB Group plc.

M&H is a UK-based designer and manufacturer of plastic packaging products (e.g., plastic bottles, caps, flexible tubes, jars and containers) for the personal care and healthcare sector, as well as the nutritional, pet care, automotive and household product sectors

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction does not raise any competition concerns in the State. The companies have been informed of the decision 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 19 September 2010 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

For further information contact:

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