



The Competition Authority

An tÚdarás Iomaíochta

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT 23 NOVEMBER 2011

Competition Authority clears proposed acquisition of joint control of Grabone (Ireland) Limited

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed acquisition by Independent Newspapers (Ireland) Limited and Grabone Investments Limited of joint control of Grabone (Ireland) Limited. The parties notified the transaction under the Competition Act 2002 on 26 October 2011.

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. As with all media mergers the parties may only proceed with this merger if the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation does not direct us to carry out a full investigation within 10 days of the date of this decision. We will publish a public version of the determination on our website (www.tca.ie) no later than 20 January 2012 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

Notes

Grabone (Ireland) Limited is active in selling coupons, including 'deal of the day' offerings, via digital media.

Grabone Investments Limited is a joint venture between APN Online Australia Limited a wholly owned subsidiary of APN News and Media, and the Shane Bradley Trust.

APN News and Media is an Australian incorporated media company, active in Australia and New Zealand. The Shane Bradley Trust is active predominantly in New Zealand and Australia.

Independent Newspapers (Ireland) Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Independent News and Media PLC a newspaper and communications group, active primarily in the State, Northern Ireland and South Africa.

Within the State, Independent Newspapers (Ireland) Limited is involved mainly in newspaper printing and publishing and also the distribution of newspapers, magazines and electronic media.

For further information contact:

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