



## **MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT**     **14 FEBRUARY 2014**

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### **Competition Authority Clears Acquisition of Bluestone**

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed acquisition by Lloyds Development Capital (Holdings) Limited of Bluestone Consolidated Holdings Limited. The transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002 on 22 January 2014.

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](http://www.tca.ie)) no later than 13 April 2014 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

#### **Notes**

Lloyds Development Capital (Holdings) Limited is a private equity specialist, focusing on management buyouts, institutional buyouts and development capital transactions, operating predominantly across the United Kingdom through a network of regional offices and with its head office in London. It invests across a broad range of sectors and it has particular experience in construction and property, financial services, healthcare industrials, IT and software, leisure and media, retail and consumer and support services. LDC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Lloyds Banking Group plc.

Bluestone Consolidated Holdings Limited is a specialist lending and asset management business which targets the acquisition and management of underperforming loan portfolios in conjunction with a capital partner and also carries out its own loan origination activities. It has operations in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the State.

#### **For further information contact:**

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