



## MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT - M/21/026

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### Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears proposed acquisition by CVC Funds of certain ownership interests in the business of Six Nations Rugby Limited

24 June 2021

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The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has cleared the proposed transaction whereby certain ownership interests in the business of Six Nations Rugby Limited will be acquired by a newly incorporated company, Oval BidCo UK Limited which is to be invested in by certain funds that are advised and/or managed by the CVC Network. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 14 May 2021.

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. 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**

The CVC Network consists of CVC Capital Partners SICAV-FIS S.A. and each of its subsidiaries from time to time, and CVC Capital Partners Advisory Group Holding Foundation and each of its subsidiaries from time to time, which are privately owned entities whose activities include providing investment advice to and/or managing investments on behalf of investment funds or vehicles managed or advised by a member of the CVC Network (collectively "CVC").

CVC hold interests in a number of companies active in a variety of industries around the world, including in chemicals, utilities, manufacturing, retailing and distribution, primarily in Europe, the US and the Asia-Pacific region. CVC currently has de facto control over the commercial rights of certain other rugby properties, namely, the Premiership Rugby competition operated by Premiership Rugby Limited, the PRO14 competition and European Professional Club Rugby.

Six Nations Rugby Limited acts as agent of the Unions for the commercialisation of media rights and sponsorship packages in relation to all of the annual Six Nations Rugby Championship, the Autumn Internationals series and certain other related commercial rights (together referred to as the Six Nations Business). The Unions are the following: the English Rugby Football Union, the Fédération Française de Rugby (the French Rugby Federation), Federazione Italiana Rugby (the Italian Rugby Federation), the Irish Rugby Football Union, the Scottish Rugby Union Limited and the Welsh Rugby Union Limited.