

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT

Linnaeus Veterinary will not proceed with plans to acquire Blackhall Facilities

16 January 2023

Linnaeus Veterinary Ireland Limited (Linnaeus Veterinary) and Blackhall Facilities Management Limited (Blackhall Facilities) have informed the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) that they have withdrawn the notification relating to Linnaeus Veterinary's planned acquisition of the entire share capital and sole control of Blackhall Facilities along with its subsidiaries, Blackhall Properties Limited (trading as Village Vets) and Pawprints Limited (M/22/052).

Linnaeus Veterinary is an operator of veterinary clinics in Dublin and Kildare. Blackhall Facilities is an operator of veterinary clinics in Dublin, Meath and Wicklow, and a crematorium in Meath.

There was a period of extended engagement with the CCPC in relation to the proposed acquisition in the context of the CCPC's merger review process. The parties originally notified the CCPC of the proposed acquisition in April 2022 (M/22/017) but this notification was subsequently withdrawn in August 2022. The proposed acquisition was re-notified to the CCPC in September 2022.

Linnaeus Veterinary and Blackhall Facilities informed the CCPC on 10 January 2023 that they had decided not to proceed with the proposed acquisition and were withdrawing the notification.

The CCPC will now close its investigation and no determination will be issued under Part 3 of the Competition Act 2002, as amended.