

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT M/24/008 – COMPASS/CH&CO

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears the proposed acquisition by Compass Group UK and Ireland Limited of sole control of CH&Co Catering Group Limited.

19 March 2024

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Compass Group UK and Ireland Limited, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Compass Group plc, would acquire the entire issued share capital, and thus sole control, of Orchestra Topco Limited, the holding company of CH&Co Catering Group Limited. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 8 February 2024.

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

Compass Group UK and Ireland Limited is active in the supply of contract catering services to companies and organisations across the business and industry (B&I), education, and healthcare sectors. Compass is also active in the supply of concession foodservices and offers to a limited degree, ancillary support services such as facility management and cleaning services to four customers in the State. Compass's brands in the State are Compass Ireland, Levy and Fitzers Catering.

CH&Co provides contract catering services in the State, via its wholly-owned subsidiary, Gather & Gather Ireland Limited, to companies and organisations across the B&I and education sectors. CH&Co also provides concession foodservices in the State. CH&Co is active in the State through the brands Gather & Gather Ireland and Vacherin.