

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT M/24/020 – BAUER MEDIA/WKW FM LIMITED (BEAT 102/103)

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears the proposed acquisition by Heinrich Bauer Verlag Beteiligungs GmbH through its wholly-owned subsidiary Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH of sole control of WKW FM Limited (t/a Beat 102 103).

9 May 2024

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Heinrich Bauer Verlag Beteiligungs GmbH, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH, would acquire the entire issued share capital, and thus sole control, of WKW FM Limited (t/a *Beat 102 103*). The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 28 March 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

Heinrich Bauer Verlag KG (“Bauer”) is the ultimate parent of Heinrich Bauer Verlag Beteiligungs GmbH and Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH. Bauer is a privately-owned German media business. It reaches over 200 million consumers worldwide and operate in 13 countries; the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, the UK and Ireland.

WKW FM Limited is a subsidiary company of The Irish Times Designated Activity Company. WKW FM Limited operates the *Beat 102 103* radio channel and associated *Beat 102 103* mobile app aggregating its content. *Beat 102 103* is a regional commercial radio station, licensed by Coimisiún na Meán, which broadcasts, pursuant to its licence, in County Waterford, County Carlow, County Kilkenny, County Wexford, and South County Tipperary.