

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT M/25/009 – IVC EVIDENSIA IRELAND/OLD CHURCH VETERINARY HOSPITAL (XL VETS GROUP)

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears proposed acquisition whereby Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited would acquire sole control of Airmid Veterinary Limited t/a Old Church Veterinary Hospital

20 March 2025

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the IVC Evidensia group of companies, would acquire sole control of Airmid Veterinary Limited t/a Old Church Veterinary Hospital. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 7 February 2025.

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

Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited trades as “IVC Evidensia Ireland” in the State. Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited’s portfolio comprises several veterinary practices operating from sites dispersed throughout the State.

Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of IVC Acquisitions Limited, which is part of the IVC Evidensia group of companies. IVC Evidensia is a global provider of veterinary care and related ancillary services, comprising a network of around 2,600 clinics, hospitals and out-of-hours centres, based across 20 countries worldwide. IVC Evidensia's strategy focuses on investing in local veterinary practices in the countries in which it operates.

Old Church Veterinary Hospital ("OCV") is a veterinary practice which operates from three sites in the State. These sites are in Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal, Donegal Town, and Grange, Co. Sligo. OCV is a member of the XL Vets Group, a network of independently owned veterinary practices in the State.