



DETERMINATION OF MERGER NOTIFICATION M/25/035 – FORMPRESS PUBLISHING/CONNACHT TRIBUNE

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Proposed acquisition by Formpress Publishing Limited of the entire issued share capital, and thus sole control, of The Connacht Tribune Limited

Dated 26 September 2025

Introduction

1. On 29 May 2025, in accordance with section 18(1)(b) of the Competition Act 2002, as amended (the “Act”), the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (the “Commission”) received a notification of a proposed acquisition whereby Formpress Publishing Limited (“Formpress”) would acquire the entire issued share capital and thus sole control of The Connacht Tribune Limited (“Connacht Tribune”) (the “Proposed Transaction”).¹
2. Given that both Formpress and Connacht Tribune carry on a “media business” within the State (as defined in section 28A(1) of the Act), the Commission considers that the Proposed Transaction forms part of a class of merger or acquisition specified by the Competition Act 2002 (Section 18(5) and (6)) Order 2007 (S.I. No. 122/2007) for the purposes of section 18(1)(b) of the Act.

The Proposed Transaction

3. The Proposed Transaction is to be implemented pursuant to a share purchase agreement dated 16 May 2025 between the shareholders of Connacht Tribune² and

¹ Formpress and Connacht Tribune are collectively referred to as the “Parties” hereafter.

² [REDACTED]



Formpress, pursuant to which Formpress will acquire the entire issued share capital, and thus sole control, of Connacht Tribune (the “SPA”).

The Undertakings Involved

The Acquirer – Formpress

4. Formpress is part of the corporate group Media Concierge (Holdings) Limited (“Media Concierge”), a holding company for a media group which operates in the United Kingdom and in the State. Media Concierge is active, through subsidiaries, in the physical and digital publication of newspapers; the distribution of printed material; and the provision of data-driven intelligence services to media agencies. In the State, Media Concierge is active through two subsidiaries: Iconic Newspapers Limited (“Iconic”) and Mediaforce (Ireland) Limited (“Mediaforce”).

Iconic

5. Iconic, through its subsidiary Formpress, is a local digital and newspaper publisher in the State and owns and operates 17 local/regional newspaper titles³ and 21 associated websites, listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Formpress-owned physical and online local newspaper titles in the State

| Local/regional newspaper titles | Websites |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Donegal Democrat | donegalive.ie |
| Donegal Post | |
| Letterkenny Live | Letterkennylive.ie |
| Inish Times | inishlive.ie |
| Dundalk Democrat | |
| Kilkenny People | Kilkennylive.ie |
| Leinster Express | |
| Leinster Leader | |
| Leitrim Observer | Leitrimlive.ie |
| Limerick Leader | Limericklive.ie |
| Limerick Leader Monday | |
| Longford Leader | Longfordlive.ie |

³ The Derry Journal is another newspaper title owned by Formpress which is based in Northern Ireland and also circulates in the State, [M/25/014- Media Concierge/National World](#).



| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Midland & Tullamore Tribune | |
| Mayo News | Mayolive.ie |
| Clonmel Nationalist | |
| Tipperary Star | Tipperarylive.ie |
| Inishowen Independent | Inishowenindo.ie |
| | Eirebheo.ie |
| | Louthlive.ie |
| | Kildarelive.ie |
| | Kildarenow.ie |
| | Laoislive.ie |
| | Offalylive.ie |
| | Nenaghlive.ie |
| | Carlowlive.ie |
| | Waterfordlive.ie |
| | Clarelive.ie |
| | Irelandlive.ie |

Source: *The Parties*

Mediaforce

6. Currently, Mediaforce represents ■ local/regional newspapers in the State, acting as a channel for advertising agencies to direct advertising for advertisers to those titles. Mediaforce directs advertising spend to local/regional newspapers and newspaper websites in the State. Generally, an advertising agency will engage with Mediaforce to allocate advertising to the local/regional newspapers and/or newspaper websites in which the advertiser wishes to advertise. Less frequently, advertisers may contact Mediaforce directly to channel advertising to local/regional newspaper and newspaper websites.
7. In recent years, Formpress has been involved in the following notified transactions:
 - (i) M/18/092 – *Formpress Publishing (Iconic)/Assets of River Media*;⁴
 - (ii) M/19/010 – *Formpress Publishing (Iconic)/Assets of Midland Tribune*;⁵

⁴ [M-18-092-Formpress-Publishing-Iconic-Assets-of-River-Media-Public-Determination-.pdf](#).

⁵ [M-19-010-Formpress-Assets-of-Midland-Tribune-Public-Full-Determination.pdf](#).



(iii) M/22/060 – *Formpress Publishing (Iconic)/Mayo News*;⁶

(iv) M/24/026 – *Formpress Publishing/D&D Media*;⁷

(v) M/25/014 – *Media Concierge/National World*.⁸

8. For the financial year ending 30 September 2024, Media Concierge’s worldwide turnover was approximately [REDACTED],⁹ of which approximately [REDACTED] was generated in the State.¹⁰

The Target – Connacht Tribune

9. Connacht Tribune owns and operates the local newspaper titles Connacht Tribune and Connacht Tribune City Edition (“City Edition”), and the associated website (www.connachttribune.ie).

10. [REDACTED] Western Community Broadcasting Services Limited (“WCBSL”), which operates Galway Bay FM.¹¹ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

11. For the financial year ending 31 March 2025, Connacht Tribune’s worldwide turnover was [REDACTED] of which [REDACTED] was generated in the State.¹²

⁶ Available at: <https://www.ccpc.ie/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/11/M.22.60-Formpress-Mayo-News-Public-Determination.pdf>.

⁷ [M/24/026 – Formpress Publishing/D&D Media](#).

⁸ [M/25/014- Media Concierge/National World](#).

⁹ Media Concierge’s worldwide turnover for the financial year ending 30 September 2024 was [REDACTED]. The figure of [REDACTED] was calculated using the European Central Bank (“ECB”) Euro foreign exchange reference rates. On 10 September 2025, €1 = £0.865.

¹⁰ Parties’ correspondence dated 10 September 2025.

¹¹ See M/25/036 – *Bay Broadcasting/Galway Bay FM* available at: <https://www.ccpc.ie/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2025/06/M.25.036-Public-Determination.pdf>.

¹² Parties’ correspondence dated 9 September 2025.



Rationale for the Proposed Transaction

12. In the merger notification form received by the Commission on 29 May 2025 (the “Merger Notification Form”), the Parties state:

“Through the proposed acquisition of Connacht Tribune and the City Edition local newspaper titles, Formpress seeks to ensure the continuity of Connacht Tribune and the City Edition and <https://connachttribune.ie> as a local business and a primary source of content for the community in County Galway. It also seeks the continued employment of those working within Connacht Tribune/City Edition local newspaper Titles.

In the absence of such proposed acquisition, it is conceivable that publication of the Connacht Tribune and the City Edition would be challenging from a financial perspective. At present the company is not in position to invest in the necessary technology required to remain competitive in the market. In the absence of such investment, it is conceivable that either or both titles would cease publication.”¹³

Contact with the Parties

13. On 9 July 2025, the Commission served a Requirement for Further Information (“RFI”) on Media Concierge (the “Media Concierge RFI”) pursuant to section 20(2) of the Act. The service of the Media Concierge RFI adjusted the deadline within which the Commission had to conclude its assessment of the Proposed Transaction in Phase 1.
14. Media Concierge provided a full response to the Media Concierge RFI on 20 August 2025.
15. Upon receipt of a full response to the Media Concierge RFI, the “appropriate date” (as defined in section 19(6)(b)(i) of the Act)¹⁴ became 20 August 2025.

¹³ Merger Notification Form, paragraph 2.7.

¹⁴ The “appropriate date” is the date from which the time limits for making Phase 1 or Phase 2 determinations begin to run.



16. During the Phase 1 investigation, the Commission requested and received further information and clarifications from the Parties.

Third Party Submissions

17. Three third-party submissions were received during the Commission's Phase 1 investigation. The competition concerns raised included the common ownership of Mediaforce and Formpress, Formpress's existing position in the regional/local newspaper sector and the effectiveness of non-discrimination commitments, and separation of management and non-disclosure of information commitments which were given by Mediaforce and Formpress in the context of a previous merger review undertaken by the Commission.
18. The competition concerns expressed in the third party submissions have been assessed by the Commission as part of its review of the likely competitive impact of the Proposed Transaction.

Competitive Analysis

Horizontal Overlap

19. There is a horizontal overlap between the Parties as both are active in the publication of local/regional newspaper titles and the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in the State.

Relevant markets

Product market

Views of the Parties

20. In the Merger Notification Form,¹⁵ the Parties state that the relevant product and geographic markets can be left open, as a result of the fact that, on any plausible basis, the Proposed Transaction does not give rise to any competition concerns. However,

¹⁵ Merger Notification Form, page 25-26, Section 5.1, 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.



citing the Commission's previous decisional practice, the Parties identified the following potential relevant markets:

- The publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles; and
- The sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles.

21. The Parties submit that the Proposed Transaction does not give rise to a horizontal overlap as Connacht Tribune is only active in County Galway and Formpress does not own or operate any local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway.¹⁶

Previous decisions of the Commission

22. In previous cases, such as M/25/014 – *Media Concierge/National World*,¹⁷ M/24/026 – *Formpress Publishing/D&D Media*¹⁸ and M/22/060 – *Formpress Publishing (Iconic)/Mayo News*,¹⁹ the Commission has considered that newspapers may be categorised as national, regional, local or imports. It has consistently held in its previous determinations that:

- for newspaper publication, local/regional newspaper titles can be treated as a distinct market from national daily/evening newspaper titles; and
- in respect of advertising, the supply of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles can be treated as a distinct market from the supply of advertising space in national daily/evening newspaper titles.

Commission's views on relevant product market

23. The Commission defines markets to the extent necessary depending on the particular circumstances of a given case. In this instance, it is not necessary for the Commission to define the precise relevant product markets because doing so will not alter the Commission's assessment of the competitive effects of the Proposed Transaction.

¹⁶ Merger Notification Form, page 16, section 4.1.

¹⁷ [M/25/014- Media Concierge/National World](#), paragraph 20.

¹⁸ [M/24/026 – Formpress Publishing/D&D Media](#), paragraph 3.56.

¹⁹ Available at: <https://www.ccc.ie/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/11/M.22.60-Formpress-Mayo-News-Public-Determination.pdf>, paragraph 19.



However, for the purposes of its competitive analysis of the overlaps that exist between the Parties, the Commission has assessed the competitive impact of the Proposed Transaction by reference to the following potential relevant product markets:

- the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles; and,
- the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles.

Geographic market

Views of the Parties

24. The Parties note that the Commission has previously assessed transactions involving the publication and sale of newspaper titles, and the sale of advertising space in newspaper titles, along national, regional or local lines, depending on the coverage of the titles involved.²⁰
25. The Parties state that as Connacht Tribune is active in the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles, and the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles, in County Galway, this is the relevant geographic market.²¹

Previous decisions of the Commission

26. In two recent determinations, the Commission, whilst leaving the precise definition of the relevant geographic market open, assessed transactions involving local/regional newspaper titles in geographic markets which were no wider than the county in which the relevant newspaper title was based.²²

Commission's views on the relevant geographic market

27. In this instance, the Commission has decided to leave the precise geographic market definition open but has followed its previous decisional practice and assessed the

²⁰ Merger Notification Form, pages 25-28, section 5.1.1, 5.1.2 and 5.1.3.

²¹ Merger Notification Form, page 3, section 1.1.1 and page 19, section 4.3.

²² M/25/014 – *Media Concierge/National World plc* [M/25/014- Media Concierge/National World](#), paragraph 24 and M/24/026 – *Formpress Publishing/D&D Media* [M/24/026 – Formpress Publishing/D&D Media](#), paragraph 3.73.



competitive effects by reference to a local geographic market which is no wider than County Galway.

28. The Commission defines markets to the extent necessary depending on the particular circumstances of a given case. In this instance, it is not necessary for the Commission to define the precise relevant geographic market(s) because doing so will not alter the Commission's assessment of the competitive impact of the Proposed Transaction. However, for the purposes of its competitive analysis of the overlaps that exist between the Parties, the Commission has assessed the competitive impact of the Proposed Transaction by reference to the following potential relevant geographic markets:

- the market for the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway; and
- the market for the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway.

Commission's conclusion on relevant markets

29. For the purposes of its competitive analysis of the horizontal overlap that exists between the Parties, the Commission has assessed the competitive effects of the Proposed Transaction by reference to the following potential markets:

- the market for the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway; and
- the market for the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway.

Competitive effects

Horizontal effects

The publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway



30. The Parties have provided market share estimates for the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway using their own circulation figures, data available on medialive.ie²³ and estimates, as set out below in Table 2.

Table 2: Market share estimates for the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway

| Newspaper Title | Owner | Weekly Circulation (copies) | Annual Circulation Turnover | Market Share by Weekly Circulation (%) |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Connacht Tribune | The Connacht Tribune Limited | ██████ | ██████ | [20-25] |
| Galway Advertiser | Community Newspapers Limited | ██████ | ██████ | [70-75] |
| Tuam Herald | The Herald Printing & Publishing Company Limited | ██████ | ██████ | [5-10] |
| TOTAL | | | | 100 |

Source: Based on the Parties' estimates and figures provided by the Parties from medialive.ie.

31. As shown in Table 2, following the implementation of the Proposed Transaction, the merged entity will hold a [20-25]% share of the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway. The Proposed Transaction does not have an effect

²³ MediaLive is an online resource for advertising and media operating for over 24 years and aims to provide a constantly updated and trusted resource for professionals in the media industry. The Parties state that due to a lack of audited figures in the State, it is impossible to obtain independent certifiable data and makes MediaLive the best available option to obtain accurate circulation numbers.



on concentration in the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway as Formpress does not currently own or operate any local/regional newspaper titles which circulate in County Galway.

32. Formpress will become the second largest player in the market for the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway, with Community Publishing Limited (i.e. the publisher of the *Galway Advertiser*) remaining the largest player with a [70-75]% market share. Following the implementation of the Proposed Transaction, the merged entity will continue to be constrained by two independent local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway. In particular, Formpress will face a competitive constraint from *Galway Advertiser* and *Tuam Herald*. As regards newspaper circulation, the Parties also refer to the growing threat faced by local newspapers from online platforms such as Google and Meta as well as from national newspapers.²⁴
33. Therefore, the Commission considers that the Proposed Transaction is unlikely to give rise to competition concerns in the market for the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway.

The sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway

34. The Parties have estimated market shares for the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway using their own revenue figures, and by monitoring the volume of advertising in competitor titles over a one-month period, as set out below in Table 3.
35. To calculate the revenue figures for *Galway Advertiser* and *Tuam Herald*, the Parties applied the Connacht Tribune's average revenue per advertising unit to the observed advertising volume.

²⁴ Merger Notification Form, page 23, paragraph 4.10.



Table 3: Market share estimates for the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway

| Newspaper Title | Owner | Annual turnover for advertising | Market share for advertising (%) |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Connacht Tribune | The Connacht Tribune Limited | ██████████ | [30-35] |
| Galway Advertiser | Community Newspapers Limited | ██████████ | [55-60] |
| Tuam Herald | The Herald Printing & Publishing Company Limited | ██████████ | [5-10] |
| TOTAL | | | 100 |

Source: Based on the Parties' estimates.

36. As shown in Table 3, following the implementation of the Proposed Transaction, the Parties will hold a [30-35]% share of the publication and sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway. The Proposed Transaction does not have an effect on concentration in the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway as Formpress does not currently own or operate any local/regional newspaper titles which circulate in County Galway.
37. Formpress will become the second largest player in the market for the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway, following completion of the Proposed Transaction. Following the implementation of the Proposed Transaction, the merged entity will continue to be constrained by two independent local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway, namely *Galway*



Advertiser (which holds a [55-60]% share) and *Tuam Herald* (which holds a [5-10]% share).

38. Previously in *M/24/026 - Formpress/D&D Media*, the Commission considered that advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles competes with other forms of media such as online and digital media and radio for the custom of advertisers.²⁵
39. Therefore, following the implementation of the Proposed Transaction, Formpress will continue to be constrained by many other sources of local advertising including other newspaper titles in County Galway (i.e. *Galway Advertiser* and *Tuam Herald*), as well as online media and local radio stations.

Conclusion on horizontal effects

40. In light of the above, the Commission considers that it is unlikely that the Proposed Transaction will give rise to a substantial lessening of competition in the potential markets for:
- the publication and sale of local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway; and
 - the sale of advertising space in local/regional newspaper titles in County Galway.

Vertical relationship

41. There is an existing vertical relationship between the Parties, as Mediaforce channels national advertising to local/regional newspaper titles in the State, including the local/regional newspapers titles operated by the Parties (i.e. Formpress titles and the and the Connacht Tribune), as well as other local/regional newspaper titles. The Commission has previously examined the vertical relationship between Mediaforce

²⁵ [M/24/026 – Formpress Publishing/D&D Media](#), para. 2.38.



and Formpress in its determination in *M/19/10 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune*.²⁶

42. In the present case, the Commission has considered whether Mediaforce may give preference to Formpress titles when directing national advertising spend to local/regional newspaper titles and thereby foreclose competitor newspaper titles from key customers (advertisers).
43. Where national advertisers wish to place advertisements in local/regional newspaper titles and/or digital newspaper titles, they will typically do so via an advertising agency.²⁷ Using advertising agencies removes the need for the national advertisers to contact each individual local/regional newspaper title and digital newspaper title in which they wish to place their advertisement.
44. Mediaforce acts as an intermediary for advertising agencies to channel national advertising spend to local/regional newspaper titles and digital newspaper titles in the State.
45. In the Merger Notification Form, the Parties state that Mediaforce is currently the national advertising administration point for Connacht Tribune.²⁸
46. In *M/19/090 – Formpress/Assets of Midland Tribune*,²⁹ the Commission raised concerns regarding the role of Mediaforce in the sale of local/regional newspaper title advertising space to national advertisers. Specifically, the Commission was concerned that Mediaforce, following the implementation of that transaction:

²⁶ *M/19/10 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune*, paragraphs 39-48. Available at: <https://www.cpc.ie/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/05/M-19-010-Formpress-Assets-of-Midland-Tribune-Public-Full-Determination.pdf>.

²⁷ *M/19/010 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune*, para. 42. Available at: <https://www.cpc.ie/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/05/M-19-010-Formpress-Assets-of-Midland-Tribune-Public-Full-Determination.pdf>.

²⁸ Merger Notification Form, section 4.2.

²⁹ *M/19/010 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune*, para. 45.



- could potentially direct national advertising allocated to local/regional newspaper titles and digital newspaper titles to its own group titles to the detriment of competing titles; and
- may access confidential information from Formpress' competitors and the common ownership of Formpress and Mediaforce may lead to the potential for the exchange of competitively sensitive information of Formpress' competitors should there be any overlap in management or employees or roles/functions between Mediaforce and Formpress.³⁰

47. To address the above concerns, Formpress and Mediaforce submitted proposals dated 1 October 2019 to the Commission in accordance with section 20(3) of the Act for the purpose of ameliorating any effects of that transaction on competition in markets for goods or services in the State (the "2019 Proposals"). The 2019 Proposals submitted by Formpress and Mediaforce included non-discrimination commitments and separation of management and non-disclosure of information commitments. In particular, Formpress and Mediaforce committed:³¹

- to direct the advertising business received by it from advertisers and advertising agencies to local/regional newspapers and digital newspapers on a strictly fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory basis and to apply equivalent conditions in equivalent circumstances to all Formpress Titles³² and Non-Formpress Titles;³³
- to prevent the exchange of competitively sensitive information between Formpress and Mediaforce; and
- that an independent monitoring trustee would be appointed, who would have all the rights and powers necessary to monitor compliance with the 2019

³⁰ M/19/010 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune, para. 45.

³¹ M/19/010 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune, para 46.

³² "Formpress Titles" is defined in the 2019 Proposals as "any local/regional newspaper or digital newspaper titles in the State owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Mediaforce Group at or after the Commencement Date".

³³ Non-Formpress Titles" is defined in the 2019 Proposals as "any local/regional newspaper or digital newspaper titles in the State not owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Mediaforce Group at or after the date of the Determination".



Proposals. The role of the monitoring trustee also includes consideration of how Mediaforce addresses any issues raised by third parties in relation to the non-discrimination commitment.

48. The Commission took the 2019 Proposals into account and stated in writing that the 2019 Proposals formed part of the basis of the Commission's determination in M/19/010 - *Formpress/Assets of Midland Tribune* Determination.³⁴ The 2019 Proposals are binding on Formpress and Mediaforce and shall remain in force until the Termination Date. The "Termination Date" is defined as follows in the 2019 Proposals:

"Termination Date" means the date on which:

a) Mediaforce Group:

i) no longer operates local/regional newspapers and regional digital newspapers; or

ii) accounts for the provision of less than 30% of national advertising agency/conduit services to local/regional newspapers and regional digital newspapers in the State; and satisfaction of these criteria have been confirmed in writing to the Undertakings by the Commission; or

b) the Commission considers that the Proposals are no longer required and confirms in writing to the Undertakings that the Proposals shall cease to apply."

49. As of the date of this Determination, none of the events referred to in paragraph 48 above have occurred and the 2019 Proposals remain binding on Mediaforce and Formpress.

50. "Formpress Titles" are defined in the 2019 Proposals as *"any local/regional newspaper or digital newspaper titles in the State owned or controlled, indirectly or*

³⁴ M/19/010 – FormPress Publishing (Iconic)/assets of Midland Tribune, page 48.



directly, by Mediaforce Group at or after the Commencement Date".³⁵ Following implementation of the Proposed Transaction, Media Concierge will have sole control of Connacht Tribune. The Commission therefore considers that, following the implementation of the Proposed Transaction, Connacht Tribune would fall within the definition of "Formpress Titles" in the 2019 Proposals. Therefore, the measures put in place by Formpress and Mediaforce, pursuant to the 2019 Proposals, would continue to apply to Formpress and Mediaforce, and in particular to Formpress' control of Connacht Tribune.

Conclusion on vertical relationship

51. The Commission considers that ongoing implementation of the 2019 Proposals would alleviate any potential foreclosure concerns arising from the Proposed Transaction, resulting from the position of Mediaforce as an intermediary between national advertisers and local/regional newspaper titles i.e. local/regional newspaper titles would not be foreclosed from the business of national advertisers.
52. In light of the above, the Commission considers that the Proposed Transaction does not raise any vertical competition concerns in the State.

Conclusion of Competitive Analysis

53. In light of the above, the Commission considers that the Proposed Transaction will not substantially lessen competition in any market for goods or services in the State.

Ancillary Restraints

54. No ancillary restraints were notified.

³⁵ The "Commencement Date" is defined in the 2019 Proposals as the date of the Commission's determination in M/19/010-Formpress/Assets of Midland Tribune.



Determination

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, in accordance with section 21(2)(a) of the Competition Act 2002, as amended, has determined that, in its opinion, the result of the proposed acquisition whereby Formpress Publishing Limited would acquire the entire issued share capital and thus sole control of The Connacht Tribune Limited will not be to substantially lessen competition in any market for goods or services in the State, and, accordingly, that the acquisition may be put into effect subject to the provisions of section 28C(1) of the Competition Act 2002, as amended.³⁶

For the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission

Úna Butler

Member

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission

³⁶ Section 28C(1) of the Competition Act 2002, as amended, as inserted by section 74 of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014.