

DETERMINATION OF MERGER NOTIFICATION M/25/056 – IVC EVIDENSIA IRELAND/ALL CREATURES LIMITED

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Proposed acquisition by Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited of sole control of All Creatures Limited.

Dated 19 September 2025

Introduction

1. On 4 September 2025, in accordance with section 18(3) 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 Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited (“IVC Evidensia Ireland”) would acquire sole control of Joavdoel Limited, and indirectly its subsidiary, All Creatures Limited (“All Creatures”)¹ (the “Proposed Transaction”).

The Proposed Transaction

2. The Proposed Transaction will be implemented pursuant to a share purchase agreement, dated 3 September 2025, between IVC Evidensia Ireland and the Sellers.²
3. The business activities of the Parties are:

The Acquirer – IVC Evidensia Ireland

- IVC Evidensia Ireland is a wholly owned subsidiary of IVC Acquisitions Limited, which in turn is part of the IVC Evidensia group of companies (“IVCE”).³ IVCE is a global veterinary care provider which is headquartered in the UK and

¹ IVC Evidensia Ireland and All Creatures are collectively referred to as the “Parties” hereafter.

² [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

³ [REDACTED]

operates in 20 countries. IVCE's global network includes 2,600 clinics, hospitals and out of hours centres in 20 countries.

- IVCE operates in the State through IVC Evidensia Ireland. IVC Evidensia Ireland's portfolio in the State comprises 38 practices, operating from 59 sites.⁴ IVC Evidensia Ireland employs ■■■ veterinarians in the State.

The Target – All Creatures

- All Creatures is a veterinary practice operating from a single site in Roscommon Town, County Roscommon. All Creatures' practice comprises ■ veterinarians and ■ veterinary nurses. All Creatures provides both small/companion animal care as well as and large animal care in Roscommon Town and the surrounding area. All Creatures also offers out-of-hours care.
4. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the Proposed Transaction falls within the scope of paragraph 2.1 of the Simplified Merger Notification Procedure Guidelines (the "SMNPG") for assessing certain notifiable mergers or acquisitions under section 18 of the Act since:
- (a) two or more of the undertakings involved in the merger or acquisition are active in the same product and geographic market, but their combined market share is less than 15%; and,
 - (b) none of the exclusions stipulated in paragraphs 2.8 to 2.15 of the SMNPG.
5. In light of this, the Commission considers that the Proposed Transaction will not substantially lessen competition in any market for goods or services in the State.

Ancillary Restraints

6. No ancillary restraints were notified.

Determination

⁴ One practice may operate from several different sites.



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 Independent Vetcare Ireland Limited would acquire sole control Joavdoel Limited, and indirectly its subsidiary, All Creatures 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.

For the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission

Alan Scarlett

Director

Mergers Division

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission