



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT - M/18/034

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears proposed acquisition by Big Bus Tours Limited, through Big Bus Tours Ireland Limited, of sole control of Irish City Tours Limited.

7 June 2018

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Big Bus Tours Limited, through Big Bus Tours Ireland Limited, ultimately owned by Exponent Private Equity LLP, would acquire sole control of Irish City Tours Limited. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 3 May 2018.

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

Big Bus Tours Limited is a UK incorporated operator of "hop-on hop-off" or open top bus sightseeing tours. Big Bus Tours Limited is ultimately owned by Exponent Private Equity LLP, an international private equity group based in the UK. Big Bus Tours currently has operations in 19 cities across the world: (i) London, (ii) Abu Dhabi, (iii) New York, (iv) Miami, (v) Sydney, (vi) Rome, (vii) Darwin, (viii) Paris, (ix) Dubai, (x) Chicago, (xi) Philadelphia, (xii) Vienna, (xiii) Istanbul, (xiv) Budapest, (xv) Muscat, (xvi) Las Vegas, (xvii) San Francisco, (xviii) Washington DC and (xix) Hong Kong. Big Bus Tours has no presence in the State prior to the Proposed Transaction.

Irish City Tours Limited is an Irish incorporated private limited company and is owned by Dualway Coaches Limited. Irish City Tours Limited is a 'hop-on hop-off' bus sightseeing operator in Dublin.