MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT - M/17/037

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears proposed acquisition by Tesco Ireland Holdings Limited of sole control of Tesco Mobile Ireland Limited.

26 July 2017

On 26 July 2017, the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission cleared the proposed transaction whereby Tesco Ireland Holdings Limited would acquire sole control of Tesco Mobile Ireland Limited. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 30 June 2017

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

Tesco Ireland Holdings Limited is a private company limited by shares, incorporated in the State, and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tesco plc. Tesco Ireland Holdings Limited, through its operating subsidiary Tesco Ireland Limited, has a number of business activities in the State, including operations in the grocery sector where it is one of the leading grocery retailers in the State.

Tesco Mobile Ireland Limited is currently a joint venture between the Tesco Ireland Holdings Limited and the Three Ireland Services (Hutchison) Limited. It is an Irish based mobile virtual network operator which offers mobile telecommunications services to customers in the State. Tesco Mobile Ireland Limited offers mobile telecommunications services to both pre-pay/pay-as-you-go and post-pay/bill-pay customers using Tesco Ireland's retail distribution network and the Vendor's mobile telecommunications services. The Target Company markets its mobile communications service under the "Tesco Mobile" brand and sells these services through Tesco Ireland's network of stores and on-line at www.tesco.ie.