



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT – M/18/063

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Proposed acquisition by Berendsen Ireland Limited of sole control of Kings Laundry Limited.

Dated 9 January 2019

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has decided to carry out a full Phase 2 investigation in relation to the proposed acquisition by Berendsen Ireland Limited of sole control of Kings Laundry Limited.

Following a preliminary investigation, the CCPC has determined that a full investigation is required in order to establish if the proposed transaction could lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any market for goods or services in the State. The parties have been informed of the decision. The CCPC will publish the reasons for its determination to proceed to Phase 2 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. The CCPC must make a final decision on the proposed transaction within 120 working days after the appropriate date (as defined in the Competition Act 2002, as amended). This deadline may change if the CCPC issues a Requirement for Information.

Interested parties are invited to make submissions no later than 5.30pm on **29 January 2019**. Parties making submissions should indicate clearly what, if any, material submitted contains business secrets. Submissions should be marked “**M/18/063 – Berendsen (Elis) / Kings Laundry**” and should be addressed to Arvydas Vidziunas, Senior Investigator / Analyst, Competition Enforcement and Mergers Division, Bloom House, Railway Street, Dublin 1 or sent by e-mail to arvydasvidziunas@ccpc.ie.

Additional Information

Berendsen Ireland Limited is ultimately controlled by Elis S.A. (“Elis”). Elis is a public limited company listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange. Elis specialises in the rental and maintenance of linen, professional garments (i.e., workwear) and hygiene and wellness equipment across Europe and Latin America. In the State, Elis, through Berendsen, provides rental and maintenance of workwear, linen, mops, mats, workwear for organisations operating cleanrooms (e.g., pharmaceuticals) and provision of washroom services (e.g., toilet paper, soap dispensers and hand sanitizer).



Kings Laundry Limited, a privately-owned company registered in the State, is a provider of linen rental and maintenance services to customers throughout the State.