

# Consultation Document: Developments in Media Plurality in Ireland 2021-2023

Publication date: 1 November 2024

Deadline for response: 29 November 2024

## **This document presents a consultation on the following areas:**

1. The impact of individual media mergers on plurality in Ireland during the 2021-2023 period.
2. The cumulative effect of all media mergers that occurred within this timeframe.
3. The potential need for enhanced safeguards or commitments from parties involved in media transactions during this period, specifically aimed at protecting media pluralism and editorial independence.
4. The influence of non-merger market developments on media plurality in Ireland during the same period.

## Legal Disclaimer

The contents of this consultation document should not be read as reflecting or stating Coimisiún na Meán's final position on any of the matters that are the subject of consultation. Please note that any views on the interpretation of legislation or Coimisiún na Meán's obligations are provisional and non-binding and should not be read as reflecting Coimisiún na Meán's final position. Please refer to the underlying legislative provisions for a statement of the law in this area.

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# 1. Introduction

Every three years Coimisiún na Meán<sup>1</sup> (“An Coimisiún”) is required to undertake a review of: ownership of media businesses in the State; how ownership and control has changed; and the implications for media plurality. The first three such reviews were conducted in 2015<sup>2</sup>, 2018<sup>3</sup> and 2021<sup>4</sup>. An Coimisiún has now started work on the fourth review.

As part of this review, An Coimisiún is seeking comment from stakeholders on issues related to changes in plurality, and how it should be assessed, for the period 2021-2023.

This brief paper outlines the statutory context, the proposed conceptual approach, the questions for which An Coimisiún seeks stakeholders’ input, and how to respond.

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<sup>1</sup> For more details on Coimisiún na Meán, see the organisation [website](#).

<sup>2</sup> [BAI Report on Ownership and Control and Media Business 2012-2014](#)

<sup>3</sup> [BAI Report on Ownership and Control of Media Business 2015 - 2017](#)

<sup>4</sup> [BAI Report on Ownership and Control of Media Business 2018-2020](#)

## 2. Statutory context

The Competition Act 2002, as amended (“the Act”), specifies that the Commission shall:

*‘not later than one year from the date of the commencement of this section, and every three years thereafter, prepare a report which shall —*

*(a) describe the ownership and control arrangements for undertakings carrying on a media business in the State,*

*(b) describe the changes to the ownership and control arrangements of such undertakings over the previous 3 years, and*

*(c) analyse the effects of such changes on plurality of the media in the State’.*<sup>5</sup>

The Act provides the following definitions:

*‘carries on a media business in the State’ means, in relation to a media business —*

*(a) having a physical presence in the State, including a registered office, subsidiary, branch, representative office or agency, and making sales to customers located in the State, or*

*(b) having made sales in the State of at least €2 million in the most recent financial year;*<sup>6</sup>

‘Media business’ means the business (whether all or part of an undertaking’s business) of —

*(a) the publication of newspapers or periodicals consisting substantially of news and comment on current affairs, including the publication of such newspapers or periodicals on the internet,*

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<sup>5</sup> Section 28M of the Competition Act 2002, as inserted by section 74 of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014. Section 60(2) of the Online Safety and Media Regulation Act 2022 provides for any references to the “Authority” (Broadcasting Authority of Ireland) to be construed as references to the “Commission” (Coimisiún na Meán).

<sup>6</sup> Section 28A(1) of the Competition Act 2002, as inserted by section 74 of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014.

- (b) transmitting, re-transmitting or relaying a broadcasting service,*
- (c) providing any programme material consisting substantially of news and comment on current affairs to a broadcasting service, or*
- (d) making available on an electronic communications network any written, audio-visual or photographic material, consisting substantially of news and comment on current affairs, that is under the editorial control of the undertaking making available such material;<sup>7</sup>*

A regime for Media Mergers was introduced in 2014 through amendments to the Competition Act 2002 by the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014, which states that the Minister may not put into effect mergers deemed contrary to the public interest in plurality.<sup>8</sup> Under this regime, a preliminary assessment determines if a proposed transaction raises concerns. If no concerns are raised, the Minister may approve the transaction at this stage (known as a Phase I review). In certain cases, a media merger may be put into effect subject to the incorporation of proposed commitments offered by the undertakings as specified conditions to be complied with. In cases where the Minister interprets the media merger may be contrary to the public interest in protecting plurality of the media in the State, Coimisiún na Meán can be requested by the Minister to carry out a ‘full media merger examination’ in relation to the media merger concerned under section 28E (known as a Phase II review).

### *Broadcasting Act 2009*

The Broadcasting Act 2009 provides that the Minister, in deciding on the public value of a proposal for new services and variations in channels, shall consider “the contribution of the proposal to media plurality”.<sup>9</sup> In addition, under the terms of a broadcasting contract awarded by An Coimisiún, a contractor must obtain An Coimisiún’s prior approval for any changes to its ownership and control structure or for an assignment of the broadcasting contract to another entity.

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<sup>7</sup> Section 28A(1) of the Competition Act 2002, as inserted by section 74 of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014.

<sup>8</sup> Part 3A of the Competition Act 2002, as amended. Details on the regime are available on the website of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, [Media Mergers](#).  
[Full text of Part 3A: https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/act/29/section/74/enacted/en/html](https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/act/29/section/74/enacted/en/html)

<sup>9</sup> Section 103(8)(h) of the Broadcasting Act 2009:  
<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2009/act/18/enacted/en/pdf>

## *European Media Freedom Act*

Consideration shall also be given to the European Media Freedom Act (“EMFA”),<sup>10</sup> which provides under Article 22 that Member States shall lay down, in national law, substantive and procedural rules which allow for an assessment of media market concentrations<sup>11</sup> that could have a significant impact on media pluralism and editorial independence. In an assessment of media market concentrations, EMFA states the following elements shall be taken into account:

*(a) the expected impact of the media market concentration on media pluralism, including its effects on the formation of public opinion and on the diversity of media services and the media offering on the market, taking into account the online environment and the parties’ interests in, links to or activities in other media or non-media businesses;*

*(b) the safeguards for editorial independence, including the measures taken by media service providers with a view to guaranteeing the independence of editorial decisions;*

*(c) whether, in the absence of the media market concentration, the parties involved in the media market concentration would remain economically sustainable, and whether there are any possible alternatives to ensure their economic sustainability;*

*(d) where relevant, the findings of the Commission’s annual rule of law report concerning media pluralism and media freedom; and*

*(e) where applicable, the commitments that any of the parties involved in the media market concentration might offer to safeguard media pluralism and editorial independence.*

The EMFA entered into force on 7 May 2024 and the majority of its provisions (including Article 22) fully apply from 8 August 2025. Although EMFA is a regulation and directly applicable to Member States, some elements require transposition into Irish law. EMFA’s provisions on media market concentrations differ in a number of ways from the existing media mergers regime (notably, the scope of the framework foreseen is considerably broader) and requires amendment of the Competition Act

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<sup>10</sup> European Media Freedom Act: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32024R1083>

<sup>11</sup> Article 2 of EMFA defines a media market concentration as a concentration “involving at least one media service provider or one provider of an online platform providing access to media content”.

2002. The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media is currently working on transposition of EMFA.

### 3. Conceptual framework

Part of the review involves identifying media businesses, describing their current ownership, and tracking changes in ownership. This will utilise the database from the previous review, the list of notified media mergers considered by the Minister in the 2021-2023 period (see Section 7), and the Media Ownership Ireland database<sup>12</sup> developed for An Coimisiún by Dublin City University (DCU). The 2002 Act also requires consideration of control, which can be a more nuanced issue than ownership, given control can extend beyond simple ownership structures and may involve complex arrangements such as voting rights, contractual agreements, editorial influence or financial dependencies. These factors can impact media plurality and diversity even when formal ownership remains unchanged, making it essential to examine both ownership and control for a comprehensive understanding of media landscape and operational structures.

Additionally, the Act requires an assessment of how changes in ownership and control have affected plurality. As in previous reviews, it is important to supplement this assessment with consideration of broader market changes that may also have affected plurality. For instance, if a media owner grew organically to have a dominant share of news consumption, this would raise plurality concerns, even though there had been no changes of control.

Such broader changes may result from new entrants or closures, shifts in news consumption patterns across outlets, or changes in how consumers access their news (e.g., through social media). Therefore, our consultation questions address these broader issues as well as the specific scope of the Act.

In considering matters of media plurality, Coimisiún na Meán does so with reference to the definition of media plurality set out in the Competition and Consumer Protection Act 2014 and to An Coimisiún's Media Plurality Policy.<sup>13</sup> This defines media plurality with reference to both the content and ownership of media in the following manner:

- Diversity of Content means the extent to which the broad diversity of views (including diversity of views on news and current affairs and diversity of cultural interests prevalent in Irish society) is reflected through the activities of media businesses in the State, including their editorial ethos, content and sources.

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<sup>12</sup> Dublin City University, Media Ownership Ireland database: <http://www.mediaownership.ie>

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.bai.ie/en/media/sites/2/dlm\\_uploads/2019/06/BAI\\_MediaPlurality\\_Policy\\_vFinal.pdf](https://www.bai.ie/en/media/sites/2/dlm_uploads/2019/06/BAI_MediaPlurality_Policy_vFinal.pdf)



- Diversity of Ownership means the spread of ownership and control of media businesses in the State linked to the market share of those media businesses as measured by listenership, readership, reach or other appropriate measures.

This two-fold conception addresses both external and internal plurality. External plurality deals with the spread of ownership and control of media businesses. Internal plurality deals with the nature of particular media content, both political and cultural, and the sourcing methods of media organisations. As such, media plurality can be measured in a number of ways that are not mutually exclusive and these measures are generally complementary to one another.

## 4. Questions for consultation

Below are the questions for which we seek stakeholders' input regarding changes in plurality for 2021-2023. Respondents are invited to answer any or all of the questions as they see fit – there is no requirement to address every question. If stakeholders identify other issues they consider materially relevant to this assessment, they are welcome to include and address them in their submissions. We encourage respondents to provide supporting evidence for their inputs where possible.

### **Q1: Have any media mergers completed in the period 2021-2023 had a material impact on plurality?**

During the period 2021-2023, all 20 proposed mergers notified to the Minister were approved under the Media Mergers regime by the Minister, based on Phase I reviews. None was referred to a Phase II review (for details, see Section 7). No merger was not permitted to be put into effect by the Minister. Therefore, this indicates that the Minister did not believe, having considered the merger in accordance with the legislative requirements, any of these mergers would be contrary to the public interest based on best information and analysis at the time.

However, it does not necessarily follow that none of the transactions had a material impact on plurality. First, the Minister is entitled to take an array of factors into account in making their decision. For instance, if one of the outlets might be economically unsustainable in the absence of a transaction, some loss of plurality could be inevitable.

Second, the assessments by the Minister (and by An Coimisiún in any Phase II review) are necessarily forward looking, and it is possible that the actual outcome of a transaction differs from that expected at the time of approval.

Third, one or more of the transactions may have had a positive impact on plurality.

Against this background, do you believe that any of the media mergers in the period had a material impact – positive or negative – on plurality? If so, please state why?

- **Q2: What has been the aggregate impact of media mergers in this period?**

Transactions are necessarily assessed individually under the merger regime. However, it is possible that a series of small transactions that are separately

approved can nonetheless have a significant aggregate impact. What do you consider has been the aggregate impact, if any, of transactions generally from 2021-2023, or across a number of transactions, on media plurality (be that positive, negative or neutral), and why?

- **Q3: Are there any further commitments that the parties involved in any transactions, which resulted in higher market concentrations, could have offered to safeguard media pluralism and editorial independence?**

Assessing media market concentrations that could have had a significant impact on media pluralism, are there specific or general safeguards you would like to have seen any parties making in relation to the transactions? Or you consider could/should have been imposed by the Minister?

- **Q4: Are there market developments (aside from mergers) that have had material impact on plurality?**

As noted, transactions are not the sole drivers of changes in plurality. Other factors can diminish or enhance plurality. Although these factors fall outside the statutory scope of An Coimisiún's review, understanding such factors provides useful context.

These factors may include:

- Changes in market share for different news outlets.<sup>14</sup>
- Evolving patterns of news consumption across various media.
- Shifts in readership or audience levels for different outlets.
- Increasing significance of news consumption via social media and online platforms.
- Direct engagement between audiences and political and public figures via social media and online platforms.
- Changes in the editorial focus or content produced by media outlets.
- Reduction in safeguards/changes to editorial independence of media outlets.

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<sup>14</sup> For a recent survey on developments in news consumption in Ireland, see [Digital News Report Ireland 2024](#).

- Increased homogenisation or diversification of content within outlets under common ownership, potentially influenced by changes in editorial control.
- Emergence of new media outlets or closures of existing ones.
- Changes in news-gathering capabilities and investment by media organisations.
- Variations in levels of output produced by outlets regarding matters of Irish culture, identity, sport, language and other matters inherent to Ireland and the Irish people.
- Transformation in the funding models for media and journalism, such as the rise of digital subscription models.

**(4a) To what extent do you believe one or more of the factors listed above have influenced media plurality and/or acceptable levels of plurality between 2021 and 2023? If you believe they have, please elaborate on the reasons behind your view.**

**(4b) Have any additional factors influenced media plurality between 2021 and 2023? If so, please elaborate.**

**(4c) Are there any other emerging issues that you believe are important for understanding media plurality in the State? If so, please explain why.**

## 5. Responding to this consultation

At the outset, respondents may wish to refer to Coimisiún na Meán's [Consultation Guidelines](#).

Coimisiún na Meán seeks views, information, and evidence in relation to any or all of the above matters. Respondents can make their submission in writing by email or by post/hand to one of the following:

*Email: [research@cnam.ie](mailto:research@cnam.ie)*

*Post: Coimisiún na Meán, One Shelbourne Building, Shelbourne Road, Dublin 4.*

### **Timeframe for responses**

All responses to this consultation must be submitted to Coimisiún na Meán at the latest on 29 November 2024.

If you require any assistance with making a response, please contact Coimisiún na Meán by email at [research@cnam.ie](mailto:research@cnam.ie) or by phone on 01 644 1200.

## 6. Publication of submissions

An Coimisiún will publish the submissions received in this consultation on [www.cnam.ie](http://www.cnam.ie) after the publication of the ‘Report on ownership and control of media businesses in Ireland 2021-2023’, subject to the consideration of information that may be deemed of a personal nature, sensitive or given in confidence.

### Personal data

An Coimisiún shall comply with its obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”), the Data Protection Act 2018 and any other applicable data privacy laws and regulations.

An Coimisiún is obligated and committed to protecting all personal data submitted. An Coimisiún has an appointed Data Protection Officer who is registered with the Data Protection Commission. You can find out more on how An Coimisiún processes personal information at:

<https://www.cnam.ie/dataprotection/>

For this consultative process, An Coimisiún will collect the name, email address and any other personal information that is included in your response. The name of the respondent to the consultation and the response provided will be made publicly available. However, An Coimisiún will not make publicly available your contact details, such as your address, phone number or email.

The information collected will be used only for the purposes of this consultation and for no other purpose.

### Confidential information

As stated, it is An Coimisiún's intention to publish submissions received in response to this consultation. Please provide any confidential information in an annex to a written submission or as an attachment if submitting your submission online or by e-mail. An Coimisiún will treat confidential information in line with its [Consultation Guidelines](#).

### Freedom of Information

Information held by An Coimisiún is subject to its obligations under the law, including under the Freedom of Information Act 2014. An Coimisiún will consult you about information you mark as confidential before deciding on any Freedom of Information request received.

### Registration

If you are interested in keeping up to date with the work of Coimisiún na Meán, you are invited to contact Coimisiún na Meán, and to register at <https://www.cnam.ie/sign-up-to-newsletter/> to receive our news, updates, and publications.

## 7. Notified media mergers 2021-2023



Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	None	Communicorp Group Limited	Broadcasting sector: 1. Today FM, 2. Newstalk, 3. 98FM, 4. Spin 103.8, 5. Spin SouthWest  Internet media sector: Six websites: - todayfm.com - newstalk.com - 98fm.com - spin1038.com - spinsouthwest.com - otbsports.com	23/03/2021	12/05/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	
DMG Media Limited	Associated Newspapers Ireland (Irish Daily Mail, Irish Mail on Sunday)	New Scientist Group Limited*	None	23/04/2021	n/a	n/a	The merger was notified by the parties but was not	*UK

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
							considered by the Department to be a media merger.	
Digital UK Trading Limited	The parent companies of the Purchaser (BBC, ITV and Channel 4) are UK public service broadcasters which are active in the broadcasting and internet media sectors in the State.	Freesat UK Limited	The parent companies of the Target (BBC and ITV) are UK public service broadcasters which are active in the broadcasting and internet media sectors in the State.	14/05/2021	24/06/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	
DigitalBridge Group*	None	Liberty Global plc*	Active in the State via its subsidiary, Virgin Media, and All3Media	01/07/2021	12/08/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	*The parties are neither 'purchaser' nor 'target' as it is a joint venture

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector:</p> <p>Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	Imagine Radio*	None	08/07/2021	12/08/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	*UK
Apollo Management	None	Verizon Media Group	ie.yahoo.com	21/07/2021	12/08/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Channel 5 Broadcasting Limited	ViacomCBS (Channel 5's owner) owns a number of channels available in the State through Sky Ireland and Virgin Media Ireland, including MTV Ireland, Nickelodeon, Comedy Central.	Digital UK Limited	The target is jointly controlled by BBC, ITV and Channel 4 who are active in the broadcasting and internet media sectors in the State through the provision of a range of TV channels, radio stations and online news offerings.	27/10/2021	07/12/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	
DMG Media Ireland	(a) Two national newspapers: (i) The Irish Daily Mail (ii) The Irish Mail on Sunday  (b) Three online news offerings: (i) Mail Online (ii) Evoke.ie (iii) Extra.ie	Nalac Limited	Business Plus, bizplus.ie	03/11/2021	15/12/2021	Phase 1	Cleared	

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Sky Limited*	<p>Sky, through its subsidiaries, is active in the provision of the following relevant media assets:</p> <p>(a) The Sky broadcasting platform</p> <p>(b) The Sky TV channels including Sky News and the Sky Sports channels</p> <p>(c) The online news offering news.sky.com</p> <p>(d) The Sky News TV channel is available free-to-air in the State on Saorview</p> <p>Sky is a wholly owned subsidiary of Comcast. Comcast is also active in the media sector in the State through its wholly owned subsidiary NBCU and its interest in <a href="http://www.buzzfeed.com">www.buzzfeed.com</a></p>	Paramount Pictures*	Paramount is part of the ViacomCBS group, which owns a number of entertainment TV channels including MTV, Nickelodeon and Comedy Central	14/11/2021	27/01/2022	Phase 1	Cleared	*The parties are neither 'purchaser' nor 'target' as it is a joint venture

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
ExpressNet (owned by Bauer Media)	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector:</p> <p>Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	Europa 2*	None	13/01/2022	21/04/2022	Phase 1	Cleared	*Slovakia

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector:</p> <p>Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	MCR II – Media Capital Rádios*	None	16/03/2022	20/04/2022	Phase 1	Cleared	*Portugal
Isle of Man FM Radio Holdings Limited	Isle of Man FM owners also hold ultimate beneficial shareholdings in three Irish local radio stations: East Coast FM, Sunshine 106.8, and KFM Radio.	3FM Limited*	None	22/03/2022	04/05/2022	Phase 1	Cleared	*Isle of Man

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Viaplay Group UK Limited	None	FreeSports Limited and Premier Media Broadcasting Limited	Boxnation sports channel, owned by Premier Media Broadcasting Limited	02/09/2022	14/10/2022	Phase 1	Cleared	
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector:</p> <p>Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	Siteridge Limited	The local radio station, RedFM and associated website, redfm.ie	23/12/2022	16/02/2023	Phase 1	Cleared	



<p>Formpress Publishing Limited</p>	<p>Formpress owns and operates the following local/regional newspaper titles in the State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donegal Democrat</li> <li>• Donegal Post</li> <li>• Donegal People’s Press</li> <li>• Inish Times</li> <li>• Dundalk Democrat</li> <li>• Kilkenny People</li> <li>• Leinster Express</li> <li>• Leinster Leader</li> <li>• Leitrim Observer</li> <li>• Limerick Leader</li> <li>• Longford Leader</li> <li>• Midland &amp; Tullamore Tribune (Different mastheads to reflect area they serve)</li> <li>• Clonmel Nationalist</li> <li>• Tipperary Star</li> </ul> <p>Formpress owns and operates the following associated local/regional newspaper websites in the State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• donegalive.ie</li> <li>• dundalkdemocrat.ie</li> <li>• kilkenypeople.ie</li> <li>• leinsterexpress.ie</li> <li>• leinsterleader.ie</li> </ul>	<p>Mayo News (Holdings) Limited</p>	<p>Mayo News, mayonews.ie</p>	<p>05/01/2023</p>	<p>20/02/2023</p>	<p>Phase 1</p>	<p>Cleared</p>	
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- kildarenow.com
- leitrimobserver.ie
- limerickleader.ie
- longfordleader.ie
- offalyexpress.ie
- tipperaryliver.ie
- inishlive.ie
- kilkennypeople.ie

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> <li>6. RedFM</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector:</p> <p>Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	Sunshine Radio*	None	11/05/2023	30/06/2023	Phase 1	Cleared	*UK

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> <li>6. RedFM</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector: Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	Jack Media*	None	08/09/2023	25/09/2023	Phase 1	Cleared	*UK

Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
Bauer Media Audio Holding GmbH	<p>Broadcasting sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today FM,</li> <li>2. Newstalk,</li> <li>3. 98FM,</li> <li>4. Spin 103.8,</li> <li>5. Spin SouthWest</li> <li>6. RedFM</li> </ol> <p>Internet media sector:</p> <p>Six websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- todayfm.com</li> <li>- newstalk.com</li> <li>- 98fm.com</li> <li>- spin1038.com</li> <li>- spinsouthwest.com</li> <li>- otbsports.com</li> </ul>	Wilton Radio Limited	<p>Two local radio stations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) iRadio North West</li> <li>(ii) iRadio North East</li> </ol> <p>One website:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) iRadio.ie</li> </ol>	14/09/2023	25/10/2023	Phase 1	Cleared	

<p>Mediahuis N.V.</p>	<p>Four national newspapers:  (i) The Irish Independent  (ii) The Herald  (iii) The Sunday Independent  (iv) The Sunday World</p> <p>Eleven regional newspapers:  (i) The Kerryman  (ii) The Corkman  (iii) Drogheda Independent  (iv) The Argus  (v) Bray People  (vi) Wicklow People  (vii) Wexford People  (viii) Gorey Guardian  (ix) Enniscorthy Guardian  (x) New Ross Standard  (xi) The Sligo Champion</p> <p>Two websites:  (i) <a href="http://www.irishindependent.ie">www.irishindependent.ie</a>  (ii) <a href="http://www.sundayworld.com">www.sundayworld.com</a></p>	<p>Euractiv Media Network B.V*</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>29/09/2023</p>	<p>13/11/2023</p>	<p>Phase 1</p>	<p>Cleared</p>	<p>*Belgium</p>
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Purchaser	Purchaser's Key Irish Media Assets	Target	Target's key Irish media assets	Notification	Determination	Review Phase(s)	Outcome	Notes
News Corp UK and Ireland Limited*	<p>Three national newspapers:            (i) The Irish Sun            (ii) Sunday Times Ireland            (iii) The Irish Sun on Sunday</p> <p>Six local radio stations:            (i) FM104            (ii) Cork's 96FM            (iii) C103            (iv) Live 95            (v) Dublin's Q102            (vi) LM FM</p> <p>Eight websites:            (i) Sun.ie            (ii) Times.ie            (iii) FM104.ie            (iv) 96fm.ie            (v) C103.ie            (vi) Live95fm.ie            (vii) Q102.ie            (viii) LMFM.ie</p>	Daily Mail and General Holdings Limited*	<p>Two national newspapers:            (i) The Irish Daily Mail            (ii) The Irish Mail on Sunday</p> <p>One magazine:            (i) Business Plus</p> <p>Four websites:            (i) MailOnline            (ii) Extra.ie            (iii) Evoke.ie            (iv) BusinessPlus.ie</p>	06/12/2023	22/01/2024	Phase 1	Cleared	*The parties are neither 'purchaser' nor 'target' as it is a joint venture