



DETERMINATION OF MERGER NOTIFICATION M/06/030 – 3i/Mayborn

Section 21 of the Competition Act 2002

Proposed acquisition by 3i Group plc of Mayborn Group plc

Dated 23/06/06

Introduction

1. On 6 June 2006 the Competition Authority, in accordance with Section 18 (1) of the Competition Act, 2002 (“the Act”) was notified, on a mandatory basis, of a proposal whereby 3i Group plc (“3i”) would acquire all the shares of Mayborn Group plc (“Mayborn”).

The Undertakings Involved

2. 3i, the acquirer, is a venture capital and private equity investor. Its portfolio of companies consists of businesses in a wide range of industry sectors and services, including communication, engineering, food and healthcare. It is active in the State through the activities of its portfolio of companies.
3. Mayborn, the target, is active in the manufacture and worldwide distribution of baby care and household products. It supplies its products to retailers in the State.

Analysis

4. There is no horizontal or vertical overlap in the parties’ activities. Neither 3i nor any of its portfolio of companies is active in the sectors in which Mayborn is active. Therefore, the Authority considers that the proposed acquisition does not raise competition concerns in the State.

Determination

The Competition Authority, in accordance with Section 21(2) of the Competition Act, 2002, has determined that, in its opinion, the result of the proposed acquisition by 3i Group plc of Mayborn Group plc, will not be to substantially lessen competition in markets for goods and services in the State and, accordingly, that the acquisition may be put into effect.

For the Competition Authority

Dr Paul K. Gorecki

Member of the Competition Authority