**Prior notification of a concentration**

**(Case M.9042 — Keolis/Amey/W&B Rail Franchise)**

**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2018/C 295/04)

1. On 9 August 2018, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— Keolis (UK) Limited ('Keolis', United Kingdom), ultimately controlled by Société nationale des chemins de fer français (SNCF);

— Amey Rail Limited ('Amey', United Kingdom), ultimately owned by Ferrovial S.A. (Spain);

— Wales and Borders Rail Franchise ('W&B Rail Franchise', United Kingdom).

Keolis and Amey acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of the W&B Rail Franchise.

The concentration is accomplished by way of a franchise agreement.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Keolis: provision of public transportation services in 16 countries across the world;

— Amey: provision of infrastructure asset management services to private and public sectors mainly in the UK;

— W&B Rail Franchise: provision of passenger rail services across Wales, as well as services to destinations in England (on longer distance rail services originating or terminating in Wales).

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([2]) it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9042 — Keolis/Amey/W&B Rail Franchise

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax: +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.