

## Call for views in response to

### Draft EU Directive on Representative Actions for the Protection of the Collective Interests of Consumers (COM (2018) 184 Final)

The Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation is seeking views from stakeholders and interested parties on a proposed EU Directive intended to enable qualified entities, which represent the collective interest of consumers, to seek remedy through representative actions against infringements of provisions of Union law by traders. The draft Directive was published by the EU Commission as part of their “New Deal for Consumers” on 11 April 2018.

The scope of the draft Directive covers all infringements by traders of Union law listed in Annex I that harm or may harm the collective interests of consumers. The Union law in Annex 1 contains specific provisions regulating the relationship between a trader and a consumer in a variety of sectors such as financial services, energy, telecommunications, health and the environment. The current Injunctions Directive 2009/22/EC is due to be repealed when the new Directive is agreed.

The draft Directive will undergo the normal legislative process through the European Institutions and the draft Directive, Annex and supplementary information can be found at [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/com-2018-184\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/com-2018-184_en).

Views from interested parties on the draft Directive are requested no later than **close of business on Friday 15 June 2018**. Submissions should be marked “EU Directive on Protection of the Collective Interests of Consumers” and can either be e-mailed to [conspol@dbei.gov.ie](mailto:conspol@dbei.gov.ie) or sent in hard copy to the Competition and Consumer Policy Section, Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, 1 Earlsfort Centre, Lower Hatch St., Dublin 2. D02 PW01.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that information provided to the Department may be disclosed in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2014. Therefore, should you consider that any information you provide is commercially sensitive, please identify same, and specify the reason for its sensitivity. The Department will consult with you regarding information identified by you as sensitive before making a decision on any Freedom of Information request. Any personal information, which you volunteer to this Department, will be treated with the highest standards of security and confidentiality, strictly in accordance with the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003.

The Department may also decide to place any submissions received by it on the Department’s website. A decision on any such placement may occur **without prior consultation** with respondents to this process. Thus, it is in the interests of respondents to highlight, in their submissions, any commercially sensitive or confidential information at the time of submission.

#### Queries

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Competition and Consumer Protection Section of the Department at the following contact points:

Aedín Doyle at 01- 6312652 (or at [Aedin.Doyle@dbei.gov.ie](mailto:Aedin.Doyle@dbei.gov.ie))  
Paul Brennan at 01-6312612 (or at [Paul.Brennan@dbei.gov.ie](mailto:Paul.Brennan@dbei.gov.ie))  
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3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018