

Competition and the CCPC



Coimisiún um Iomaíocht agus Cosaint Tomhaltóirí

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission

What is a competitive market?

A competitive market is where businesses compete for customers, leading to more choice for consumers, better prices and better-quality products and services.

Why Competition matters?

Competition encourages firms to:

- Lower prices and keep prices competitive
- Improve quality
- Provide better customer service
- Develop new products and/or services



Scan the QR code and review the competition cases investigated by the CCPC.

Choose one case and explain how the CCPC helped make the market fairer.

CCPC in Action

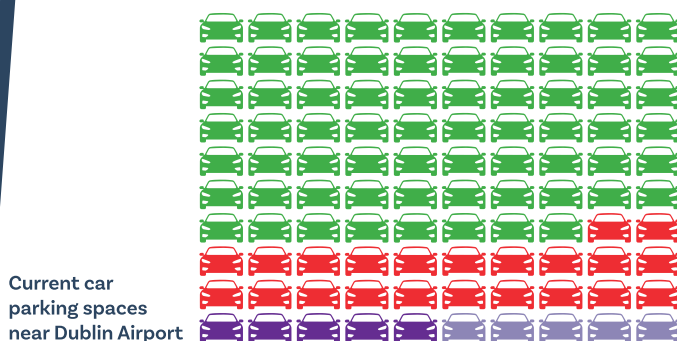
DUBLIN AIRPORT CAR PARK CASE (2024)

In March 2024, the CCPC blocked Dublin Airport Authority's (daa) proposed purchase of a car park site near Dublin Airport.

The CCPC's investigation found that the transaction would have substantially lessened competition, as daa would have controlled over 90% of public airport parking.

In the CCPC's view, this could have led to harmful consequences for consumers, including higher prices and reduced choice.

By blocking this transaction, the CCPC prevented the creation of a near-monopoly and helped protect consumers. The CCPC found that Park2Travel was on average 21% cheaper than the comparable Red Express car park, highlighting how competition can help keep prices lower for consumers.



Read the news: CCPC blocks daa purchase of car park near Dublin Airport



SCHOOL TRANSPORT CARTEL CASE (2025)

In December 2025, five individuals were convicted of participating in a school transport cartel involving publicly funded school transport contracts in the Southwest region of Ireland.

The CCPC's investigation found that the individuals engaged in bid-rigging, a form of cartel activity where competitors coordinate their tender bids instead of competing independently.

This anti-competitive conduct had the potential to increase costs for taxpayers and reduce the benefits of competition. By investigating and securing these convictions, the CCPC helped protect public funds, promote fair competition, and deter future cartel activity, which is a criminal offence in Ireland.



Read the news: CCPC welcomes unanimous guilty verdict in school bus transport cartel case