



Coimisiún um
Iomaíocht agus
Cosaint Tomhaltóirí

Competition and
Consumer Protection
Commission

The Role of the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission

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**“IF YOU THINK
COMPLIANCE IS
EXPENSIVE –**

**TRY
NON-COMPLAINE”**

Former U.S Deputy Attorney General Paul McNulty

Agenda

- ✓ The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC)
- ✓ What Informs the work of the CCPC
- ✓ Legislation
- ✓ Mergers



The Functions of the CCPC

Enforce

Enforce competition law

Enforce consumer protection law

Enforce product safety regulations

Assessing mergers

Inform

Inform consumers about their rights

Foster Business Compliance

Provide personal finance information & education

Advise Government & influence policy

Protect & Regulate

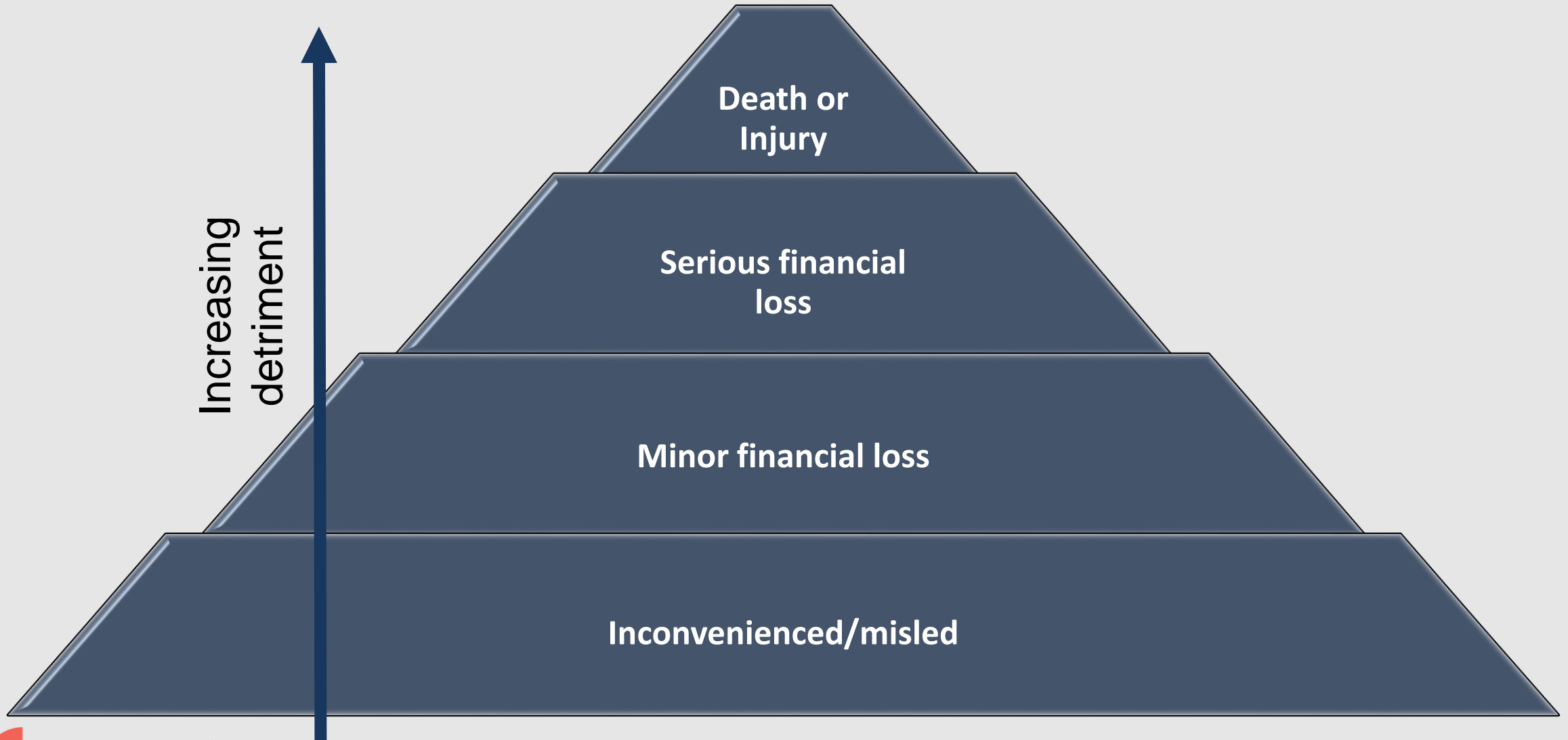
Monitor compliance with Grocery sector regulations

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Authorise credit intermediaries



Prioritising Harm



What informs the CCPC's work?

**Information from consumers:
40,000+ contacts
annually**

**Anonymous letters
&
Whistle Blowers**

**Immunity applicants:
Cartel immunity number:
087 763 1378**

**Information received from
State bodies i.e.
An Garda Síochána
Revenue Commissioners
Procurement Agencies**

**Co-operation with
European Commission and
other competition and
consumer protection agencies**



Recent Highlights

Consumer Protection
Guidelines for Mobile
Phone Traders

Flooring cartel
convictions

Custodial sentence
for car crime

Insurance providers
undertakings
Re-information
exchanges

Mortgages Options
Paper

PCP Car Finance
Study

Residential Care
Services for the
Elderly

Ticketing
investigation





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Legislation

Competition Act 2002

S4(1) Prohibits agreements between undertakings, decisions by associations of undertakings and concerted practices which prevent, restrict or distort competition

- (a) Directly or indirectly fix purchase or selling prices or any other trading conditions
- (b) Limit or control production, markets, technical development or investment
- (c) Share markets or sources of supply

S6 makes breach a criminal offence.

- Presumption that (a) to (c) has anti-competitive object.

S8 gives penalties (upon conviction on indictment by DPP)

- 10 years in prison and/or
- €5m or 10% of turnover
- Probation Act no longer to be applied



The Authorised Officer-Powers



Power to determine an individual's identity

Power of entry

Power to inspect

Power to secure a premises

Power to require the provision of records

Power to search

Power to remove and retain records



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Cartel Immunity Programme



- Run in conjunction with the DPP
- Requires full disclosure and co-operation
- Immunity is given to first applicant
- Ban on ringleaders has been lifted
- Open to individuals and undertakings
- Cartel Immunity Phone (087 763 1378)



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Reviewing Mergers

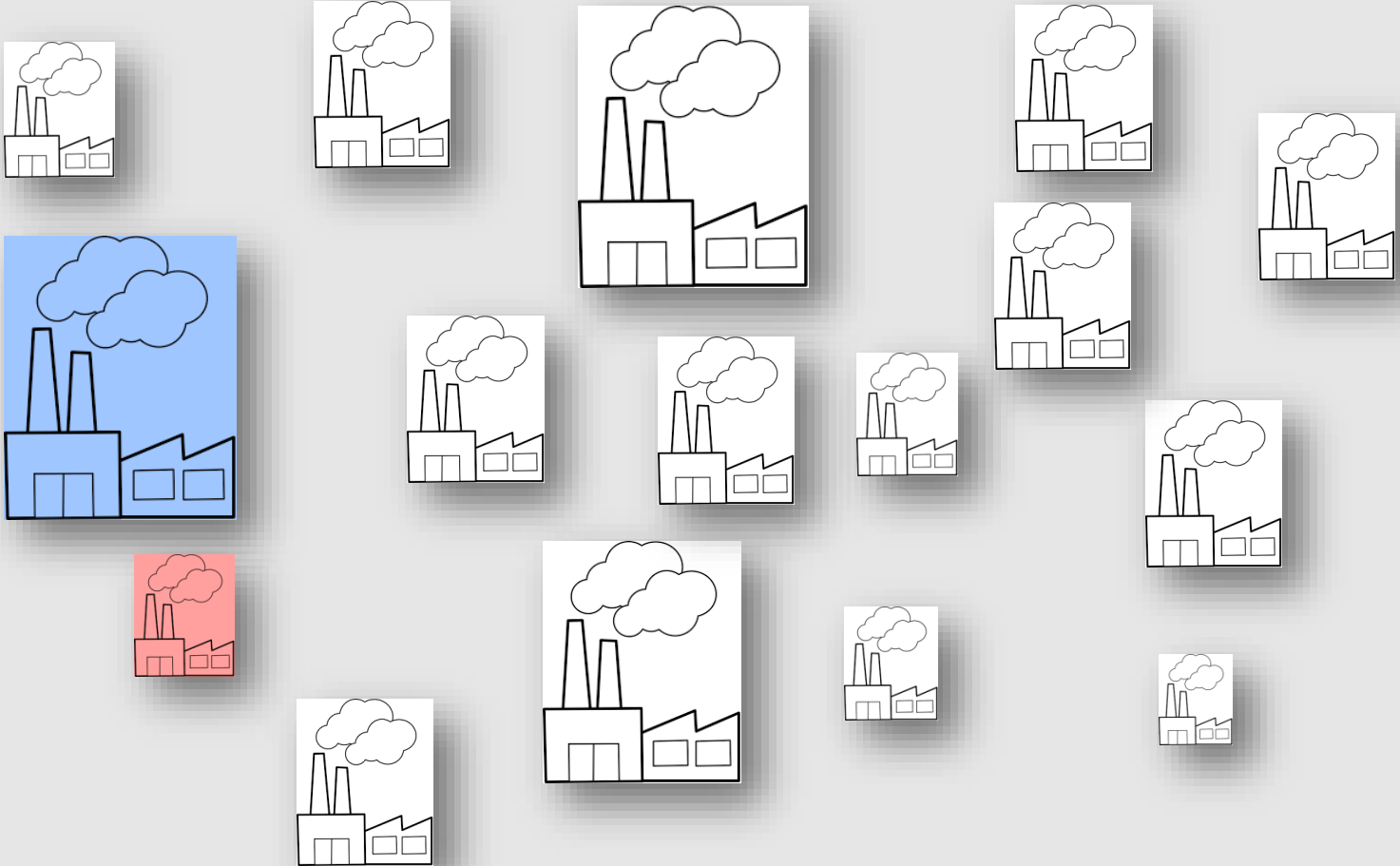


- Statutory Function
- Statutory Deadlines
- Financial Thresholds
- SLC
- Merger Specific Effects
- Evidence
- Public Accountability

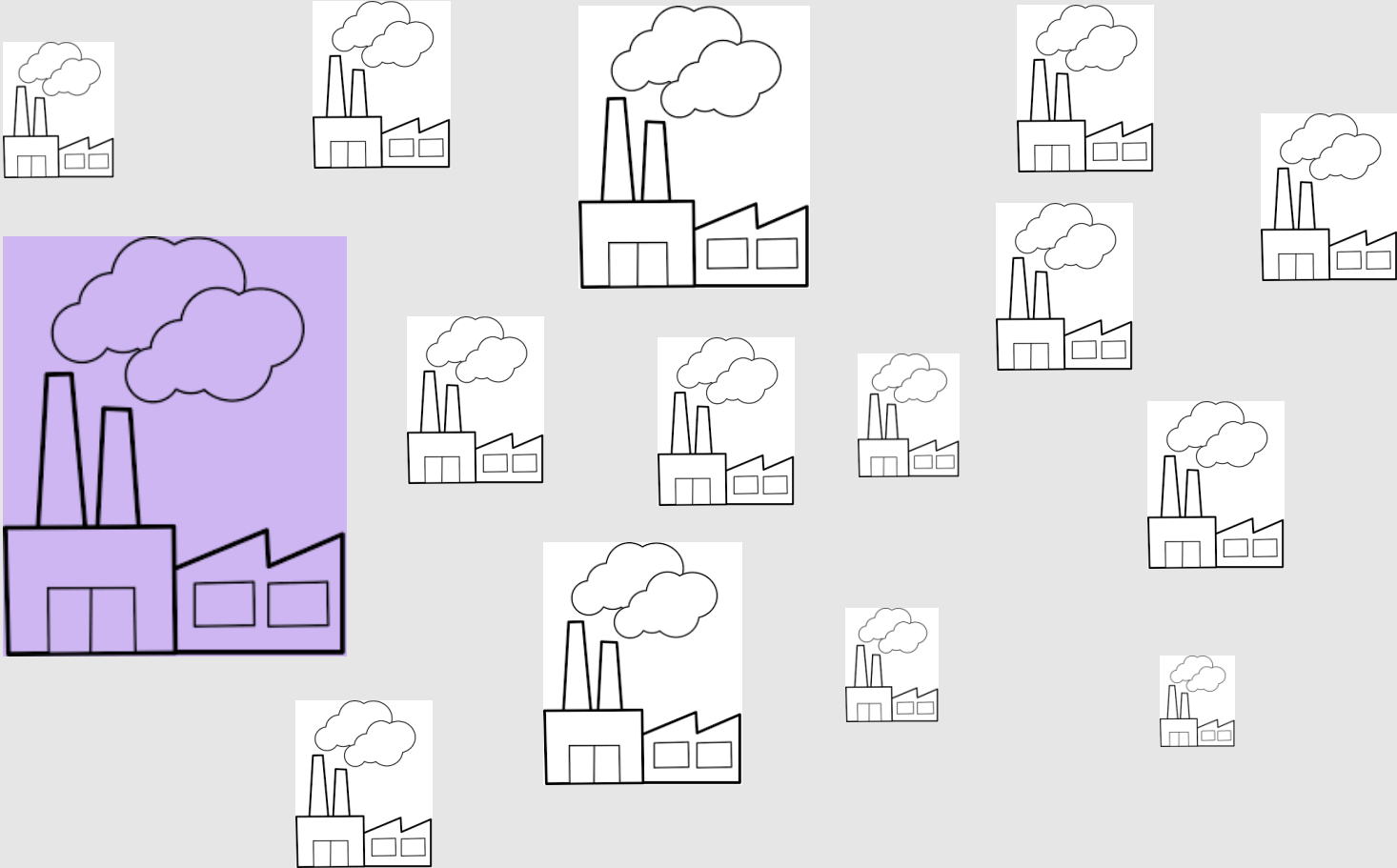
Why? – Mergers Reviews



Why? – Mergers Reviews



Why? – Mergers Reviews



Why? – Mergers Reviews





Thank
You

www.ccpc.ie



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