

RYANAIR HOLDINGS PLC  
Form 6-K  
September 09, 2008

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 6-K**

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer**

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of September, 2008

**RYANAIR HOLDINGS PLC**  
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**c/o Ryanair Ltd Corporate Head Office**  
**Dublin Airport**  
**County Dublin Ireland**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F..X.. Form 40-F.....

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes ..... No ..

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- \_\_\_\_\_

**RYANAIR**

**WINS RIGHT TO CHALLENGE EXCESSIVE KNOCK S  
UBSIDY**

Ryanair, Europe's leading low fares airline,  
won the right  
today (  
Tuesday,  
9  
th  
September  
2008  
)

to challenge the award of the PSO subsidy on the Knock - Dublin route to Aer Arann. Ryanair is seeking  
an  
explanation why its offer  
of a smaller subsidy, lower fares and triple  
the passenger numbers

for the Knock route  
was rejected  
in favour of Aer Arann's larger subsidy, higher fares and fewer passenger numbers.

T  
he High Court in  
Ireland

has granted Ryanair's application for a judicial review of the decision of the  
Department of Transport following  
the unlawful award of a PSO (Public Service Obligation) contract for the  
Dublin  
to Knock route to Aer Arann, following Cityjet's announcement that it would not serve the route.  
Ryanair  
today underlined that t

he Minister should have called for a new tender process in order to comply with European Regulations on the grant of PSOs but failed to do so.

Ryanair had offered to serve this route for a much lower subsidy and with over 3 times the seat capacity but the Department rejected the offer without having carried out a new tender.

Speaking today, Ryanair's Director of Legal & Regulatory Affairs, Jim Callaghan, said:

"

*Following Cityjet's announcement that it would not fly the Dublin -*

*Knock route, Ryanair immediately offered to serve this route for a much lower price to the taxpayer and with over 3 times the passenger numbers*

*However the Department rejected this offer and unlawfully granted the PSO to Aer Arann without calling for a new tender.*

"

*Ryanair has been a vocal critic of the Department for Transport's waste*

*of taxpayer funds in the area of PSOs and this is the latest example.*

*We are delighted that the High Court has granted our request to challenge this unlawful decision.*

"

*At a time of economic downturn, it is high time that the Department for Transport stopped wasting taxes on grossly inflated PSOs by supporting the subsidy junkie Aer Arann, which does not publish accounts yet continues to receive massive state subsidies. The Department must instead choose*

*o*

*se the value for money option - Ryanair!"*

Ends.

Tuesday, 9  
th  
September 2008

**For further information:**

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**Pauline  
McAlester  
Ryanair**

**Murray  
Consultants  
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This information is provided by RNS  
The company news service from the London Stock Exchange

END

### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

**RYANAIR HOLDINGS PLC**

Date: 09 September 2008

By: \_\_\_/s/ James Callaghan\_\_\_

James Callaghan  
Company Secretary & Finance Director

