

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 under
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month ended November, 2011

ICON plc

(Registrant's name)

0-29714

(Commission file number)

South County Business Park, Leopardstown, Dublin 18, Ireland
(Address of principal executive offices)

Brendan Brennan, CFO
South County Business Park Leopardstown, Dublin 18, Ireland.
Brendan.Brennan@iconplc.com
0011-353-1-291-2000

(Name, telephone number, email and/or facsimile number and address of Company contact person)

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

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Yes

No

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 **N/A**

EXHIBIT LIST

Exhibit Description

99.1 Icon plc Press Release November 22, 2011.

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.

ICON plc

Date: November 22, 2011

/s/ Brendan Brennan
Brendan Brennan
Chief Financial Officer

ICON plc: Commencement of Share Repurchase Programme

DUBLIN--(BUSINESS WIRE)--November 22, 2011--**ICON plc (NASDAQ:ICLR) (ISIN:IE0005711209)**, a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, today announced that it will now begin to repurchase shares pursuant to the approval by its Board of Directors of a share buyback of up to \$50m, as indicated in the Company's Q3 results issued on 27 October 2011. ICON has now entered into a share repurchase plan, and currently intends to enter into further share repurchase plans, to effect the share repurchase programme in accordance with Rule 10b-18 and Rule 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the authorisation granted at the Company's annual general meeting on 18 July 2011, applicable laws and regulations and the Listing Rules of the Irish Stock Exchange.

Under the repurchase programme, a broker will purchase the Company's American Depositary Shares ("ADSs") from time to time on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions in accordance with agreed terms and limitations. ADSs purchased will be deposited with the Depository under the Company's ADR facility against delivery of the underlying Ordinary Shares, which will be repurchased by the Company on the Irish Stock Exchange in compliance with the Company's share repurchase authorisation and applicable laws and regulations. Separately, Ordinary Shares traded on the Irish Stock Exchange may also be repurchased on behalf of the Company.

The programme is designed to allow share repurchases during periods when the Company would ordinarily not be permitted to do so because it may be in possession of material non-public or price-sensitive information, applicable insider trading laws or self-imposed trading blackout periods. The Company's instructions to the broker are irrevocable and the trading decisions in respect of the repurchase programme will be made independently of and uninfluenced by the Company. ICON confirms that it currently has no material non-public, price-sensitive or inside information regarding the Company or its securities, and it will not enter into further plans whilst in possession of such information.

The timing and actual number of shares repurchased will be dependent on market conditions, legal and regulatory requirements and the other terms and limitations contained in the plans. In addition, share repurchases may be suspended or discontinued in certain circumstances in accordance with the agreed terms. Therefore, there can be no assurance as to the timing or number of shares that may be repurchased under the repurchase programme. All Ordinary Shares repurchased by ICON will be cancelled. As outlined at the time of the Q3 2011 results the Company currently intends to complete repurchases within a 12 month period.

The statements made in this press release may contain forward-looking statements that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. In addition to the matters described in this press release, the effect of market conditions and legal and regulatory requirements on the Company's share repurchases, as well as other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in SEC reports filed by ICON, including its Annual Report on Form 20-F, may affect the actual results achieved by ICON. ICON disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

ICON plc is a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. The Company specialises in the strategic development, management and analysis of programs that support clinical development - from compound selection to Phase I-IV clinical studies. With headquarters in Dublin, Ireland, ICON currently, operates from 79 locations in 39 countries and has approximately 8,350 employees. Further information is available at www.iconplc.com.

Source: ICON plc

ICON/ICLR-F

CONTACT:

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