

**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 January, 2009

**ICON plc**  
(Registrant's name)

0-29714  
(Commission file number)

South County Business Park, Leopardstown, Dublin 18, 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.

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**

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**EXHIBIT LIST**

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Icon plc Press Release

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## 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: January 9, 2009

/s/ Peter Gray

Peter Gray

Chief Executive Officer

**ICON Issues Financial Guidance for 2009 and Updates Guidance for 2008****(NASDAQ:ICLR) (ISIN:IE0005711209)**

Dublin, Ireland--(BUSINESS WIRE)--January 9, 2009--ICON (NASDAQ: ICLR), a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, today announced financial guidance for 2009.

2009 net revenue is expected to be in the range of \$930 - \$980 million. This compares to an expected outcome of \$862 - \$865 million for the year ended December 31, 2008, a reduction on previous guidance due to currency factors.

2009 net income per diluted share is expected to be in the range of \$1.40 - \$1.52. This compares to \$1.27 - \$1.29 for the year ended December 31, 2008, an increase on previous guidance.

The company will hold a conference call today, January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 09:00 EST [14:00 Ireland & UK]. A question and answer session will follow.

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 ability to maintain large client contracts or enter into new contracts, maintain client relationships and the ability to manage the opening of new offices, the integration of new business mergers and acquisitions, as well as other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in SEC reports filed by ICON, including its Form 20-F, F-1, S-8 and F-3, may affect the actual results achieved by ICON. ICON disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

**About ICON plc**

ICON plc is a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. The Company specializes in the strategic development, management and analysis of programs that support clinical development - from compound selection to Phase I-IV clinical studies. ICON teams have successfully conducted over 5,500 development projects and consultancy engagements across all major therapeutic areas. ICON currently has over 6,800 employees, operating from 71 locations in 38 countries.

Further information is available at [www.iconplc.com](http://www.iconplc.com).

**ICON/ICLR-F****CONTACT:****ICON**

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