

28 October 2016

**ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY MARTIN MCCOLL LIMITED OF 298
GROCERY STORES FROM CO-OPERATIVE GROUP LIMITED**

**Notice under section 96(2A) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act)
published pursuant to section 107(1)(i) of the Act**

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) hereby gives notice pursuant to section 96(2A) of the Act that the merger notice provided by McColl's Retail Group plc (**McColl's**) and Co-operative Group Ltd (**CGL**) in relation to the anticipated acquisition by Martin McColl Ltd of 298 grocery stores from CGL (the **Merger**) meets the requirements of section 96(2) of the Act.

The initial period defined in section 34ZA(3) of the Act in relation to the Merger will therefore commence on the first working day after the date of this notice, ie on 31 October 2016. The deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Merger for a Phase 2 investigation is therefore 23 December 2016.