

Consent to certain actions for the purposes of the Initial Enforcement Order made by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) on 8 September 2016

Completed acquisition by SSCP Spring Topco Limited of Acorn Care 1 Ltd

We refer to your e-mails dated 12 and 13 January 2017 requesting that the CMA consents to derogations to the Initial Enforcement Order of 8 September 2016 (the 'Initial Order').

Definitions

The terms defined in the Initial Order have the same meaning in this letter.

'NFA Group business' means the business of Belton Associates (Group Holdings) Limited (Company No: 07875698) and its subsidiaries.

Under the Initial Order, save for written consent by the CMA, Stirling Group and SSCP Spring are required to hold separate the Acorn business from the Stirling Group business and refrain from taking any action which might prejudice a reference under section 22 of the Act or impede the taking of any remedial action following such a reference. After due consideration of your request for derogations from the Initial Order, based on the information received from you and in the particular circumstances of this case, the CMA consents to the following in respect of Stirling Group and SSCP Spring:

1. Paragraph 5(j) of the Initial Order

To enable Stirling Group and SSCP Spring to comply with their obligation under 5(b) of the Initial Order (requiring that the Stirling Group business is maintained as a going concern and sufficient resources are made available for the development of the Stirling Group business on the basis of its pre-merger business plans), the CMA consents to the appointment of [X] to the new post of [X] of the NFA group business.