

## **Anticipated merger between Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust**

### **Invitation to comment**

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) is considering whether it is or may be the case that this transaction if carried into effect, will result in the creation of a relevant merger situation under the merger provisions of the Enterprise Act 2002 and, if so, whether the creation of that situation may be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the United Kingdom for goods or services.

In this case, the CMA has received a request from the parties to the transaction for a fast track reference to Phase 2, in accordance with paragraphs 6.61 to 6.65 of the [Guidance on the CMA's jurisdiction and procedure](#) dated January 2014 (**the Guidance**).

The CMA is considering whether the criteria for a fast track reference, as set out in the Guidance, are satisfied and, to assist it with this assessment, the CMA invites comments on the request from any interested party.

In fast track cases the time for third party consultation is generally reduced given that third parties will have an opportunity to present their views on the transaction during the Phase 2 investigation. Therefore the period of this consultation is five days.

Comments should be provided by 16 February 2017 to:

Maxwell Harris

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