

ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY HEINEKEN UK LIMITED OF PUNCH TAVERNS HOLDCO (A) LIMITED

Notice of extension of the preliminary assessment period mentioned in section 34A(2) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act) published pursuant to section 107(1)(ae) of the Act

On 15 February 2017 the European Commission referred the whole of the acquisition Punch Taverns Holdco (A) Limited by Heineken UK Limited (the Merger) to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) under Article 4(4) of the EC Merger Regulation. Therefore, the preliminary assessment period for the CMA to decide whether to refer the Merger for a Phase 2 investigation has commenced under section 34A(2) and (4) of the Act.

On 17 February 2017 the CMA issued a notice to Punch Taverns plc under section 109 of the Act requiring the provision of certain information and documents by 3pm on 20 February 2017 (the Notice). The information and documents required have not been provided to the satisfaction of the CMA. Punch Taverns plc has, therefore, failed (with or without a reasonable excuse) to comply with a requirement of a notice under section 109 of the Act.

Accordingly, the CMA has decided that, pursuant to section 34A(5) of the Act, the preliminary assessment period should be extended until Punch Taverns plc provides the information and documents to the satisfaction of the CMA as required by the Notice or the CMA cancels this extension.

The extension comes into force on the date of publication of this notice.