

22 March 2017

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

Termination 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 20 February 2017 the CMA published a notice to extend the preliminary assessment period because Punch Taverns plc had not complied with a requirement set out in a notice under section 109 of the Act (the Notice) to provide certain information and documents by 3pm on 20 February 2017.

The CMA is now satisfied for the purposes of section 34A(6A)(a) of the Act that the information and documents have been provided as required by the Notice. This means that the end of the preliminary assessment period is now 29 May 2017.