

COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY VANILLA GROUP LIMITED OF WASHSTATION LIMITED

Consent to certain actions for the purposes of the Initial Enforcement Order made by the Competition and Markets Authority on 13 December 2017

On 10 May 2018, JLA New Equityco Limited (JLA) requested written consent from the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) to the transfer of JLA and its subsidiaries (including Vanilla Group Limited (Vanilla) and the Washstation business) to Wharfedale Bidco Limited, a company controlled by funds managed by Cinven, who would thereby acquire a majority interest in the entirety of JLA's operations.

Article 4(b) of the Initial Enforcement Order made on 13 December 2017 (the Order) requires JLA and Vanilla to have the written consent of the CMA prior to taking any action which transfers the ownership or control of the JLA business or the Washstation business or any of their subsidiaries.

The CMA has carefully considered JLA's request and is satisfied that the proposed arrangements will not impede the taking of any action under Part 3 of the Enterprise Act 2002 which may be justified by the CMA's decisions on the reference.

The CMA accordingly gives its written consent for the purposes of article 4(b) of the Order to the proposed transfer by JLA of the ownership or control of JLA and its subsidiaries (including Vanilla and the Washstation business) to Cinven.

Stuart McIntosh
Inquiry Group Chair
14 May 2018