

COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY TRINITY MIRROR PLC OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF NORTHERN & SHELL MEDIA GROUP LIMITED

Adoption of Initial Enforcement Order

On 1 May 2018, pursuant to section 44 of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**), the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport issued a public interest intervention notice in respect of the completed acquisition by Trinity Mirror plc of certain assets of Northern & Shell Media Group Limited (the **Merger**).

On 1 March 2018, prior to the issuing of the public interest intervention notice, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) served an initial enforcement order on Trinity Mirror plc under section 72(2) of the Act (the **Initial Enforcement Order**) for the purposes of preventing Trinity Mirror plc from taking any action which might prejudice a reference by the CMA under section 22 of the Act or impede the taking of any action by the CMA under Part 3 of the Act. The Initial Enforcement Order was varied by way of order on 6 March 2018. The CMA subsequently issued directions under the Initial Enforcement Order on 7 March 2018 and approved certain limited derogations to the Initial Enforcement Order on 7, 15, 20 March and 23 April 2018. The Initial Enforcement Order (as varied, together with the directions and derogations listed above) remains in force.

By virtue of section 72(6)(c) of the Act, the Initial Enforcement Order will cease to be in force at the end of the period of 7 days beginning with the giving of the public interest intervention notice, unless the Initial Enforcement Order is adopted by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport.

The Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport, hereby adopts the Initial Enforcement Order (in accordance with its terms, including those set out in the further directions, and those terms as varied, and derogated from, as set out above) in accordance with paragraph 2(4) of Schedule 7 of the Act for the purposes of ensuring that no action is taken by Trinity Mirror plc pending the determination of the reference under section 45 of the Act which might prejudice that reference or impede the taking of any action which may be justified by the Secretary of State's decisions on the reference.

Variation to the Initial Enforcement Order so adopted

The Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport further makes the following order pursuant to paragraph 2(5)(b) of Schedule 7 to the Act.

The Initial Enforcement Order and its terms (including those set out in the further directions, and its terms as varied and derogated from, as set out above) adopted by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on 4 May 2018, are varied as follows.

References to "the CMA" in paragraphs 4, 5, 10 and 11 of the Initial Enforcement Order shall be taken as references to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture,

Media and Sport; references to “the CMA” in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 of the Initial Enforcement Order shall be taken to include both the CMA and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; and the definition of “the decisions” in paragraph 13 of the Initial Enforcement Order shall be taken to mean decisions of the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on a reference under section 45 of the Act.

In the Compliance statement for TM annexed to the Initial Enforcement Order, the reference to “the Order made by the CMA in relation to the transaction on 1 March 2018” in paragraph 1(a) shall be taken to mean “the Order made by the CMA in relation to the transaction on 1 March 2018 and adopted by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on 4 May 2018”; the references to “the CMA” in paragraph 2 shall be taken as references to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; the reference to “section 22 of the Act” in paragraph 2(a) shall be taken as a reference to section 45 of the Act; and the reference to “the CMA” in paragraph 3 shall be taken to include both the CMA and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

References to the “the CMA” in paragraph 5B of the variation to the Initial Enforcement Order of 6 March 2018 shall be taken as references to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

In paragraph 3 of the directions issued under the Initial Enforcement Order of 7 March 2018, the reference “the CMA has finally determined the reference (within the meaning of section 79 of the Act” shall be taken to also include a reference to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport finally determining a reference under section 45 of the Act. References to the CMA in paragraphs 4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of those directions shall be taken to be references to the Secretary of State.

References to “the CMA” in paragraph 4(d) of the derogation of 20 March 2018 shall be taken as a reference to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alastair Jones', is positioned above the typed name.

Alastair Jones
An official in the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
4 May 2018