# Strong Progress, Fresh Challenges Forward Look





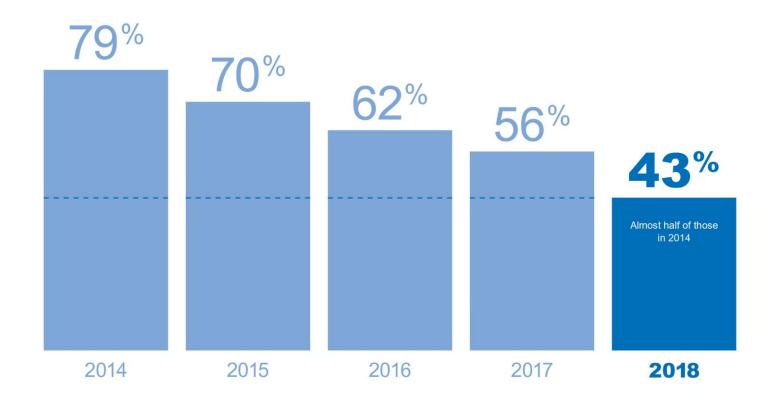


## Top Issues 2018 - 19

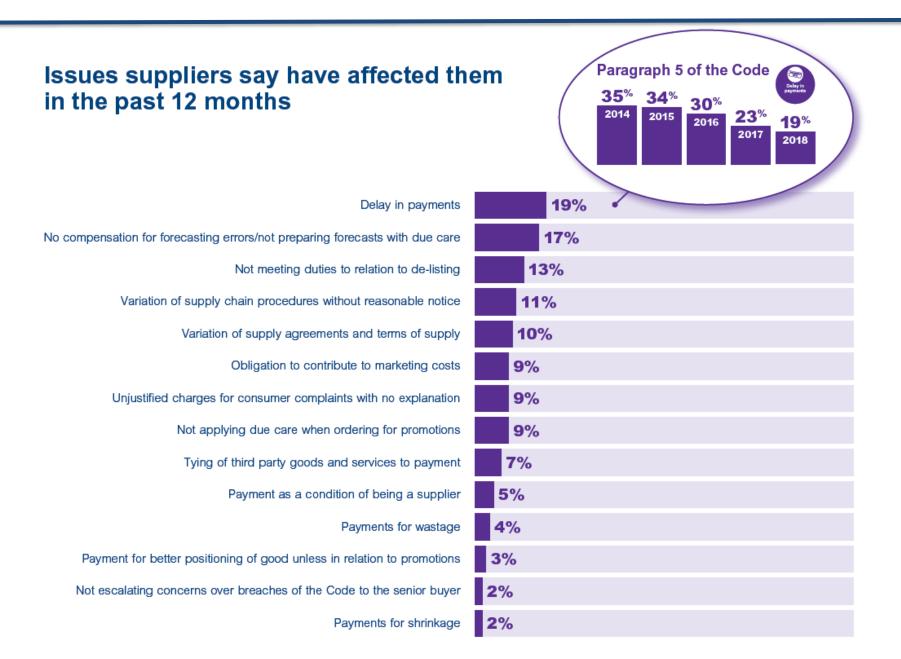


## Seeing progress year-on-year

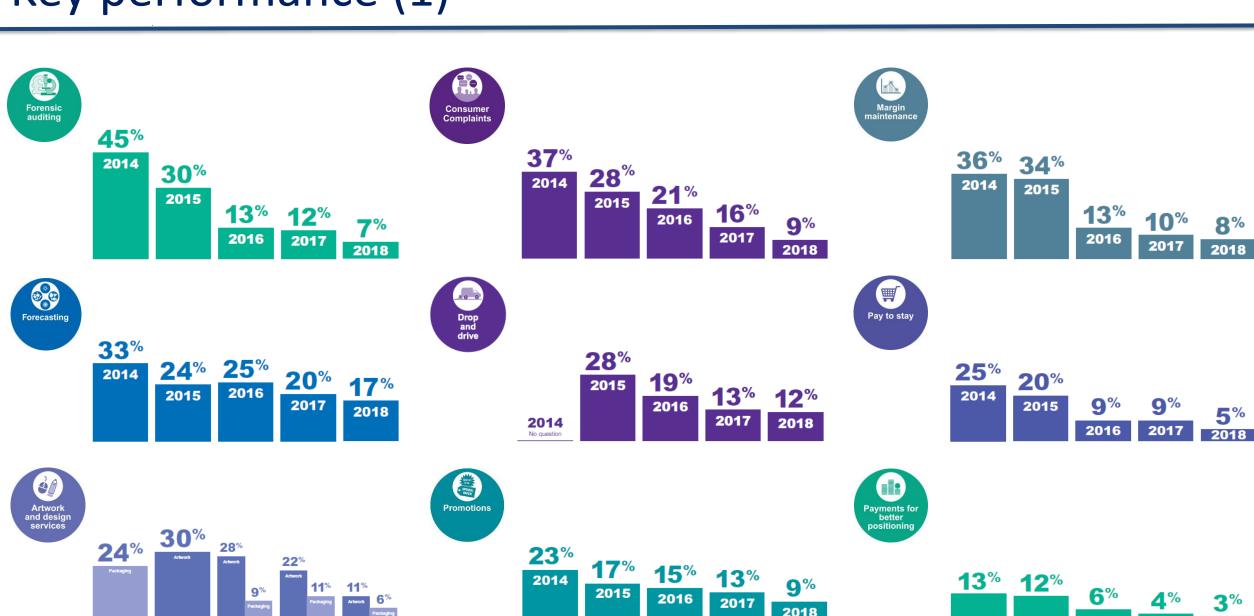
### % Suppliers experiencing Code-related issues



### All Code issues



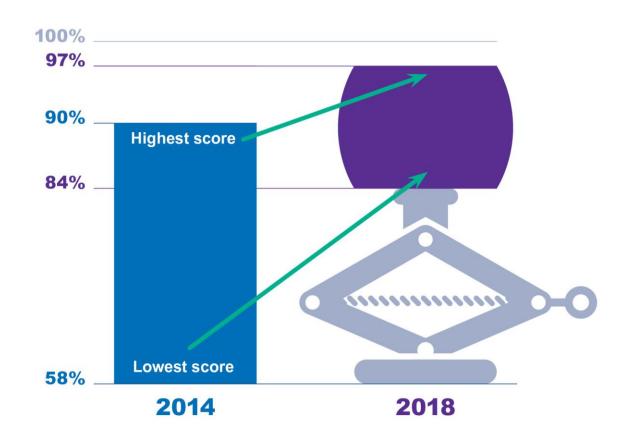
## Key performance (1)



## Key performance (2)

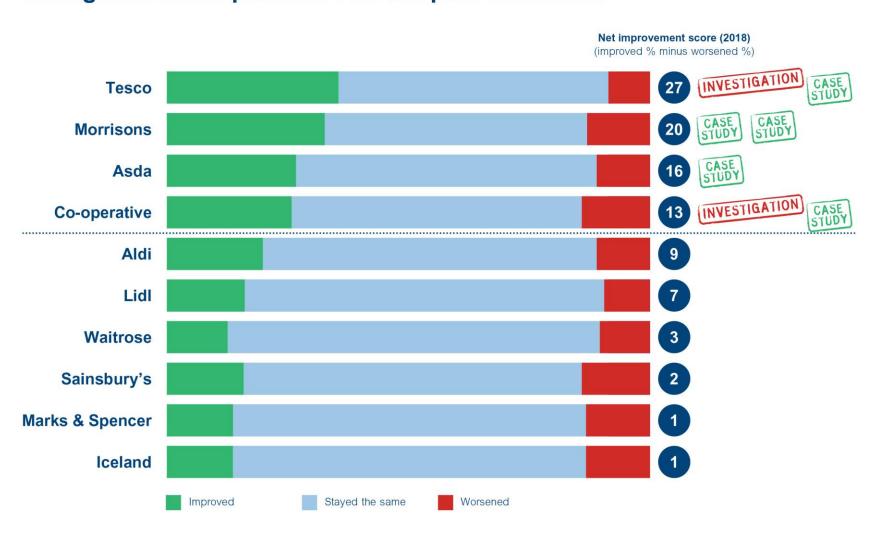
### Overall assessment of retailers' compliance with the Code

Combined individual retailer score of consistently well and mostly



## Key performance (3)

### Change in retailer practice over the past 12 months





## Investigation



8 March 2018 – News story

## GCA launches investigation into Co-operative Group Limited

The GCA announces an investigation into Co-operative Group Limited

## Designated retailers



## Suppliers: Get Code Confident



www.gov.uk/GCA

## And don't forget...



### **News from the Adjudicator**

dition 15

### Welcome from the Groceries Code Adjudicator

#### Investigation into Co-operative Group Limited



This newsletter marks a very busy period for the GCA involving a number of key developments. On 8 March I launched an investigation into the Co-operative Group Limited to find out more about its practices relating to de-listing and the introduction of benchmarking and depot quality control charges. This covers a period from early 2016 to at least summer 2017. You can read more about the investigation here.

I have been working with the Co-operative Group on these issues for some months through my collaborative approach but I decided an investigation was necessary so I can fully understand the extent to which the Code may have been broken and the root causes of the issues. It is now

important that suppliers provide me with information to help my investigation. I want to hear what you have to say about whether you have experienced any of the issues now being investigated and if so, the impact on you of the Co-op's conduct. All information I receive will be treated with complete confidentiality. My call for evidence ends on 3 May. Please send any information to enquiries@g.ca.gsi.gov.uk.

#### Annual groceries sector survey 2018

Each year I commission YouGov to carry out a groceries sector survey and the results help shape my work programme for the year ahead and alert me to emerging issues and developments.

The more responses I receive, the deeper I can delve into the issues affecting the sector. Last year I had a record response and the results were very Illuminating and valuable. Wy fifth survey is open until 22 April and you can respond at www.yougov.com/gca. It should only take 10 minutes to complete and it is your chance to let me know how the 10 regulated retailers are complying with the Code. Everything you tell me is treated in strict confidence. PouGov collate and analyse the answers and respondents are not identified to me without prior consent. The results are reported at my annual conference. I would urge you to register now to attend this on 25 June as it is valuable for learning about the latest developments with the Code and my plans for the year shead. It is always well subscribed.

### Call for evidence on extension to the remit of the GCA

Recently, the Government published its response to the call for evidence on extending my remit. As a result the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) will examine whether more retailers should be added to the 10 already regulated. I welcome this because I believe there ought to be a level playing field for grocery retailers.

I am looking forward to hearing the CMA's plans for designating any new retailers and I encourage suppliers to take part in the process and let the CMA have your evidence about which retailers should be covered. The outcome will benefit you. And for those groceries retailers who may find themselves regulated in the near future I would urge you to think now about what action you may need to take to ensure you are Code compliant.

arisone Town

Christine Tacon

## Sign up to my newsletter at www.gov.uk/GCA