

**REFERENCE RELATING TO THE COMPLETED ACQUISITION
BY JOHN MENZIES PLC, THROUGH ITS SUBSIDIARY MENZIES AVIATION (UK)
LIMITED, OF PART OF THE BUSINESS OF AIRLINE SERVICES LIMITED**

**Notice of provisional findings made under Rule 11.3
of the Competition and Markets Authority Rules of Procedure¹**

1. On 14 August 2018, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), made a reference to its chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the Inquiry Group)² in accordance with section 22 of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act), regarding the completed acquisition by John Menzies plc, through its subsidiary Menzies Aviation (UK) Limited (Menzies), of part of the business of Airline Services Limited (Airline Services) and requiring to report within a period ending on 28 January 2019.

Provisional findings

2. The CMA Inquiry Group appointed to consider this reference has made the following provisional findings on the statutory questions it has to decide pursuant to section 35(1) of the Act:
 - (a) a relevant merger situation has been created; and
 - (b) the creation of that situation has not resulted, and may not be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the UK for goods and services.
3. The Inquiry Group's reasons are set out in full in the provisional findings report, which is attached to this notice, and are summarised in the summary of the provisional findings report (see note below).

¹ See [Rules of procedure for merger, market and special reference groups: CMA17](#).

² Under Schedule 4 to the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013.

The next steps

4. Menzies and Airline Services, and any other person wishing to comment, are now invited to provide the Inquiry Group with their reasons in writing as to why these provisional findings should not become final (or, as the case may be, should be varied).
5. These reasons should be received by the Inquiry Group no later than **5pm on Wednesday 9 January 2019**.
6. The Inquiry Group will have regard to any such reasons provided by Menzies and Airline Services in making its final decisions on the statutory questions and any consequential actions. However, the Inquiry Group shall not be obliged to take into account reasons which are provided after the deadline specified in paragraph 5 above.

Anne Lambert
Inquiry Group Chair
14 December 2018

Note: A copy of this notice and the summary of the provisional findings report will be placed on the CMA website on 14 December. The CMA proposes to publish the provisional findings report on its website by 18 December. The published version of the provisional findings report will not contain any information which the Inquiry Group considers should be excluded from the report, having regard to the three considerations set out in section 244 of the Act. These omissions are indicated by [✂].

Comments should be made by email to Menzies.AviationServices@cma.gov.uk or in writing to:

Project Manager
Menzies / Airline Services merger inquiry
Competition and Markets Authority
Victoria House
Southampton Row
London WC1B 4AD