

ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY BELLIS ACQUISITION COMPANY 3 LIMITED OF ASDA GROUP LIMITED

Notice 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 8 December 2020 the European Commission referred the whole of the anticipated acquisition by Bellis Acquisition Company 3 Limited of Asda Group 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 8 January 2021 the CMA issued a notice under section 109 of the Act requiring the provision of certain information and documents by 6pm on 11 January 2021 to each of TDR Capital LLP (**TDR**) (the **TDR Notice**), Mr Mohsin Issa (the **Mohsin Issa Notice**), Mr Zuber Issa (the **Zuber Issa Notice**) and Walmart Inc. (**Walmart**) (the **Walmart Notice**). The information and documents required under the TDR Notice, Mohsin Issa Notice, Zuber Issa Notice and Walmart Notice has not been provided to the satisfaction of the CMA. TDR, Mr Mohsin Issa, Mr Zuber Issa and Walmart have, therefore, failed (with or without a reasonable excuse) to comply with a requirement of a notice under section 109 of the Act.

Accordingly, the CMA has decided that, pursuant to section 34A(5) of the Act, the preliminary assessment period should be extended until TDR, Mr Mohsin Issa, Mr Zuber Issa and Walmart provide the information and documents to the satisfaction of the CMA as required by the TDR Notice, Mohsin Issa Notice, Zuber Issa and Walmart notice (respectively) or the CMA cancels this extension.

The extension comes into force on the date of publication of this notice.