

Market Study Notice

Mobile ecosystems

The Competition and Markets Authority (referred to in this notice as ‘the CMA’) publishes this market study notice in accordance with section 130A of the Enterprise Act 2002 (‘the Act’).

1. The CMA is proposing to carry out its functions under section 5 of the Act in relation to the supply of mobile ecosystems in the United Kingdom, to consider the extent to which a matter in relation to the supply of those services has or may have effects adverse to the interests of consumers, and to assess the extent to which steps can and should be taken to remedy, mitigate or prevent any such adverse effects.
2. In this notice the supply of ‘mobile ecosystems’ means the supply of smartphones and tablets, and associated software such as operating systems, app stores, browsers, and applications. In this notice, ‘browsers’ refers to all web browsers, and associated browser engines, that can be accessed via mobile or desktop devices.
3. Further details of the market study into mobile ecosystems and browsers, including detailed issues on which the CMA would welcome responses, are provided in the Statement of Scope document annexed to this notice.
4. The CMA now invites any persons wishing to make representations on the matter, including on whether the CMA should make a market investigation reference under section 131 of the Act, to do so in writing no later than 26 July 2021.
5. If the CMA proposes to make a market investigation reference or if a representation (as provided for in section 131A of the Act) has been made to the CMA that such a reference should be made but the CMA proposes not to make one, the CMA will publish a notice of that proposal and begin the process of consultation under section 131A(2)(b) of the Act no later than 14 December 2021.

6. Save where paragraph 5 applies, if the CMA decides not to make a market investigation reference under section 131 of the Act the CMA will publish notice of that decision no later than 14 December 2021.
7. The CMA will publish its market study report, setting out its findings in relation to the matter specified in this notice and the action (if any) which the CMA proposes to take in relation to that matter, no later than 14 June 2022.

15 June 2021

Competition and Markets Authority

Notes

- (i) Representations should be made in writing to Simeon Thornton (Project Director) at mobileecosystems@cma.gov.uk.
- (ii) A copy of this notice is placed on the CMA's case page on 15 June 2021.