

**Completed acquisition by Admiral Taverns of pubs owned by
Hawthorn Leisure Topco Limited (the Hampden Pub Estate)**

**Notice under paragraph (b) of the definition of ‘initial period’ in
section 34ZA(3) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act) published
pursuant to section 107(1)(ab) of the Act**

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) hereby gives notice pursuant to paragraph (b) of the definition of ‘initial period’ in section 34ZA(3) of the Act that it has sufficient information in relation to the completed acquisition by Admiral Taverns of pubs owned by Hawthorn Leisure Topco Limited (the **Hampden Pub Estate**), (the **Merger**) to enable it to begin an investigation for the purposes of deciding whether to make a reference for a Phase 2 investigation.

The initial period defined in section 34ZA(3) of the Act in relation to the Merger will therefore commence on the first working day after the date of this notice, ie on 8 October 2021. The end of the initial period and the deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Merger for a Phase 2 investigation is therefore 2 December 2021