

**Completed acquisition by Pennon Group plc of Bristol Water Holdings UK Limited**

**Notice under 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 the definition of 'initial period' in section 34ZA(3) of the Act, having effect as amended by the Water Mergers (Modification of Enactments) Regulations 2004, that it has sufficient information in relation to the completed acquisition by Pennon Group plc of Bristol Water Holdings UK Limited (the Merger) to enable it to begin an investigation for the purposes of deciding whether to make a reference for a Phase 2 investigation in connection with its duty under section 32(b) of the Water Industry Act 1991.

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 28 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 22 December 2021.