



British Glass

Consultation Response

CMA – Retained Vertical Agreements Block Exemption Regulation

July 2021

British Glass members support keeping measures in line with the EU

British Glass support the CMA's proposals for the UK VABEO. The proposed order remains broadly similar to the previous EU regulation, which is welcome.

British Glass have consulted with our glass manufacturing members regarding the CMA's proposals for the Vertical Agreements Block Exemption Order (VABEO), which will replace the Retained Vertical Agreements Block Exemption Regulation (Retained VABER), transitioned from the UK's membership of the EU.

Many British Glass members are part of multi-national groups which operate across a number of territories. Several of these are concentrated in the EU. Members would therefore benefit most from the new UK VABEO remaining broadly similar to the previous, EU regulation. This would limit the cost and administration associated with complying with the new VABEO. UK industry has, as a consequence of the UK's exit from the EU, had a range of new or amended regulations and procedures to comply with, covering areas from trade to environmental compliance. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has made this adjustment more challenging. British Glass appreciate the necessity of these changes, but urge the CMA to be conscious of the cost and administrative burden on businesses should significant alterations be made.