

Completed acquisition by Sony Music Entertainment of all of the issued shares of the entities comprising the AWAL and the Kobalt Neighbouring Rights businesses from Kobalt Music Group Limited

Termination of extension of inquiry period¹

1. On 16 September 2021, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), in exercise of its duty under section 22(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act), referred the completed acquisition by Sony Music Entertainment (SME), a subsidiary of Sony Group Corporation (Sony Group), of all of the issued shares of the entities comprising the AWAL business and the Kobalt Neighbouring Rights business from Kobalt Music Group Limited for further investigation and report by a group of CMA panel members (the Inquiry Group).
2. On 3 November 2021, the CMA published a notice of an extension of the reference period, made pursuant to section 39(4) of the Act as a result of the failure by Sony Group, SME and The Orchard, EU Limited to comply with the requirements of a notice under section 109 of the Act (the section 109 notice).
3. The CMA is now satisfied for the purposes of section 39(8) of the Act that the documents and information required by the section 109 notice have been provided.
4. The extension has now ended, and 15 days will be added to the statutory deadline

(signed)

Margot Daly

Inquiry Group Chair

18 November 2021

¹ Published pursuant to sections [39\(8\)](#) and [107\(2\)\(d\)](#) of the Act.