

**REFERENCE RELATING TO THE COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY  
CHC GROUP LLC OF OFFSHORE HELICOPTER SERVICES UK  
LIMITED, OFFSHORE SERVICES AUSTRALASIA PTY LTD, AND  
OFFSHORE HELICOPTER SERVICES DENMARK A/S**

**Notice of provisional findings made under Rule 11.3  
of the Competition and Markets Authority Rules of Procedure<sup>1</sup>**

1. On 29 November 2021, in exercise of its duty under section 22(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**), the Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**), made a reference to its chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**)<sup>2</sup> regarding the completed acquisition by CHC Group LLP (**CHC**) of Offshore Helicopter Services UK Limited (**Offshore UK**), Offshore Services Australasia Pty Ltd (**Offshore Australia**), and Offshore Helicopter Services Denmark A/S (**Offshore Denmark**) and requiring it to report within a period ending 15 May 2022. The acquired entities (together the **Fisher Business**) were subsidiaries of Babcock International Group plc (**Babcock**).

***Provisional findings***

2. The Inquiry Group has made the following provisional findings on the statutory questions it has to decide, pursuant to section 35(1) of the Act:
  - (a) a relevant merger situation has been created; and
  - (a) the creation of that situation has resulted, or may be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition (**SLC**) within any market or markets in the United Kingdom for goods and services.
3. The Inquiry Group's reasons are set out in full in the provisional findings report, which is attached to this notice, and are summarized in the summary of the provisional findings report (see note below).

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<sup>1</sup> See [Rules of procedure for merger, market and special reference groups: CMA17](#).

<sup>2</sup> Under Schedule 4 to the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013.

### ***The next steps***

4. Anyone wishing to comment on the provisional findings is now invited to provide the Inquiry Group with their reasons in writing as to why these provisional findings should not become final (or, as the case may be, should be varied).
5. These reasons should be received by the Principal Case Officer on behalf of the Inquiry Group no later than **17:00 on Thursday 7 April 2022**.
6. The Inquiry Group will have regard to any such reasons in making its final decisions on the statutory questions and any consequential actions. The Inquiry Group shall not be obliged to take into account reasons which are provided after the deadline specified in paragraph 5 above.
7. The Inquiry Group is also publishing a Notice of possible remedies. This sets out the actions which it considers might be taken by the CMA to remedy, mitigate or prevent the substantial lessening of competition and resultant adverse effects provisionally identified.

[Signed]

Kip Meek

*Inquiry Group Chair*

17 March 2022

*Note:* A copy of this notice and the summary of the provisional findings report will be placed on the [CMA website](#) on 17 March 2022. The CMA proposes to publish the provisional findings report on its [website](#) shortly thereafter. The published version of the provisional findings report will not contain any information which the Inquiry Group considers should be excluded from the report, having regard to the three considerations set out in section 244 of the Act. These omissions are indicated by [X].

Comments should be made by email to [chc.babcock@cma.gov.uk](mailto:chc.babcock@cma.gov.uk) and [rob.fitzgerald-crisp@cma.gov.uk](mailto:rob.fitzgerald-crisp@cma.gov.uk) or in writing to:

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