

**COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY WM MORRISON
SUPERMARKETS LTD OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF MCCOLL'S
RETAIL GROUP PLC, MARTIN MCCOLL LIMITED, CLARK
RETAIL LIMITED, DILLONS STORES LIMITED, SMILE STORES
LIMITED, CHARNWAIT MANAGEMENT LIMITED, AND MARTIN
RETAIL GROUP LIMITED**

13 July 2022

**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 Wm Morrison Supermarkets Ltd of certain assets of McColl's Retail Group Plc, Martin McColl Limited, Clark Retail Limited, Dillons Stores Limited, Smile Stores Limited, Charnwait Management Limited, and Martin Retail Group 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.

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 14 July 2022. The deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Merger for a Phase 2 investigation is therefore 8 September 2022.