

REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN FORFARMERS N.V. AND BOPARAN PRIVATE OFFICE LIMITED

Notice of cancellation of inquiry under section 37(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002

1. On 9 January 2023, the Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**), in exercise of its duty under [section 33\(1\)](#) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**), referred the anticipated joint venture between ForFarmers N.V. (together with its subsidiaries, **ForFarmers**), via ForFarmers UK Holdings Limited, and Boparan Private Office Limited (part of **Boparan**, the group of companies operated by, and under the common ownership of, Ranjit Singh Boparan and his family interests, through Boparan Private Office Limited and Boparan Holdco Limited), via Amber REI Holdings Limited, with the purpose of merging their respective businesses and operations in the production of animal nutrition products, namely ForFarmers UK Limited and 2 Agriculture Limited (the **Merger**) to its Chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**).¹
2. The terms of reference required the CMA to examine:
 - (a) whether arrangements are in progress or in contemplation which, if carried into effect, will result in the creation of a relevant merger situation; and
 - (b) if so, whether the creation of that situation may be expected to result in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the United Kingdom for goods or services.
3. The CMA has received written assurances from the Parties that the proposed joint venture between ForFarmers and Boparan has been abandoned. The Inquiry Group, having had regard to those assurances, is satisfied that ForFarmers and Boparan have, within the terms of [section 37\(1\)](#) of the Act, abandoned the proposal to make arrangements of the kind mentioned in the reference. The Inquiry Group has consequently cancelled the reference in accordance with its powers under [section 37\(1\)](#) of the Act.

¹ ForFarmers and Boparan are together referred to as the **Parties**.

4. This cancellation is published in accordance with requirements laid down by sections [107\(2\)\(a\)](#) and [107\(4\)](#) of the Act.

(signed)

Richard Feasey

Inquiry Group Chair

8 February 2023