

**REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED JOINT VENTURE
BETWEEN VODAFONE GROUP PLC AND CK HUTCHISON
HOLDINGS LIMITED CONCERNING VODAFONE LIMITED AND
HUTCHISON 3G UK LIMITED**

**Notice of extension of inquiry period under section 39(4) of the
Enterprise Act 2002¹**

1. On 4 April 2024, 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 Vodafone Group Plc (**Vodafone**) and CK Hutchison Holdings Limited (**CK Hutchison**) concerning Vodafone Limited (**VUK**) and Hutchison 3G UK Limited (**3UK**) for an in-depth investigation and report by a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**). The period within which the report on this reference is to be prepared and published under section 39(1) of the Act (the **reference period**) is due to expire on 18 September 2024.
2. On 17 April 2024, the CMA issued a notice to CK Hutchison under section 109 of the Act (the section 109 notice) requiring CK Hutchison to provide the documents and information specified in the section 109 notice by 17:00 (UK time) on 9 May 2024.
3. The CMA considers that CK Hutchison (whether with or without a reasonable excuse) has failed to comply with the requirements of the section 109 notice.
4. On 10 May 2024, the Inquiry Group decided pursuant to section 39(4) of the Act that the reference period should be extended until CK Hutchison complies with the requirements of the section 109 notice, or the CMA publishes its decision to cancel the extension.
5. The extension to the reference period comes into force on the date of publication of this notice.

Stuart McIntosh
Inquiry Group Chair
10 May 2024

¹ Published pursuant to section 107(2)(c) of the Enterprise Act 2002.