

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

Termination of extension of inquiry period¹

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 and CK Hutchison Holdings Limited (**CK Hutchison**) concerning Vodafone Limited and Hutchison 3G UK Limited for an in-depth investigation and report by a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**).
2. On 10 May 2024, 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 CK Hutchison to comply with the requirements of a notice, issued under section 109 of the Act (the **section 109 notice**) that required 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 is now satisfied for the purposes of section 39(8) of the Act that the information and documents required by the section 109 notice have been provided and the CMA's notice of extension of the reference period dated 10 May 2024 is therefore cancelled.

The extension has now ended, and 24 days will be added to the statutory deadline. The reference period will now expire on 12 October 2024.

Stuart McIntosh
Inquiry Group Chair
3 June 2024

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