

REFERENCE RELATING TO THE COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY SPREADEX LIMITED OF THE B2C BUSINESS OF SPORTING INDEX LIMITED

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

- On 17 April 2024, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), in exercise of its duty under section 22(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act), referred the completed acquisition by Spreadex Limited (Spreadex) of the businessto-consumer (B2C) business of Sporting Index Limited (Sporting Index) (together, the Parties) 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 required to be prepared and published is 26 November 2024 (the revised reference period), following an <u>extension</u> made on 25 July 2024, pursuant to section 39(3) of the Act, of the original reference period that was due to expire on 1 October 2024.
- On 25 September 2024, the CMA issued a notice to Spreadex and Spreadex.Com Limited under section 109 of the Act (the section 109 notice) requiring Spreadex and Spreadex.Com Limited to provide the documents and information specified in the section 109 notice by 10am (UK time) on Monday 30 September 2024.
- 3. The CMA considers that each of Spreadex and Spreadex.Com Limited (whether with or without a reasonable excuse) has failed to comply with the requirements of the section 109 notice.
- 4. On Monday 30 September 2024, following the expiry of the response deadline, the Inquiry Group decided pursuant to section 39(4) of the Act that the revised reference period should be extended until Spreadex and Spreadex.Com Limited comply with the requirements of the section 109 notice to the CMA's satisfaction, or the CMA publishes its decision to cancel the extension.
- 5. The extension to the revised reference period comes into force on the date of publication of this notice.

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

Richard Feasey *Inquiry Group Chair* 30 September 2024