

## REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY BOPARAN PRIVATE OFFICE LIMITED (VIA 2 AGRICULTURE LIMITED) OF FORFARMERS UK LIMITED'S BURSTON AND RADSTOCK FEED MILLS

## Notice of extension of inquiry period under section 39(8A) of the Enterprise Act 2002<sup>1</sup>

- On 20 November 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 acquisition by Boparan Private Office Limited (via 2 Agriculture Limited) (together referred to as Boparan) of ForFarmers UK Limited's Burston and Radstock feed mills (ForFarmers) (the Merger) to its Chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the Inquiry Group).<sup>2</sup> The period within which the report on this reference was to be prepared and published (the reference period) was due to expire on 6 May 2025.
- 2. On 20 November 2024, the Parties made a request to the CMA in accordance with section 39(8A) of the Act for a specified period of time to be disregarded for the purposes of the reference period, as the Parties were considering next steps, including whether to proceed with the CMA's investigation or whether to abandon the arrangements which are the subject of the reference.
- 3. The CMA considered the request and reasonably believes that the proposed arrangements might be abandoned.
- 4. Accordingly, the CMA has decided, pursuant to section 39(8A) of the Act, that a period of one week is to be disregarded for the purposes of the reference period and the reference period will therefore expire on 13 May 2025.

Kirstin Baker

Inquiry Group Chair
20 November 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Published pursuant to sections 39(8B) and 107(2)(c) of the Enterprise Act 2002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Boparan and ForFarmers are together referred to as the **Parties** and, for statements relating to the future, the **Merged Entity**.