

REFERENCE RELATING TO THE COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY ARAMARK LIMITED OF ENTIER LIMITED

Interim Report: Notice made under Rule 11 of the Competition and Markets Authority Rules of Procedure¹

1. On 5 August 2025, the Competition and Markets Authority (the **CMA**), in exercise of its duty under section 22(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**), made a reference to its chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**)² regarding the completed acquisition by Aramark Limited (**Aramark**) of Entier Limited (**Entier**) (the **Merger**) for further investigation and requiring it to report within a period ending on 19 January 2026.³

Interim Report

- 2. The Inquiry Group appointed to consider this reference has made the following provisional findings on the statutory questions it has to decide pursuant to section 35(1) of the Act:
 - (a) a relevant merger situation has been created; and
 - (b) the creation of that situation has resulted, or may be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition (SLC) in the Offshore Infrastructure Market⁴ in the United Kingdom.
- 3. The Inquiry Group's reasons are set out in full in the Interim Report, which is attached to this notice, and are summarised in the summary of the Interim Report (see note below).

¹ See CMA rules of procedure for merger, market and special reference groups: CMA17, 2 January 2025, Rule 11.

² Under Schedule 4 to the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013.

³ Aramark and Entier are each a **Party** to the Merger; together they are referred to as the **Parties**.

⁴ The Offshore Infrastructure Market is defined in the Interim Report as the market for the supply of OCS (ie offshore catering services and ancillary facilities management services) to customers for Offshore Infrastructure Assets in the United Kingdom Continental Shelf. Offshore Infrastructure Assets are defined in the Interim Report as comprising: oil and gas production assets; mobile offshore drilling units; and accommodation barges.

The next steps

- 4. Anyone wishing to comment on the Interim Report is now invited to provide the Inquiry Group with their reasons in writing as to why these provisional findings should not become final (or, as the case may be, should be varied).
- 5. These reasons should be received by the Inquiry Group no later than **5pm on Friday 14 November 2025**. For comments submitted by email, these should be sent to Aramark.Entier@cma.gov.uk.
- 6. The Inquiry Group will have regard to any such reasons in making its final decisions on the statutory questions and actions. However, the Inquiry Group shall not be obliged to take into account reasons which are provided after the deadline specified in paragraph 5.
- 7. Where the Inquiry Group provisionally identifies an SLC in the Interim Report, the Inquiry Group will consider possible remedies to address the SLC in parallel with considering responses to its Interim Report. The Parties are required to confirm to the CMA within three working days of notification of the CMA's Interim Report, whether they intend to submit a completed Phase 2 Remedies Form (Remedies Form). In order to propose possible remedies for the Inquiry Group's consideration, the Parties are required to submit a Phase 2 Remedies Form, 5 by no later than 5pm on Friday 7 November 2025. Following submission by the Parties of the Remedies Form (or confirmation by the Parties that they do not intend to submit such a form), the CMA will publish an Invitation to Comment on Remedies in order to consult on possible action to remedy, mitigate or prevent the SLC and the resulting adverse effects provisionally identified. (For more information on the phase 2 remedy process, see chapter 12 of Mergers: Guidance on the CMA's jurisdiction and procedure (CMA2).)

Richard Feasey
Inquiry Group Chair
24 October 2025

Note: A copy of this notice and the summary of the Interim Report will be placed on the CMA website on 24 October 2025. The CMA proposes to publish the Interim Report on its website shortly thereafter. The published version of the Interim Report will not contain any information which the Inquiry Group considers should be excluded from the report, having regard to the three considerations set out in section 244 of the Act. These omissions are indicated by [\gg].

⁵ See: Phase 2 remedies form - GOV.UK.