

ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY ASSOCIATED BRITISH FOODS PLC (THROUGH ABF GRAIN PRODUCTS LIMITED) OF HOVIS GROUP LIMITED

Administrative timetable*

*Published on 15 January 2026, as required by Rule 7 of the [Competition and Markets Authority Rules of Procedure for Merger, Market and Special Reference Groups \(CMA17\)](#). Any revisions made to the timetable will be published on this website.

Phase 2 date	Action
8 January 2026	Merger reference made
28 January 2026	Deadline for responses to the CMA's 'Areas of focus' document
January to March	Gather information, including issuing information requests / questionnaires, and calls with third parties
	Consider responses to the CMA's 'Areas of focus' document
	Initial meeting(s) with the merger parties, including a teach-in and the 'initial substantive meeting'
	Analysis of evidence; verifying information
Late March	Publish interim report
Mid- to late April	Publish 'Invitation to Comment on Remedies' and non-confidential version of merger parties' remedy proposal (if required)
Late April to early May	Consider responses to the CMA's interim report
	Main party hearings
	Remedy meeting with merger parties and remedy calls with third parties (if required)
Mid-May	Disclose interim report on remedies to merger parties (if required)
Late May	Final deadline for all parties' responses/submissions
Early June	Publish final report
24 June 2026	Statutory deadline