

FINAL NOTICE OF RELEASE OF REMEDIES

1. Undertakings and orders are the primary means by which the Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**) implements remedies to resolve any competition concerns it finds following a merger investigation under the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**). Remedies can take different forms such as the prohibition of a merger, the divestiture of a business or behavioural commitments to do or refrain from doing certain things.
2. The CMA has a statutory duty under section 92 of the Act to keep undertakings and orders under review.¹ From time to time, the CMA must consider whether, by reason of any change of circumstances:²
 - (a) undertakings are no longer appropriate and need to be varied, superseded or one or more parties released; or
 - (b) an order is no longer appropriate and needs to be varied or revoked.
3. In 2025, the CMA conducted a strategic review of 37 merger remedies in our portfolio. A strategic review enables the CMA to review and vary, release or revoke remedies efficiently, thereby reducing the regulatory burden on businesses subject to those remedies, and enabling the CMA to focus on monitoring and enforcing those remedies for which there is still a need.
4. On 8 December 2025 we published our Notice of Intention to release these remedies. The consultation ended on 7 January 2026.

NOTICE

5. The CMA discharged its duty under Schedule 10 of the Act by publishing a notice of intention to release such remedies and to consult on that notice for

¹ In addition, Schedule 24 of the Act makes provision in cases where undertakings were originally accepted under the Fair Trading Act 1973.

² [Section 92](#) of the Act.

a minimum of 15 days (in the case of the undertakings) or 30 days (in the case of the one order included within the strategic review).

6. The CMA received no representations objecting to the release of these remedies.
7. In all 37 cases our final decision is that the remedies should be released or revoked for the reasons given in the notice of intention to release.
8. The CMA gives final notice of release or revocation of the merger remedies in all 37 cases under review.
9. The CMA's public register will be updated accordingly.

REMEDIES REMOVED

10. The 37 remedies released or revoked are:³
 1. Abellio East Midlands Limited / The East Midlands Franchise
 2. Admenta / IPCC
 3. Aggregate Industries Ltd / Atlantic Aggregates Ltd
 4. Aggregate Industries Ltd / Foster Yeoman Ltd
 5. Asda / Netto
 6. Blackstone LR Associates (Cayman) IV Ltd / UGC Cinemas Holdings Limited
 7. Boots Group / Alliance UniChem
 8. Carlyle Group / Palamon Capital / Integrated Dental Holdings Group and Associated Dental Practices
 9. Co-operative Group (CWS) Limited / Fairways Group UK Limited
 10. The Co-operative Group (CWS) Limited / United Co-operatives Limited
 11. Co-operative Group / Lothian Borders and Angus Co-operative Society

³ For a summary of these cases see [Strategic review of merger remedies 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

12. Co-operative Group / Somerfield
13. Emap plc / ABI Building Data Limited
14. Enterprise Inns plc / Laurel Pub Group Ltd
15. FirstGroup and MTR / South Western rail franchise
16. Greene King plc / Laurel Pub Holdings Limited – 2004
17. Greene King plc / Laurel Pub Holdings Limited – 2006
18. Greene King plc / Spirit Pub Company plc
19. Hanson plc / Pioneer International Limited
20. Inchcape plc / European Motor Holdings plc
21. iSOFT Group plc / Torex plc
22. Jewson / Build Center
23. Johnston Press plc / Local Press Ltd
24. Ladbroke Racing (Reading) Ltd / Hilton Group plc
25. Lightcatch Ltd / Tote (Successor Company) Ltd
26. Midcounties Co-operative / Harry Tuffin Investments
27. Nakano UK Holding Limited / Premier Foods Group Limited
28. Pendragon plc / Reg Vardy
29. Princes / Premier Foods Ltd
30. Rexel UK / Wilts Wholesale Electrical Company
31. Shell UK Limited / Consortium Rontec Investments LLP
32. Schlumberger Limited / The Raytheon Company
33. Solway Foods (Boparan Holdings Ltd) / Premier Foods (Brookes and Avana businesses)
34. Terra Firma Investments (GP) 2 Ltd / United Cinemas International (UK) Ltd and Cinema International Corporation (UK) Ltd
35. Travis Perkins / BSS Group

36. Vue Entertainment / Apollo Cinemas
37. William Hill plc / Stanley Leisure plc

**Naomi Burgoyne (Senior Director Mergers),
23 January 2026**