

Response from the Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union to the CMA's invitation to comment on remedies

The Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union (BFAWU) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the CMA's invitation to provide views on possible remedies.

We recognise the CMA's provisional findings and the structural challenges facing the bakery sector.

We do not seek to support or oppose any particular remedy or prospective purchaser. However, we consider it important that, in assessing the effectiveness of any remedy, the CMA has regard to workforce-related factors that may impact long-term viability and operational resilience.

In particular, we would highlight that:

- The retention of a skilled and stable workforce is critical to maintaining production, quality and reliability of supply
- Any remedy should result in a genuinely viable, standalone business capable of operating as a going concern
- The suitability of any purchaser should include consideration of their ability to sustain employment, skills and operational capacity over the long term

A model based primarily on short-term cost reduction or workforce instability may undermine the effectiveness of any remedy and the ability of the business to compete sustainably.

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