

COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY CO-OPERATIVE GROUP LIMITED OF THE SOUTHERN CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED

30 July 2026

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 96(2A) OF THE ENTERPRISE ACT 2002 PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 107(1)(I) OF THE ENTERPRISE ACT 2002

1. The Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**) hereby gives notice pursuant to section 96(2A) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**) that the merger notice provided by Co-operative Group Limited and Siena Co-operative Limited in relation to the completed acquisition by Co-operative Group Limited of The Southern Co-operative Limited (the **Merger**) meets the requirements of section 96(2) of the Act.
2. The initial period defined in section 34ZA(3) of the Act in relation to the Merger will therefore commence on the first working day after the date of this notice, ie on 31 July 2026. The deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Merger for a phase 2 investigation is therefore 28 September 2026.