

Completed acquisition by DS Smith plc of LINPAC Containers Limited

Disclosure of members' interests

Peter Freeman

Peter Freeman, the chairman of the group that is conducting this inquiry was, until 1 September 2003, a partner in Simmons & Simmons. While at Simmons & Simmons, Mr Freeman acted for Cadbury Schweppes plc in relation to certain aspects of its business, though he did not advise on any matters relating to cardboard packaging. Mr Freeman has now retired from Simmons & Simmons.

Mr Freeman does not believe that the matter disclosed above in relation to him will affect his ability to act impartially and independently as a member of the Group.

John Collings

Professor Paul Geroski, the Chairman of the CC, has appointed Dr John Collings, one of the members of the CC, to the group that will be conducting this inquiry.

Dr Collings' wife is a senior employee of an international executive recruitment firm which serves clients across a wide range of industries. The firm is working or has recently worked for a number of clients who are active in the packaging sector – specifically corrugated cardboard sheet and corrugated cardboard cases. These clients have not accounted for a significant proportion of the firms' total fee income. Neither of the main parties is a client of the firm.

Dr Collings' wife has extensive shareholdings in substantial and well-established companies owning businesses which purchase corrugated packaging in the context of supplying various manufactured goods to customers, including Cadbury Schweppes plc and Unilever plc. However, in no case does packaging form a predominant part of their business.

Dr Collings does not believe that the matter disclosed above in relation to him will affect his ability to act impartially and independently as a member of the Group.

Laurie Elks

Professor Geroski has appointed Mr Laurie Elks, one of the members of the CC, to the group that will be conducting this inquiry. Mr Elks' partner and mother have small shareholdings in three customers for corrugated cardboard boxes. The individual holdings all have values of less than £5,000.

David Stark

Professor Geroski has appointed Mr David Stark, one of the members of the CC, to the group that will be conducting this inquiry. Mr Stark's wife has a shareholding in one customer for corrugated cardboard boxes with a value of less than £5,000.

The CC is satisfied that none of the interests set out above will the ability of the members concerned to act in an independent or impartial manner in discharging the CC's functions in this inquiry.

Last updated: 08 July 2004

Disclosure of staff member's interests

John Hodgson

Mr John Hodgson, the Accountant adviser to the Inquiry Group, owns 6,696 shares in Unilever plc, a customer for corrugated cardboard boxes. The CC does not believe that the matter disclosed above in relation to Mr Hodgson affects his ability to act impartially and independently in advising the Group.

Last updated: 09 July 2004