

Market Study Notice

Supply of Legal Services in England and Wales

The Competition and Markets Authority (referred to in this notice as 'the CMA') publishes this market study notice in accordance with section 130A of the Enterprise Act 2002 ('the Act').

- 1. The CMA is proposing to carry out its functions under section 5 of the Act in relation to the supply of Legal Services in England and Wales, to consider the extent to which a matter in relation to the supply of those services has or may have effects adverse to the interests of consumers, and to assess the extent to which steps can and should be taken to remedy, mitigate or prevent any such adverse effects.
- 2. Further details of the market study into the supply of Legal Services in England and Wales, including detailed issues on which the CMA would welcome responses, are provided in the Statement of Scope document annexed to this notice.
- 3. The CMA now invites any persons wishing to make representations on the matter, including on whether the CMA should make a market investigation reference under section 131 of the Act, to do so in writing no later than 3 February 2016.
- 4. If the CMA proposes to make a market investigation reference or if a representation (as provided for in section 131A of the Act) has been made to the CMA that such a reference should be made but the CMA proposes not to make one, the CMA will publish a notice of that proposal and begin the process of consultation under section 131A(2)(b) of the Act no later than 12 July 2016.
- 5. Save where paragraph 4 applies, if the CMA decides not to make a market investigation reference under section 131 of the Act the CMA will publish notice of that decision no later than 12 July 2016.
- 6. The CMA will publish its market study report, setting out its findings in relation to the matter specified in this notice and the action (if any) which the CMA proposes to take in relation to that matter, no later than 12 January 2017.

13 January 2016

Competition and Markets Authority

Notes

- (i) Representations should be made in writing to Maria Rican-Sevitz (Assistant Project Director) at legal.services@cma.gsi.gov.uk.
- (ii) A copy of this notice is placed on the CMA webpages on 13 January 2016.