Hand sanitiser products: suspected excessive and unfair pricing

The CMA is investigating suspected charging of excessive and unfair prices for hand sanitiser products during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic under Chapter II CA98.

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Competition and Markets Authority (https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/competition-and-markets-authority)

Opened:
18 June 2020
Case type:
CA98 and civil cartels (https://www.gov.uk/cma-cases?case_type%5B%5D=ca98-and-civil-cartels)
Case state:
Open (https://www.gov.uk/cma-cases?case_state%5B%5D=open)
Market sector:
Retail and wholesale (https://www.gov.uk/cma-cases?market_sector%5B%5D=retail-and-wholesale)

Contents

- Case reference: 50924
- Case timetable
- Case information
- Contacts

Case reference: 50924

Case timetable

Date	Action
June to July 2020	Initial investigation: information gathering including issue of formal or informal requests to parties. CMA analysis and review of information gathered.
June 2020	Investigation opened

Case information

On 18 June 2020, the CMA launched investigations under Chapter II of the CA98 into suspected breaches of competition law by four pharmacies and convenience stores. The investigations relate to suspected charging of excessive and unfair prices for hand sanitiser products during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

This investigation is at an early stage and no assumptions should be made that competition law has been infringed. The CMA has not reached a view on whether there is sufficient evidence of an infringement of competition law for it to issue a statement of objections to any of the parties under investigation. Not all investigations result in the CMA issuing a statement of objections. Further details of the CMA's procedures in Antitrust cases are available in our guidance (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-the-cmas-investigation-procedures-in-competition-act-1998-cases).

Contacts

Assistant Director

Maria Rican-Sevitz (020 3738 6859, Maria.Rican-Sevitz@cma.gov.uk)

Director

Brian Jackson (020 3738 6546, Brian.Jackson@cma.gov.uk)

Senior Responsible Officer

Ann Pope (020 3738 6786, Ann.Pope@cma.gov.uk)

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