

**COMPLETED ACQUISITION BY TESCO PLC OF THE CO-OPERATIVE GROUP'S  
STORE AT UXBRIDGE ROAD, SLOUGH**

**Notice of extension of inquiry period published pursuant to section 107(2)(c) of  
the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act)**

On 19 April 2007 the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), in exercise of its duty under section 22 of the Act, referred to the Competition Commission the completed acquisition by Tesco plc of the Co-operative Group's store at Uxbridge Road, Slough. The period within which the report on this reference was to be prepared and published (the reference period) was due to expire on 3 October 2007.

On 17 July 2007 the Members of the Competition Commission appointed to consider this reference (the Group), which includes the Chairman of the Competition Commission, decided, pursuant to section 39(3) of the Act, that the reference period should be extended by eight weeks to 28 November 2007.

In taking the decision, the Group noted the desirability of ensuring consistency of approach, where appropriate, with the ongoing Competition Commission investigation into the supply of groceries by retailers in the UK (the Groceries inquiry). The Group also noted that Provisional Findings in the Groceries inquiry are not due to be published until September 2007.

The Group has concluded that the continuing consideration, with the parties, of the evidence and analytical approach means that an extension to the reference period is necessary. The Group considers that completion of its investigation and the publication of its final report, including any necessary remedy process, would not have been possible within the original reference period.



Peter Freeman  
Chairman  
17 July 2007