

CMA treats Microsoft's hiring of Inflection staff as a merger, then clears it

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Source: <https://www.gov.uk/cma-cases/microsoft-slash-inflection-ai-inquiry>

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Documents the source offers: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66d82eaf7a73423428aa2efe/Summary_of_phase_1_decision.pdf;

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6719ff5f549f63039436b3c8/Full_text_decision.pdf;

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66964b6fce1fd0da7b59260c/Commencement_notice.pdf

Microsoft / Inflection inquiry

The CMA is investigating Microsoft Corporation's (Microsoft) hiring of certain former employees of Inflection AI, Inc. (Inflection) and its entry into associated arrangements with Inflection.

Updates to this page

From:

Competition and Markets Authority

Published: 24 April 2024 Last updated:

24 October 2024

Show all updates

24 October 2024 Full text decision published.

4 September 2024 Clearance decision announced, and summary of phase 1 decision published.

16 July 2024 Commencement notice published

24 April 2024 First published.

Case type:

Mergers

Case state:

Closed

Market sector:

Electronics

Opened:

24 April 2024

Statutory timetable

Phase 1 Action

4 September 2024 Decision announced

16 July 2024 Launch of new merger inquiry

24 April 2024 to 9 May 2024 Invitation to comment

Phase 1

CMA clearance decision

4 September 2024: The CMA has cleared Microsoft's hiring of certain former employees of Inflection and its entry into associated arrangements with Inflection.

[Summary of phase 1 decision \(PDF, 146KB\) \(4.9.24\)](#)

[Full text decision \(PDF, 710KB\) \(24.10.24\)](#)

Launch of merger inquiry

16 July 2024: The CMA announced the launch of its merger inquiry by notice to the parties.

[Commencement notice \(PDF, 94KB\) \(16.7.24\)](#)

Invitation to comment: closed

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) is considering whether it is or may be the case that Microsoft Corporation's hiring of certain former employees of Inflection and its entry into associated arrangements with Inflection has resulted in the creation of a relevant merger situation under the merger provisions of the Enterprise Act 2002 and, if so, whether the creation of that situation has resulted, or may be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the United Kingdom for goods or services.

To assist it with this assessment, the CMA invites comments from any interested party.

[Invitation to comment \(PDF, 123KB\) \(24.4.24\)](#)

[Press notice: CMA seeks views on AI partnerships and other arrangements \(24.4.24\)](#)

Contact

Send written representations about any competition or public interest issues to general.enquiries@cma.gov.uk.

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