

CMA finds Microsoft's OpenAI partnership is not a merger it can review

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Microsoft / OpenAI partnership merger inquiry

The CMA investigated the partnership between Microsoft Corporation (Microsoft) and OpenAI, Inc. (OpenAI)

Updates to this page

From:

Competition and Markets Authority

Published: 8 December 2023 Last updated:

15 April 2025

Show all updates

15 April 2025 Full text decision published.

5 March 2025 Commencement notice and decision summary published.

8 December 2023 First published.

Case type:

Mergers

Case state:

Closed

Market sector:

Electronics

Outcome:

Mergers - phase 1 found not to qualify

Opened:

8 December 2023

Closed:

5 March 2025

Phase 1

Statutory timetable

Date Action

5 March 2025 Decision announced

4 March 2025 Launch of merger inquiry

8 December 2023 to 3 January 2024 Invitation to comment

Found not to qualify decision

5 March 2025: The CMA has decided that Microsoft's partnership with OpenAI does not qualify for investigation under the merger provisions of the Enterprise Act 2002.

Full text decision (PDF, 300KB) (15.4.25)

Summary of phase 1 decision (PDF, 147KB) (5.3.25)

Launch of merger inquiry

4 March 2025: The CMA announced the launch of its merger inquiry by notice to the parties.

Commencement notice (PDF, 90KB) (5.3.25)

Invitation to comment: closed

8 December 2023: The CMA is considering whether it is or may be the case that Microsoft's partnership with OpenAI, or any changes thereto, 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 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, in advance of the CMA's formal investigation starting.

These comments should be provided by the deadline set out above.

Invitation to comment (PDF, 104KB) (8.12.23)

Press notice: CMA seeks views on Microsoft's partnership with OpenAI (8.12.23)

Contact

Please send written representations about any competition issues to general.enquiries@cma.gov.uk

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