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ADMINISTRATIVE TIMETABLE

Date: 10/07/2024
Investigation Ref: INV 072

In accordance with Rule 9 of the Competition Commission Rules of Procedure 2009, the Executive Director of the Competition Commission is required to draw an administrative timetable making provision for the major stages of an investigation.

The following timetable has been set for the investigation of potential exclusivity arrangements put in place by TNS Tobacco Company Limited in the distribution of cigarettes.

The investigation has been referenced as "INV072 – Potential exclusivity arrangements put in place by TNS Tobacco Company Limited".

Indicative Dates ¹	Major stages of the Investigation
10 July 2024	Notification of launch of investigationStart of information gathering and assessment
21 February 2025	 Issue of Statement of Issues Consider written responses to Statement of Issues and continued information gathering and assessment
15 August 2025	Issue Provisional Findings Report for viewsConsider written responses to Provisional Findings Report
31 October 2025	 Produce Final Report of Investigation to Commission for its determination

Upon receipt of the Final Report of the said investigation, the Commission may, in accordance with sections 55 and 56 of the Competition Act 2007, convene a hearing to listen to the views of any person it considers having a relevant interest in the case. As per Rule 29(2) of the Competition Commission Rules of Procedure, "every direction of the Commission shall, as far as practicable be made or issued within 40 days from the date of conclusion of the final arguments."

¹ In accordance with Rule 9(6) of the Competition Commission Rules of Procedure 2009, where at any point during an investigation, the Executive Director has reason to believe that the administrative timetable will not be met for any reason, he shall prepare a revised timetable and notify all the parties involved.