

# J Sainsbury plc

82-9/3

J Sainsbury plc  
33 Holborn  
London  
EC1N 2HT

Telephone 020 7695 6000  
www.j-sainsbury.co.uk

03 OCT 21 AM 7:21

Securities Exchange Commission  
Office of the International Corporate Finance  
Room 3094 STOP 3-6  
450 Fifth Avenue  
Washington DC20549  
USA



Ext: 020 7695 6378  
Fax: 020 7695 6378

Date: 26 September 2003

SUPPL

Dear Sir

## J Sainsbury plc response to Secretary of State announcement

Please find enclosed a copy of the above announcement made to the London Stock Exchange on 26 September 2003.

Yours sincerely



**Bill Hamilton**  
Assistant Company Secretary

Enc

PROCESSED

OCT 29 2003

THOMSON  
FINANCIAL

10/27

26 September 2003

## Sainsbury's response to the Secretary of State's announcement

Sainsbury's notes the Secretary of State's announcement today that she is accepting the conclusions of the Competition Commission and has decided not to permit Sainsbury's possible offer for Safeway.

Peter Davis, Sainsbury's group chief executive, said, "We are disappointed with this outcome. However, we are encouraged that we have the chance to bid for some of the stores that Morrison's is required to divest and believe we are well placed to bid for a worthwhile number of these stores. The Competition Commission's report is a significant document comprising five hundred pages and we will reflect on its detailed content."

For enquiries:

**Investor Relations**

Lynda Ashton +44 (0) 20 7695 7162

**Media:**

Pip Wood +44 (0) 20 7695 6127