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**06 August 2020**

**UK supermarket and convenience store numbers grow in 2019**

According to the new Lumina Intelligence UK Grocery Data Index, created in partnership with The Grocer, ConvenienceStore.co.uk and Forecourt Trader, the total number of supermarket outlets in the UK in 2019 was 10,834, up 2.3% vs 2018. In comparison, the total number of convenience stores in the UK in 2019 was 41,695, up just 0.1% vs 2018.

When split by convenience retail sub-channels, unaffiliated independents saw a -0.6% decline in outlet numbers and symbol groups -0.1%. In contrast, Co-operative societies saw outlet numbers grow +2.6% and convenience multiples grew +1.9%.

In line with 2019, overall convenience store outlet growth is forecasted to be flat in 2020, however the sector is set to record strong value growth across all sub-channels. According to the Lumina Intelligence UK Convenience Market Report 2020, which was published in June, the overall convenience retail market is forecast to grow 8% in 2020.

The forecasts are even more impressive when broken down by store type. Co-operatives are forecast to see the fastest growth – up 12% year-on-year and unaffiliated independents, despite outlet decline in 2019, are set to grow 11%. In addition, symbol stores are forecast to grow 7%, forecourt stores 6% and convenience multiples 6%.

Sarah Coleman, Project Manager at Lumina Intelligence said, *“Our latest research into the UK grocery retail market covers its entire landscape, including outlet numbers and turnover estimates for supermarket, convenience store, discounter and forecourt operators across the UK.”*

*“The market remains highly competitive and fragmented, but the events of 2020 have made it a transformative year for convenience retail, with retailers forced to adapt to new basket dynamics and an evolving core consumer base. Those retailers that have adapted and continue to evolve their business models to meet the needs of their shoppers will be best placed to capitalise on the significant growth prize that we are forecasting.”*

**ENDS**

**Report methodology**

The data within Lumina Intelligence Grocery Data Index was collated in the following ways:

* Directly from retailers/operators in partnership with The Grocer, Forecourt Trader and Conveniencestore.co.uk.
* Forecourt figures provided by Experian Catalyst
* Turnover estimates based on reported sales taken from annual company reports where available.
* Independent retailers’ average weekly sales estimated through competitor benchmarks, location strategy, average store size, proposition make-up/focus (e.g. focus on fresh & chilled) and market positionings

**About Lumina Intelligence**

Lumina Intelligence inspires the global food and drink sector with deep, actionable insights powered by the world’s best analytics technology. Our products and services are used by the major brands and organisations in these fast moving and growing markets to support business planning, strategic marketing and new product development.

With offices in London, Chicago, Montpellier, and Singapore, and local on the ground analysts across our businesses, you can trust our market knowledge. We are committed to providing all our customers with up to date accurate information to support critical decision making.

Combining the expertise and experience of HIM, MCA Insight and Lumina Intelligence, we are the experts in market and consumer insight across the food & drink and nutrition markets.

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