

# IN THE COMPETITION APPEAL TRIBUNAL

BETWEEN:

## **NIKKI STOPFORD**

Class Representative

Case No: 1606/7/7/23

and

(1) ALPHABET INC.

(2) GOOGLE LLC

(3) GOOGLE IRELAND LIMITED

(4) GOOGLE UK LIMITED

Defendants

## **AMENDED ORDER**

**UPON** the Collective Proceedings Order of Mr Justice Meade dated 18 December 2024;

**AND UPON** the Order of the Chair dated 25 June 2025 establishing a confidentiality ring (the "Confidentiality Ring Order") under which EC Materials are automatically designated as Confidential Information (as those terms are defined in the Confidentiality Ring Order)

**AND UPON** considering written submissions filed by the parties in advance of and hearing Counsel for the Class Representative, Or Brook Class Representative Limited, Mr Roger Kaye KC and Defendants at a case management conference held on 2 July 2025

**AND UPON** the following definitions applying for the purpose of this Amended Order:

- "Accessible Third Party Pre-Decision Commission File Documents" means Android File documents that were produced to the European Commission by third parties and subsequently disclosed to one or more of the Defendants. It excludes information that the European Commission placed in a data room or made subject to non-disclosure agreements, such that those materials are not within the Defendants' possession or control (the "Inaccessible Third Party Documents").
- "Advertiser Proceedings" means the applications for collective proceedings orders made pursuant to Section 47B of the Competition Act 1998 by Or Brook Class Representative Limited on 16 April 2025 (with case number 1720/7/7/25) and by Mr Roger Kaye KC on 27 May 2025 (with case number 1733/7/7/25), (individually, each an "Advertiser Proceeding").
- "Android File" means EC Materials which constitute documents transmitted by the European Commission to one or more of the Defendants pursuant to the EC Access to File Notice during the European Commission investigation in Case AT.40099 Google Android.
- "Android Compliance Reports" means EC Materials which constitute the notifications and reports required to be sent to the European Commission by Article 4 of the EC Decision.
- "Availability Date" means 21 July 2025.
- "EC Access to File Notice" means Commission Notice on the rules for access to the Commission file in cases pursuant to Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty, Articles 53, 54 and 57 of the EEA Agreement and Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (2005/C 325/07).
- "EC Decision" means the decision of the European Commission dated 18 July 2018 in Case AT.40099 Google Android.
- "EC Materials" has the meaning given to it in the Confidentiality Ring Order.
- "Google GC Materials" means EC Materials which constitute documents submitted to the General Court by the Defendants in Case T-604/18.

"Google CJEU Materials" means EC Materials which constitute documents submitted to the Court of Justice by the Defendants in Case C-738/22 P.

"Google Pre-Decision Commission File Documents" means Android File documents that were produced to the European Commission by one or more of the Defendants.

"ISA and its Amendments" means the documents referred to at paragraph 35 of the Defence.

"Relevant Third Parties" are third parties who were notified by the Defendants when producing the Google Pre-Decision Commission File Documents to the European Commission.

"Relevant Third Party Materials" means materials containing information from a Relevant Third Party in respect of which that Relevant Third Party was notified by the Defendants when producing the Google Pre-Decision Commission File Documents to the European Commission.

"Statements of Objections" means the statement of objections sent by the European Commission to the Defendants on or around 20 April 2016 in Case AT.40099 – Google Android, including any and all supplementary statements of objections sent to the Defendants by the European Commission after that date.

**AND UPON** the European Commission's decision in case AT.40099 Google Android of 18 July 2018 ("the Commission Decision")

**AND UPON** the validity of the Commission Decision being subject to the determination of the Court of Justice of the European Union in Case C-738/22P ("Google's CJEU Appeal")

**AND UPON** the parties having agreed in correspondence to amend the terms of the Order of Mr Justice Meade dated 21 July 2025 in the terms of this Amended Order

#### IT IS ORDERED THAT

#### **CORE ISSUES**

1. By 4pm on 31 July 2025 the Class Representative and the Proposed Class Representatives in the Advertiser Proceedings shall provide to the Defendants their

- composite list of issues comprising the key issues in dispute which are common to their respective claims (the "Core Issues" and "List of Core Issues").
- 2. By 4pm on 30 September 2025 the Defendants shall provide to the Class Representative and the Proposed Class Representatives in the Advertiser Proceedings their agreement to, or comments on, the List of Core Issues.
- 3. By 4 pm on 31 October 2025, the parties shall agree the List of Core Issues. Any matters relating to the List of Core Issues that are not agreed shall be determined at a further case management conference ("CMC") to be listed pursuant to paragraph 20 below.
- 4. By 4pm on 19 December 2025 the Defendants shall file and serve a disclosure report (as defined in Rule 60(1)(b) of the Tribunal Rules) and an Electronic Disclosure Questionnaire (as defined in Rule 60(1)(c) of the Tribunal Rules) by reference to the List of Core Issues.
- 5. Paragraphs 1 to 4 above shall not restrict the ability of the Proposed Class Representatives in the Advertiser Proceedings to seek to revise or extend the List of Core Issues at an appropriate stage (e.g., if the claims are certified, following the filing of statements of case).

#### KNOWN RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

- 6. Subject to paragraph 7, by 4pm on 31 October 2025 the Defendants shall provide simultaneous disclosure and inspection of documents to the extent that, as at that date, they are known, they are identified as clearly relevant to an issue which is likely to be a Core Issue, and it is proportionate to give disclosure and inspection of them (the "Known Relevant Documents").
- 7. The Defendants may withhold from inspection any documents, or parts of documents, which:
  - a. are privileged; or
  - b. in respect of which they owe any duties of confidentiality to third parties.
- 8. In respect of documents which fall into the category in paragraph 7(b), the Defendants shall, on a rolling basis, notify those third parties of their intention to disclose the documents using the same notification mechanism provided for Relevant Third Parties in paragraph 13(a) to (d) and paragraph 14. The Defendants shall provide the Class

Representative with the draft wording of a template letter that will be used to give notice to such third parties identified in paragraph 7(b) 7 days before the first such notice is sent.

## ISA AND EC MATERIALS

- 9. Within 14 days from the Availability Date, the Defendants shall give disclosure and inspection of the ISA and its Amendments to the Class Representative.
- 10. Between the Availability Date and 16 December 2025, the Defendants shall, on a rolling basis, give disclosure and inspection of the following EC Materials to the Class Representative:
  - a. the Google Pre-Decision Commission File Documents;
  - b. the Android Compliance Reports.
- 11. Inspection shall be provided in an electronic format and by an electronic means to be agreed by the parties.
- 12. The Defendants may withhold from inspection any documents (or parts of documents):

  (i) over which they are entitled to assert privilege; (ii) which constitute Inaccessible
  Third Party Documents; (iii) in respect of which they owe non-disclosure obligations
  to third parties; and/or (iv) which are irrelevant purely administrative documents.
- 13. Insofar as giving the disclosure referred to at paragraph 10 above will require the Defendants to disclose any Relevant Third Party Materials:
  - a. Within 28 days of the Availability Date, the Defendants shall notify the Relevant Third Parties of their intention to disclose the Relevant Third Party Materials in the proceedings in accordance with the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order. The Defendants shall provide the Class Representative with the draft wording of a template letter that will be used to give notice to such Relevant Third Parties 7 days before the first such notice is sent.
  - b. Any Relevant Third Party wishing to raise an objection to the disclosure of their documents in accordance with the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order should do so by 29 September 2025, in accordance with paragraph 13(c) of this Amended Order.

- c. A Relevant Third Party may apply to the Tribunal to vary (to the extent necessary) this Amended Order. Such application(s) will be:
  - i. filed with the Tribunal Registry by 29 September 2025;
  - ii. served at the same time on the Class Representative and the Defendants;
  - iii. accompanied by a reasoned explanation of the application to vary (to the extent necessary) this Amended Order together with any evidence relied on; and
  - iv. if opposed by the Class Representative, determined by the Tribunal on the papers as soon as practicable, unless the Tribunal directs otherwise.
- d. If a Relevant Third Party does not respond by 29 September 2025, the Defendants will give inspection of the Relevant Third Party Materials.
- 14. If the Defendants notify any Relevant Third Party pursuant to paragraph 8 or 13, the Defendants shall:
  - a. provide the Class Representative with a copy of the notification to the Relevant Third Party pursuant to paragraph 13(a) at the same time as the notification; and
  - b. notify the Class Representative if any Relevant Third Party does not respond by 29 September 2025 pursuant to paragraph 13(d).

#### NOTIFICATION TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- 15. The Defendants shall write to the European Commission within 14 days of the Availability Date of their intention to disclose and provide inspection of the EC Materials listed below at paragraph 15(a)-(e) in the proceedings in accordance with the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order:
  - a. the Accessible Third Party Pre-Decision Commission File Documents;
  - b. the confidential version of the EC Decision held by the Defendants;
  - c. the Google GC Materials;
  - d. the Google CJEU Materials; and
  - e. the Statements of Objections and the Defendants' responses to the Statements of Objections.

- 16. The Defendants shall, in such notification in paragraph 15, provide the European Commission with a period of 14 days following such notification to make an application to the Tribunal that such disclosure should not be given or given subject to conditions, supported by reasons. The European Commission shall have liberty to apply to the Tribunal to request an extension of that 14-day period, should such extension be necessary to prepare an application.
- 16A. The Defendants may withhold from inspection any documents listed in paragraph 15 above, or parts of documents, in respect of which they owe any duties of confidentiality to third parties.
- 16B. In respect of documents which fall into the category in paragraph 16A:
  - a. The Defendants shall within 21 days of the date that this Amended Order is made notify the third party to whom they owe a duty of confidentiality of their intention to disclose the documents, or parts of documents, in the proceedings in accordance with the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order
  - b. Any recipient of a notification under paragraph 16B(a) of this Amended Order wishing to raise an objection to the disclosure of the documents in accordance with the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order should do so within 28 days of the date of the notification.
  - c. A person making such an objection may apply to the Tribunal to vary (to the extent necessary) this Amended Order. Such application(s) will be:
    - i. filed with the Tribunal Registry within 28 days of the date of the notification;
    - ii. served at the same time on the Class Representative and the Defendants;
    - iii. accompanied by a reasoned explanation of the application to vary (to the extent necessary) this Amended Order together with any evidence relied on; and
    - iv. if opposed by the Class Representative, determined by the Tribunal on the papers as soon as practicable, unless the Tribunal directs otherwise.
  - d. If a recipient of a notification under paragraph 16B(a) of this Amended Order does not respond within 28 days of the date of the notification, the Defendants

will give inspection of the documents or parts of documents withheld from inspection according to the timetable in paragraph 17 of this Amended Order.

16C. If the Defendants notify any third party pursuant to paragraph 16B, the Defendants shall:

- a. provide the Class Representative with a copy of the notification pursuant to paragraph 16B(a) at the same time as the notification; and
- b. notify the Class Representative if any third party does not respond within 28 days of the date of the notification pursuant to paragraph 16B(d).
- 17. The Defendants shall, on a rolling basis, disclose and provide inspection of the documents listed in paragraph 15(a)-(e) in accordance with the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order by the date that is 21 days after the determination of any application to the Tribunal (if opposed) or confirmation by the Class Representative that she does not oppose the application under paragraph 16B (or, if no applications are made, two months after the deadline to make such applications has passed).
- 18. The Defendants shall copy the Class Representative into the notification to the European Commission pursuant to paragraph 15 and the Defendants shall provide the Class Representative with the European Commission's response promptly after receiving it.

## **DEEMED NOTIFICATION**

19. Where the Defendants are required by paragraphs 8, 13 and 16B of this Amended Order to notify third parties and have taken reasonable steps to make such notification but have been unable to do so (and/or have received no response such that they cannot be sure that the notification has been effective) the date of notification shall be deemed to be the date of the notice. Where this clause applies, the Defendants shall be taken to have satisfied the requirement to notify the third party concerned. Any disclosure obligation arising pursuant to such deemed notification shall be extended to seven days from the date this Amended Order is made (to the extent that it would otherwise fall before that date).

### **FURTHER CMCs**

20. A CMC shall be listed for the first available date on or after 14 November 2025 with a time estimate of one day to determine, *inter alia*, any issues arising out of or in connection with disclosure and inspection already provided, the Known Relevant

Documents, the agreement of the List of Core Issues and directions for further

disclosure in respect of the List of Core Issues.

21. A further CMC shall be listed for the first available date after the date that is one month

following determination of the issues of carriage and certification in respect of the

Advertiser Proceedings to determine:

a. any further issues of disclosure;

b. the timetable to trial (including in respect of disclosure, factual and expert

witness evidence and alternative dispute resolution); and

c. any other issues arising (including in respect of joint case management).

**COSTS** 

22. By 4pm on 7 November 2025 the Class Representative and the Defendants shall provide

to each other and the Tribunal their total recoverable costs incurred since the beginning

of the proceedings.

23. The Defendants shall notify the Class Representative and the Tribunal when the

Defendants' total recoverable costs incurred since the beginning of the proceedings

exceed £12,000,000.

**GENERAL** 

24. Costs shall be costs in the case.

25. There be liberty to apply.

26. By agreement the parties may vary without further order any deadline in this Amended

Order provided that they inform the Tribunal of such agreement in advance of the

expiry of the relevant deadline and the extension does not affect the dates of any listed

hearings.

The Honourable Mr Justice Meade

Chair of the Competition Appeal Tribunal

Made: 28 October 2025

Drawn: 28 October 2025

9