



**IN THE COMPETITION**  
**APPEAL TRIBUNAL**

Case No: 1606/7/7/23

BETWEEN:

**NIKKI STOPFORD**

Class Representative

- v -

**(1) ALPHABET INC.**  
**(2) GOOGLE LLC**  
**(3) GOOGLE IRELAND LIMITED**  
**(4) GOOGLE UK LIMITED**

Defendants

---

**CONSENT 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 CMA Material and documents from the U.S. Productions are automatically designated as Confidential Information (as those terms are defined in the Confidentiality Ring Order)

**AND UPON** the Order of the Chair dated 18 December 2025 directing the Defendants to provide further disclosure (the **Further Disclosure Order**)

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

**CMA Material** has the meaning given to it in the Confidentiality Ring Order;

**Core Issues** has the meaning given to it in the Order of the Chair made on 21 July 2025, as subsequently amended on 24 October 2025 (the **Amended CMC Order**);

**ISA and its Amendments** has the meaning given to it in the Amended CMC Order;

**List of Core Issues** has the meaning given to it in the Amended CMC Order;

**U.S. Proceedings** means *United States of America, et al. v Google LLC* (Case No 1:20-cv-03010-APM) and *State of Colorado, et al. v Google LLC* (Case No 1:20-cv-03715-APM); and

**U.S. Productions** has the meaning given to it in the Confidentiality Ring Order.

**AND UPON** the parties having agreed in correspondence to the terms of this Order

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

### **THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATIONS**

1. Where, during these proceedings, the Defendants are required to disclose and/or provide inspection of documents or parts of documents in respect of which they have non-disclosure obligations or owe duties of confidentiality to third parties, they may withhold them from disclosure and inspection pending the notifications process set out in paragraphs 2 to 6 below.
2. In respect of documents that fall into the category in paragraph 1 of this Order, the Defendants shall, on a rolling basis, provide an initial notification to those third parties of their intention to disclose documents which may contain their confidential information, in each case providing that any third party wishing to raise an objection to the disclosure of their confidential information should do so within 28 days of the date of notification in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph 6 of this Order (the **Initial Notification**).
3. Any third parties notified pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Order who respond to the Defendants indicating that they might wish to object to the disclosure of their confidential information and seeking further information or copies of documents in order to assess whether to object shall notify the Defendants within 28 days of the Initial

Notification. Upon notification by the third party, the following procedure shall apply in respect of that disclosure and any future disclosure of documents containing that third party's confidential information:

- (a) The Defendants shall notify the relevant third party that they are required to disclose confidential information belonging to that third party, indicating the nature of the documents to be disclosed and the nature of the confidential information relating to the third party (the **Subsequent Notification**).
  - (b) The third party shall have 14 days from the Subsequent Notification to seek further information and/or copies of the documents to be provided for inspection. Absent such request, the Defendants shall proceed to disclose the documents and to provide inspection of them to the Class Representative.
  - (c) If the third party seeks copies of the documents in issue, the Defendants shall provide them to the third party within 28 days of receipt of that request.
  - (d) If the third party then wishes to object to the disclosure of their confidential information, they shall do so within 28 days of provision of the information and/or copy documents requested, following the procedure set out in paragraph 4 below.
4. Any third party notified pursuant to this Order may apply to the Tribunal to vary (to the extent necessary) this Order and/or the order requiring disclosure of their confidential information. Such application(s) must be:
- (a) filed with the Tribunal Registry within 28 days of the date of the notification to the third party under paragraph 2 or the provision of documents under paragraph 3(c);
  - (b) served at the same time on the Class Representative and the Defendants;
  - (c) accompanied by a reasoned explanation of the application to vary (to the extent necessary) this Order and/or the order requiring disclosure of their confidential information together with any evidence relied on; and

- (d) if opposed by the Class Representative and/or the Defendants, determined by the Tribunal on the papers as soon as practicable, unless the Tribunal directs otherwise.
5. If a third party notified pursuant to this Order does not respond to the Defendants or make an application following the procedure set out in paragraph 4 above and within the applicable time limits, the Defendants will provide disclosure and inspection of those third party materials to the Class Representative.
  6. Where the Defendants are required by paragraph 2 of this 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.
  7. The Defendants may provide Initial Notifications to third parties to whom they have previously provided notifications of intentions to disclose their confidential information and/or documents in these proceedings even if there is no current obligation to make further disclosures of their confidential information and/or documents.
  8. Where the Defendants have previously provided an Initial Notification to a third party pursuant to paragraph 2 or paragraph 7 of this Order and received no response and/or no objection pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Order, no further notification is required in respect of any future disclosures of that third party's confidential information.

## **GENERAL**

9. Paragraphs 1 to 8 of this Order shall apply to the disclosure and inspection required by paragraph 1 of the Further Disclosure Order (and any conflicting provisions in that order are to be disapplied).
10. Costs shall be costs in the case.
11. There be liberty to apply.

12. By agreement the parties may vary without further order any deadline in this 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: 29 June 2026  
Drawn: 29 June 2026