



IN THE COMPETITION
APPEAL TRIBUNAL

Case Nos: 1517/11/7/22 (UM)

BETWEEN:

THE UMBRELLA INTERCHANGE FEE CLAIMANTS

- v -

THE UMBRELLA INTERCHANGE FEE DEFENDANTS

ORDER

UPON the Umbrella Proceedings Order of the President dated 4 July 2022 in the Merchant Interchange Fee Umbrella Proceedings, as varied subsequently, having designated various individual interchange fee proceedings as “Host Cases” and designated all issues, matters or features arising out of the Merchant Interchange Fee Umbrella Proceedings as Ubiquitous Matters (the “**Umbrella Proceedings Order**”)

AND UPON the Order of the Tribunal made on 9 February 2026 and drawn on 10 February 2026 listing Trial 3 in the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings to determine exemption and certain related issues for the UK and Irish acquiring markets, and directing (among other things) that the parties shall provide disclosure and inspection of documents for Trial 3 by 23 October 2026

AND UPON the application of the Defendants filed on 31 March 2026 (the “**Application**”) for certain Claimants to complete the questionnaire enclosed with the Application (the “**Questionnaire**”) in accordance with the instructions also enclosed with the Application

AND UPON the Order of the Tribunal made and drawn on 29 April 2026 requiring certain claimants to serve completed Questionnaires by 4pm on 8 May 2026

AND UPON hearing counsel for the Umbrella Interchange Fee Claimants, and the Umbrella Interchange Fee Defendants, at hearings on 7, 8 and 29 July 2026

AND UPON an application by the Visa Defendants that are Umbrella Interchange Fee Defendants made on 31 July 2026, and accompanying witness evidence, seeking an order varying the Umbrella Proceedings Order so as to provide a cut-off date for new Claimants to apply to become Host Cases under the Umbrella Proceedings Order for the purposes of Trial 3

AND UPON considering the letters from Stephenson Harwood LLP dated 6 August 2026, and from Freshfields LLP dated 7 August 2026

AND UPON the ruling of the President made and drawn on 12 August 2026

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Umbrella Proceedings Order is varied to insert the following paragraphs after paragraph 3 of the Umbrella Proceedings Order:

“4A. To the extent that claims relating to the UK and Irish acquiring markets are brought in, or have been issued and transferred to, the Tribunal, and an application has been made for their proceedings to be designated as Host Cases to the 1517/11/7/22 (UM) Merchant Interchange Fee Umbrella Proceedings for the purposes of Trial 3 (listed to commence on 11 October 2027), the following conditions must be met for such an application to be granted:

- (a) the application must have been made on or before 23 October 2026; and
- (b) within seven days following the application, any claimants with claims relating to the UK and/or Irish acquiring markets making such application must file and serve a completed Questionnaire (in the form identified by the Tribunal’s Order of 29 April 2026).

4B. To the extent that Claimants in claims issued in the High Court apply for their claims to be transferred to the Tribunal and designated as Host Cases for the purposes of Trial 3, and to the extent that any application to be added as a Host Case for the purposes of Trial 3 is made in proceedings issued in the Tribunal, the Umbrella Interchange Fee Defendants are directed to respond promptly to any such applications. When seeking to agree wording for a draft Host Cases order, the parties should have regard to previous orders designating other Claimants as Host Cases in Trial 3.”

2. Costs in the Proceedings.
3. There shall be liberty to apply.

The Honourable Mrs Justice Bacon

President of the Competition Appeal Tribunal

Made: 14 August 2026

Drawn: 14 August 2026