

UK App Developers Could Benefit from a Proposed Google Play Store Collective Settlement

This notice has been issued at the direction of the Competition Appeal Tribunal, and the matters contained within it may affect your legal rights.

Introduction

This is a legal notice concerning a proposed settlement (the “**Proposed Settlement**”) reached between (i) Prof Barry Rodger on behalf of a class of UK app developers (the “**Class**”, defined further below), and (ii) Google.¹

If you are a UK developer who made a Relevant Sale between 22 August 2018 and 31 July 2026, this notice may affect your legal rights.

Prof Rodger, acting on behalf of UK app developers, and Google have reached a proposed settlement of this claim. Before the settlement can take effect, it must be approved by the Competition Appeal Tribunal (the “**Tribunal**”), which will only approve it if it considers the settlement to be just and reasonable.

This case is listed for trial commencing on 28 September 2026. Prof Rodger and Google have asked the Tribunal to approve the proposed settlement. In light of the imminent trial, their application will be considered at a hearing on **15 September 2026**.

If the Tribunal approves the proposed settlement:

- there will be no trial and the claim against Google will come to an end;
- eligible Class Members may be entitled to receive a payment from the settlement; and
- Class Members who remain in the claim will no longer be able to bring the same claim against Google separately.

Class Members may make written submissions about the proposed settlement before the hearing, and may seek the Tribunal’s permission to make oral submissions at the hearing. Details of how to do so are set out at the end of this notice.

A copy of the Settlement Application is available to view online at <https://www.googleplaystoredeveloperclaim.com/documents/> along with other information about the claim.

¹ The collective proceedings were brought against the following Defendants: (1) Alphabet Inc, (2) Google LLC, (3) Google Ireland Limited, (4) Google Asia Pacific Pte Limited, (5) Google Commerce Limited, (6) Google Payment Limited, and (7) Google UK Limited. Those Defendants are collectively referred to in this document as “**Google**”.

Background

In May 2025, the Tribunal authorised Prof Rodger as the “**Class Representative**” to bring collective proceedings against Google on behalf of the Class, in respect of commissions charged by Google on sales made via the Play Store and/or within Third-Party Apps. The Class includes:

“All UK-domiciled Third-Party App Developers who, during the Relevant Period, made one or more Relevant Sales”.

*“‘**Relevant Sale**’ means:*

- (i) any sale of a Third-Party App via the Play Store; and*
- (ii) any sale to an Android Device user within a Third-Party App*

on which the Commission is charged, and includes:

- (1) any sale of a Third-Party App via the Play Store in connection with which an Android Device user pays a fee for the app and/or to download the app (a ‘**Relevant App Sale**’);*
- (2) any one-time sale to an Android Device user within a Third-Party App for which the Android Device user pays a fee (a ‘**Relevant In-App Sale**’); and*
- (3) any recurring sale to an Android Device user within or for a Third-Party App for which the Android Device user pays a fee (a ‘**Relevant Subscription Sale**’).²*

The “*Relevant Period*” covers transactions made between 22 August 2018 and 31 July 2026.³ Therefore, if you are a UK developer who made a Relevant Sale between 22 August 2018 and 31 July 2026, this notice may affect you.

The Proposed Settlement

The key terms of the Proposed Settlement are as follows:

- (a) **Settlement value:** Google has agreed to pay £260 million in full and final settlement of the collective proceedings (the “**Settlement Sum**”). The Proposed Settlement is entered into without any admission of liability by Google. It comprises:
 - i. A £160 million Class Pot which will be made available for distribution to eligible Class Members.
 - ii. £100 million Stakeholder Pot available to meet the costs, fees, disbursements and other contractual entitlements arising from the funding and conduct of the claim.

² A copy of the CPO and the 31 July Order varying it, including an explanation of the other capitalised terms in the class definition, can be viewed online at <https://www.googleplaystoredeveloperclaim.com/documents/>.

³ Following an order made on 31 July 2026 (information about which can be found here: <https://www.googleplaystoredeveloperclaim.com/documents/>).

- (b) **Timing of payment:** Google is to pay the Settlement Sum to a bank account to be set up for that purpose (the “**Payment Account**”) within 50 days of the Tribunal making an order approving the Proposed Settlement. The money will then be held on trust, and the Class sum will be distributed to class members in due course (on which see paragraph (c) below).
- (c) **Distribution:** Class Members will be given the opportunity to claim a portion of the Class Pot within a four-month claim period. The Class Representative’s distribution plan sets out how the Class Pot will be distributed. Payments to Class Members will be determined by reference to their qualifying sales during the Relevant Period. Before any payments are made, the Tribunal will be asked to approve the proposed distribution arrangements. Class Members do not need to pay anything to participate in the distribution process.
- (d) **Payment of costs, fees and disbursements:** The claim has been funded and supported by a third-party funder, insurers and legal team who agreed to bear risk in bringing the claim. Insurance was obtained to protect the Class Representative against the risk of being ordered to pay Google's legal costs if the claim was unsuccessful, and the legal team agreed to act on discounted conditional rates. Under the relevant funding, insurance and legal agreements, the funder, insurers and legal team are entitled to certain payments if the claim is successful, including deferred fees and, in some cases, success-based payments. These costs, fees and disbursements will be paid from the Stakeholder Pot in the first instance. If the Stakeholder Pot is insufficient to meet those amounts in full, and if at the end of the distribution process not all of the amounts in the Class Pot have been distributed to eligible Class Members, the Class Representative may ask the Tribunal to permit those undistributed amounts to be used to pay any outstanding amounts to the funder, insurers and legal team. Any such use would require the Tribunal's approval.
- (e) **Undistributed sums:** If there is money remaining in the Class Pot after the claims process has concluded, the parties will ask the Tribunal to determine how those funds should be treated. The Class Representative currently intends to ask the Tribunal to permit some or all of any remaining funds to be used to paying any outstanding amounts owed to the stakeholders (litigation funders, insurers and lawyers who have acted on a contingent basis), in accordance with its litigation funding arrangements.

Right to be heard at the Settlement Hearing

The Tribunal has listed the Settlement Hearing for **15 September 2026**, with a time estimate of one day with one further day in reserve. This hearing will take place at the Competition Appeal Tribunal, Salisbury Square House, 8 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8AP (tel.: 020 7979 7979).

The Tribunal has directed that Class Members may make written submissions on the Proposed Settlement without seeking permission. Any such written submissions must not exceed 7 pages and must be filed by **4.00pm on 10 September 2026** by email to Registry@catribunal.org.uk, with the Class Representative in copy (enquiries@googleplaystoreclaim.co.uk). Any Class Member wishing to make oral submissions⁴ at the Settlement Hearing should apply for permission to do so within their written submissions.

⁴ “*Submissions*” is the legal term for arguments or points that you would like the Tribunal to consider.

If you have any questions about your membership of the Class or your right to be heard at the Settlement Hearing, please contact the Class Representative in any of the following ways:

- Through the online General Enquiries form available at <https://www.googleplaystoredeveloperclaim.com/contact/>
- By email to enquiries@googleplaystoreclaim.co.uk