



Reference Nos. UT-2026-000045
UT-2026-000046
UT-2026-000047
UT-2026-000048

**IN THE UPPER TRIBUNAL
TAX AND CHANCERY CHAMBER**

B E T W E E N

**(1) CA AUTO FINANCE UK LIMITED
(2) CONSUMER VOICE LIMITED
(3) MERCEDES-BENZ FINANCIAL SERVICES UK LIMITED
(4) VOLKSWAGEN FINANCIAL SERVICES (UK) LIMITED**

Applicants

-and-

FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY

Respondent

DIRECTIONS

UPON hearing from leading counsel for the Applicants and for the Respondent at a video case management hearing on 23 October 2026

IT IS DIRECTED that:

Expert evidence

1. The Third Applicant shall serve its expert evidence on the other parties on or before 13 November 2026.
2. The First and Fourth Applicants shall serve their expert evidence on the other parties on or before 27 November 2026.
3. The Respondent shall serve its expert evidence in response to the expert evidence of the Second Applicant on or before 16 December 2026.
4. The Respondent shall be entitled to serve supplemental expert evidence in response to the expert evidence of the Second Applicant in so far as that supplemental expert evidence arises out of further consideration of the expert evidence served by the First, Third and Fourth Applicants.

5. The Respondent shall serve its expert evidence in response to the expert evidence of the First, Third and Fourth Applicants and its supplemental expert evidence (if any) in response to the expert evidence of the Second Applicant on or before 8 January 2027.
6. The experts shall hold a meeting to consider their evidence on or before 15 January 2027.
7. The experts shall produce a joint memorandum setting out the areas on which they agree and disagree, together with a summary of their reasons for disagreeing, on or before 22 January 2027.
8. Subject to any direction of the Tribunal as to the extent and timing of cross-examination, the parties shall make their experts available for cross-examination at the final hearing.

Disclosure

9. The Respondent shall disclose to the Second Applicant, on the terms of the Confidentiality Ring Order dated 16 October 2026, the further disclosure directed by the Tribunal on 12 October 2026.
10. For the purposes of the Confidentiality Ring Order, the potential Permitted Persons shall be limited to counsel instructed on behalf of the Second Applicant, Mr Darren Smith of Courmacs Legal Limited and the experts instructed by the Second Applicant.

Further Directions

11. The parties shall seek to agree available dates in the period 13 – 22 January 2027 for a pre-hearing review and shall jointly inform the Tribunal as soon as practicable what dates in that window are preferred.
12. On or before 18 January 2026 the Applicants shall make available to all parties and to the Tribunal an electronic hearing bundle on the Opus2 platform or equivalent.
13. The Applicants shall file and serve their skeleton arguments on or before 29 January 2027.
14. The Respondent shall file and serve its skeleton argument at or before noon on 8 February 2027.
15. On or before 11 February 2027 the Applicants shall make available to all parties and to the Tribunal an electronic authorities bundle on the Opus2 platform or equivalent comprising the authorities referred to in the parties' skeleton arguments.

Final Hearing

16. The final hearing of the substantive applications shall be listed for 12 days commencing 16 February 2027 with an additional four days of judicial pre-reading.

Mr Justice Thompsell
Upper Tribunal Judge Cannan

Release date: 26 October 1026