

# Consumers who made purchases in the UK between 1992 and 2008 could benefit from a proposed collective consumer claim against MasterCard

*This is a legal notice.*

- In 2016, Walter Merricks CBE (the proposed class representative) filed with the Competition Appeal Tribunal an application to bring a collective consumer claim against MasterCard on behalf of a proposed “class” of individuals. Whilst the Competition Appeal Tribunal refused the application to allow the collective claim to proceed, Mr Merricks successfully appealed that decision to the Court of Appeal and then defeated Mastercard’s appeal to the Supreme Court. The application is now back before the Competition Appeal Tribunal for a hearing on **25 and 26 March 2021** to decide whether the collective consumer claim can go ahead. Given the current situation concerning COVID-19, the hearing will be held remotely and be “livestreamed” on the Competition Appeal Tribunal’s website: <https://www.catribunal.org.uk>. If not, it will take place at the Competition Appeal Tribunal, Salisbury Square House, 8 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8AP. Please check the Tribunal’s website for updates closer to the time: <https://www.catribunal.org.uk/diary>
- The proposed claim relies on a legal finding of the European Commission that MasterCard imposed unlawful fees on transactions processed through its network. These fees were paid by businesses for accepting payments made with a MasterCard credit or debit card in the period 1992 to 2008. More than half a million businesses in the UK, including major supermarkets, accepted MasterCard cards in the relevant period, paid these unlawful fees, and passed these on to consumers in higher retail prices.
- The proposed claim says that if between 22 May 1992 and 21 June 2008 you purchased goods and/or services from businesses selling in the UK that accepted MasterCard cards, at a time at which you were both (1) a resident in the UK for a continuous period of at least three months, and (2) aged 16 years or over, you paid higher prices as a result of MasterCard’s unlawful conduct. It is proposed that the claim will be brought on behalf of a class of individuals who meet these conditions with the exception of the categories of persons described in Question 6 below.
- To learn more about the application to bring the collective consumer claim, which is known as a Collective Proceedings Order Application, visit [www.MasterCardConsumerClaim.co.uk](http://www.MasterCardConsumerClaim.co.uk) or [www.catribunal.org.uk](http://www.catribunal.org.uk).

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<b>OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION OR THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE</b>	Any person with an interest (including any proposed class member) may object to the Collective Proceedings Order Application or the authorisation of the proposed class representative by stating their reasons for objecting in writing to be received by the Competition Appeal Tribunal by <b>15 March 2021 at 4pm</b> . See Question 8 below.

<b>APPLY TO MAKE ORAL / WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS TO THE TRIBUNAL</b>	<p>Any proposed class member may also apply to the Tribunal for permission to make written and/or oral submissions at the hearing on 25 and 26 March 2021. Any such application must be made in writing and received by the Tribunal by <b>5 March 2021 at 4pm.</b></p> <p>Any third party with a legitimate interest (who is not a member of the proposed class) can also apply to the Tribunal for permission to make written and/or oral submissions at the hearing on 25 and 26 March 2021. Any such application must be made in writing, supported by reasons, to be received by the Tribunal by <b>5 March 2021 at 4pm.</b></p>
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**QUESTIONS? VISIT [WWW.MASTERCARDCONSUMERCLAIM.CO.UK](http://WWW.MASTERCARDCONSUMERCLAIM.CO.UK)**