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**From:** Whitehead Mike (ShEx)[/O=DTI/OU=DTIHQ/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MJWHITEH]  
**Sent:** Fri 22/06/2012 8:51:28 AM (UTC)  
**To:** Mike Granville[ GRO ] 'Ronan Kelleher'[ GRO ]  
**Cc:** Gibson Will (ShEx)[ GRO ] Tanner Henry (Communications)[ GRO ] Lowe Roger (ShEx)[ GRO ]  
**Subject:** FW: BBC Arbuthnot piece

Ronan/Mike

I understand through Will ([ IRRELEVANT ]) that Alice has asked us to agree a defensive line if pressed on the Cabinet Office commissioning the independent review (as advocated in Andrew Bridgen quote yesterday).

How about?

'This is an operational matter for Post Office Ltd who have already commissioned an independent, external review by forensic accountants.'

Regards

Mike

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**From:** Whitehead Mike (ShEx)  
**Sent:** 21 June 2012 14:21  
**To:** Mike Granville; 'Ronan Kelleher'  
**Cc:** Gibson Will (ShEx)  
**Subject:** BBC Arbuthnot piece

Mike/Ronan

Our final defensive lines

*'POL has already commissioned an independent, external review of a small number of individual cases in light of these specific cases. Horizon has been rigorously tested over the years using robust, independently assured processes.'*

*'POL have complete confidence in the robustness and integrity of its Horizon computer system and related accounting processes. Ultimately though this is an operational and contractual matter for POL which Government continues monitor.'*

*If pushed on Cabinet Office review ...*

*POL already have independent reviewers for Horizon'*

*Regards*

*Mike*

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**GRO**