

**From:** Munby, Sarah (BEIS)  
**Sent:** Wed, 1 Jul 2020 17:54:37 +0000  
**To:** Cooper, Tom - UKGI; Scott, Joshua - UKGI; Permanent Secretary  
**Cc:** Brooks-White (Jobshare); Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate); Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio); Corera, Jane (Legal); Vandini, Cecilia (Advanced Manufacturing and Services); Wilson, William (BEIS); McKay, Jessica (BEIS); McInnes, Tim - UKGI; Watson, Richard - UKGI; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI; Cole, Alex - UKGI  
**Subject:** RE: FOR COMMENT CLOSE TUE 30 JUNE - POL Convicted Postmasters Compensation Scheme

Very helpful thanks Tom – I understand. Seems a sensible approach to me.

S

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**From:** Cooper, Tom - UKGI <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 01 July 2020 09:21  
**To:** Munby, Sarah (BEIS) <[REDACTED]>; Scott, Joshua - UKGI <[REDACTED]>; Permanent Secretary <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Brooks-White (Jobshare) <[REDACTED]>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) <[REDACTED]>; Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio) <[REDACTED]>; Corera, Jane (Legal) <[REDACTED]>; Vandini, Cecilia (Advanced Manufacturing and Services) <[REDACTED]>; Wilson, William (BEIS) <[REDACTED]>; McKay, Jessica (BEIS) <[REDACTED]>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI <[REDACTED]>; Watson, Richard - UKGI <[REDACTED]>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI <[REDACTED]>; Cole, Alex - UKGI <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR COMMENT CLOSE TUE 30 JUNE - POL Convicted Postmasters Compensation Scheme

Sarah

The scheme won't prevent claimants from pursuing a malicious prosecution claim – we have no ability to do that. The scheme value will therefore need to be pitched at a realistic level – not least to recognise that most of the claimants will have a certain civil case (based on the previous case and settlement) in any event, even if malicious prosecution fails.

The point is to provide a quicker and cheaper route to redress/compensation than having to go through the courts again. This is in the interests of all parties of course – claimants, POL and HMG.

To your last point, we would always expect claimants to take some discount to the full potential value of a malicious prosecution claim because:

- The outcome will be inherently uncertain as in any litigation
- It will take a very long time (particularly if there are appeals)
- it will involve substantial costs which some/all claimants may have to fund externally and for which they will end up having to give up a large share of the proceeds if they win (this

is exactly what happened with the settlement last year and for which we have all been criticised)

Tom

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**From:** Munby, Sarah (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO>  
**Sent:** 30 June 2020 23:38  
**To:** Scott, Joshua - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Permanent Secretary  
 <[REDACTED] GRO>  
**Cc:** Brooks-White (Jobshare) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Corera, Jane (Legal) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Vandini, Cecilia (Advanced Manufacturing and Services) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Wilson, William (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO>; McKay, Jessica (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Watson, Richard - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Cole, Alex - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>  
**Subject:** Re: FOR COMMENT CLOSE TUE 30 JUNE - POL Convicted Postmasters Compensation Scheme

One point of clarification from me. Does the establishment of the compensation scheme prevent the malicious prosecution claims? (Ie can it actually close off the risk of the larger sums materialising in any case).

Is it that we expect claimants to prefer a cheaper/less risky route even if for lower benefit? If so how sure are we that will be true?

Thanks!

S

Sarah Munby  
 Director General, Business Sectors  
 Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy  
 T: [REDACTED] GRO

PA: Catherine Massicotte

[REDACTED] GRO  
 [REDACTED] GRO

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**From:** Scott, Joshua - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:18:27 PM  
**To:** Munby, Sarah (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Permanent Secretary  
 <[REDACTED] GRO>  
**Cc:** Brooks-White (Jobshare) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Corera, Jane (Legal)

<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Vandini, Cecilia (Advanced Manufacturing and Services)  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Wilson, William (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; McKay,  
Jessica (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Watson,  
Richard - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Cole, Alex - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>

**Subject:** RE: FOR COMMENT CLOSE TUE 30 JUNE - POL Convicted Postmasters  
Compensation Scheme

Hi Sarah, Oliver,

Just following up on the below.

Would it be possible to get feedback on the attached by close today? We would like to get the advice into  
Ministers/SpAds this week re the emerging thinking especially as prep for the SR picks up.

Any questions please do let me know.

Cheers,

Josh

Joshua Scott | Analyst

**UK Government Investments**

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

T: [REDACTED] GRO M: [REDACTED] GRO

[www.ukgi.org.uk](http://www.ukgi.org.uk)

Follow on 

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**From:** Scott, Joshua - UKGI

**Sent:** 26 June 2020 10:00

**To:** Munby, Sarah (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Permanent Secretary

<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Brooks-White (Jobshare) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Creswell, Carl (Professional  
Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Patel, Vanisha  
(Finance & Portfolio) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Corera, Jane (Legal)  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Vandini, Cecilia (Advanced Manufacturing and Services)  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Wilson, William (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; McKay,  
Jessica (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Watson,  
Richard - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI  
<[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>; Cole, Alex - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]>

**Subject:** FOR COMMENT CLOSE TUE 30 JUNE - POL Convicted Postmasters Compensation  
Scheme

Sarah, Oliver,

Hope you are well.

With thanks to Carl and other for their comments and clearance, please see attached a "for info" submission that we would like yours and the Perm Sec's views on regarding Post Office Ltd. (POL) and a potential compensation scheme for convicted postmasters who have their convictions overturned.

This advice flowed out of the meeting Ministers had with BEIS/UKGI officials at the end of May at the request of SoS to considers options for how POL could fund and be on the front foot with regard to further claims from postmasters who were previously prosecuted by POL and have their convictions overturned. As you know, the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC) has decided to refer, as at 3 June, 47 cases to the Court of Appeal and the department was informed on 29 April that POL is reviewing in total 959 cases.

The outlines some of our emerging thinking which we have discussed initially with BEIS, UKGI and HMT officials. In principle, this would be like the Historical Shortfalls Scheme, but just for postmasters who have their convictions overturned, and would not only be a way for postmasters for avoid another lengthy legal process but also for POL to demonstrate it is being proactive in helping postmasters get recompense.

We would like to use this as a marker for Ministers following the request from SoS so we can come back in due course when the idea is more developed.

I would be very grateful if this could be considered over the weekend/early next week by **close Tuesday 30 June** so I can include your feedback and submit to Ministers and SpAds.

Any questions please do let me know.

Cheers,

Josh


**Joshua Scott | Analyst**

**UK Government Investments**

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

T: **GRO** M: **GRO**

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