
Sent: Sun 03/05/2020 5:54:24 PM (UTC)
To: Watson, Richard - UKGI [GRO]
Cc: McInnes, Tim - UKGI [GRO]; Scott, Joshua - UKGI [GRO]
Subject: FW: Post Office: Convicted Sub-Postmasters: Potential Substantial Exposure

Richard

FYI. You don't seem to have been copied.

Tom

From: Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) [GRO]
Sent: 30 April 2020 18:15
To: Jackson, Louise (Legal) [GRO]; Permanent Secretary [GRO];
Munby, Sarah (BEIS) [GRO]; Taylor, Tom (Finance & Portfolio) [GRO];
Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio) [GRO]; Kilgarriff, Patrick (Legal) [GRO];
Corera, Jane (Legal) [GRO]
Cc: Cooper, Tom - UKGI [GRO]; Brooks-White (Jobshare) [GRO];
McInnes, Tim - UKGI [GRO]
Subject: RE: Post Office: Convicted Sub-Postmasters: Potential Substantial Exposure

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

Hi Louise,

Thanks for this.

POL confirmed during our shareholder meeting this afternoon that they have appointed two QCs to assess and test Herbert Smith's assessment (from a civil law and malicious prosecution angle). The model that Herbert Smith has used was developed as part of the GLO settlement.

In order to get a clearer assessment of the potential exposure, much will depend on the content of the CCRC's statement of reasons. POL expects to receive that at the end of May. They are then likely to request an extension beyond the usual 28 days for their formal response to the Court of Appeal, which they think will be accepted.

The Minister expressed his disappointment, as you can imagine, and emphasised how important it is for POL to share information with us.

Carl.



Carl Creswell
Director, Professional & Business Services, Retail and Post
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Orchard 2, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
www.gov.uk/beis | <https://twitter.com/beisgovuk>

From: Jackson, Louise (Legal) [GRO]

Sent: 30 April 2020 10:00

To: Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) [GRO]; Permanent Secretary [GRO]; Munby, Sarah (BEIS) [GRO]; Taylor, Tom (Finance & Portfolio) [GRO]; Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio) [GRO]; Kilgarriff, Patrick (Legal) [GRO]; Corera, Jane (Legal) [GRO]
Cc: Cooper, Tom - UKGI [GRO]; Brooks-White (Jobshare) [GRO]; McInnes, Tim - UKGI [GRO]

Subject: RE: Post Office: Convicted Sub-Postmasters: Potential Substantial Exposure

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

Carl,

Thank you for sharing this. It would be good for POL to ask Herbert Smith to do some risk based analysis of real exposure – as opposed to the top end they have identified?

Louise

Louise Jackson

Deputy Director, Competition, Consumer and Postal Services Team
BEIS Legal Advisers, Government Legal Department

Orchard 2, Lower Ground Floor, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET

Telephone: [GRO]

[GRO]

Working Pattern: I am full time but do not work on Wednesday afternoons and usually work from home on a Friday.

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– our online legal service

From: Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) [GRO]

Sent: 29 April 2020 17:01

To: Permanent Secretary [GRO]; Munby, Sarah (BEIS) [GRO]; Taylor, Tom (Finance & Portfolio) [GRO]; Patel, Vanisha (Finance & Portfolio) [GRO]; Kilgarriff, Patrick (Legal) [GRO]; Jackson, Louise (Legal) [GRO]; Corera, Jane (Legal) [GRO]

Cc: Cooper, Tom - UKGI [GRO]; Brooks-White (Jobshare) [GRO]; McInnes, Tim - UKGI [GRO]

Subject: Post Office: Convicted Sub-Postmasters: Potential Substantial Exposure

Importance: High

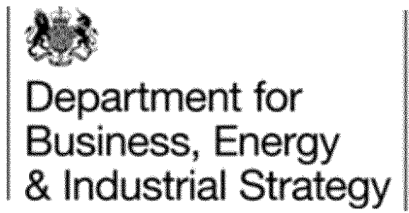
OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

All:

You should see the attached letter, which provides more detail on the additional past prosecutions that Post Office Ltd has identified. The letter includes an eye-watering maximum liability that they might be exposed to.

Minister Scully is meeting POL's leadership for the Quarterly Shareholder meeting tomorrow afternoon and we are briefing him to express disappointment and put pressure on POL to ask for more information ahead of our putting advice to Ministers. Vanisha in BEIS Finance is going to review and discuss with Tom Taylor.

Thanks,
Carl.



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From: Scully, Minister (Private Office) [GRO]
Sent: 29 April 2020 13:07
To: Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) [GRO] Brooks-White (Jobshare) [GRO]; Vandini, Cecilia (Advanced Manufacturing and Services) [GRO]
Subject: FW: Convicted Sub-Postmasters: Potential Substantial Exposure

Hi Beth & Eleanor,

Please find attached a letter from Tim Parker to the Minister regarding the Post Office’s financial exposure resulting from the number of cases potentially being referred from the CCRC to the appeal courts. Clearly we’ll need to draft a response for the Minister to send – could you please advise on whether this is best to send before or after the shareholder meeting tomorrow? Could I also please ask that the letter and suggested handling is referenced in the meeting briefing in case raised?

Many thanks,
Sam



Samantha Rice
Senior Private Secretary to Paul Scully MP
Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Labour Markets
Minister for London
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
[GRO]

From: Tim Parker [GRO]
Sent: 29 April 2020 12:33
To: Scully, Minister (Private Office) [GRO]
Subject: Convicted Sub-Postmasters: Potential Substantial Exposure

Dear Minister,

I attach a letter for you attention.

Kind regards,

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