Chronology of statements made by Post Office, in respect of "Remote Access" Allegation

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DATE	EVENT / DESCRIPTION	RELEVANT STATEMENT(S)
January 2015	POL response to the Westminster Hall Debate of 17 Dec 2014	"During the debate it was suggested that Subpostmasters' accounts can be amended remotely, in Horizon, without their or their staff's knowledge. There is no functionality in Horizon for either a branch, Post Office or Fujitsu (suppliers of the Horizon system) to edit, manipulate or remove transaction data once it has been recorded in a branch's accounts. It is possible for Fujitsu to view branch data in order to provide support and conduct maintenance but this does not allow access to any functionality that could be used to edit recorded transaction data".
17/02/2015	Supplementary evidence to the Business, Innovation and Skills Committee, who took evidence on 'the Post Office mediation scheme and Horizon IT system' on 03/02/2015	"In response to the allegation Post Office also provided Second Sight with a witness statement from a key member of staff who worked at Bracknell. This confirmed that the basement was a secure test environment; there was no connection with any live transaction data; live transaction data could not be accessed from the basement and the basement was never used to access, change or manipulate live transaction data in branches, which cannot in any event be edited, remotely or otherwise. In addition, Post Office provided Second Sight with a considerable amount of policy documentation relating to the Bracknell Office covering systems access, building access and security".
09/04/2015	Post Office produce their Reply to Second Sight's Briefing Report – Part Two (April Edition)	"To be clear, Horizon does not have functionality that allows Post Office or Fujitsu to edit or delete the transactions as recorded by branches". "For clarity, neither Post Office nor Fujitsu can edit the transactions as recorded by branches. Robust safeguards are in place to ensure the integrity of the data sent by branch terminals to the Post Office data centre". "It has always been possible for Post Office to correct errors in and/or update a branch's accounts. This is most commonly done by way of a transaction correction. However, it could also be by way of a balancing transaction or transaction acknowledgement". "All of these processes for correcting / updating a branch's accounts have similar features. All of them involve inputting a new transaction into the branch's records (not editing or removing any previous transactions) and all are shown transparently in the branch transaction records available to Subpostmasters (as well as in the master ARQ data)".
17/08/2015	Post Office statement to the Panorama Programme	"Neither Post Office nor Fujitsu can edit the transactions as recorded by branches. Post Office can correct errors in and/or update a branch's accounts by inputting a new transaction (not editing or removing any previous transactions). However, this is shown transparently in the branch transaction records. There is no evidence that any branch transaction data was inappropriately accessed from a remote access point".

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