

Message

From: Alwen Lyons; [redacted] GRO
Sent: 05/07/2012 10:19:18
To: Susan Crichton; [redacted] GRO
Subject: FW: James' meeting with Ron

Alwen Lyons

Company Secretary

Post Office Ltd

148 Old Street, LONDON, EC1V 9HQ

Tel: [redacted] GRO
[redacted] GRO

From: ARBUTHNOT, James; [redacted] GRO
Sent: 05 July 2012 11:15
To: Alwen Lyons; Glenda C Hansen
Subject: RE: James' meeting with Ron

Dear Alwen and Paula,

The meeting yesterday was good. The MPs attending were Andrew Bridgen, Mike Wood, Tessa Munt, and Mary Glindon. Edward Garnier sent a representative, and I acted for myself and also as Oliver Letwin's proxy.

Ron and his colleague Ian Henderson were impressive, and subject to what I say below we were happy for them to proceed. There was some discussion with regard to the number of cases to be considered, and whether the initial investigation of 10-12 might widen out to consider more (we felt it should), and possibly lead to a more systems-focused approach. This will, I suspect, become obvious as 2nd Sight move through the first cases.

I must make one comment, however, and that is with regard to the Justice for SubPostmasters Alliance. The MPs are all extremely keen, as I know are you, for the subpostmaster to be supportive of this process. Important to that is Mr Alan Bates, who heads the Alliance. I have offered him a meeting with myself, Ron, and Ian, before the House rises on 17 July (although this is so important that in extremis I would be prepared to meet after that date). I am waiting to hear from him. Whilst I do not believe he should have the power of a veto over either the appointment of 2nd Sight nor how the investigations ought to be undertaken, we would like as far as possible to win his support. Until I hear from him, I think it would be unwise to proceed. Details are already getting into the media, and if we barrelled forth without resolution as to whether Mr Bates attends a meeting, and what his reaction is, I think we would be heading for trouble.

I will keep you posted.

Yours ever,
James

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From: Alwen Lyons [GRO]

Sent: 05 July 2012 10:16

To: WALKER, Janet

Subject: James' meeting with Ron

Janet I wondered how James' meeting with Ron went yesterday

Thanks

Alwen

Alwen Lyons

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