



Post Office

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4 Feb 2015

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The risks

Select committee report (probably early March)

- Criticises PO and calls for Govt to step in or launch Inquiry/Investigation
- Scheme to be widened
- Pressure on minister
- Possible UQ/Debate
- Media coverage

Second Sight report (April?)

- Stokes criticism
- Broadens beyond 'Horizon and associated issues' to fundamental aspects of POL Business Model
- Media coverage
- UQ pressure

Parliamentary pressure

- Pressure from JA and Kevan Jones on new/hopeful minister to call Inquiry/Investigation into POL business

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What they want

- All cases must be mediated including criminal cases (in part to build evidence for litigation)
- Second Sight to be free to consult with MPs on any issue they deem relevant
- Changes to operating model, including SPM contract
- Public Inquiry/Investigation
- Discredit Management ?

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Proposed action

- Write to all parties to Working Group
- Write to select committee to inform (alongside rebuttal)
- Highlight dissatisfaction with process (expressed by all)
- We are therefore disbanding WG
- But we agree to mediate all non-criminal cases
- We release Second Sight from their work but offer that if any case (inc criminal) wants to use them they can apply to us for financial support
- We release Sir Anthony Hooper with thanks
- We make clear that if MPs want to meet Second Sight they can
- Publish our own report summarising the cases (March)

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Considerations

- Need ministerial support
- Adverse media reaction
- Need comprehensive handling plan
- Avoids long term 'pain'
- JR advice
- 'Takes control' of position
- Makes concessions: POL to mediate all (non criminal) cases
- Delivers commitment to Applicants