

Message

**From:** Lesley J Sewell [GRO]  
 on behalf of [GRO]  
**Sent:** 07/07/2013 20:47:19  
**To:** Susan Crichton [GRO]; Paula Vennells [GRO] Mark R Davies  
 [GRO]; Martin Edwards [GRO] Alwen Lyons  
 [GRO]; Hugh Flemington [GRO] Simon Baker  
 [GRO]; Rodric Williams [GRO]  
**Subject:** RE: Fwd: Draft statement

Dear All

From the document there are two areas which we do not agree with SS:

Rudkin: We and Fujitsu have provided evidence to SS that there was only Testing systems in the basement in 2008. The equipment (hardware) and the testing system were located in the basement. This has been a constant challenge with SS as they contest that Rudkin has signed an affidavit and therefore there is a conflict of evidence. There appears to be a lack of willingness to accept the detail we have provided. We have also had the tester who Rudkin believes took him to the basement complete a witness statement. He has confirmed that there was only a testing system in the basement. This has been a constant challenge with SS and Im not sure how this will get resolved.

SR001 – The connection failure. Both Fujitsu and POL do not agree with SS findings. They comment that the information was not timely, accurate and complete. The time delay was due to the actions taken by the sub post master – the actual delay to printing the receipts was 4 minutes by which time the customer had left. The information was accurate and complete – having seen the receipts it can be said that its not particularly easy to read. This is definitely a one for improvement which we have said to SS that we will accept.

Lesley

Lesley J Sewell  
Chief Information Officer

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**From:** Susan Crichton  
**Sent:** 07 July 2013 21:30  
**To:** Paula Vennells; Mark R Davies; Martin Edwards; Alwen Lyons; Lesley J Sewell; Hugh Flemington; Simon Baker; Rodric Williams  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: Draft statement

We will do a commentary and send it through, just one point though I think it likely that AB may have seen the report as it was being drafted.

Susan

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**From:** Paula Vennells

**Sent:** Sunday, July 07, 2013 07:40 PM

**To:** Mark R Davies; Martin Edwards; Alwen Lyons; Susan Crichton; Lesley J Sewell; Hugh Flemington; Simon Baker; Rodric Williams

**Subject:** Fwd: Draft statement

Dear all, note to AB below. He has texted and asked for a call tomorrow am - I have suggested around 9am. I imagine he will be reading the report with great care tonight.

Do we have either a marked up copy of the SS report or a commentary from Simon/Rodric, which I could have as background to the call? I don't expect a forensic challenge from Alan, but if one reads it fresh as he will, there will be points that seem very stark, which if I can calm or reassure him on, can only be to our benefit. Could Simon advise what is possible?

Also Mark, could you advise when we will get the final Q&A pls? Even though we have rehearsed the answers indirectly over the last few days, I would like to read the proper version.

If anyone has any thoughts now or overnight before I speak to Alan in the morning - don't hesitate to jump in. I would like a steer from Mark/Martin as to whether I pick up the idea of a joint statement? (There will still be time later, as we are meeting at 3pm; he will bring Kay Linnell and Alwen is coming with me.)

Btw - Like Susan I caught the last few games - GO ANDY MURRAY!! Good man :)

Paula

Ps. I am about to send both docs to Alice, who I expect will also want the commentary and Q&As.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Paula Vennells [GRO]

**Date:** 7 July 2013 20:26:10 BST

**To:** Alan Bates [GRO]

**Subject:** Fwd: Draft statement

Dear Alan, I haven't heard back from you, so I trust you don't mind receiving this mail on a Sunday evening. (I texted earlier this evening to check if it would be ok to send you our draft statement and a copy of the SS report.)

I understand you already have the report. I attach the Post Office draft statement. We have worked hard on this to retain balance but also to demonstrate as I mentioned when we spoke on Thursday and Friday, that I am very serious about how we do respond - with openness to listen and with a keenness to improve where things could be better.

You will see that I have suggested three commitments, which we will put in place and I hope as you indicated on our calls, that you will be prepared to work with us to participate collaboratively and to oversee or help implement the recommendations.

Additionally, I will as promised meet with you personally after tomorrow, to hear the detail on how one or two of the past cases were handled, which you think should be brought to my attention.

Alan - I have just received your text. That is fine, I will try to call you around 9am tomorrow. And we can fix up where to meet at 3pm at the same time.

Kind regards,

Paula