

Audience	Drafting	Getting SEG sign-off	Publishing	Timing
Note to Board	OW	-	OW	COMPLETE
DBT (policy & press)	OW	-	OW	COMPLETE
UKGI	-	-	LG	COMPLETE
MoJ (policy & press)	MS	-	MS	COMPLETE
Horizon Inquiry	GL	-	GL	COMPLETE
Peters & Peters	NM	-	NM / MS	COMPLETE
Advisory Board	NM	-	SR	COMPLETE
FOI team	MC	-	RM	COMPLETE
Statement for website	MC / TB Cardew	MC / TB Cardew	JK	COMPLETE
Note to colleagues - Digest	MC	-	RS	COMPLETE
Note in weekly Postmaster email	MC	-	AB	COMPLETE

Statement for website – PUBLISHED

<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/key-reports-statements/letter-to-justice-secretary-january-2024/>

Post Office is today publishing correspondence from 9th January 2024, sent by the Post Office to the Ministry of Justice, copied to the Department for Business and Trade.

The purpose of the correspondence was to explain the work that Post Office had requested its legal counsel, Peters & Peters, undertake to proactively identify, on the papers available, any convictions that could be unsafe. This was primarily to offer the Government any support that might assist them as they consider relevant issues in advance of passing legislation, without any value judgement on what the correct course of action might be.

The letter references a note provided by Post Office's legal counsel, this note was not solicited by Post Office and, as can be seen, was sent to express the personal views of its author. Post Office was in no way seeking to persuade Government against mass exoneration.

Post Office are fully supportive of any steps taken by Government to speed up the exoneration of those with wrongful convictions and to provide redress to victims, with the information having been provided to inform that consideration.

Note to Board – SENT

The Advisory Board has asked for a copy of Nick's letter to the Lord Chancellor and the associated legal advice. They want it before their meeting late morning tomorrow. We think it would be inappropriate to refuse, and so we will release in the morning. But simultaneously, we will publish both on our website with context (i.e. the legal advice was unsolicited and we were rightly obliged to share it with Govt etc). We need to determine whether NV's name is redacted or not. And Lorna, I would appreciate your advice on whether/who we should advise in Govt.

One other matter. I answered questions (quite robustly) about HS's actions and the suggestion that we were asked to slow down compensation at our Town Hall meeting this morning. It turns out that someone recorded this and has shared my comments with the Guardian who will be publishing this evening.

Advisory Board covering letter - SENT

Thank you for your email requesting sight of Nick Read's letter to the Lord Chancellor, a copy of which is attached. I have also attached a copy of the Peters and Peters note referred to in Nick's letter. This note was not solicited by Post Office and, as can be seen, was sent to express the personal views of its author. Post Office are fully supportive of any steps taken by Government to speed up the exoneration of those with wrongful convictions and to provide redress to victims, with the attached information having been provided to inform that consideration.

In the interests of transparency we are publishing the letter and the Peters & Peters' note on our website shortly.

We stand ready to assist the Advisory Board and wider Government in any way we can. Similarly, Peters and Peters would be happy to attend to answer any questions you or your colleagues may have.

Note in Postmaster weekly email - SENT

Following recent media and political interest, we have today [published two documents](#) shared with government in January relating to legal work surrounding the convictions of Postmasters. Post Office remains committed to righting the wrongs of the past and fully supports the government's efforts to speed up the exoneration of those with wrongful convictions and to provide redress to victims.

Colleague note – One Digest - SENT

Following recent media and political interest, we have today [published two documents](#) shared with government in January relating to legal work surrounding the convictions of Postmasters. Post Office remains committed to righting the wrongs of the past and fully supports the government's efforts to speed up the exoneration of those with wrongful convictions and to provide redress to victims.