

From: Secretary of State DBT (DBT)[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=73D1B78651B9426CB175E1B86FB7588D-1724E4D2-17]

Sent: Tue 23/07/2024 11:45:42 AM (UTC)

To: Carl CRESWELL (DBT); GRO; Charlotte HEYES (DBT); GRO; David BICKERTON (DBT); GRO; Ed BAIRD (DBT); GRO; Rob BRIGHTWELL (DBT); GRO; Amanda MCMENAMIN (DBT); GRO; Brooks-White Jobshare; GRO; Asha BALACHANDRAN; GRO; DBT; GRO

Cc: Spad SOS (DBT); GRO

Subject: RE: [Readout] Meeting between SoS and the Rt Hon Kevan Jones

Thanks Carl – adjusted on our side!

Warmest,
Jason

From: Carl CRESWELL (DBT); GRO

Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 11:26 AM

To: Secretary of State DBT (DBT); GRO; Charlotte HEYES (DBT); GRO; David BICKERTON (DBT); GRO; Ed BAIRD (DBT); GRO; Rob BRIGHTWELL (DBT); GRO; Amanda MCMENAMIN (DBT); GRO; Brooks-White Jobshare; GRO; Asha BALACHANDRAN; GRO; DBT; GRO

Cc: Spad SOS (DBT); GRO

Subject: RE: [Readout] Meeting between SoS and the Rt Hon Kevan Jones

Hi Jason (smaller copy-list),

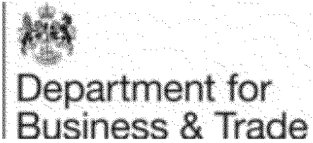
Thanks very much for this.

A couple of small tweaks, for the record, below.

On the meeting with postmasters, I know the team will provide some advice. My view is that we should try to have one meeting (next week) and that – in line with Kevan’s advice – this could be broader than just HCRS postmasters.

Asha – unless there are any other comments, could you ensure that this version goes onto Sharepoint, pls?

Carl.



Carl Creswell | Director, Post Office and Business Engagement
Department for Business and Trade | Old Admiralty Building,
Westminster, London SW1A 2AY

Tel: [GRO] E-mail: [GRO]

From: Secretary of State DBT (DBT) [GRO]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 8:52 AM
To: Charlotte HEYES (DBT) [GRO]; Carl CRESWELL (DBT) [GRO]; David BICKERTON (DBT) [GRO]; Ed BAIRD (DBT) [GRO]; Rob BRIGHTWELL (DBT) [GRO]; Amanda MCMENAMIN (DBT) [GRO]; Brooks-White Jobshare [GRO]
Cc: DBT Ministerial Submissions [GRO]
Subject: [Readout] Meeting between SoS and the Rt Hon Kevan Jones

Good morning all,

Please see below my e-sig for a readout of the meeting between SoS and the Rt Hon Kevan Jones from last week. There is 1 action bolded, conscious that timings are very tight on this – if helpful, can have a conversation over the feasibility of this.

Warmest,
Jason

Jason Cheung | Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Business and Trade
Department for Business and Trade | Old Admiralty Building | London SW1A 2DY

Attendees:

- Secretary of State (SoS)
- The Rt Hon Kevan Jones (KJ)
- Gareth Davies, Permanent Secretary
- David Bickerton, Director General for Business Group
- **Carl Creswell, Director for Post Office and Business Engagement**
- Jack Glynn, Special Advisor

Readout

- After a brief welcoming and exchange on KJ's health, SoS asked whether KJ would be keen to remain on the Horizon Compensation Advisory Board, noting his contributions and having been a driving force in general on the work in the area. KJ responded that he was keen to continue.

- SoS also asked for KJ's advice on the composition of the Board. KJ's view was that the Board's composition should remain the same, on the basis of consistency, and that the team dynamics have been working well.
- KJ also complimented the post office team in DBT. KJ reflected that "you have a good set of officials working on [postal affairs]... they are serious people and they are professionals".
- KJ raised a couple of points: (1) Speeding compensation up is a priority; (2) That a compensation scheme might be required for Capture depending on the findings from the report, and KJ suggested that we should aim for a prompt response in **September**. SoS confirmed that the Kroll investigation is ongoing and that DBT Ministers will talk to HMT if a new scheme is needed following that report.
- KJ also mentioned that the lump sum payment for the OC scheme was a good idea, as it can help HMG cut costs on legal fees. HMT were not keen, but it helped speed things up and it was important not to be too cautious.
- SoS suggested making a public statement on reappointment of the Advisory Board. KJ did not offer an opinion on this.
- SoS mentioned that he is getting advice ahead of recess on the new Horizon Convictions Redress Scheme and that the Government is committed to the delivery timetable that was announced by the previous Government.
- KJ suggested for SoS to meet Alan Bates and some other subpostmasters/campaigners and that can be done over the summer. SoS reflected he is keen to do so as well and confirmed that he would be talking to Alan Bates later that morning. **Action: SoS is very keen to meet with affected subpostmasters in line with the announcement - can we set something up this week? His vision is to invite a small group of affected subpostmasters to the Churchill Room and have a 1/2 hr roundtable.**