



Record of Tape Recorded Interview

Person Interviewed

LISA MARGARET BRENNANExhibit No:
Number of pages

Place of Interview

Signature of interviewing
officer producing exhibit

Date of Interview

Time commenced

Time concluded

Duration of interview

Tape reference no

Interviewing Officer(s)

Other persons present

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
0.00	SB	The time now is 10:55. I'm continuing the interview with Lisa Margaret Brennan. Present are myself, Stephen Bradshaw.
	AG	Anthony Frank Gardner.
	SB	Can you just repeat your name Lisa please.
	LB	Lisa Brennan.
	SO	Steve Owens.
	SB	OK. The break was taken because the previous tape was running out. I have to remind you of your legal rights. Can you just time and date the top for me. You're still under caution which is you do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence. Now the first bit that you, can you just sign there to say that you've been re-cautioned. Sorry sign the top line.
	LB	Top line.
	SB	It's still 10:55. Do you wish to speak to a solicitor?
	LB	No.
	SB	OK, can you just sign the top line of that one and it's 10:56. If you do not



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
		wish to speak to a solicitor at this time you can change your mind at any time during the interview, do you understand?
	LB	Yeh.
	SB	OK Lisa, just as the other tape was coming to an end we were talking about the pension and allowance discrepancies that have been found using these date stamps. You were telling us that you've had a few problems at home and that. While I understand that you've been working under pressure, you gave us an explanation then and you tell us you work quite quickly, is there any reason why all these discrepancies are only appearing in pension and allowances when none of your other work ..?..
	LB	No, I've got no explanation.
	SB	It amounts to close to £1000 in a few weeks, it's getting a little bit more than just being careless.
	LB	Yeh, it is.
	SB	Your balances haven't reflected.
	LB	No.
	SB	Nobody's come back to you.
	LB	No.
	SB	I don't know how much we believe that everybody's completely dishonest when you've overpaid them. You haven't double keyed a number because the numbers are different on the front on some examples.
	LB	Yeh. I haven't got it, that's all I can say. I haven't got it.
	SB	There's got to be a reason for it, you can't just lose £1000...
	LB	What if I'm serving them and say I pay off the docket and I'm giving it somewhere else short in the day and not knowing or .. I know I'm like clutching at straws here.



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
	AG	So you're making 2 mistakes you're saying.
	LB	Several, I don't know. I really don't know.
	SB	They're all mistakes all centred around the pensions, you're not making mistakes anywhere else. I mean it's not... you're duty's not just about paying out pension and allowances. You've got a number of transactions to perform but all your mistakes ..and they're very convenient, £100 or £200 with a different number in the pensions.
	LB	I don't know what to say, I haven't got it, I haven't got it. I don't want to lose my job if I'm crap or even if you think I'm robbing. I don't want to lose my job.
	SB	Is there any reason why the Post Office should continue to employ you, giving £1000 away in a few short weeks.
	LB	I don't want to lose my job. I love my job. I thought I was good at my job.
	SB	We'll be making further checks, what if we find even more. When do we draw the line between it being careless and deliberate?
	LB	I don't know.
	AG	See this started simply because someone in Chesterfield decided to ask for the dockets for Heighton to be checked for week 41. 18,000 post offices, we can't check every pension claim for every office every week so there's a certain percentage checked and Heighton came out of the hat for week 41 and these discrepancies were found, not major discrepancies, there's £139.70, there's things like 20p disallowed which means something has been overclaimed by 20p, there's another one £20 disallowed, I mean that's virtually nothing. 50p allowed so someone has made a mistake the wrong way there, they've not paid out £15.50, or they've paid out £15.50



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
05.30		and claimed it as £15 so that's 50p allowed. Then we've got another £20 disallowed but then we've got one order valued £179.05 has been claimed but it's not there, it's missing completely.
	LB	And that's me?
	AG	No. And there's another one, group 14, there's 3 at £79.05 claimed and there's 4 received. Now, that's probably because what they've done there is they've worded it the other way round. What they've said is there's a docket for £79.05 that hasn't been claimed but it's a docket for £179.05 which is isn't there which has been claimed so in effect that probably is you if we have a look at that one. So to carry on from that, week 41 found these errors so a further 4 weeks were checked and the same sort of errors every week.
	LB	Yeh.
	AG	So then we've had a look at the pouch each week when it's left here and there's a lot to go through and we've found further mistakes so we haven't asked for Lisahally to make any further checks in between yet because the matter's quite serious, we're losing £100, £200, £300 a week, if I just check that one in fact, because we have the listings here. Right, we've got week 41 which is there, that's 42. And they're talking about a group 14. It's that one there isn't it? Yeh. I'm just going to show you that one, Steve's gonna give that an initial as well and a number.
	SB	SB9. Again, datestamped as B. 4 at £79.05 claimed and the one that's ..?.. one at £179.05 claimed but not there.
	AG	There you go, that's £100, exactly the same as the others. So if we just look at these, the £100 there plus another £100 is £200 plus that one is £300, 4, 5, 6, 7, that's £700 in 5 weeks. Now if you have a look at that on



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
		an annual basis, £700, it's about £7,000. That's more than you get paid. We can't afford to keep you can we?
	LB	Don't sack me.
	AG	I'm not going to sack you but Jan Mullen is going to get a report and she's ...
	LB	Well give me a refresher course or something, don't sack me.
	AG	You don't need a refresher course do you? To be honest with you I think you've stolen it.
	LB	I haven't stolen it.
	AG	There's no other explanation.
	LB	I haven't got it.
	AG	There's no other explanation is there Lisa.
	LB	If it looks that way. I know that's what you think.
	AG	Week after week after week there's exactly the same mistakes, we're now going to go away and ask Lisahally to check the whole year, which is gonna take them some time isn't it because this office pays out £400,000 a week. It's gonna take a while to check all the dockets isn't it? Well eventually they will come back with a list of al the mistakes that have been made at this office and I'll guarantee there's £100, £200, £300 a week, week after week after week. Now what would you say if we came back and said that, you know, we're talking about £6000, £7000. No amount of refresher course is going to teach you how to slow down and press the right buttons. You're doing it on all the other transactions. Your giros, your giro impayments, your out payments, green giros, telephone bills. You said you balanced almost to the penny.
	LB	I didn't say that.



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
10.00	AG	How much were they, a couple of quid out. All right, a couple fo quid then, sorry, it wasn't almost to the penny, a couple of quid. I think a couple of quid's quite good.
	LB	You'll never be ..?..
	AG	No, on paper you've balanced to within a couple of quid.
	LB	Yeh.
	AG	But then we have a look at the mistakes that are being made in the pensions and that's the only place where we found mistakes 'cos that's what the auditor's just done, is just check your stock. The only major discrepancies he's found is the ones in the pensions. Why do you think we're here. Because we've got the same pattern week after week after week.
	LB	I wouldn't do that, I'm not that bloody soft.
	AG	I've heard that a few times before as well.
	SB	But it hasn't happened every day.
	LB	Yeh.
	SB	So if you worked 4 days, so if you're to be believed that you're telling us because of the way you work and you're working quickly we would have at least 4 occasions each week if you're working the same way each day.
	AG	You'd be making mistakes on your pensions all the while wouldn't you. You'd be £100 over or £100 short, £50 over because you're working so quickly the keyboard is so .. I don't know, so difficult to operate when you're paying a pension out. Not you then. You've not stolen any money?
	LB	I haven't got it, no.
	AG	OK.



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
	SB	..?... go away and make more checks. ..?... get everything sorted out.
	LB	I have not got it.
	SB	Do you think somebody else has got it then?
	LB	I dunno.
	AG	How can anyone else get it, they can't key in figures can they?
	LB	No, no one else can take it out of my stock can they?
	AG	No one else uses your code do they?
	LB	No.
	AG	You say yourself that you stay with the same stock.
	LB	Yeh.
	AG	So you don't leave the stock and say will you serve out of this one and I'll go and have a cup of tea.
	LB	No, not like that, no.
	AG	So nobody else can be blamed for it, whether it's genuine or whether it's deliberate, it's you isn't it?
	LB	Yeh. What can I say?
	AG	You said you didn't do it. So we have to go away and write a report and see what other people think. We don't have any control over it, all we do is present the evidence that we've got. There's the evidence, we go away and do a few more checks and we add that to the evidence that we've already got and then someone makes a decision about you.
	LB	I love my job, I love doing this.
	AG	Well if I was pinching £200 or £300 a week I'd love it as well. Some subsidy to your income that isn't it, £200 a week plus £200 or £300 out of the drawer.
	LB	It would be wouldn't it. I haven't got it.



Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
	AG	Have you got any bank accounts?
	LB	Sorry.
	AG	Which bank accounts have you got?
	LB	My girobank.
	AG	Would you give us permission to have a look at that, have a look at the girobank account?
	LB	Why?
	AG	Well, you might have it in the giro.
	LB	A statement there if you want a look at that.
	AG	When's the statement dated?
	LB	I got it out the machine the other day.
	AG	Have you got your bag with you? If you'd like to show us that we'd be obliged. OK. This shows a balance of £582. There's been 17 transactions since the last statement and the last time they're shown. What did you get paid on the 31 st May?
	LB	We got the big bonus.
	AG	..?.. bonus.
	LB	Five hundred and odd quid I think it was.
	AG	So you take that £533 out which is a bonus which you wouldn't normally get that, would leave you a balance of less than £100 so I think that we can safely say that if any money's been ..?.. away it's not been put in the giro account. Thank you. There we go.
	SB	..?..
15.00	LB	No. I'm sorry.
	SB	OK, I have to inform you that you may be prosecuted. You do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you don't mention now

**Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)**

Tape Counter Times	Person Speaking	Text
	LB	something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence. Do you wish to say anything further?
	SB	No.
	LB	OK. That's a leaflet that explains what happens to the tapes and as you've already seen one will be sealed with the master tape the others will be sent away and be used as a working tape and copies of this interview will be transcribed. Can you just repeat that number again for me please and sign.
	SB	047856.
		And sign there for me please. The time now is 11:10, I'm switching the tape off.