

28 June 2012

Christopher Hine
National Partner – Forensic Accounting
RSM Tenon Limited
York House
York Street
Manchester M2 3BB

Dear Mr Hine,

Post Office Horizon System

Thank you for your letter of 22 June 2012 regarding this matter.

I appreciate your interest, and am pleased that you have made contact with me. I must, however, disappoint you. My belief as well as that of the MPs who have joined me in meetings about this matter, are convinced that whoever takes on the investigations into each case must be genuinely independent. The Post Office is insisting on this as well, therefore we have decided that anyone with prior connection to the cases involved really cannot take part. This, alas, rules you out, and I am sorry to have to let you know this.

As I have mentioned in my email to your colleague, Paul Burchett, my colleagues and I are meeting with representatives from 2nd Sight in a week or so. We will use this opportunity to ascertain their qualifications and objectivity, and if we are unsatisfied, we will not hesitate to seek other investigators.

We are all very keen to see these cases resolved, each and every one, and there is no mileage to be gained by appointing anyone who can later be accused of bias. This would harm our constituents, who remain our focus throughout.

I am sorry to write in these terms to you, and hope you will understand the reason behind this decision. I wish you and your business well, and thank you once again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,