

From: Mark R Davies
Sent: Wed, 18 Jun 2014 18:10:34 +0000
To: Batten Peter (ShEx)
Cc: Martin Edwards;Callard Richard (ShEx);Belinda Crowe
Subject: Re: Sparrow

Hi Peter

It was good to see you too.

We have looked at options like this to be honest and they aren't practical. Belinda, copied, can give you a full run down.

Best wishes

Mark

Sent from my iPhone

On 17 Jun 2014, at 10:58, "Batten Peter (ShEx)" <[REDACTED] GRO [REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Mark, cc Martin,

It was good catching up with you and Martin last week, particularly around the ongoing Sparrow discussions.

We briefly discussed a possible additional option that could see JFSA/2nd Sight remain part of the process, but with the process supported by additional forensic accountancy firms to speed up consideration of the cases. This could work by either:

- divvying up the cases between 2nd Sight and the other accountancy firms (with 2nd Sight/JFSA being kept onside by choosing the cases it wants to investigate – with POL having comfort of knowing that a 'smoking gun' hasn't yet emerged);
- offering applicants a choice of accountancy firms (including 2nd Sight) to consider their concerns (with the qualifier that 2nd Sight would only be able to consider cases slowly); or
- having all cases considered by an accountancy firm(s) of scale, with 2nd Sight remaining on the Working Group to provide an 'expert' accountancy perspective opinion in Working Group meetings.

You did flag some concerns around this option, including the reluctance of other firms to work with/alongside 2nd Sight; difficulties with managing additional parties within the process; issues around consistency. With that in mind, have you had an opportunity to give this option further consideration? It would be useful if you could provide a view on its attractiveness from a POL perspective. From my point of view, it would seem deliverable within the Terms of Reference, and could reduce the level of criticism from JFSA/2nd Sight/MPs.

Very happy to discuss if easier.

Many thanks

Peter

Peter Batten | Shareholder Executive | Department for Business, Innovation & Skills

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