

**From:** Javid MPST [/O=BIS PRODUCTION/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=358BDF92E3B6441BA05DB1F19CAD786F-JAVIDMPST]  
**Sent:** Wed 01/07/2015 11:00:54 AM (UTC)  
**To:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive) [GRO]  
**Cc:** SpAd Javid MPST [GRO] King Nick (MPST) [GRO] Callard Richard (ShEx) [GRO]  
**Subject:** Post Office Horizon issue

Laura,  
 Dan York-Smith at No 10 has got back on this. Afraid I missed the call so I got this second hand - but the message is PM is happy not to offer a judicial enquiry.

George

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**From:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive)  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 20:30  
**To:** Javid MPST  
**Cc:** SpAd Javid MPST; King Nick (MPST); Neville-Rolfe MPST; Freeman MPST; Callard Richard (ShEx)  
**Subject:** RE: Adjournment Debate This Evening

George – a note, attached, for you to send over to Dan in No 10 when you get a chance. It is slightly longer than I intended but I think necessary to reassure No 10 we have this covered (and you did say “much more detailed background and context”...!)

(Just to reiterate, this is about Government launching a judicial inquiry, not about Government facing a judicial review. I have not stressed that point in the note but feel free to do so if you think there is any confusion about that point.)

Let me know what you think and very happy to make any amends / discuss.

Laura

Laura Thompson | Assistant Director | Shareholder Executive

[GRO] [GRO]

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**From:** Javid MPST  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 17:45  
**To:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive)  
**Cc:** SpAd Javid MPST; King Nick (MPST)  
**Subject:** RE: Adjournment Debate This Evening

Hi all,

I just spoke to Dan York-Smith at No 10 about this. We talked through it and he thinks there shouldn't be an issue, but he won't have any opportunity to clear this with the PM tonight. He has asked that we write again tomorrow with a much more detailed background and context, clearly setting out why we recommend resisting calls for a judicial enquiry.

With this additional background he will then seek clearance from the PM tomorrow in advance of Andrew Bridgen speaking at PMQs. Laura, can you confirm you will take this forward?

Happy to discuss.

Thanks,

George

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**From:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive)  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 17:22  
**To:** Javid MPST  
**Subject:** FW: Adjournment Debate This Evening

Laura Thompson | Assistant Director | Shareholder Executive

[GRO]

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**From:** SpAd Javid MPST  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 13:29  
**To:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive)  
**Cc:** Callard Richard (ShEx)  
**Subject:** RE: Adjournment Debate This Evening

Great, thanks Laura, will ask Nick to forward on.  
Thanks,  
Rob



**Robert Jones**  
Private Secretary to the Special Advisers | MPST  
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**From:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive)  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 13:27  
**To:** SpAd Javid MPST  
**Cc:** Callard Richard (ShEx)  
**Subject:** RE: Adjournment Debate This Evening

Comments below:

Laura Thompson | Assistant Director | Shareholder Executive

GRO

**From:** SpAd Javid MPST  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 13:22  
**To:** Thompson Laura (Shareholder Executive)  
**Subject:** Adjournment Debate This Evening  
**Importance:** High

Hi Laura,

Can you have and amend what I've put below.

Nick,

As just discussed, I've given you the briefing pack for tonight's adjournment debate on the Post Office/Horizon issue. Andrew Bridgen MP is down to lead and is planning to call for a judicial enquiry (he has already done so in this Sunday's Express), alleging that Post Office has failed to give justice to a small number of subpostmasters who raised complaints about the system. There have been two independent reviews on this matter, the most recent being in April, which said that there were no problems with the Horizon System itself. The focus has now shifted away from criticising the I.T system and is now on the Post Office's handling of the situation, mostly around its approach to prosecutions. The fact remains that there is no evidence that any individual's conviction is unsafe, and there are legal avenues (appeal, or the Criminal Cases Review Commission) if people feel there have been miscarriages of justice. **Officials recommend that we resist calls for a judicial enquiry** and maintain that this matter is independent of Government (we are the shareholder of Post Office, not the manager).

We've also heard that **he is down to ask a question at PMQs. Given the recent coverage**, and the fact that there will be a debate this evening where the Government will resist his calls for a judicial enquiry, he may want to **press the PM on Wednesday**. Officials want to make sure that we're joined up, so we don't resist this evening, only for the PM to accept or soften the position on Wednesday.

Can you check with your No.10 colleagues please?

Thanks,

Rob



**Robert Jones**  
Private Secretary to the Special Advisers | MPST  
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