

From: Liam BUTLER (DBT) GRO
Sent: Wed 11/09/2024 9:36:49 AM (UTC)
To: Minister THOMAS (DBT) GRO
Cc: Carl CRESWELL (DBT) GRO; Brooks-White
Jobshare GRO; Stephanie COSSOM
(DBT) GRO; David BICKERTON
(DBT) GRO; Kat MINETT GRO
(DBT) GRO; Eleri WONES
(DBT) GRO; Richard HOWARD
(DBT) GRO; Helena RARATY
(DBT) GRO
Subject: Ministerial Advice - Horizon Shortfall Scheme - HSS Fixed Sum Interim Payments
Attachment: 20240828 - Fixed Sum interim payments - OFFSEN.docx

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Hi Sam,

With thanks to those on copy, please find Ministerial advice seeking agreement to continue with offering the £75,000 fixed sum payment to postmasters in the Horizon Shortfall Scheme, without offering the £50,000 interim payment to postmasters who wish to have their full claim assessed (as previously agreed with the Minister). The advice sets out the reasoning why.

Lead private secretary: Sam Griffiths

Submission title: FOR DECISION: HSS Fixed Sum Interim Payments

Timing: Urgent. We would be grateful for a quick read-out as this is one of the issues that needs to be resolved prior to implementation of the fixed sum awards to new claims.

Summary: Due to implementation challenges, officials have reconsidered the policy of offering £50k interim payments to postmasters unwilling to accept the £75k fixed sum on HSS and are seeking your approval to continue without this offer. We need to reach a position quickly in order to enable offers to issue to newer HSS claimants.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Minister agrees not to offer £50k interim payments to HSS claimants who do not wish to accept the fixed sum award.

Cleared by: Carl Creswell, Post Office and Business Engagement Director

Thanks,

Department for
Business & Trade

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