



## RESPONSE TO RICHARD ROLL (TO BE TURNED INTO A STATEMENT BY STEVE PARKER)

1. References to paragraph numbers are to paragraphs of Mr Roll' statement.

1 2. I worked with Mr Roll while he was employed by Fujitsu in the Software Support Centre (SSC).  
2 Although I did not have the formal title, I acted as team leader.

3 3. I found Mr Roll to be a conscientious worker and provided him with a reference<sup>[PS1]</sup> for a position that he applied for after leaving Fujitsu. As described below, he was not what I would describe as a technical person and he was mainly tasked with undertaking standard work arounds: e.g. Advising a PM to reboot when a counter was non-polling (not communicating with the centre), changing an outlets end of day state to ensure harvesting takes place, changing outlet configuration to facilitate change in number of counters.

**[PLEASE PROVIDE SOME EXAMPLES].**<sup>[PS2]</sup>

4. As Mr Roll was employed between 2001 and 2004 his references to Horizon are to the original Horizon system (sometimes referred to as Legacy Horizon) as opposed to Horizon Online/HNG-X. When deal with matters in this statement I am describing the position between 2001 and 2004 unless otherwise stated.

5. [I have reviewed paragraphs [xx]<sup>[GJ6]</sup> of the witness statement provided by my colleague Torstein Godeseth which describe the core audit process in Legacy Horizon and I confirm that they are accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.] **[TBC]**

### Structure of Fujitsu's <sup>[GJ7]</sup>Support teams for the Post Office Account

4 6. There were four lines of support for Horizon while Mr Roll was employed by Fujitsu and this is still the case in the current Horizon support structure, albeit names have changed and some responsibilities have moved around teams. A multi-level support model is common within the industry, as you move up through the levels of support the skillset required changes as does the cost of the staff providing the service. To provide efficient support your objective is for an incident to be resolved by the earliest level possible. The following points define the names, responsibilities and qualities of the Horizon support lines at the time to the best of my recollection. There is often overlap of skills between adjacent lines of support. While a team may be responsible for a particular level of support, staff within that team often have skills which allow them to perform a role outside the team's level. [is this still the position?]<sup>[GJ8]</sup>

**[FJ—please can we flesh out the descriptions of the four levels of support? How many people are in each group? Do they follows stated processes to ensure quality and consistency of delivery? Is the setup industry standard?]**<sup>[PS9]</sup>

5 6.1 1<sup>st</sup> line: the Horizon system utilised a joint 1<sup>st</sup> line helpdesk as the first point of contact for issues.

6 6.1.1 The National Business Support Centre (NBSC) being a Post Office staffed helpdesk tasked with resolving business issues.

7, 8, 9 6.1.2 The Horizon Service Desk (HSD), a Fujitsu staffed help desk a helpdesk—that branches may contact with issues relating to the Horizon application or the hardware provided in branch by Fujitsu to run the Horizon application. The helpdesk dealt with straightforward issues such as password issues<sup>[PS11]</sup>, resets, and hardware replacement and engineer scheduling. The 1<sup>st</sup> line helpdesk refers other issues to the 2<sup>nd</sup> line support function.<sup>[PS12]</sup> NOTE: Names have changed over the years, HSH (Horizon System Helpdesk) and HIT (Horizon incident team) have also been used but the combined functions remained the same as HSD described above.

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12  
13, 14, 15  
16, 17

18 6.1.3 Communications Management Team (CMT). A 1<sup>st</sup> line team specifically focused on communication incidents.

## Page 1 Comments

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- PS1** “personal reference”. FJ do not allow staff to produce references on behalf of the company.  
*Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 02:54 PM*
- PS2** Change of wording: As described below, he did not undertake a lot of detailed diagnosis of new issues. His skills were mainly in the accurate application of known work rounds to configuration and storage issues resulting from routine outlet change activities (reducing / increasing numbers of counter at outlet .....).  
*Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 02:55 PM*
- SH3** In order to justify the conclusion that Roll was not technical (which is important) we need to be specific about what he did, where this fitted in to the overall team and why others were far more engaged in technical work than him. Are we trying to make any further point here i.e. that as a result of his role he would not have understood aspects on which he is giving evidence?  
*Simon Henderson, 15/10/2018 09:39 AM*
- PS4** Analysis of his incident updates show that he was working in the SSC from just before March 2001 to Sept 2004. I say “just before” because prior to answering incidents himself he would have been shadowing an experienced diagnostician but his name would not have been applied to the work being completed.  
*Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 02:59 PM*
- GJ5** Missing “I”.  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:28 PM*
- GJ6** tbs  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:29 PM*
- GJ7** Probably sensible to also refer to POL’s NBSC and how that fitted in with Fujitsu’s HSD
- Covered at point 13 below?  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:30 PM*
- GJ8** Presumably it is?  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:29 PM*
- PS9** I do not have numbers for staff in SSC 2001 – 2004. Best I can do is end 2009 when there were 25 SSC staff. An estimate of 25-30 is reasonable.
- 1st line FJ was around 80-90. We don’t have people (Sandie Bothick, one of the “longest servers” I know on the helpdesk, only joined in 2009) who can give better figures.
- NBSC: No idea. Post Office may know.  
*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 07:50 AM*

## Page 1 Comments (Continued)

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**GJ10** With Riposte there was no capability of password resets. There was a one-shot password capability for “global” accounts which allowed a SPMR to log on with the privilege to allow them to reset a password locally.

Was this HSD or NBSC?

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:31 PM*

**PS11** HSD

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:01 PM*

**PS12** Deliberate use of “function” not team. The second line function was spread over HSD, SMC and SSC (Software Support Centre). SSC also fulfil a third line function.

*Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:48 PM*

19 6.1.4 1st line support was also responsible for monitoring the live estate and taking  
corrective actions defined in knowledge documents, based on the content or frequency  
of those events. This role was fulfilled by two units:

20 System Management Centre (SMC): Data centre events

21 Counter Eventing Team (CET): Post Office counter events

1) 2<sup>nd</sup> line: search knowledge articles and apply simple, well-defined work-arounds (often on the  
 22 phone) such as guiding branch staff to return to the Horizon home screen if they get stuck in part  
 of the system. There was no single 2nd line support team for Horizon. 2<sup>nd</sup> line functions were  
fulfilled by 1st line or 3rd line teams. 2<sup>nd</sup> line support of the Horizon application was executed by  
senior members of the HSD, SMC, and junior members of the SSC. ~~[someone mentioned~~  
~~monitoring systems on our call~~<sup>[GJ13]</sup> ~~can you expand on that please?];~~

23 6.2 3<sup>rd</sup> line: 3rd line support staff apply analytical skills to the symptoms and evidence gathered by  
the 1st and 2nd line functions and undertakes in-depth investigation into incidents. They have  
detailed knowledge of the application based on documentation and source code inspection. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
line staff design, test and document work rounds for previous levels of support. They undertake  
complex (which may require the generation of special tooling) configuration and data fixes.  
Design, write and document new support tools. Undertake source code examination, complex  
diagnosis and documentation (including method to recreate fault) of new application problems  
before sending them to the 4th line support group for root cause software fix; and

~~write the knowledge articles used by the 2<sup>nd</sup> line support team, carry out fixes in relation to~~  
~~configuration type issues (as opposed to software fixes, an example being where the system~~  
~~crashes while [when?] and the branch required assistance to unlock it) and examine some code~~  
~~[for what purpose?]; and~~

24, 25, 26 6.3 4<sup>th</sup> line: system development of and software fixes. Have intimate knowledge of narrow areas of  
the system and are ultimately responsible for the production of permanent fixes to repair the root  
cause of an incident or problem in the live application. 4<sup>th</sup> line support staff have knowledge of  
one of more computer languages which they utilise to amend source code to fix problem in the  
live application code. There is often overlap between 4<sup>th</sup> line and Developers, who add new  
features into the application. ~~[can we describe the qualifications required to be a member~~  
~~of 4<sup>th</sup> line and their calibre?];~~<sup>[GJ14]</sup>

26 7. The 3<sup>rd</sup> line support team is only ever engaged when there has been a problem that all previous  
 27 support functions (1st line, 2<sup>nd</sup> line) were unable to resolve. Where the 1<sup>st</sup> line helpdesk might  
receive 13000-14000 calls per month from Post Masters the majority (e.g. 95%) will be answered  
by that helpdesk. Input to the SSC was approx. 1000 calls per month. Output from SSC to 4<sup>th</sup>  
 28 line, approx 20 per month. <sup>[PS15]</sup> **NOTE:** ~~[Insert section re metrics around various lines of support.~~  
~~1st line – 90-95% of issues; 5-10% to 2nd line and less to 3rd line. Metric = 3% of input to~~  
~~3rd line should go to 4th line (development). A mature system now, but still worth saying~~  
~~that you have to bear this thing in mind. Need figures from Sandy Borthwick (HSD~~  
~~days). PN/DI to chase up.]~~

#### Mr Roll's role

29 8. Mr Roll was a member of the Software Support Centre (SSC) team which is described as the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 30 line support group. Functionally the SSC provided both 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line support for the Horizon  
 31 application <sup>[SH16]</sup> ~~(-which primarily provides the 3<sup>rd</sup> line support (see previous comments, there can be~~  
~~some overlap between the four lines of support) and SSC does provide some 2<sup>nd</sup> line support).~~

32, 33 9. As with any mix of people, there are various levels of talent within SSC. Mr Roll was primary  
 utilised in Operational Business Change (OBC), which involved supporting the engineers who  
 were opening and closing branches and also increasing and decreasing the number of counters  
 in branches and correcting the application environment after engineers ~~replaced~~ failed  
 counter hardware. As part of that role he may have spoken to Postmasters from time to time.  
 [Can we describe the sorts of things he would not have routinely seen as part of his role?

## Page 2 Comments

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**GJ13** This was probably me. SMC should monitor unusual events from all Live systems (including branches) as they went through the event management system and raise calls in unexpected events (or as defined by KELs)

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:33 PM*

**GJ14** 4th line was normally the original development team who would do this alongside developing new code.

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:35 PM*

**PS15** Still not accurate, my recollection. Sandie Bothick has provided HSD stats from Dec 2008 - Jan 2009 which support the 13000-14000 figure BUT

- a) this does not include the NBSC (POL)
- b) By Jan 2009 Horizon was mature and HNG-X was being developed (introduced 2010)

Person who can drag out the SSC stats is on leave. Need to either tie down these figures from the incident system OR use current figures and explain that they only indicative as the current system is mature.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 10:03 AM*

**SH16** Worth making the point somewhere that there is a degree of overlap between the various lines of support i.e. not clear cut distinctions

*Simon Henderson, 15/10/2018 10:04 AM*

Is there a possibility that his witness statement covers things which he would not have had first-hand knowledge of? If so, please provide examples.]<sup>PS17</sup>

10. Mr Roll was not involved in the provision of 4<sup>th</sup> line support. Some members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> line support group (but not Mr Roll) identify the need for software fixes and pass this on to the 4<sup>th</sup> line team for a code fix to be written. Such a code fix would not be written by anyone in the 3<sup>rd</sup> line team.

#### Branch discrepancies

11. Mr Roll states that "software issues" which "could, and did, cause financial discrepancies at branch level, including "shortfalls" being incorrectly shown on the Horizon system" were "routinely" encountered (paragraph 10). It is true to say that as with any system, software issues in Horizon may cause the illusion of a discrepancy in a branch's accounts from time to time. However, it does not happen "routinely". [can we give an anecdotal estimate of how regularly such issues arise?] Further, in the vast majority of cases such an occurrence would cause a receipts and payments mismatch that would be flagged [by who?] and investigated [by who?]. [Why most bugs? What type of bug would not cause a receipts and payments mismatch? How would they be identified?]

12. [Explain KELs and Peaks/how errors are identified and spotted? Note GJ's comment that it is "quite difficult" to check how many issues caused discrepancies in Old Horizon, but FJ is "tracking things better in new Horizon" (e.g. the three known bugs)]

13. Post Office operates its own 1<sup>st</sup> line helpline for branches called the National Business Support Centre (NBSC). If a branch requires assistance to attempt to determine the cause of a discrepancy they may contact NBSC. However, Horizon records the data that is entered into it by branch staff and that may not reflect what actually happened in the branch. For example, a user may enter a deposit of £100 into a customer's bank account on Horizon but rather than taking £100 from the customer, they may make a mistake and give the customer £100 as if it had been a withdrawal. Therefore, NBSC could not always help branches to identify the cause of a discrepancy and they would sometimes ask SSC to assist. One of the reasons for this is that SSC has access to transaction data whereas the NBSC does not. Mr Roll's statement that "[i]f an error was referred to us then it was extremely unlikely to be due to a mistake made by a postmaster" is simply not correct. [Can we say roughly what proportion of issues that made their way through to SCC between 2001 and 2004 would have been due to software issues and how many were presumed to be human error because no other cause could be found?]

14. Mr Roll suggests that he would investigate financial discrepancies that had arisen in branches by "work[ing] sequentially through all transactions over the relevant period, and also work[ing] through thousands of lines of computer coding" (paragraph 7). To the best of my recollection Mr Roll would not have worked through thousands of lines of computer coding to investigate a discrepancy in a branch. While SSC has access to Visual Basic (VB) code [what is this code and what other types of code exist that SSC did not have access to?], it was rarely used [what purpose was it used for? Can we explain why RR would not have needed to look at it?]. Mr Roll would follow work around processes designed by other people and was never a detail person [which would not require him to review VB code - is this correct?].

- 34 | 15. Mr Roll states that "[s]oftware programs were written by us to strip-out irrelevant data, to enable us to more easily locate the error." I am aware of two programmes support tools (AKA software programs) that were written while Mr Roll was employed by Fujitsu:-

- 35, 36 | 15.1 the Smiley support tool program written by my colleague John Simpkins. This tool which amalgamates information from various sources (e.g. databases) into a single view  
37, 38 | pertinent to a particular support task and provides a unified interface to run various tools to achieve a single support outcome [describe what it did]; and

- 39, 40, 41 | 15.2 the [insert name] programme (Can't remember the name) written by my colleague Richard  
42 | Coleman to extract messages from the correspondence server to local text files for examination.

## Page 3 Comments

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**PS17** His statement suggests that he undertook detailed analysis and code examination. Not correct, if he was involved in this way once I would be surprised. Yes, that is one of the expectations of a 3rd line function, yes some of his colleagues would be doing this work, it just wasn't Richard doing it.

Best way to dispute this is by analysis of the incidents Richard answered. In progress.  
*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 02:14 PM*

**GJ18** By the branch system as part of the balancing process (and also generate alerts that would be picked up by SMC)  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:37 PM*

**GJ19** Initially by the branch, but there wasn't much they could do – and the SMC should then raise a call and pass it to SSC to investigate it properly.  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:38 PM*

**PS20** We should be able to get this data from the incident management system (Peak). Analysis would have to be driven by the code (final response code) allocated by the person who finalised the incident, which is subjective. Within these constraints, yes possible.  
*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:52 PM*

**GJ21** The counter code was written in VB  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:40 PM*

**GJ22** Data Centre code would be in other languages – primarily C and Pro SQL and I assume SSC had access to all of this if required. However it was primarily 4th line that looked at code fixes.  
*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:41 PM*

**PS23** Yes, SSC have access to all source code  
*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:47 PM*

**PS24** Source code access used to confirm exactly how the application would process a given input and what the outputs would be. Used when investigating specific issues and general education on how the system works.

RR was not working at a level where this would be required. The majority of his work was the application of known work rounds / configuration changes.  
*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:48 PM*

**PS25** Yes.  
*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:51 PM*

42 | A predecessor to Smiley whose functions were eventually subsumed into the Smiley support tool.

16. ~~[What errors is Mr Roll talking about in para. 7 of his statement and how did these programmes help to spot them?]~~<sup>PS26</sup>

17. I do not accept that SSC "regularly" identified issues with the computer coding. As with any application, there were some coding errors in Horizon. A lot of the stuff we saw was [misuse of the system, actions to ensure that dataset system was using was complete][**please expand on this**].

18. Mr Roll states that if SSC was "unable to find the cause of the discrepancy then this was reported up the chain and it was assumed that the postmaster was to blame" (paragraph 10).

43 | That is not my experience: It is a simple truth of support that the majority of issues reported in a system are attributable to user action or user misunderstanding of system functionality. Hence, anybody working in a support environment analysing a new issue would examine the possibilities of user error as a first hypothesis but any final conclusion is only generated based on the evidence. Where the evidence does not support a conclusion the

44 | SSC feeds the existent factual data back to Post Office and might say something along the lines of "all indications are that the branch has made a mistake" if there is no other explanation, but SSC neither does not attributes  
45, 46, 47 | "blame" or agrees the final conclusion with the Post Master.  
48 |

#### SSC between 2001 - 2004

19. I agree with Mr Roll's recollection that there were around 30 individuals working on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor in Bracknell at any one time during this period. ~~[How many were part of SSC? How is the 30 split?]~~<sup>PS27</sup> However I strongly disagree that much of the work being carried out could be described "as 'fire fighting' coding problems in the Horizon system." There would be times when SSC

49 | would be firefighting when, for example, a data centre went down. However, as described above, SSC would primarily provide 3<sup>rd</sup> line support including [writing the knowledge articles used by the 2<sup>nd</sup> line support team, carrying out fixes in relation to configuration type issues (as opposed to software configuration fixes, an example being where the system crashes while  
50 | when? balancing a stock unit and the branch required assistance to unlock the stock unit)] and  
51, 52 | examining some code.

20. ~~[Can we give some anecdotal evidence as to the proportion of software issues that could create the illusion of a branch discrepancy?]~~<sup>PS28</sup>

21. There were Service Level Agreements for issues such as stuck transactions (Fujitsu had 10 days to retrieve transactions that had got stuck in a counter). I do not understand what Mr Rolls means ~~when~~<sup>PS29</sup> he says that "any discrepancy in the post office accounts had to be resolved speedily" (paragraph 12). ~~[Is this correct or do you know what he means?]~~

22. While it is correct that there was a limited number of opportunities to release software updates and it could be six weeks before a fix could be released, but in the vast majority of cases it did not take six weeks to do this. I do not understand what Mr Roll's means when he suggests that a bug could reappear several weeks after a coding fix had been released due to software issues (paragraph 14), although I am aware of cases where a fix regressed [**how many times has this happened?**].

23. ~~[What proportion of issues are: (1) software; (2) hardware?]~~<sup>PS30</sup>

#### Remote access

24. Mr Roll claims that "[d]uring the course of resolving the software issues, we would frequently access a Post Office counter IT system remotely" (paragraph 15). By remotely I assume that Mr Roll means accessing Post Office counter IT systems while not in a branch.

25. The first point to note here is that a level of such access was required in Legacy Horizon because it was a distributed system. The counter hard disk was used to store application

## Page 4 Comments

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**PS26** Need to break down the para:

He is referring to the investigation of discrepancies by the SSC. A number of points to be made here:

- 1) Discrepancies, general. Discrepancies impact all retail systems, rarely will the contents of the till match up to the entries made onto them by the person serving.
- 2) Discrepancies, value £5000. Would be unusual in a system where your single item cost is low, e.g. packet of Polo's 40p. In a system where you are also dealing with high value items (e.g. commercial volumes of tax disks), £5000 would not be unusual.
- 3) Discrepancies are normally a business issue, not a software issue, and hence the NBSC would deal with them not 3rd line support.
- 4) In a small number of cases the NBSC would be unable to resolve a discrepancy with the Post Master. That could result in a "well I can't find the problem so it must be software" attitude resulting in the incident coming to the SSC. The SSC generally had better access to the data and support tools than the NBSC (hence "Software programs were written by us to strip out irrelevant data") to examine the sequence / value of transactions made in a branch. The result of our investigation was generally an explanation of which legitimate transactions, made by the Post Master (sometimes in error) caused the discrepancy.
- 5) In very rare circumstances a discrepancy could be caused by a software issue. In this case it might be necessary to "work through thousands of lines of computer coding", however this would be a 4th line function not 3rd line.
- 6) When the root cause is identified the support teams would be able to identify the outlets impacted and advise on a corrective action or even make that corrective action in co-operation with the Post Master.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 02:34 PM*

**PS27** 25-30 is a reasonable estimate of SSC staff during Richard's employment.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:31 PM*

**PS28** The system carries out self consistency checks. Failure of these checks results in a report of a "receipts and payments mismatch" and could create the illusion of a discrepancy. Results in a support follow up and reconciliation of issue. Spreadsheet available to document.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:16 PM*

**PS29** There is a process run by the Management Support Unit (MSU) which involves that examination of various system reporting and may result in BIMS (Business Incident Management Service) entries that go to Post Office. An incident may also be raised by MSU with the SSC to provide support to the MSU in resolution of the BIMS. These subject to strict SLAs.

## Page 4 Comments (Continued)

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### PS29+

There are no SLAs associated with general incidents raised via the Post Master / Helpdesk support route.

I think RR is confusing the two incident streams.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:23 PM*

### PS30

I can only do this for the incident management system used by SSC (Peak). Information from the HSD systems (where the majority of hardware issues were closed) is not available to me.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:56 PM*

- 54, 57 | configuration information and Post Master transactions. The latter where then replicated to  
55, 56 | central servers over communication links. (i.e. ~~[please explain what this means]~~). This  
means that such access was required in order for Fujitsu to support users.
- 58, 59 | 26. The example given by Mr Roll ("*when a binary bit would "flip", thus a "1" became a "0"*") relates  
60 | to a configuration item flag which can become locked in the wrong binary setting (1, 0). One  
61, 62 | example of which would be a stock unit lock which, in the wrong state, would, preventing  
updates to stock units within a branch. Correcting t~~This does not~~ involve accessing or editing  
transaction data in any way or re-creating <sup>[GJ32]</sup>databases. ~~The tool used to correct this issue is~~  
~~described in [exhibit DEV/APP/LLD/0202].~~ <sup>[PS31]</sup> [I understand from Post Office's solicitors that this  
document has been provided to the Claimants as part of these proceedings.]
27. Where Mr Roll refers to re-creating the database I understand him to be referring to the process  
that Fujitsu would follow if data became corrupted <sup>[GJ33]</sup>[**how often would this happen?**]. As  
explained by Mr Godseth in paragraph 35 of his statement, in Legacy Horizon:-
- 63 | 27.1 all counter data was held in a bespoke message store<sup>1</sup> and the data was replicated within each  
branch to ~~ai~~ counter positions and from each branch to the data centres where it was held in the  
correspondence server message stores;
- 27.3 any data inserted into the message store at the data centre (for example reference data or  
authorisations for banking transactions) would be replicated back to the branch counters; and
- 27.4 selected data was then extracted from the correspondence servers to update Post Office's back  
end systems.
28. If one of the sets of data became corrupted [**how would FJ know it had been corrupted?**]<sup>[GJ34]</sup> on  
a counter SSC would delete the entire set of data on that counter and replace it with a copy of  
the data from one of the other sources that had not been corrupted. While this process involves  
deleting and replacing a set of data, no new data is produced; all that happens is that the correct  
data is used to replace the data that has become corrupted. [It would have been necessary for  
SSC to inform a branch before carrying out this task.] [**why? would it have caused a problem**  
**if the branch tried to use Horizon while this was happening?**]<sup>[GJ35]</sup>
29. Mr Roll also claims that:-
- 29.1 "*some errors were corrected remotely without the sub-postmaster being aware*" (paragraph 16);  
and
- 29.2 there were some errors where it was necessary to "*download and correct the data and prepare it  
for uploading back on to the post office computer, then call the postmaster to inform him that  
there was problem and that we needed two or three minutes to correct it*" (paragraph 17).
30. It is not clear what errors Mr Roll is referring to or how he says they were corrected. As  
explained by Mr Godseth in paragraph 36 of his statement, users with sufficient access  
permissions could inject additional messages (i.e. data) at the correspondence server and the  
fact that such data had been injected in this way would be clearly identifiable. [**Note – GJ now**  
**says that SSC could inject data at the counter. Need to bottom this out ASAP and**  
**explain whether such injections were clearly identifiable.**]<sup>[GJ36]</sup> [**Need to say whether or not**  
**these things could be done without informing the branch**]<sup>[PS37]</sup><sup>[GJ38]</sup>
31. It may be that Mr Roll is referring to issues relating to the end of day concept in Legacy Horizon.  
Essentially there was a cut-off point for transactions every day [**what time?**]<sup>[GJ39]</sup> and each counter  
had to write an end of day message to the branch's master counter to enable the master counter  
to harvest messages (including details of transactions) to Post Office's back end systems.  
Occasionally a counter in a branch would fail to write an end of day message and there was a  
process for correcting it. The issue would be reported to SSC by way of a Peak (either as a  
result of a call to HSD or sometimes FJ could spot issues via system events). In lay terms, SSC

<sup>1</sup> A message means data and transaction data is a subset of the data in the message store.

## Page 5 Comments

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**PS31** Suggest this is removed since the document pertains to HNG-X. While it has the same effect on HNG-X systems it was not the tooling used on the Horizon system Richard was working on at the time.

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:21 PM*

**GJ32** That sounds like an HNG-X doc so probably not the correct one.

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:44 PM*

**GJ33** Godeseth

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:45 PM*

would force the counter to generate a report based on the data already in the counter; this would not alter the transaction data. A message injected in this way would go into the audit trail.

32. [In summary:-

32.1 Fujitsu could not change transaction data; and

32.2 Fujitsu could inject transaction data and such injections were clearly identifiable. <sup>[GJ41]</sup> **[Why would FJ want or need to inject transaction data?]** <sup>[GJ42]</sup>

33. I do not understand what Mr Roll <sup>[SH43]</sup> means when he says that SSC had the ability to "*transfer money remotely*" (paragraph 18). Nor do I understand how a third party could have accessed the system and I note that Mr Roll has not attempted to explain this (paragraph 18). It was not (and is not) possible for Fujitsu to do anything with money in a branch. [As noted above, the only thing they Fujitsu could do in theory was inject transaction data and it would only do so **[insert explanation]**. **[Could FJ in theory manipulate a branch's transaction data in a way which was detrimental to a particular SPMR and undetectable is simply wrong.]**

## Page 6 Comments

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**GJ34** Events picked up by SMC and usually a failed counter that would not restart (hence a call to HSD from the SPMR)

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:46 PM*

**GJ35** Yes it would. However it is likely that any attempt to use that counter would fail.

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:47 PM*

**GJ36** It was always possible. I had originally thought that this was not routinely done, but John pointed out last week at least one example of when it needs to be done at a counter. NB that example is NOT transactional data.

We are now in the area of “normal practice” v “malicious coding”, which Torstein excludes as “with malicious coding anything can be done”.

However I’m concerned that RR is implying that some people in SSC were being malicious and I don’t know how we defend against that.

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:48 PM*

**PS37** Processes in place required that such transactions can be identified, usually a unique node number (that could not come from a normal counter) or a unique user name. Process again dictates that the branch is informed.

Transactions would be visible in Post Master reporting and audit trail.

Don’t know how to defend against the suggestion that a person with high levels of access could act maliciously. It is true of any computer system that you have to trust your “super users” and that the peer group would detect that “something wasn’t right”

*Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:40 PM*

**GJ38** There is no need to inform the branch and they might be unaware of it.

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:51 PM*

**GJ39** 7pm

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:52 PM*

**GJ40** Add: to write a Branch EOD message, which would then trigger the data Centre to

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:52 PM*

**GJ41** Yes if done in process, but not necessarily if done maliciously

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:54 PM*

**GJ42** Main reason is for transactions stranded on a “dead” counter. There may have been some cases where transactions were injected to correct a bug that had been identified. Not sure if that was the case or not.

*Gareth Jenkins, 15/10/2018 04:54 PM*

## Page 6 Comments (Continued)

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**SH43** Need a more robust rejection here. The position, as I understand it, is that FJ could not do anything with money in a branch i.e. could not in any way transfer it into or out of a branch and this needs to be explained. The only thing they could do in theory was inject transaction data (not amend existing transaction data), that there was no point in doing so (i.e. it was something they would only very rarely want or need to do) and that it was anyway a pointless exercise since it would immediately be picked up by Horizon's checks. The key point, which I think does not yet come across in this draft, is that the suggestion that FJ was able to manipulate a branch's transaction data in a way which was detrimental to a particular SPMR and undetectable is simply wrong.

*Simon Henderson, 15/10/2018 10:44 AM*

## Track Changes

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1	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 07:54 AM</i>
2	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 07:54 AM</i>
3	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 02:06 PM</i>
4	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 07:44 AM</i>
5	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:25 PM</i>
6	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:26 PM</i>
7	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:26 PM</i>
8	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:27 PM</i>
9	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 08:00 AM</i>
10	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:27 PM</i>
11	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:27 PM</i>
12	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:46 AM</i>
13	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:52 AM</i>
14	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:52 AM</i>
15	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:46 AM</i>
16	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 03:30 PM</i>
17	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:43 AM</i>
18	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:02 AM</i>
19	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:11 AM</i>
20	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:14 AM</i>
21	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 09:11 AM</i>
22	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 07:52 AM</i>
23	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 04:30 PM</i>
24	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 04:24 PM</i>
25	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 04:24 PM</i>
26	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 16/10/2018 04:26 PM</i>
27	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 10:03 AM</i>
28	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:37 PM</i>
29	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 10:39 AM</i>
30	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 10:39 AM</i>
31	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 10:40 AM</i>
32	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 02:28 PM</i>
33	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 02:28 PM</i>
34	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:13 PM</i>
35	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:07 PM</i>

## Track Changes (Continued)

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36	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:07 PM</i>
37	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:07 PM</i>
38	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:09 PM</i>
39	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:14 PM</i>
40	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:13 PM</i>
41	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:15 PM</i>
42	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:16 PM</i>
43	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:23 PM</i>
44	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:25 PM</i>
45	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:26 PM</i>
46	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:26 PM</i>
47	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:26 PM</i>
48	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 12:26 PM</i>
49	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:01 PM</i>
50	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:11 PM</i>
51	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:12 PM</i>
52	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:12 PM</i>
53	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 03:36 PM</i>
54	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:15 PM</i>
55	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:15 PM</i>
56	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:15 PM</i>
57	Insert	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:15 PM</i>
58	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:19 PM</i>
59	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:20 PM</i>
60	Delete	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:20 PM</i>
61	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:21 PM</i>
62	Change	<i>Parker, Steve, 17/10/2018 01:21 PM</i>
63	Change	<i>Simon Henderson, 15/10/2018 10:22 AM</i>