

Subject: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

From: Saira.Kapasi [GRO]
Sent: 28 November 2024 12:38
To: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]
Cc: Philip.Lamont [GRO] Laura-isabella.Muresanu [GRO]
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Ruth

Thank you for the information below. This is helpful and we will use this to identify the agenda items. I will share this with you week beginning 9th Dec after the Cabinet Secretary and Lord Advocate have had an opportunity to consider.

Can you confirm who will attend from NFSP? We need to inform the Scottish Parliament about guests and assess room capacity.

I wondered if you might wish to meet with myself after the meeting to discuss more pragmatic/ operational aspects of the work. It would be helpful for me to better understand how the NFSP is supporting Postmasters and how we can work with you to ensure that we are meeting any needs that might be arising from the quashed conviction notifications.

If you are content to meet, then we could perhaps grab a coffee and seat in the lobby at 11am once our meeting with the Ministers has concluded?

Saira Kapasi
Post Office Convictions Team
 [GRO]

Criminal Justice Division | Directorate for Justice | Scottish Government
 Area GW.14 | St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

From: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]
Sent: 26 November 2024 11:12
To: Saira Kapasi [GRO] >; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
 [GRO]
Cc: Calum Greenhow [GRO] Catriona Watt
 [GRO] >; Rohini Shah [GRO] Lord
 Advocate [GRO] Philip Lamont [GRO]
 DCALegalAssistants [GRO]

Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Good morning Saira,

Thank you for your email regarding an agenda for our meeting with the Cabinet Secretary and Lord Advocate on 12th December. Our letter of 16 January 2024 to the First Minister and our email to the Cabinet Secretary of 19 April 2024 raised the main points which the NFSP are interested in and would wish to discuss. We appreciate things have moved on somewhat since that correspondence, both legally in Scotland and at the Inquiry. That being so, we would be grateful if the following could be on the agenda:

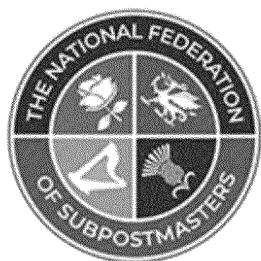
- The number of actual prosecutions which took place in Scotland and which are or will be covered by the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Act 2024, the process for the quashing of convictions, numbers quashed to date, timescales for the quashing of all convictions which fall within

the scope of the 2024 Act

- The consideration being given to the timescales for the quashing of convictions to ensure that no convicted postmasters fall out with any deadlines which may be imposed in respect of the Overturned Convictions Compensation Scheme. Also, in respect of those who are either suffering ill health or where their families members are suffering ill health, in other words, where quashing of convictions may come too late for people to be aware they have been quashed.
- How it was that Scotland criminal legal system with its apparently additional safeguards and layers of the Specialist Reporting Agency reports, corroboration requirements and consideration of evidence by the relevant Procurator Fiscal didn't identify or catch Horizon cases at an earlier point, given the simplified comparative private prosecution procedure in England which does not have these requirements/procedures
- What it was that the Crown Office was saying to or advising Fiscals across Scotland regarding Horizon prosecutions and why it was that COPFS decided to stop prosecutions (in terms of notifying Post Office of this, resulting in the meeting between Post Office personnel and COPFS in 2013).
- The consideration being given to requesting enquires/investigation by Police Scotland in respect of any criminal offences which may have taken place by individuals at or related to Post Office Ltd in respect of matters such as truthfulness of information given at meeting/s with COPFS, forcing postmasters to make payment to Post Office of shortfalls which were not contractually required and related issues, for instance, with reference to the point made by the leader of Scottish Labour, Anas Sarwar that offences such as extortion may have been committed

We appreciate that issues around these points, in light of our earlier correspondence, will likely be crossing over with your points and we look forward to an informative meeting. The NFSP is committed to assisting the Scottish Government/COPFS in any way it can with information which may assist in any of the above points.

Regards
Ruth



Ruth Buckley-Salmon

Public Affairs Manager

The National Federation of SubPostmasters

Evelyn House, 22 Windlesham Gardens
Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 5AZ

T: GRO

E: GRO

W: www.nfsp.org.uk



From: Saira.Kapasi [GRO]
Sent: 22 November 2024 16:47
To: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]; CabSecforJHA [GRO]
Cc: Calum Greenhow [GRO]; Catriona Watt [GRO]
[GRO]; Rohini Shah [GRO]
LordAdvocate [GRO]; Philip.Lamont [GRO]; DCALegalAssistants [GRO]
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hi Ruth

As Stuart says it would be helpful for us to discuss the agenda and to provide any additional information you might find helpful ahead of the meeting. I can also liaise with Crown Office.

Are you free next week – Thursday? I can provide a draft agenda for us to consider in advance?

Saira Kapasi

Post Office Convictions Team

* [GRO]

Criminal Justice Division | Directorate for Justice | Scottish Government

Area GW.14 | St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

From: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]
Sent: 22 November 2024 16:45
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024 [GRO]
Cc: Calum Greenhow [GRO]; Catriona Watt [GRO]
[GRO]; Rohini Shah [GRO]
Lord Advocate [GRO]; Saira Kapasi [GRO]
Subject: Re: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hello,

That's not a problem about the online link. Thank you for the details. We'll look forward to seeing the agenda.

Thanks,
Ruth

Sent from Outlook for iOS

From: Stuart McLean [GRO] on behalf of CabSecforJHA [GRO] <CabSecforJHA [GRO]>
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2024 4:11 PM
To: CabSecforJHA [GRO] <CabSecforJHA [GRO]>; Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]
[GRO]
Cc: Calum Greenhow [GRO]; Catriona Watt [GRO]; Rohini Shah [GRO]
Lord Advocate [GRO]; Saira.Kapas [GRO]
<Saira.Kapas [GRO]>
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hi Ruth

Just to confirm the meeting details (unfortunately we have been unable to access a Teams mtg room) for this:

Time: 10:00 – 11:00
Date: Thursday 12 December
Location: Scottish Parliament (attendees should arrive at main visitor entrance a minimum 10-15 mins prior to meeting start time to get through security. Please let reception know you are in for a meeting with Ms Angela Constance)

I have copied in my colleague Saira who will either be in touch, or someone from her team, to agree agenda etc.

Any problems please let us know.

STUART MCLEAN

Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs : Angela Constance MSP

T: [GRO] | M: [GRO] | E: [GRO]

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

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From: Stuart McLean [GRO] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
Sent: 19 November 2024 15:19
To: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO] Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024 [GRO]
Cc: Calum Greenhow [GRO]; Catriona Watt

Lord Advocate [GRO] [GRO]; Rohini Shah [GRO]
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Thanks Ruth

Will confirm if a Hybrid meeting is possible as soon as I can.

Thanks.

STUART MCLEAN

Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs : Angela Constance MSP

T: [GRO] M: [GRO] | E: [GRO]

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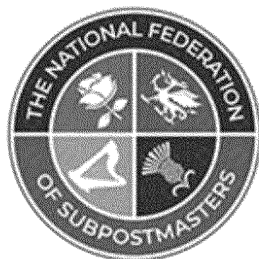
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From: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]
Sent: 19 November 2024 12:38
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024 [GRO]
Cc: Calum Greenhow [GRO]; Catriona Watt [GRO]
[GRO]; Rohini Shah [GRO]
Lord Advocate [GRO]
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hello,

A meeting in person would be the preference, therefore, I am more than happy to bow out so that an online option is not necessary.

Many thanks,
Ruth



Ruth Buckley-Salmon

Public Affairs Manager

The National Federation of SubPostmasters

T: [GRO]

E: [GRO]

W: www.nfsp.org.uk



From: Stuart.McLean([GRO] <Stuart.McLean[GRO]> On Behalf Of CabSecforJHA([GRO])
Sent: 19 November 2024 12:36
To: Ruth Buckley-Salmon([GRO])
Cc: Calum Greenhow([GRO]); Catriona Watt([GRO]); Rohini Shah([GRO])
LordAdvocate([GRO]); CabSecforJHA([GRO])
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hi Ruth

Many thanks, just to confirm that 10.00am on 12 December is still good for both Ms Constance and the Lord Advocate.

I can try and book a meeting room that has Teams facilities but they can sometimes be difficult to secure. If you think that a meeting entirely virtual is easiest for yourselves we can certainly do that - let me know what preference is for you and your colleagues.

Thanks again.

STUART MCLEAN

Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs: Angela Constance MSP

T: [GRO] | M: [GRO] | E: [GRO]

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

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From: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]

Sent: 11 November 2024 12:03

To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024 <[redacted] GRO>; Kate Watson <[redacted] GRO>

Cc: Calum Greenhow <[redacted] GRO>; Catriona Watt

<[redacted] GRO>; Rohini Shah <[redacted] GRO>

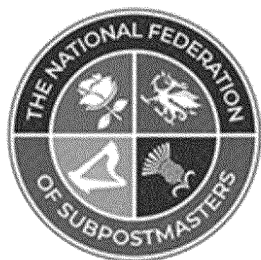
Subject: RE: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hello,

Thank you for your email of the 8th November, and we note that the original did not reach for the reasons you give.

Due to our involvement with the Post Office Horizon IT Public Inquiry, I can confirm that the date of 12th December at 10am is suitable for us and we would be happy to meet in person at the Scottish Parliament. This would include Calum Greenhow, NFSP CEO, Catriona Watt and Rohini Shah, our legal representatives at Anderson Strathern. I am based in Shoreham so would require video access. Please let know if this is an issue.

Regards,
Ruth



Ruth Buckley-Salmon

Public Affairs Manager

The National Federation of SubPostmasters

Evelyn House, 22 Windlesham Gardens
Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 5AZ

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From: Stuart.McLean [GRO] **On Behalf Of** CabSecforJHA [GRO]
Sent: 08 November 2024 15:45
To: Ruth Buckley-Salmon [GRO]
Cc: CabSecforJHA [GRO]
Subject: FW: Meeting between NFSP and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Hi Ruth

I am following up on the email below from my colleague Kate. I have since discovered that our office had been given an incorrect email address for yourself (getting letters in "nfsp" incorrect) as highlighted below. I am therefore re-sending with our apologies and wonder whether either of the dates listed below are possible. Happy to look at alternative dates if required.

Apologies again. It would be helpful if you could acknowledge safe receipt of this letter.

Many thanks.

STUART MCLEAN

Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs : Angela Constance MSP

T: [GRO] | M: [GRO] | E: [GRO]

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

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From: Kate Watson [GRO] **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024
Sent: 22 October 2024 14:46
To: ruth.buckley-salmon [GRO]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs 2024 [GRO]
Subject: Meeting between NSPF and the Lord Advocate/Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Good afternoon,

Following the Cabinet Secretary's letter (attached), I am reaching out to arrange a meeting between NSPF and Ms Constance and the Lord Advocate.

Please let me know if you are available to meet on either of the following dates, this could be virtual or in the Scottish Parliament:

- **14:30 on Thursday 5 December**
- **10:00 on Thursday 12 December**

Kind regards
Kate

Kate Watson - Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs –
Angela Constance MSP
Scottish Government | St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |
Email: **GRO**

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