

## Post Office Ltd Confidential

Juliette McFarlane  
Criminal Law Team

**POLTD/0607/0108 North Bransholme**  
**Branch Code 174 321 — Janet Louise SKINNER**  
**Branch Loss £59,216.43**

As discussed today on the telephone, I am forwarding the committal papers in respect of Janet Skinner who is due to appear at Hull Magistrates on December 12<sup>th</sup> 2006.

I have contacted Joanne Wisker, Temporary Subpostmistress at North Bransholme Post Office to ascertain the details surrounding the suspension of Wendy Lyell, who is a witness in the case against Miss Skinner. This following a loss at the branch of £2,896.44.

Mrs Wisker, who also owns Chanterlands Ave Post Office, was contacted by a member of staff as they were concerned over the movement of £2,000 between individual stock units. It appears Mrs Lyell contacted a colleague, Avril and said she had removed £2,000 out of her individual sealed stock unit pouch as she was concerned over running out of cash before the remittance into the branch was received. Mrs Lyell added that she would return the cash today, which was her next schedule day on duty.

Mrs Wisker stated she arrived at the branch this morning and spoke with Mrs Lyell. It is unclear if and when the conversation between Mrs Lyell and Avril took place. However when Mrs Wisker checked Avril's stock unit, it shows a loss of £2,000.

There was an issue over a bag of £2 coins totalling £500 and some lottery figures that had not been placed through Horizon. This resulted in a loss on Mrs Lyell's stock unit of £896.44 during this week. Mrs Lyell informed Mrs Wisker that she could not find the bag of coins and she thinks she may have given them to a Giro customer in error.

The situation at the present time is that Mrs Lyell has been suspended from her duties pending further checks being undertaken by Mrs Wisker. There are some other minor aspects that concern Mrs Wisker, mainly surrounding the lack of communication on losses from Mrs Lyell who was undertaking the role of Officer in Charge at North Bransholme. Mrs Wisker believes the £2,000 was a loss which occurred prior to this week and was being hidden in the accounts. Mrs Wisker does visit the branch regularly and checks stocks however, these visits are always prearranged with Mrs Lyell having prior knowledge of which stock units were to be checked.

Mrs Wisker has a number of areas to check and verify information. She is to keep me informed throughout this process with any relevant finding which I will relay to yourself.

**GRO**

Diane Matthews  
Investigation Manager  
24<sup>th</sup> November 2006

 **GRO**

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