
From: George Thomson [GRO]
Sent: Tue 26/06/2012 12:09:24 PM (UTC)
To: Paula Vennells [GRO]; Kevin Gilliland [GRO]; Nick Beal [GRO]
Subject: PRINTED Fwd: Press enquiry on Horizon

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Paul Hook" <[GRO]>
Date: 26 June 2012 12:16:27 GMT+01:00
To: "George Thomson" <[GRO]>
Subject: Press enquiry on Horizon

Hi George – having killed off an enquiry from Retail Express yesterday on the Horizon issue, we've now had a request from Retail Newsagent for comment.

Are you happy with the below, amended version of the statement we've issued in the past?

NFSP General Secretary George Thomson: "We continue to have complete confidence in the Horizon system, which carries out hundreds of millions of transactions every week at 11,500 Post Office outlets across the country. The NFSP has seen no evidence to suggest that Horizon has been at fault and we believe it to be robust."

Let me know as soon as you can?
Many thanks
Paul

From: Matt Adams [GRO]
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 12:12
To: Paul Hook
Subject: RE: Hi

Hi Paul,

Retail Newsagent has now come on asking for a statement on Horizon. I repeated what I said to Retail Express yesterday but this time they have asked even for a generic Horizon statement. How about the below, with correct number of POs. I took out "as does Post Office Ltd, with whom we have regular discussions on the system." from the end of the statement as it could be said that if they thought it was robust they would not have ordered the investigation and that is something for POL to comment on.

NFSP General Secretary George Thomson: "We continue to have complete confidence in the Horizon system, which carries out hundreds of millions of transactions every week at 11,500 Post Office outlets across the country. The NFSP has seen no evidence to suggest that Horizon has been at fault and we believe it to be robust."

Matt.

From: Paul Hook [GRO]

Sent: 25 June 2012 14:15
To: Matt Adams
Subject: RE: Hi

Hi Matt – to be honest, at this stage I'd rather you replied to him to say that we haven't been involved in the story up to now, but rather that this has resulted from a POL initiative.... Don't really want to comment on this unless we have to! However, if he does ask us for a quote, I guess we can revisit the previous statement just to double check it's still fit for purpose?

Thanks
Paul

From: Matt Adams [GRO]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 13:57
To: Paul Hook
Subject: FW: Hi

Hi Paul,

Below is the only media interest I have had on the the Horizon story. Shall I just send Tan the previous statement?

Matt.

From: Tan Parsons [GRO]
Sent: 25 June 2012 13:31
To: Matt Adams
Subject: Hi

Hi Matt

Any chance you could give me a ring when you get this message?

Has the NFSP been involved in this story at all? Seems like a pretty serious story if this is to be believed:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-18535354>

Thanks

Tan Parsons Retail Express news editor

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