

**Alwen Lyons**

**From:** WALKER, Janet  
**Sent:** 13 June 2013 16:30  
**To:** Alwen Lyons  
**Subject:** Update from James

Dear Alwen,

1. Alan Bates

Interim report - James had an extremely good telephone conversation with Alan Bates today. He has asked me to let you know that Alan was content with the proposed content of the interim report. Alan was more concerned with what happens after this has been delivered (which is due at a meeting to take place at Westminster on 8 July, with Ian and Ron presenting). James touched on the point Paula has made about potentially bringing the investigation of further cases in-house within the Post Office. Alan said he was not entirely comfortable with this, but James persuaded him to put this matter into abeyance for the time being, and Alan agreed. We can return to this after the interim report when we have all seen what it has to say.

Media - James also discussed media with him. We are beginning to be approached and are putting people on hold - Private Eye, Computer Weekly, BBC Shropshire local radio. Alan said he was not responsible for the article in this week's Private Eye, and James believes him. Alan said he was happy not to go public on anything while the investigation process was underway.

2. Meeting 8 July

Ian and Ron have agreed to present an interim report based on 3 cases to MPs, here at Westminster on 8 July. James has said to both them and Alan that at the moment, he is not minded to invite representatives of the Post Office to attend, given that you will presumably only have just seen the report yourselves. Do you have a view on this? James needs to think through this a little more, so it would be helpful if he knew your thoughts.

I am going to email Ron and Ian with all this as well, but wanted to let you know the view from this end is good. Might you let Paula know please?

Kind regards  
Janet

Janet Walker  
Office of the Rt Hon James Arbuthnot  
MP for North East Hampshire  
House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

T: **GRO**  
E: **GRO**  
[www.jamesarbuthnot.com](http://www.jamesarbuthnot.com)

+ Annual Report comms.

+ Meeting Rem/Ian sth.

+ Meeting James/Paula. Align comms

+ letter to James for the meeting.

+ Need a comms plan/preparation.  
- Ruth updating by next Friday

Alice - Clear about capping time - so should  
now be clear about capping cost as well.