

Message

From: Jane MacLeod [GRO]
on behalf of Jane MacLeod [GRO]
Sent: 14/12/2015 09:09:26
To: Tim Parker [GRO]
Subject: Post Office - Investigation Update
Attachments: 151211 Chairman - Second Sight V8.docx

Tim

My apologies for not sending through the fortnightly update on Friday.

General Update

We continue to support Jonathan and Christopher in their work – predominantly by supplying documents to them. In a call on 2 December, Jonathan stated that he expected to be apply to provide a copy of his draft report before Christmas with the purpose of allowing us to check for factual inaccuracies. I understand that in his meeting with you last week he indicated that the report may not be available until later in January. We will explore with him the differences in timing given that we understand you are due to brief the Minister during January.

Despite reports that they have been instructed to prepare litigation against the Post Office, we have yet to receive a formal letter of claim from Freeths, the solicitors. I have taken the precaution of writing to them, asking that they clarify their instructions insofar as they are able, so that we might take steps to preserve any documentation which may become disclosable in any future court proceedings.

Lord Arbuthnot – Speech in the Lords

Lord Arbuthnot, gave his maiden speech in the Lords on 3 December 2015, during a debate about the Strategic Defence Spending Review. Though he expressed concern that the modern world's dependence on computers may expose it to vulnerabilities, he did not, as he had previously told the Minister he would, use his first contribution in the Lords to focus on 'Sparrow'. Clearly that does not mean that he will not take any subsequent opportunity to raise it.

Meetings

With the exception of Alan Bates, who has declined your invitation to meet, all the other meetings which Jonathan and Christopher have requested in the context of their investigations are scheduled to take place in the week ahead. This includes the meeting you are also attending with Second Sight tomorrow Tuesday, 15 December, at 13:00. A briefing, in similar format to that provided for your meeting with Lord Arbuthnot, is attached.

If you would like any more detail, please do let me know.

Kind regards,

Jane

**Jane MacLeod**

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