

IN CONFIDENCE - DRAFT - NOT FOR SENDING/PUBLICATION

Your ref: SING1003/01141387

Dear Mr Perkins

Mr Harjinder Singh Butoy – GRO

Thank you for your letter to Paula Vennells dated 16 December 2013 and received by her office on 23 December. I have been asked to reply.

As you note in your letter, Mr Butoy was prosecuted in 2007 and charged with, and convicted of, 10 counts of theft against Post Office. Since Mr Butoy pleaded 'not guilty' to the charges brought against him, his case went to full trial. The implication of that is a jury found that he had committed these offences beyond a reasonable doubt, having heard all the evidence both for and against that proposition.

As the organisation which brought the prosecution, Post Office is under a strict duty to disclose any evidence that would assist Mr Butoy or that would otherwise undermine his prosecution. I can confirm that Post Office has not seen nor been provided with any information to support a suggestion that Mr Butoy's conviction may, in any way, be unsafe.

Should Mr Butoy nonetheless feel that he has grounds for an appeal, the proper channel for him to pursue any appeal his conviction is through the Appeals Courts.

In the circumstances, compensation would be inappropriate and, therefore, I regret that I cannot agree to your invitation to organise a meeting between Mr Butoy's representatives and Post Office.

Yours sincerely

AVDB