

Rodric Williams

From: Jane MacLeod
Sent: 13 November 2015 17:45
To: Rodric Williams; John M Scott; Angela Van-Den-Bogerd
Cc: Jessica Madron
Subject: Prosecutions Policy

At the GE yesterday I was asked to provide an update to the next full GE meeting (on 17 December) on the position with the proposed new prosecutions policy. Al Cameron also advised that concern was being expressed in the network that the reduction in prosecutions was having an (adverse) impact.

I would therefore like to revert to GE with 2 papers and would appreciate your help in pulling these together as follows:

Prosecution Policy

I understand from Rod that the challenges raised by Cartwright King have been resolved and therefore the draft policy is effectively ready to be finalised. I need a draft paper in the new Board Intelligence format setting out:

- Why we need a prosecutions policy
- What such a policy addresses, and
- Highlighting the key components of the proposed new policy.

Rod - would you please have a go at this? Please let me know if you need help with the Board Intelligence format.

Current Prosecution practice

I think this paper needs to address the following:

- Post Sparrow, how do we now manage postmasters where losses are identified through audits?
 - Changes made to our BAU approach following Sparrow. Angela – I think I have seen a paper from you that sets out the way we have changed our approach (greater monitoring, earlier intervention, more supportive approach) – If I have remembered correctly then I hope this will be relatively easy to pull together.
- What is our current approach to prosecutions and debt collection? John?
- What are the difficulties arising as a result of Sparrow issues? John?
- What can we do to address these in relation to Horizon/ new Front Office? (In this regard, I would like us to challenge CK and see if there is issue specific assurance that we can rely on, rather than just saying all Horizon produced evidence is 'tainted'?) John/Rod?
- What is the financial impact? To this extent can we show any trends over the last few years? For example is it possible to show any of the following? John/Angela?
 - Shortfalls identified through audits
 - Amounts repaid by agents without dispute
 - Amounts recovered through debt collection proceedings
 - Prosecutions and amounts recovered as a result of prosecutions.

Please let me know asap if there are any issues in pulling this together, or if you think I am asking the wrong questions. Papers need to be ready for distribution to GE by Friday 11 December. Is it worth having a call at the end of the previous week to check on progress?

Many thanks,

Jane

