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**From:** Watson, Richard - UKGI[/O=HMT/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E8568E9D213F4097A7A65F3DA4F63CC1-WATSON, RICHARD (RWA)]  
**Sent:** Wed 13/02/2019 7:57:19 AM (UTC)  
**To:** Rodric Williams [GRO]; Fox, Joshua - UKGI [GRO]  
**Cc:** Jane MacLeod [GRO]; Cooper, Tom - UKGI [GRO]  
**Subject:** Re: Post Office Group Litigation - SUBJECT TO LEGAL PRIVILEGE - DO NOT FORWARD

Many thanks Rodric for this update

Kind regards

Richard

Sent from my BlackBerry — the most secure mobile device

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**From:** rodric.williams [GRO]  
**Sent:** 12 February 2019 7:58 pm  
**To:** Richard.Watson [GRO]; Joshua.Fox [GRO]  
**Cc:** jane.macleod [GRO]; Tom.Cooper [GRO]  
**Subject:** Post Office Group Litigation - SUBJECT TO LEGAL PRIVILEGE - DO NOT FORWARD

**Post Office Group Litigation - SUBJECT TO LEGAL PRIVILEGE - DO NOT FORWARD**

Richard, Josh,

**Update**

We were in court today resuming the Case Management Conference held on 31 January 2019 to set directions for the Third Trial commencing on 4 November 2019. The key outcomes of today's CMC were:

- The Third Trial will resolve two issues:
  - o Limitation, i.e. whether alleged breaches of contract and/or tortious wrongdoing in fact occurred and are not time barred due to deceit, concealment or mistake; and
  - o Measure of Loss, i.e. how a Claimant's loss should be calculated when their contract termination involved a breach of duty by Post Office.
- On limitation, the Claimants must file by 15 May 2019 Individual Particulars of Claim setting out their full case on breach for two Lead Claimants (Mrs Stubbs and Mr Abdullah from the Common Issues trial).
  - o This was a good result for us, with the Judge rejecting the Claimants' attempts to limit the Individual Particulars of Claim to a small number of alleged breaches of contract only.
- Measure of Loss is a legal issue which will be determined without pleadings but on agreed assumed facts for four selected Lead Claimants (Mr Bates, Mrs Stockdale, Mrs Stubbs and Mr Abdullah from the Common Issues trial).
- Further CMCs have been scheduled for 23 July, 18 September and 17 October 2019.
- The Court also ordered a process for selecting Test Claimants for a "Fourth Trial" in Spring 2020, whose claims represent a wider group of Claimants than the six Lead Claimants used for the Common Issues and Third trials.
  - o This was also a good result for us, with the Claimants having opposed this due to the resource it will consume, but without which the parties would find themselves after the Third Trial in the same position we are currently in of being limited to the six Lead Claimants' cases.
- The Judge noted that delivering his Common Issues judgment by the end of February 2019 was challenging but "still achievable", before adding that there might be some slippage to this.

Once today's Order has been finalised, I will send an updated Group Litigation Timetable which includes the above dates and those for document disclosure, filing of pleadings and service of witness statements.

We are back in court on 14 February 2019 for the Horizon Issues trial Pre-Trial Review. We will provide a further update following that hearing.

Kind regards, Rodric



**Rodric Williams**

Head of Legal - Dispute Resolution & Brand  
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