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Our ref
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Your ref
NMH/KL

Date
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By email: nmh@herbertsmithfreehills.com

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Dear Hudgell Solicitors

Your client: Parmod Kalia

Our client: Post Office Limited ("Post Office")

1. We are writing with regard to the announcement on 10 January 2024 that the Department for Business and Trade ("DBT") will be bringing forward legislation to overturn the convictions of all those convicted in England or Wales on the basis of Post Office evidence given during the Horizon scandal and allow for the recovery of compensation. DBT will also be engaging with the Scottish and Northern Irish Administrations in respect of convictions in their jurisdictions. More details of the announcement made to Parliament can be found at <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2024-01-10/debates/3DDD9684-C08D-4E5E-AF73-CF85839412AB/PostOfficeHorizonScandal>.
2. As you are aware, Post Office and DBT have actively been considering the approach to the existing so-called "Public Interest" cases in light of this development.
3. Notwithstanding that the proposed legislation is yet to be enacted, given Mr Kalia has already had his conviction overturned, DBT has confirmed that he will now be treated as eligible to claim compensation in the same way as other Claimants whose convictions have been overturned.
4. We are conscious that Mr Kalia has already settled his claims. As such, it is proposed that he be entitled to claim top-up compensation to the extent that would put him in the same position as other claimants with overturned convictions. In the meantime, the settlement payment received by Mr Kalia pursuant to the settlement agreement dated 27 January 2023 would be treated as an interim payment on account of his damages.
5. Subject to the above, Mr Kalia will now therefore be able to either accept the £600,000 DBT Up Front Offer or proceed to a full assessment of his non-pecuniary and pecuniary claims and receive compensation accordingly.
6. Post Office hopes this comes as welcome news to Mr Kalia but please let us know if you have any queries or would like to discuss.

Yours faithfully

Herbert Smith Freehills LLP