

Rod Ismay
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To: Mandy Talbot/e/POSTOFFICE@[redacted] John M
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cc:
Subject: Challenges to Horizon

Further to your emails with Dave, I think we do need to get some independent heavyweight assurance to rebut the challenges.

Dave's outline made sense.

He suggested one of the big accounting firms. I actually received a "cold call" proposal from Deloitte recently for exactly that work after they read the articles about Horizon in Accountancy Age Magazine.

Deloitte are engaged with Group Audit already in a set price framework agreement. I think we should consider them. I shall speak to them in a "no commitments" sense. Given the existing framework deal I don't know if we could just use them (if they fitted the bill) or whether we have another preferred supplier or whether we'd need more of a "tender". The other obvious candidates are our auditors (E&Y) plus KPMG and PWC.

I think it would be worth us having a 3 way call. Looks like you are in workshops all day tomorrow John and I can't access your calendar Mandy. But I can do a call most of the time tomorrow except 10-11 and 2-3.30. Do you want to propose a time?

I think we also need to understand what cases are under way in this area.

I found out today that Carole Cross in my team and Jon Longman from yours (John) are in court soon for West Byfleet (or West Byfield). This, apparently, is an office who as part of their defence is challenging the integrity of Horizon. I don't know if you were involved Mandy? I think we need to be clear about all live cases so that we ensure the same consistent robust response throughout and based on the sensible principles of Dave's email about pinning down the exact transaction logs and talking about facts not speculation.

Speak soon
Rod

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