



Information Rights Team
Post Office Limited

GRO

Your reference:
Our reference: FOI2023/00096

John O'Sullivan
request-953429-1000b6be

GRO

24 March 2023

Dear John O'Sullivan,

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2023/00096

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 22 February, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”).

In your email you have requested the information shown in bold below:

“Can you say how many SPM's you prosecuted between 1990 and 1999? Can you say how many SPM you prosecuted between 2000 and 2009? What is the % increase in the latter figure? What % of 1990-1999 convictions were overturned? What % Of the latter figure were overturned?”

We can confirm that Post Office does hold the information you have requested. For the period of 1990-1999, Post Office cannot verify the accuracy of this information due to the age and way information was recorded before the widespread use of computerised systems. The surviving historical records for pre-1999 cases are extremely limited, and the information cannot be relied on as definitive.

A search of these records provides information has provided the following information:

1. Can you say how many SPM's you prosecuted between 1990 and 1999? – Due to the limited records (please note the caveat above regarding accuracy), we can confirm there were 65 convictions for postmasters
2. Can you say how many SPM you prosecuted between 2000 and 2009? 380
3. What is the % increase in the latter figure? 484% but please note caveat in relation to limitation of records as above
4. What % of 1990-1999 convictions were overturned? 0%
5. What % of the latter figure [2000-2009] were overturned?” 8%

You may wish to note that more detailed information regarding historical prosecutions is available on our website including data about the numbers of both successful and unsuccessful appeals of cases and the current numbers progressing through the Courts.

<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/historical-matters/historical-matters-progress/historical-convictions-and-compensation-information-on-progress/>

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this response, you do have a right to request an internal review. You can do this by writing to the address below stating your reasons for your internal review request.

Information Rights Team
Post Office Limited



If, having requested an internal review by Post Office, you are still not satisfied with our response you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office



Telephone:
<https://ico.org.uk>

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team



Post Office Limited is committed to protecting your privacy, information about how we do this can be found on our website at www.postoffice.co.uk/privacy.