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**From:** Olivia Davies [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Post Office  
**Date:** 3 April 2024 at 16:12:24 BST  
**To:** "[lesleyjsewel](#)" [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Hi Lesley,

I hope this finds you well and you don't mind me getting in touch.

I'm doing some research at the moment on the Post Office from an Information Security perspective, and I really hoped you might be able to help me (off the record). I'm fascinated by the culture of the security department at the Post Office, headed by John Scott, and am really keen to try and understand *why* and *how* Information Security moved from IT and under the Security Department umbrella. It feels like an interesting fit. I've spoken to quite a number of former POL Security over the years, who - in the strictest of confidence - have shared their experiences of the department and its leadership. There were also brief moments in the inquiry where former staff alluded to a "toxic... culture of fear" and the inability to raise questions or challenge authority.

It would be really lovely to chat.

Many thanks,

Olivia