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**From:** James MPST  
**Sent:** 31 January 2017 20:08  
**To:** James MPST  
**Subject:** RE: Update for MJ

James,

There seems to be a press release that goes with the below. We don't send updates to MJ without the proper information.

It seems comms and policy had the press release so in your conversations with them you need to be ensuring you're getting everything you need for yourself but more importantly for Margot.

Also, if you're not sure if the below is correct please make sure you properly scrutinise and not just prepare a half response for the duty person to pick up with.

Claire and I are here trying to unpick this TU stuff so this is an unhelpful addition to our workload.

Thanks,

All the best,  
Sahar.



**Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy**

**Sahar Rehman**

Senior Private Secretary to Margot James MP | Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility | Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy | 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET |  |

| [@beisgovuk](https://twitter.com/beisgovuk) |

*Please note, our boxes close at 12pm on Monday and Wednesdays*

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**From:** James MPST  
**Sent:** 31 January 2017 18:05  
**To:** James MPST  
**Subject:** Update for MJ

Margot,

A. Subpostmasters High Court Ruling

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**A. Subpostmasters High Court Ruling**

You may remember there were a number of ex-Subpostmasters involved in group-action litigation regarding the computer system 'Horizon' used in post offices. The group claim they were wrongly dismissed by POL or prosecuted due to a glitch in the system which indicated they had made mistakes or stolen money. Last week the group attended the High Court for an order request to sue the Post Office.

The Financial Times will be running a story tomorrow to confirm the group has been granted permission by the High Court to pursue a collective action. The group has been given 6 months to add any additional effected members before the court proceeds. This is not expected to cause any parliamentary business (UQs etc.) as this is a matter for POL and, as it is a legal case, we would be unable to say anything anyway.

**Media handling:**

As this is an operational matter, the Department are not providing any comment - "This is a matter for Post Office Ltd. Please call their press office."

**If pushed:**

"As this legal case is open, it is not appropriate for us to comment."