



Rt Hon Jacqui Smith MP

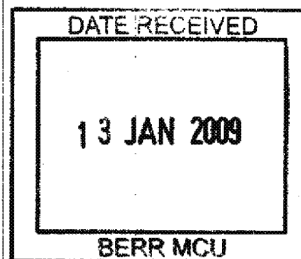
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Mr Pat McFadden MP
Minister for Employment Relations and Postal Affairs
Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
1 Victoria Street
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Our Ref: WILS023/090022

9th January 2009

Dear Pat

Mr Julian Wilson,

Mr Wilson, who is a constituent of mine, attended my recent advice surgery. He is the Sub Postmaster at Astwood Bank Post Office and has been suspended from this position since September 2008 on the assumption that he has been making false cash declarations.

I understand that the system gives a summary of transactions and a total per week, but not a value per transaction. The charge is that the Post Office is £27k adrift over the last five years. He states that he has done £40m of business in that time. He states that there has only been one audit in the past six years.

He has heard of three other postmasters in exactly the same position as him within a six mile radius of Redditch. He states that there are others that he knows of within the West Midlands area. I feel that there could be a system problem here.

I would be grateful if you could investigate this issue and provide a response for my constituent on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding the content of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Smith MP

Working for Redditch, Inkberrow Cookhill and Feckenham