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NOT FOR WIDER CIRCULATION
Solicitor to the Inquiry
Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry
5th Floor,
Aldwych House,
71-91 Aldwych,
London,
WC2B 4HN

By email: Solicitor: **GRO**

3 April 2025

Dear Solicitor to the Inquiry

POST OFFICE HORIZON INQUIRY: RULE 9 REQUEST (68)

1. We write regarding Rule 9 Request Number 68 dated 18 March 2025 ("**Rule 9(68)**"), Post Office's letter of 26 March providing its response ("**letter of 26 March 2025**") and the Inquiry's reply requesting further information ("**letter of 27 March 2025**").
2. In the letter of 27 March 2025, the Inquiry requested further information from Post Office, as follows:

the names and dates of death of all individuals (other than those whom you have already provided details of) whom you have identified also fall within the category of having taking their own life, and this having been attributable to Horizon. This includes individuals who were:

- Branch Managers;
- Assistants;
- Employees;
- Family members of a Subpostmaster or the above category or otherwise.

3. The purpose of this letter is to provide Post Office's response to the letter of 27 March 2025, as follows:
 - a) As outlined in its letter of 26 March 2025, Post Office is primarily alerted to a death by suicide, which has been attributed to Horizon related shortfalls, via an application to the Horizon Shortfall Scheme ('HSS') and in responding to Rule 9(68) Post Office has focussed its efforts on the HSS and the Overturned Convictions process ('OC') as the most likely repositories of relevant information. Post Office has not, in the time available, conducted manual checks or forensic searches across the entire business; however, by way of assurance in responding to the expanded categories listed in the Inquiry's letter of 27 March 2025, Post Office reviewed 3,485 responsive documents in Relativity. Post Office did not identify any further cases within scope of the letter of 27 March 2025 of which it was not already aware.

The cases listed below all came to the attention of Post Office via the HSS, save for that of Ms Fiona McGowan. It has been stated in media articles that Ms McGowan's death was by suicide; however, Post Office notes that some family members have stated that her death

6 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3BF
Tel: **GRO** Fax: **GRO**

Atrja One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX
Tel: **GRO** Fax: **GRO**

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was by other means.¹ Post Office has included Ms McGowan in the list below for completeness, in light of this uncertainty.

- b) The cause or contributory factors of suicide is of course a very complex and sensitive issue, especially for bereaved families. Post Office has included below only the names of deceased where Post Office has information or documents available to it that confirms that the death was by suicide and that there has been an allegation that the death is linked to Horizon as requested by the Inquiry. Where Post Office does not know, on the basis of documents it has seen, whether a suicide has any connection to Horizon, the deceased has not been included in this list.

4. The deceased individuals falling within scope of the Inquiry's 27 March 2025 letter are listed below:

	Name of deceased person	Date of death by suicide
1.	Sivasubramaniam Jayakanthan	5 March 2005
2.	Ian McGrath	1 April 2014
3.	Dawn Holt	Unknown
4.	Ramesh Jivanlal Mistry	Unknown
5.	Fiona McGowan	Unknown
6.	Louise Mann	Unknown
7.	Unknown (the father of a former Postmaster, Lewis Patrick Storer)	April 2019

5. Where Post Office has stated 'unknown' in respect of the deceased's name or date of death, this is because Post Office was not provided with this information in the HSS application (or, in the case of Ms McGowan, via other means).
6. As stated in its letter of 26 March 2025, Post Office again respectfully requests that the Inquiry notify Post Office if it intends to publish, or share with Core Participants, the names of the deceased listed above.
7. If the Post Office can assist further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Burges Salmon LLP Fieldfisher LLP

BURGES SALMON LLP and FIELDFISHER LLP

¹ Ms McGowan's partner, Mr Philip Cowan, stated in his witness statement to the Inquiry that Ms McGowan died as a result of an accidental overdose (WITN02450100).