



Department for
Business & Trade

Terms of reference for Horizon Compensation Advisory Board

1. The Board's aim is to help DBT to ensure fair and prompt compensation to postmasters affected by the Horizon scandal and related issues.
2. It will advise DBT ministers on how best to manage the delivery of the **GLO Compensation Scheme** announced in December 2022, with the aim of ensuring that it:
 - provides **fair compensation** to GLO postmasters;
 - does so **promptly** – and certainly before the deadline of August 2024; and
 - does so consistently with the expectations of Parliament that public money is spent in line with the **Accounting Officer's duties**.
3. It will advise DBT ministers in respect of **DBT's oversight of other strands of Horizon-related compensation** by the Post Office, including the Historical Shortfall Scheme, arrangements for compensation in respect of overturned historic convictions and compensation for postmaster detriment.
4. The Board will not consider **individual cases** for compensation.
5. The Board should:
 - be provided by DBT with **information** it requests as necessary to discharge its functions;
 - review regular **reports** from DBT on the overall progress of cases within the various strands of compensation;
 - regularly review an **issues list** setting out unresolved policy or process questions (notably those relating to the maintenance of fairness between postmasters in different compensation strands) and a timeline for their resolution;
 - consider such **issues** in accordance with that timeline;
 - be consulted on **guidance** or equivalent documents relating to the various strands of compensation, and any subsequent changes to them;
 - **monitor** the overall progress of all compensation strands, ensuring that processes are working well and identifying any blockages; and
 - **provide updates** to the Accounting Officer and/or Minister if it believes that to be necessary.
6. Its membership will comprise:
 - Professor Christopher Hodges (Chair), Emeritus Professor of Justice Systems at the University of Oxford and an expert in Alternative Dispute Resolution;
 - Lord Arbuthnot and Rt Hon Kevan Jones MP, Parliamentary campaigners in support of postmasters; and
 - Professor Richard Moorhead, Professor of Law and Professional Ethics leading the University of Exeter's Post Office Project.
7. DBT officials will attend as observers.
8. DBT Ministers will revise these terms of reference as they see necessary.