

Message

From: Belinda Crowe [GRO]
Sent: 06/08/2014 17:16:44
To: Charles Colquhoun [GRO]; Rod Ismay [GRO]; Parsons, Andrew [/O=BOND PEARCE/OU=First Administrative Group/cn=Recipients/cn=ap6]
CC: Belinda Crowe [GRO]; Amanda A Brown [GRO]
Subject: FW: Suspense account paper Second Sight [BD-4A.FID20472253]

All, would it be possible to set up a conference call for Friday at say 12.30pm to discuss this? If so, I will ask Amanda if she would be able to set something up for us.

Thanks
Best wishes
Belinda

Belinda Crowe

148 Old Street, LONDON, EC1V 9HQ

[GRO] Postline: [GRO]

[GRO]

[GRO]

From: Belinda Crowe
Sent: 05 August 2014 16:25
To: Charles Colquhoun
Cc: Belinda Crowe
Subject: Fw: Suspense account paper Second Sight [BD-4A.FID20472253]

Charles
As discussed. Here's Rod's email.
If you could send it to Rod and get an answer. Best wishes
Belinda

[GRO]

From: Rodric Williams
Sent: Friday, August 01, 2014 07:38 PM
To: Belinda Crowe
Cc: Parsons, Andrew <[GRO]>
Subject: RE: Suspense account paper Second Sight [BD-4A.FID20472253]

Belinda I agree with Andy - I'd like to avoid giving anything if at all possible (less is more), but if we do, rather than give them the data they've asked for, we should provide MI which gives context, incl:

- rather than raw three year data, give the monthly average over the past 3/5 years
- what that figure is as a proportion of total month end transactions; and
- average time to clear sums in suspense

e.g. something along these lines: "The amount held in suspense accounts across the Post Office network averages £XX per Trading Period, or approx. Y% of the total value of the transactions processed each Trading Period. Of the sums held in suspense accounts, approx. Z % is cleared within 30 days, and all but F% is cleared within 90 days".

Rodric Williams I Litigation Lawyer



148 Old Street, LONDON, EC1V 9HQ

GRO Postline: GRO

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From: Belinda Crowe

Sent: 01 August 2014 06:51

To: Charles Colquhoun; Rod Ismay

Cc: Belinda Crowe; Andrew Parsons; Angela Van-Den-Bogerd; Rodric Williams

Subject: Fwd: Suspense account paper Second Sight [BD-4A.FID20472253]

Charles/Rod

Second Sight have now comeback on the paper and asked for information on the suspense account. Specifically "**can we have details of month end balances for this account for the last 3 years together with details of amounts released to P&L**"

Charles had previously suggested providing a ballpark figure, but if we do that we would have to wrap a significant amount of information around that as context. However, Andy Parsons has sketched out a suggested response below. I do not know whether the published accounts give any details or whether we do ever make this information otherwise available but I would be grateful for advice on how best to respond.

I think that we should consider this through the lens of an FoI request and how we would respond to that. Anyone could ask the question (and may have done so in the past) therefore we need to be sure that whatever response we give would not result in less information being released than if they requested the information under FoIA.

Second Sight are producing a draft report either today or tomorrow which is likely to reference this so we will need to have a response within the next couple of days.

Best wishes
Belinda

Belinda Crowe

[148 Old Street, LONDON, EC1V 9HQ](#)

GRO Postline: GRO

GRO

GRO

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Parsons, Andrew" <GRO>

Date: 31 July 2014 14:47:46 BST

To: "Belinda Crowe [GRO]" <[GRO]>, Angela Van-Den-Bogerd
<[GRO]>
Subject: FW: Suspense account paper Second Sight [BD-4A.FID20472253]

Belinda, Angela

As discussed briefly yesterday, I suspect that the information requested by Ian below is highly commercial sensitive.

It may also be that the figures in question are quite high and this may then be portrayed as if there are significant sums each month that cannot be reconciled within POL's accounts. The inference from this is that POL's processes / accounting systems are flawed given the volume of discrepancies. Whether or not this is correct, it is an easy leap to make.

Assuming that POL finance say that this info cannot be disclosed, I've penned out a short response to Ian below.

Kind regards
Andy

=====

Ian

The information you are seeking is highly commercially sensitive and therefore would only be made available in exceptional circumstances.

As described in the Suspense Account Note provided to you, sums in POL's suspense account do not impact on branch accounting but reflect unresolved matters between POL and its clients. I'd be grateful if you could explain why SS need visibility of the suspense account figures given that the Part 2 Report and the CRRs are only focussed on the impact on SPMRs.

Kind regards
Andy

=====

Andrew Parsons

Senior Associate

for and on behalf of Bond Dickinson LLP

Direct: [GRO]
Mobile:
Fax:

Follow Bond Dickinson:

www.bonddickinson.com

From: IRH [mailto:[GRO]]
Sent: 30 July 2014 13:25
To: Belinda Crowe
Cc: Ron Warmington ([GRO]; cwh [GRO]); Angela Van-Den-Bogerd; Parsons, Andrew; Chris Aujard
Subject: Re: Suspense account paper Second Sight

Thank you Belinda, very helpful

In the light of the disclosure of rolling 3 year suspense account can we have details of month end balances for this account for the last 3 years together with details of amounts released to P&L

Many thanks

--lan

Sent from my iPad

On 30 Jul 2014, at 13:13, Belinda Crowe <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Sent on behalf of Chris Aujard

All, Chris has asked me to forward the following paper to you on his behalf.

Best wishes
Belinda

Belinda Crowe

148 Old Street, LONDON, EC1V 9HQ

[REDACTED] Postline: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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<Suspense account paper Second Sight.pdf>

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