

Message

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**From:** Nick Read [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=88D3472CFFE848E2963246BC052F9F39-NICK READ1]  
**Sent:** 18/01/2024 13:31:09  
**To:** Martin Roberts [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ec97ec081e7f43d88a07e81423e0714e-Martin Robe]  
**Subject:** RE: Future of Post Office branches

Understood...nor do I know...

**Nick Read**  
Group CEO

**EA:** GRO

100 Wood Street  
London EC2V 7AN

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**From:** Martin Roberts GRO >  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 1:21 PM  
**To:** Ben Foat <GRO>; Nick Read <GRO>; Karen McEwan <GRO>; Benjamin Tidswell <GRO>  
**Cc:** Owen Woodley <GRO>; Tracy Marshall <GRO>  
**Subject:** RE: Future of Post Office branches

Nick,

Having read Ben's email attached below I am in the same place not knowing what Project Pineapple is and having never been made aware of the allegations made against me and my team.

I therefore feel conflicted as would my wider Retail Team.

I will leave it with the legal team to construct the replies around the VOP and GFA.

Best

Martin

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**From:** Ben Foat <GRO>  
**Sent:** 18 January 2024 12:24  
**To:** Nick Read <GRO>; Martin Roberts <GRO>; Karen McEwan <GRO>; Benjamin Tidswell <GRO>  
**Cc:** Owen Woodley <GRO>; Tracy Marshall <GRO>

Harkin [GRO]  
**Subject:** RE: Future of Post Office branches

Good morning Nick

I have sent these to Sarah and Dieter to [REDACTED] Obvious Post Office is allowed and should meet with Postmasters [REDACTED]

The Project Pineapple email contained very serious allegations of which I have not been made aware. Given the circumstances, I would be conflicted.

Karen and Ben T – it would be helpful to have a conversation with you.

Kind regards  
Ben



**Ben Foat (He/Him)**

**Group General Counsel**

100 Wood Street

London

EC2V 7ER

**Email:** [GRO]

**Personal Assistant:** [GRO]

**Email:** [GRO]

*I work flexibly – so whilst it suits me to email outside normal working hours, I do not expect a response during that time.*

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**From:** Nick Read <[GRO]>

**Sent:** 18 January 2024 08:00

**To:** Martin Roberts <[GRO]>; Ben Foat <[GRO]>

**Cc:** Owen Woodley <[GRO]>; Tracy Marshall <[GRO]>  
[GRO]

**Subject:** FW: Future of Post Office branches

**Importance:** High

Please can you produce a suitable response for Henry.  
You will be aware of my views from discussions we have had....  
I assume there are GFA restrictions too ?  
For this afternoon please.

**Nick Read**  
Group CEO

**EA:** [GRO]

100 Wood Street  
London EC2V 7AN

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**From:** Henry Staunton [GRO]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 8:50 PM  
**To:** Nick Read [GRO]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Future of Post Office branches

Nick,  
Could you please organise a response after our Board tomorrow ? At least one NED has said I should meet them but I think that would be a mistake . We do need something to say to them in our reply however . Many thanks .  
Best ,  
Henry

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Henry Staunton [GRO]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:41:09 PM  
**To:** Henry Staunton [GRO]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Future of Post Office branches

**Henry Staunton**  
Chairman

100 Wood Street, London, EC2V 7ER

[postoffice.co.uk](https://www.postoffice.co.uk)

Di ,  
Please print out VÖP attachments .  
Thanks ,  
Henry

*I work flexibly – so whilst it suits me to email outside of normal working hours, I do not expect a response during that time.*

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**From:** [GRO]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2024 10:23:53 PM  
**To:** Henry Staunton [GRO]  
**Cc:** Saf ismail [GRO] > Elliot Jacobs [GRO]  
**Subject:** FW: Future of Post Office branches

Hello Henry,

This is the suggested email to send to Board (excluding Lorna and Nick), hopefully, I have interpreted all of your emails correctly – happy to discuss in the morning. [GRO] but should be back home by 09.15hrs.

Dear all

Ahead of our call on Thursday, please see attached a copy of the Voice of the Postmaster Press Release for January, together with the letter addressed to myself.

In addition, please see attached a file note I prepared following my conversation with Saf and Elliot on Sunday – they have agreed last night that I could share with you - TBC. They were very supportive of Nick, but you will see that the VOP have made negative statements about Nick .

Let's talk about this on Thursday and to note I have not yet responded to VoP regarding their request for a meeting.

Regards,  
Henry

PS Saf reminded me that I had omitted to mention the following : .....

- I have offered the investigations team time to get the tone right and advised them to get more PM's involved but this seems to have been missed.
- The comms has been poor throughout our tenure within the business.
- The GE have overlooked advice given to them by board members on several occasions without clear explanations.

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**From:** Elliot Jacobs [GRO] >  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2024 8:02 pm  
**To:** Henry Staunton [GRO] >  
**Cc:** Saf ismail [GRO]  
**Subject:** Fw: Future of Post Office branches

Hi Henry

This echoes very much the comments that we discussed on Sunday - clearly we are not losing the plot and real action is essential.

Elliot

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**From:** Voiceofthe Postmaster <[GRO]>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2024 3:13 PM  
**To:** Henry Staunton [GRO]  
**Cc:** Saf ismail [GRO]; Elliot Jacobs [GRO]  
**Subject:** Future of Post Office branches

**Caution:** This email has been sent by an external contact. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, please use the "Report Phishing" button.

Hi Henry,

please, see attached letter to you from Voice of the Postmaster.  
Also our latest release.

Current Postmasters are worried & need to see change in POL management culture.

thank you.  
brent

Vice-Chair  
Voice of the Postmaster