



## Business, Innovation and Skills Select Committee

### Members

#### Adrian Bailey MP (Chair, BIS Select Committee)



- Labour (Co-op), West Bromwich West
- Elected 2000
- Chair, BIS Select Committee (since 2010)
- A long-serving and loyal Labour MP, Adrian Bailey has had an uneventful but steady time in parliament, having been a serial parliamentary private secretary to several Ministers during the Labour years.
- Librarian by profession and former county councillor
- Attended Post Office Parliament drop-in session, December 2013
- **Attended Westminster Hall Horizon debate but did not speak**
- 12 branches in constituency
  - All urban, including 6 urban deprived
  - 2 Mains, 2 Locals

## William Bain MP



- Labour, Glasgow North East
- Elected 2009
- A former law lecturer and local party activist, William 'Willie' Bain won Glasgow North East for Labour in the by-election of November 2009, caused by the resignation of the ousted Speaker Michael Martin.
- Opened new Post Office branch in March 2014, having taken a keen interest following temporary closure
- Interest in financial inclusion
- 12 branches in constituency
  - All urban, including 7 urban deprived
  - 2 Crowns, 1 Main and 2 Locals

## Brian Binley MP



- Conservative, Northampton South
- Elected 2005
- A self-made Thatcherite freemason and former county councillor with strong local and party roots. Was involved in cleaning and publishing industries
- He has been an increasingly vocal critic of David Cameron's leadership. In July 2013, he announced that he would stand down from Parliament at the next general election.
- Supported Royal Mail privatisation, has subsequently expressed concerns at risk to universal service as a result of competitors being able to 'cherry pick' services
- **Referred a case to the Scheme but neither he nor the applicant has been publicly vocal about it. Case has been mediated and resolved.**
- 11 branches in constituency
  - All urban, including 1 urban deprived
  - 2 Mains, 1 Local

## Paul Blomfield



- Labour, Sheffield Central
- Elected 2010
- Studied theology and qualified as a teacher
- Active campaigner against pay-day lenders
- 9 branches in constituency
  - All urban, including 6 urban deprived
  - 1 Crown, 1 Main, 1 Local

## Katy Clark



- Labour, North Ayrshire and Arran
- Elected 2005
- Solicitor
- Left-wing, frequently rebels against Labour leadership,
- Sponsored by CWU and chairs CWU group of MPs
- Campaigned against Royal Mail privatisation
- **Spoke in Westminster Hall debate on Horizon:** highly critical of Post Office management accusing it of reacting to problems by blaming sub-postmasters, rather than investigating potential causes; accused Post Office support systems and help desk of giving misleading information; criticised the lack of a 'fair and open' process and called for greater transparency from Post Office
- 23 branches in constituency
  - 8 urban (4 urban deprived), 15 rural
  - 1 Crown, 3 Mains and 2 Locals

## Mike Crockart MP



- Lib Dem, Edinburgh West
- Elected 2010
- Was quickly given a role in government as PPS to Scottish Secretary Michael Moore, but made much more of a mark by resigning the role just months later in protest over increased tuition fees.
- Former police constable and IT manager
- Attended private Post Office dinner Feb 2013
- 12 branches in constituency
  - 9 urban (3 urban deprived), 3 rural
  - 2 Mains, 1 Local

## Caroline Dinenage



- Conservative, Gosport (Hampshire)
- Elected 2010
- PPS to Nicky Morgan MP, Sec of State for Education
- Founder of a marketing company and former local councillor with a famous local name (daughter of broadcaster Fred Dineage)
- Supportive of Post Office locally
- Lobbied Post Office to upgrade local branch, now modernised, aiming to have Caroline open the new branch (28 Jan)
- 10 branches in constituency
  - 8 urban, 2 rural
  - 3 Locals

## Rebecca Harris



- Conservative, Castle Point (Essex)
- Elected 2010
- A high-flying 'A-list', former businesswoman, local councillor and special adviser to the Suffolk MP Tim Yeo
- Attended Post Office Parliament drop in December 2013
- Supportive of Post Office locally, has opened 2 NT branches
- 8 branches in constituency
  - All urban
  - 2 Mains

## Ann McKechin



- Labour, Glasgow North
- Elected 2001
- A left-leaning Glasgow solicitor and a champion of international development, Ann McKechin had two years' experience as a junior Minister in the Scotland Office before she was propelled into the post of Shadow Secretary of State by the Shadow Cabinet elections of 2010.
- A year later she was reshuffled to the back benches, replaced by the relative newcomer Margaret Curran.
- Attended private Post Office dinner, Feb 2013
- Attended Post Office Parliament drop-in session, July 2014
- Supportive of Post Office involvement in financial inclusion
- Supportive of Post Office locally, opened 2 branches in last 12 months but opposes Tesco and other supermarkets taking on branches
- 6 branches in constituency
  - All urban, including 3 urban deprived
  - 3 Mains

## Robin Walker



- Conservative, Worcester
- The son of the late Peter Walker, who was MP for Worcester for 31 years, Robin Walker had something of a homecoming when he won back his father's old seat from Labour after 13 years in 2010
- He set up his own business after leaving university, joined the Finsbury public relations company in 2003 and rose to be a partner for a year before his election.  
PPS to Elizabeth Truss MP, Sec of State Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
- Engaged with Post Office nationally and locally, very supportive.
- During the 2013 Debate he said:

**Mr Robin Walker (Worcester) (Con):** I welcome the Minister's statement, particularly the commitment from the Post Office to improve aspects of its support and training for sub-postmasters. I recently visited St Johns post office in Worcester, which is an enthusiastic early adopter of the network transformation programme. Will she join me in celebrating the fact that the Government are investing in the post office network, rather than running a closure programme, as the last Government did?

- Campaigner for financial inclusion and financial services reform; campaigning for reform of the business rates regime.
- Attended private Post Office dinner February 2013
- Spoke at Centre for Social Justice / Post Office fringe meeting at Conservative Party conference 2014 on community banking
- Attended Post Office Parliament drop-in session 2014
- 13 branches in constituency
  - All urban, including 2 urban deprived
  - 5 Mains, 1 Local



## Nadhim Zahawi



- Conservative, Stratford-on-Avon
- Elected 2010
- The wealthy co-founder of the online polling company YouGov, landed the nomination for one of the Conservatives' safest seats in 2010.
- Few could have predicted this comeback from a business failure ten years earlier, and a close association with Lord Archer of Weston-Super-Mare, to achieve wealth and influence and predictions of a future seat in the Cabinet.  
Member of Conservative Party Policy Advisory Board
- Chemical engineer, former local councillor and co-founder of YouGov (polling organisation)
- In a Google-hosted debate on online public services, hailed GDS success in 'removing need to go to the post office' (2014)
- Current local consultation on re-location of a branch into Budgens store
- 21 branches in constituency
  - 2 urban, 19 rural
  - 1 Main, 1 Local