

To: Chris Aujard; [GRO]
From: Paula Vennells; [GRO]
Sent: Sun 09/02/2014 9:42:05 PM (UTC)
Subject: Re: 2014 02 11 ARC teleconference

[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Chris, hi! I hope you have had a great weekend.

Alice has sent a good set of challenges. You will I'm sure be able to answer most and in fact, I think the cost question is a case of adding up what you have in already. It would be helpful to see all the financial aspects on a separate schedule: from our conversation last week, I had in mind there are some staff savings too, which are not yet factored in for either option? And how is the £5m made up?

The difference from my experience and perhaps not immediately obvious to our leading Counsel, is scale. None of the businesses Brian Altman compared us to has a network the size of ours (most will be much less than 10% of our size) and although some may operate agencies, none will have the unique relationship that we do with Spmr's, nor the cash handling through individuals who are not employees, nor the spread of very different adjacent businesses. We are more complex and operate without the ability to monitor our agents easily, eg. with a field team, which the comparator businesses will have. Hence why I come down on (b), the deterrent (with a raised bar as I think it should be), is important.

If you need support in answering, let me know; otherwise, it would be good to do so before the call.
Paula

Sent from my iPad

On 8 Feb 2014, at 12:03, "Alice Perkins" [GRO] > wrote:

Alasdair,

It is not yet clear whether it will be possible for me to participate in this teleconference. I will if I can.

My reaction to this paper which is helpful and clear in many respects (and the BIP and its impact to date is very good indeed), is that it does not spell out clearly enough for me, why we think it is right in principle for us to maintain a different policy from other organisations (the Brian Altman point) ie option C is dismissed too summarily.

I do of course, understand that we couldn't just throw our cases at the CPS and walk away at a moment's notice. And I appreciate that we might find the CPS route less satisfactory in cases where we were convinced we should be prosecuting. But if it is the case that the banks and other financial institutions are content to live with this, why are we different? And what would our public justification for being different be? In considering this, I would like to understand better how much money would potentially be at risk if we were to go for option C? And what are the relative costs of giving the work to external lawyers rather than doing it in-house under option B?

I accept that option C could not be adopted immediately even if we did think it right. And I absolutely agree we should have a financial cut off of between £20k and £30k and take other factors into consideration before proceeding whoever is conducting the prosecutions.

If you'd like a word, do let me know.

All the best

Alice

From: [GRO]
Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 12:14 PM GMT Standard Time
To: Neil McCausland ([GRO]); Tim Franklin ([GRO]); Alasdair Marnoch ([GRO]); Alice Perkins; Paula Vennells ([GRO]); Chris M Day ([GRO]); Alwen Lyons ([GRO])
Cc: Chris Aujard ([GRO]); Virginia Holmes ([GRO]); Susannah Storey ([GRO]); susannah.hooper ([GRO])
Subject: 2014 02 11 ARC teleconference

All

Please find attached the agenda and paper for the ARC teleconference 5pm – 6pm 11 February. The teleconference will focus specifically on Post Office as a prosecuting authority. An update on Project Sparrow will come to the February Board.

In line with the decision at the last Board meeting, these papers have been circulated to the whole Board. Papers are also available on BoardPad.

Room 501 has been booked for the meeting if you wish to attend in person and teleconference details are:

Dial in from mobile : **GRO**

UK Freephone: **GRO**

Chairperson passcode: **GRO**

Participant passcode: **GRO**

Kind regards

GRO

GRO

Company Secretarial Assistant

<image001.png>

1st Floor, Banner Street Wing, 148 Old Street, London, EC1V 9HQ

GRO

GRO

<image002.png>

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