Financial Investigation Policy Log

Case Number: POLTD 0607/0401



Date	Text
15 Nov 06	I have commenced an investigation into Miss Janet Louise Skinner ex subpostmaster of N Bransholme Post Office. She is under investigation for the suspected theft of £59, 175.39 whilst she was employed as subpostmaster. This investigation is for the purpose of identifying money laundering offences and confiscation. The investigation will be proportionate, have a legal framework, accountable and necessary.
	It will follow the legal requirements of the Proceeds of Crime Act The Police & Criminal Evidence Act, Criminal Procedures & Investigations Act and the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act. It will also be European Convention on Human Rights Compliant. Mr T Utting is my supervising officer and he will be kept aware of the investigation and where necessary direct the investigation in accordance with the above legislation.
7 Dec 06	Dianne Matthews reported that Wendy Lyell the current office manager at North Bransholme has been suspended on suspicion of theft. Dianne is to establish details.
25 Jan 06	Discussed the confidential information the Halifax had given us re the correct banking information with Juliet. As the information was confidential from a confidential source it should not be revealed to Miss Skinner. I decided that I would ask for a blanket authority for all accounts
10 May 06	Discussed with Juliet the further enquiries. I feel that for the effective conduct of the investigation these enquiries need to be undertaken, however I am not confident that they will reveal further assets. As such I am of the view that we should go a head and get a Confiscation Order on the 25 May 2007, as long as if necessary we can revisit the Confiscation Order in accordance with Section 22 of the POCA 2002, Order made: reconsideration of available amount, if my enquiries do

	reveal significant further assets. Juliet was out of the office for the day and would advise on her return. Agreed that I would send her an email
11 May 06	E mail Sent to Juliet
22 May 07	Spoke with Juliet as it occurred to me that the defence would say that Miss Skinner has not benefited from Crime as it was a member of staff. I say that our case is that the loss increased because of Miss Skinner's dishonesty and that she was liable for a debt and by not paying it she has benefited. I asked if she would discuss this with the barrister to see if they thought we had a case she said that she had done so and the Barrister was confident that we did have a case.
22 May 07	It occurred to me that I had not made any enquiries about Wendy Liddell. I looked through the event log and read the entry dated the 7 December. I had overlooked pursuing the matter. Decided to find what the current position was.
	Received an email from Dave Pardoe my new Line Manager to the effect that no further resources were to be expended on the case in respect of Wendy Lyell Item
27 Aug 07	It occurred to me that in the interests of justice we could be rightfully criticised for not carrying out a comprehensive investigation into Wendy Lyell. I spoke with and asked him Dave to reconsider allocating resources in order for the matter to be further investigated. Dave said that if we are criticised, so be it, no further investigation resource was going to be allocated
27 Aug 07	Following the conversation it occurred to me that the defence in the interests of justice may well be entitled to a comprehensive investigation and it my view that one should be carried out. Spoke with Dave again and he said that he did not agree and he was maintaining his position.

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