

**Edward Davey MP**

Minister for Employment Relations,  
Consumer and Postal Affairs

Alan Bates  
Justice for SubPostmasters Alliance

Our ref: : 201658

**GRO**

31 May 2010

*Your Alan Bates,*

Thank you for your letter of 20 May, requesting a meeting to discuss the Post Office Horizon system.

Since 2001, when the Royal Mail (which includes Post Office Ltd (POL)) was set up as a public limited company with the Government as its only shareholder, Government has adopted an arm's length relationship with the company so that it has the commercial freedom to run its business operations without interference from the shareholder.

The integrity of the Post Office Horizon system is an operational and contractual matter for POL and not Government, whilst I do appreciate your concerns and those of the Alliance members, I do not believe a meeting would serve any useful purpose.

*Yours sincerely,*

**GRO**

**EDWARD DAVEY**

1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET  
[www.bis.gov.uk](http://www.bis.gov.uk)

Enquiries

**GRO**

Minicom

**GRO**

Contact us [www.bis.gov.uk/contact-us](http://www.bis.gov.uk/contact-us)