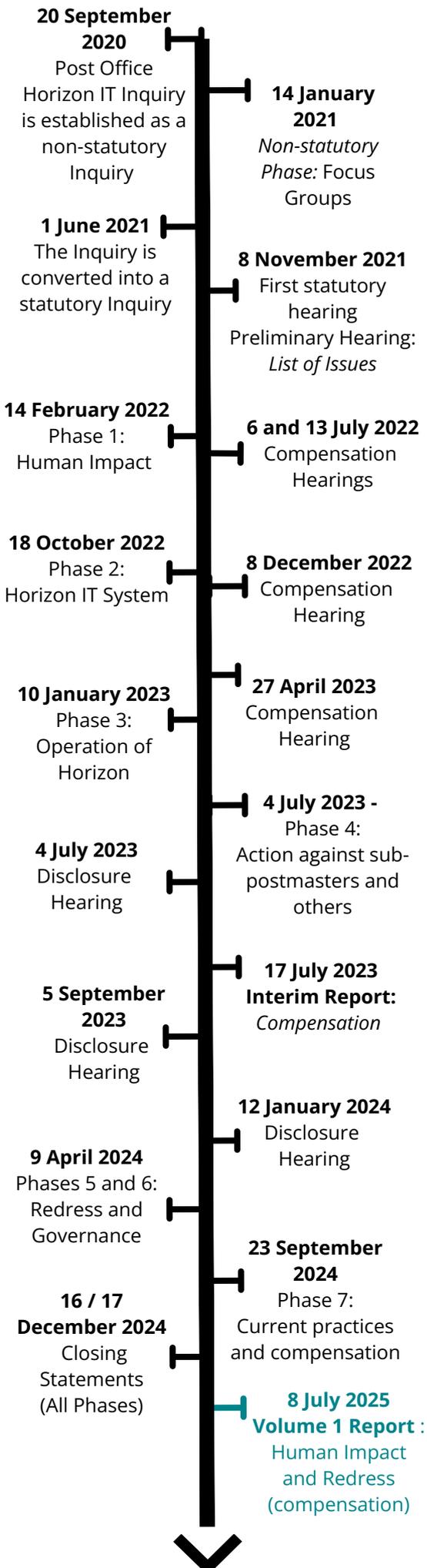


Timeline



Witnesses

In **Phase 1**, 189 people affected shared their stories — including sub-postmasters, managers, assistants or family — through oral evidence, witness statements and focus groups.

In **Phase 2**, we heard from witnesses including former ministers, civil servants, Post Office and Fujitsu employees, and former union representatives.

In **Phase 3**, we heard from current and former employees of Post Office, ICL and Fujitsu, managers, training and support staff, and engineers.

In **Phase 4**, we heard from witnesses, including solicitors, investigators, technical experts, lawyers acting for the Post Office, public prosecutors and Fujitsu employees.

In **Phases 5 and 6**, we heard from senior figures at Post Office, Fujitsu and Royal Mail; politicians and civil servants; and campaigners.

Phase 7 witnesses included senior figures at the Post Office, current and former ministers, civil servants, expert witnesses and a representative from YouGov.

Chair

Sir Wyn Williams

Social Media

 @PostOffInquiry

 Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry

 @postofficeinquiry

Website

 postofficehorizoninquiry.org.uk

Information on Inquiries

A statutory inquiry is governed by the Inquiries Act 2005.

It is independent of government and those the inquiry is investigating.

Inquiries are fact-finding exercises, meaning they are an inquisitorial process rather than an adversarial process, such as a criminal court.

An inquiry cannot make findings of civil or criminal liability however, investigative, prosecuting or regulatory authorities can investigate and take action alongside an inquiry. An inquiry's recommendations may also lead to future action or changes in policy and/or law.

An inquiry's Terms of Reference are set by the minister.

An inquiry Chair is responsible for discharging the Terms of Reference. They establish the structure and procedures which govern the inquiry, and are subject to a statutory duty to act fairly.

The Chair acts in an independent capacity.

Under the Inquiries Act, an inquiry Chair has powers such as to compel witnesses to give evidence or to supply documents.

At the end of an inquiry, the Chair sets out their findings and recommendations in a report.

Inquiry in Numbers

Throughout the entire Inquiry



298 witnesses have provided oral evidence



There have been **226 days** of hearings



788 witness statements & **24,142 pages of witness statements**

have been published on the Inquiry's website



274,604 documents & **2,283,717 pages of documents**

have been disclosed to Core Participants

Terminology

Rule 9 Request under Inquiry Rules 2006 – written request for evidence, including witness statements and documents.

Section 21 notice - request for evidence which carries threat of criminal sanction for non-compliance.

Under Rule 13 of the Inquiry Rules 2006, the Inquiry must issue warning letters to those criticised, allowing them a reasonable opportunity to respond.

Rule 17 of the Inquiry Rules 2006, the Inquiry's Core Participants are entitled to receive early access to the report ahead of its publication.