Message From: Andrew Parsons **GRO** Sent: 14/11/2019 21:06:51 To: Ben Foat GRO GRO CC: Rodric Williams **GRO** Emanuel, Catherine , Watts, Alan Jonathan Gribber **GRO GRO** Gareth Jenkins briefing [WBDUK-AC.FID26896945] Subject: Attachments: Briefing on Gareth Jenkins 14 Nov 2019.pdf

## Ben

As mentioned yesterday, we expect the HIT judgment may make some adverse comments about Post Office not calling Gareth Jenkins as a witness. I'm conscious that you were not involved when these issues were addressed so in case you/we need to explain this internally at Post Office, we have prepared the attached briefing note that explains the background to this matter.

## In summary:

- Gareth was the main witness about Horizon for many years in many prosecutions for Post Office.
- His evidence gave a firm impression that there were no bugs in Horizon even though there were bugs and he knew there were bugs.
- This issue was identified in 2013, advice taken from Cartwright King and further disclosures given in line with Post Office's prosecution duties.
- Given the above problem, we could not call Gareth as a witness in the HIT. This left us to rely on other witnesses, principally Torstein Godeseth who performed very badly in the witness box. As a result the Judge may also draw adverse inferences from us not calling Gareth.

Kind regards Andy

## **Andrew Parsons**

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