

Message

From: Tim Parker [GRO]
on behalf of Tim Parker <[GRO]>
Sent: 21/03/2016 08:40:15
To: Jane MacLeod [GRO]
Subject: Re: Pst Office - Chairman's review

Thanks for the update Jane, seems we are making good progress.

Best

Tim

Tim Parker

Chairman
National Trust
20, Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH

[GRO]

Chairman
Post Office Limited
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Samsonite International SA
Westerring 17, B-9700 Oudenaarde, Belgium

[GRO]

On Fri, Mar 18, 2016 at 9:31 AM -0700, "Jane MacLeod" <[GRO]> wrote:

Dear Tim

Tim

A quick update on the work being taken forward as part of your review, and on Sparrow more generally:

Report Recommendations

Brian Altman QC, who is providing the advice on charging and prosecutions practice, is nearing the end of the terrorism trial in which he has been acting. Accordingly, we expect that he will be in a position to provide his advice either just before or just after Easter.

We convened a tri-partite meeting earlier this week between Post Office, Deloitte and Fujitsu to commence the more intrusive phase of Deloitte's work on the testing of the Horizon system. Ensuring a collaborative approach between all parties will be critical to delivering these aspects of the recommendations. Fujitsu has agreed to facilitate a number of

workshops for Deloitte at their principal site at Bracknell. The exchange of documentation and data is reported to be free-flowing.

Deloitte are also making good progress on the recommendation relating to the Post Office's suspense account, with one of their forensic accountants meeting relevant staff in Chesterfield earlier in the week.

Lastly, our external lawyers, Bond Dickinson, continue their work with Post Office staff responsible for the Sub-postmasters' Helplines, to see whether there is any evidence of misleading advice being given in the very limited number of cases this has been alleged. Given the history of some of these incidents, reconciling data sets is not a straightforward process, but progress is being made towards a resolution.

Letter to the Minister

The team has just today had some informal feedback from BNR's officials in relation to your letter to her of 4 March. We understand that BNR noted its content and is unlikely to send a formal reply. That is a positive sign in that, had she (or her officials) had any real concerns, and based on previous engagement, these would have precipitated further enquiries by now.

Group Litigation

We have had no further communication from the solicitors acting for the Justice for Subpostmasters Alliance, and the threatened litigation has therefore yet to materialise.

As ever, please do contact me if you would like any more information in relation to any of these points.

Kind regards,

Jane



Jane MacLeod

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