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**Initial Complaint Review and Mediation Scheme** 

**ExCo Update** 

13 February 2014

V0.2

# 1. Context 2. Programme Governance 3. Programme Plan 4. Performance Dashboard 5. Key Risks and Issues 6. Second Sight Engagement 7. Scope of the Working Group 8. Timeline of Key Events 9. Stakeholder Engagement Decisions for this meeting

# 1. Context



Context Programme Governance

Programme Performance
Plan Dashboard

Key Risks & Issues

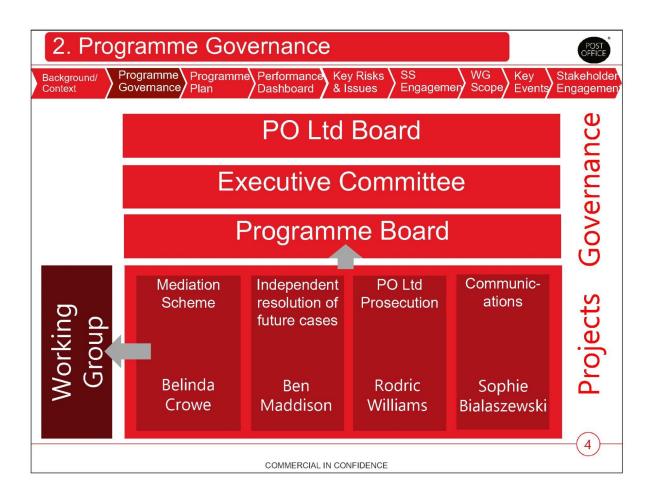
SS Engagemen S

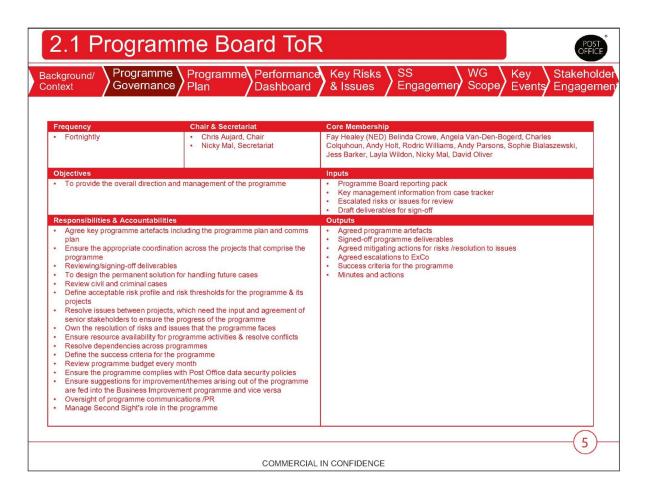
WG Key
Scope Events

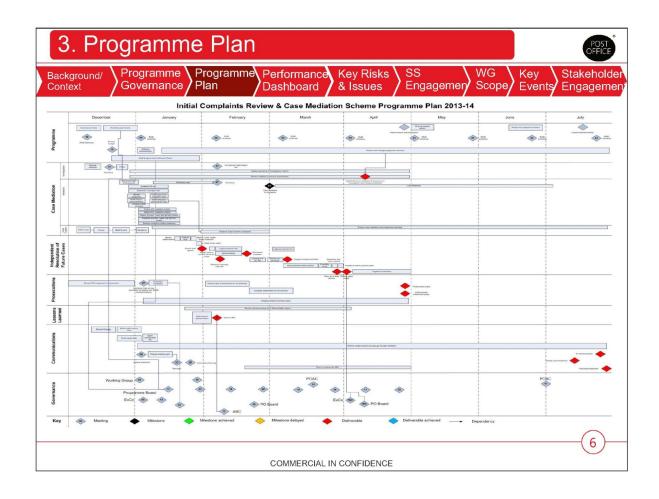
Stakeholder Engagemen

- · Programme is at a critical juncture
- 147 cases with large potential financial exposure with a very large expectation gap
- Post Office has no hard power and minimal influence and are paying the bills
- · Hostile stakeholders including those directly engaged by Post Office
- Working Group asserting itself and seeking to re-engineer scope
- Process design driven by vested interests
- Resourcing challenge

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# 3.1 Programme Plan: Resources



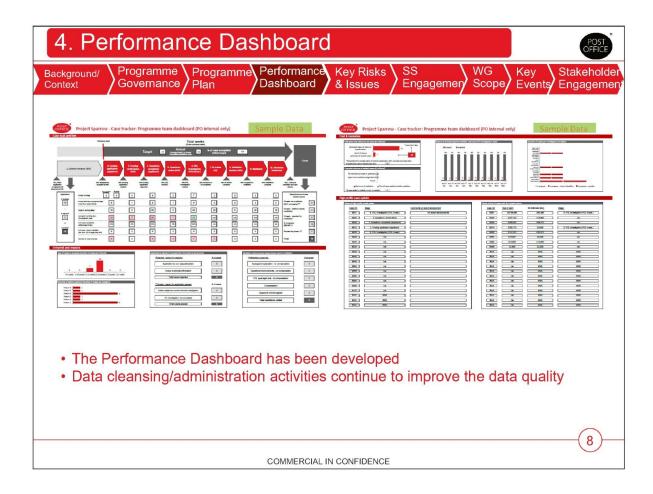
Programme Performance Covernance Plan Pashboard

Key Risks & Issues

SS Engagemen

WG Scope Key Events Stakeholder Engagemen

- Overall cost of the programme estimate £5m due to:
  - · Practicalities of manually managing 140+ cases through a scheme
  - · Commitments to pay applicants to have advice
  - Process and timelines dictated by Working Group which meets weekly
- · Internal staff impact on NT
  - Investigators
  - Mediators



Sackground/ Programme Programme Performance Key Risks SS WG Scope Events Stakeho Context Scope Plan Dashboard & Issues Engagemen Scope Events Engager		
Risk/Issue	Action(s) / Update	Owner
There is a risk that the JFSA &/or Second Sight disengage from the Working Group over the scope of Second Sight's role or the terms of reference for the Working Group  Second Sight and JFSA	PV will be engaging AH directly before the next face-to-face Working Group.  Post Office have reviewed all published materials; so far there are no grounds to justify increasing the scope of the Working Group.	CA
Second Sight and JFSA consider the scope of Second Sight work to extend beyond he Scheme and in any event, have taken a very wide view of Second Sight's investigatory ole within the Scheme	A letter of engagement has been drafted. Second Sight have declined to sign the current draft and have asked for a number of amendments to be made. Post Office is considering these.  CA has opened discussions to consider engaging an alternative accountancy firm.  A paper will be drafted for ExCo, for onward transmission to the Board on the Scheme in general, covering the heightened risk and contractual relationship with Second Sight.	

# 6. Second Sight Engagement



Background/ Context Programme \
Governance

Programme Performance Plan Dashboard

Key Risks & Issues SS Engagement

Scope

Key Sta

Stakeholder Engagemen

Second Sight engagement has been challenging and looks to be reaching a decision point.

- Second Sight have refused to sign the terms of engagement that Post Office have proposed including the Board condition that they will not act against Post Office in the future
- Post Office is spending approximately £30,000 per month (£0.5M to date) and has only had one product – the interim report
- Four initial case reports originally due in January have not be delivered delaying the progression of these cases through the Scheme
- Second Sight continue to seek to widen the scope of their engagement across Post Office and will not agree to focus solely on the Scheme
- Second Sight capacity is limited (3 members of staff) and we have no assurance that they can cope with the coming workload.

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### 7. Scope of the Working Group



Background/

Programme Governance

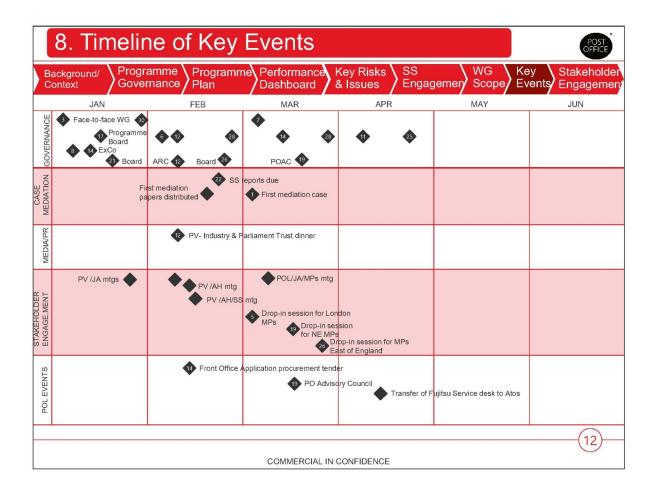
Programme Performance Plan Dashboard

Key Risks SS & Issues Engagemen

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- Post Office has always been clear that the Working Group's role is to ensure the Scheme is run in a fair and efficient manner. It will also be involved in making decisions on how particular cases should be managed through the Scheme only
- Working Group (at the suggestion of JFSA and Second Sight) is seeking a much wider scope allowing it to examine any issues that it sees as relevant across Horizon and Post Office's business
- The wider scope carries increased risk for Post Office as any attempt to restrict the scope will be met with hostility and accusations of attempting to fetter the independence of the process
- Post Office cannot allow the scope creep particularly given the challenges around controlling the engagement with Second Sight
- · This is likely to lead to confrontation.

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# 9. Stakeholder Engagement



Background/ Context Programme Sovernance

Programme Performance Plan Dashboard

Key Risks & Issues SS Engagemen

WG Key Scope Ever

Stakeholder Engagemen

In addition to our focus on Second Sight and JFSA we are taking forward two other key strands of engagement:

James Arbuthnot and other interested MPs – Paula and Alice held a positive meeting with James Arbuthnot. A follow up meeting is being arranged for Mid March with James and other interested MPs.

Anthony Hooper (Chair of the Working Group) – Given the challenges posed by the other members of the Working Group maintaining strong relations with Tony will be critical. Paula is going to meet with him in the next few weeks to ensure we are well placed should relations with JFSA or Second Sight deteriorate further

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