

Message

From: Scott, Joshua - UKGI [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=0224934F23B1444386FD031B130603A8-SCOTT, JOSH]
Sent: 30/10/2020 09:45:22
To: McInnes, Tim - UKGI [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

[REDACTED]


Joshua Scott | Manager

UK Government Investments

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

T: [REDACTED] **M:** [REDACTED]

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From: McInnes, Tim - UKGI [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 October 2020 09:44
To: Scott, Joshua - UKGI [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Do you have her number?

Tim McInnes | Executive Director

UK Government Investments

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

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From: Scott, Joshua - UKGI [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 October 2020 08:22
To: McInnes, Tim - UKGI [REDACTED] Desai, Meet - UKGI [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Thanks Tim.

FYI – Eleanor will have only got back tomorrow so this email might be worth a quick call to follow up so it isn't lost in the ocean of emails!

Josh

Joshua Scott | Manager

UK Government Investments

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Follow on 

From: McInnes, Tim - UKGI <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 30 October 2020 07:09
To: Scott, Joshua - UKGI <[REDACTED]>; Desai, Meet - UKGI <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Sorry forgot to cc.

Tim McInnes | Executive Director

UK Government Investments

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

T: [REDACTED] **M:** [REDACTED]

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From: McInnes, Tim - UKGI
Sent: 30 October 2020 07:08
To: Brooks-White (Jobshare) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

See below. I think it's worth a push and I'm happy to do this, though you may have better relationships with the 8th Floor than me. In my eyes we already have approval to launch from a few weeks ago as we have an approval to hire up to two postmaster NEDs (i.e. so I don't think this needs to go into the November meeting and can be done outside, and delegated). Otherwise we will probs recommend to POL that they can announce next week that they will be opening the process for applications very shortly (i.e. they can announce but they can't start the process without approval).

Given next week is a particularly good opportunity to get the word out – they have two engagement activities with postmasters I think – it would be a shame to miss it.

Let me know what you want to do... Clearly our preference is to get this moving (not least as there might be another POL related submission going to the 11 November meeting, re. the CFO).

Tim

Tim McInnes | Executive Director

UK Government Investments

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

T: [REDACTED] **M:** [REDACTED]

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Follow on 

From: Desai, Meet - UKGI <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 29 October 2020 18:37
To: McInnes, Tim - UKGI <[REDACTED]>; Scott, Joshua - UKGI <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Disappointing to get backtrack on this. Is it worth one more push (from Tim or within BEIS policy) – what do you guys think?

Best,
Meet


Meet Desai | Manager

UK Government Investments

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

T: **GRO** **M:** **GRO**

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Follow on 

From: Secretary Of State (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Sent: 29 October 2020 18:23
To: Desai, Meet - UKGI <**GRO**>; Scully, Minister (Private Office) <**GRO**>;
SpAds Office (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Cc: Permanent Secretary <**GRO**>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail &
Post Directorate) <**GRO**>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <**GRO**>; Post Office Team
<**GRO**>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <**GRO**>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI
<**GRO**>; Scott, Joshua - UKGI <**GRO**>; Cole, Alex - UKGI
<**GRO**>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI <**GRO**>; BEIS Partnerships Mailbox
<**GRO**>; Collins, Ruth (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<**GRO**>; Donald, Charles - UKGI <**GRO**>; Cutting, Nicola (Communications &
Partnerships) <**GRO**>; Dickason, Julie (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<**GRO**>; Broomfield, Kerry (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<**GRO**>; Finn, Yaacov - UKGI <**GRO**>; Brinkworth, Elliot - UKGI
Subject: RE: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Hi all

With apologies for overriding the previous SoS office steer, this should no longer be delegated. Please can you work with the appointments team to have this cleared by Spads and Minister Scully ready for a SoS decision on 11 November (his next meeting on appointments).

Thanks
Izzy

From: Desai, Meet - UKGI <**GRO**>
Sent: 29 October 2020 12:44
To: Scully, Minister (Private Office) <**GRO**>; SpAds Office (Private Office)
<**GRO**>
Cc: Secretary Of State (Private Office) <**GRO**>; Permanent Secretary
<**GRO**>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate)
<**GRO**>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <**GRO**>; Post Office Team
<**GRO**>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <**GRO**>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI
<**GRO**>; Scott, Joshua - UKGI <**GRO**>; Cole, Alex - UKGI
<**GRO**>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI <**GRO**>; BEIS Partnerships Mailbox
<**GRO**>; Collins, Ruth (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<**GRO**>; Donald, Charles - UKGI <**GRO**>; Cutting, Nicola (Communications &

Partnerships) < [GRO] > Dickason, Julie (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
< [GRO] > Broomfield, Kerry (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
< [GRO] > Yaacov.Finn < [GRO] > Brinkworth, Elliot - UKGI

Subject: RE: Advice for Approval - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Hi Sonny, Jamie,

Further to Ministerial and SpAds support for postmaster representation on the POL Board (below), POL have designed a proposed approach for the recruitment process. Ash has confirmed delegation of this matter to Minister Scully, after SpAds clearance.

All appointments to the POL Board must be approved by the BEIS SoS as sole shareholder and whilst an appointment would be in February 2021, this is to sight Ministers on the approach. This would be so POL can announce the details of the scheme to the postmaster community once approval has been received. POL are planning to provide details of the scheme on Friday 6 November.

We would note that this appointment is atypical to a usual NED appointment because the NEDs will be from the postmaster community. POL are determined to rebuild relations with postmasters following the litigation settlement and Ministers and officials are in strong support of this commitment.

POL have a number of engagement activities next week with the postmaster community and it is an excellent opportunity to provide details on the postmaster NED initiative. The concept of which has been already communicated to postmasters following Ministerial support. It will be important to maintain momentum following positive developments with the recently announced Independent Inquiry.

Any questions please do let me know. Headlines from the submission below.

Thanks,
Meet

Stage 1 Submission – Approval for recruitment This is not an OCPA regulated appointment	
To Approve	Minister Paul Scully MP
To Clear	Special Advisers
To Note	BEIS Secretary of State (SoS), Alok
To Note	Sharma MP
	Permanent Secretary
Role, Partner Organisation	Non-Executive Director x2, Post Office Limited
Prime Minister's interest list	No
Lead Official / Policy & Telephone	Meet Desai (UKGI) - [GRO] Eleanor Beal (BEIS)
Unique Reference Number	362

Summary: Post Office Limited (POL) want to launch the process to appoint two NEDs from the postmaster community to represent postmasters at Board level. This submission seeks your approval for the proposed approach to recruitment (Annex A). In principle approval was provided by SoS and Minister Scully for the creation of postmaster NEDs in July 2020.

Timing: Approval by Thursday 5 November, to enable POL to formally launch the postmaster NED recruitment campaign on Friday 6 November. The POL Board approved the process on Tuesday 27 October.

Recommendations: You **approve** POL's approach to the recruitment process for two postmaster NEDs and **provide input** on whether you would like BEIS representation on the Independent Panel. POL's Board has a strong preference for the Panel to be independent of POL and BEIS.

Meet Desai | Manager

UK Government Investments

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From: Secretary Of State (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Sent: 12 August 2020 13:06
To: SpAds Office (Private Office) <**GRO**>; Scott, Joshua - UKGI <**GRO**>
McInnes, Tim - UKGI <**GRO**>; Scully, Minister (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Cc: Permanent Secretary <**GRO**>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail &
Post Directorate) <**GRO**>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <**GRO**>; Post Office Team
<**GRO**>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI <**GRO**>; Cole, Alex - UKGI
Desai, Meet - UKGI <**GRO**>; BEIS Partnerships Mailbox
<**GRO**>; Munby, Sarah (BEIS) <**GRO**>; Donald, Charles - UKGI
<**GRO**>; Dickason, Julie (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
Broomfield, Kerry (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<**GRO**>; Finn, Yaacov - UKGI <**GRO**>; Brinkworth, Elliot - UKGI

Subject: RE: Advice for Approval and Letter - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Hi Josh, Tim,

SoS has agreed with the recommendations in respect of the Postmaster Representation on the POL Board without further comment.

Many thanks
Sarah



**Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy**

Sarah Edmond

Locum Private Secretary to the Rt Hon. Alok Sharma MP
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Tel: **GRO**
GRO

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From: SpAds Office (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Sent: 09 July 2020 11:23
To: Scott, Joshua - UKGI <**GRO**>; Scully, Minister (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Secretary Of State (Private Office) <**GRO**>
Cc: Permanent Secretary <**GRO**>; Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail &
Post Directorate) <**GRO**>; McInnes, Tim - UKGI <**GRO**>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI

<[REDACTED] GRO>; Post Office Team <[REDACTED] GRO>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Cole, Alex - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Desai, Meet - UKGI
<[REDACTED] GRO>; BEIS Partnerships Mailbox <[REDACTED] GRO>; Munby, Sarah (BEIS)
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Donald, Charles - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Dickason, Julie (Organisational
Development and Partnerships) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Broomfield, Kerry (Organisational Development and
Partnerships) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Finn, Yaacov - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Brinkworth, Elliot -
UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>

Subject: RE: Advice for Approval and Letter - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Hi all,

Thanks very much for this sub SpAds agree with the recommendations without any further comment.

Thanks,
Ali



Alistair McHugh

Assistant Private Secretary to the Special Advisers
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
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From: Scott, Joshua - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>
Sent: 02 July 2020 10:32
To: Scully, Minister (Private Office) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Secretary Of State (Private Office)
<[REDACTED] GRO>
Cc: SpAds Office (Private Office) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Permanent Secretary <[REDACTED] GRO>;
Creswell, Carl (Professional Business Services, Retail & Post Directorate) <[REDACTED] GRO>; McInnes, Tim -
UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Cooper, Tom - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Post Office Team
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Adegun, Oluwatosin - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Cole, Alex - UKGI
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Desai, Meet - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; BEIS Partnerships Mailbox
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Munby, Sarah (BEIS) <[REDACTED] GRO>; Donald, Charles - UKGI
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Dickason, Julie (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Broomfield, Kerry (Organisational Development and Partnerships)
<[REDACTED] GRO>; Finn, Yaacov - UKGI <[REDACTED] GRO>; Brinkworth, Elliot - UKGI
<[REDACTED] GRO>

Subject: Advice for Approval and Letter - POL Postmaster Representation on the Board

Hi Jess, Megan,

Cc Ali

Further to the commission to the respond to the letter from the POL CEO regarding postmaster representation on the POL Board (attached), we have drafted a suggested reply and accompanying advice for approval by SoS.

All appointments to the POL Board must be approved by the BEIS SoS as sole shareholder and whilst an appointment would be a number of months away, we feel it important to sight SoS on POL's intentions and request his approval for the broad direction of travel before responding to Nick letter. This would be so POL can announce their intentions to the postmaster community once approval has been received.

Apologies for sending to SpAds and Minister POs all at once. POL plan to undertake a series of 'roadshows' for postmasters across the UK from today so we thought it best to get the advice in before the weekend.

Any questions please do let me know.

Details of the sub below.

Cheers,

Josh

Purpose

This note provides an update to POL's proposal for 1 – 2 Postmaster Non-Executive Director (NED) roles on their board and on the engagement POL has had with postmasters regarding their relationship model. The POL CEO, Nick Read, has written to Minister Scully requesting the Department's agreement in principle to the broad direction of travel. Officials are supportive of POL's proposal and we ask for the Secretary of State's approval for POL to announce their intentions to the postmaster community.

Timing

Routine – we request a decision next week, if possible, so POL can socialise this with the postmaster community.

Special Advisers

This note has been sent to SpAds in parallel.

Annexes

Annex A – Letter from Nick Read to Minister Scully on Postmaster Engagement (30/06/2020)

Annex B – Draft response from Minister Scully to POL letter

Contacts

Director General: Sarah Munby (BEIS)/ Charles Donald (UKGI)

Lead Officials: Joshua Scott

Lead Official Telephone: GRO

Joshua Scott | Analyst

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