

Message

From: Simon I Hutchinson [redacted] **GRO**
on behalf of Simon I Hutchinson <[redacted]>
Sent: 28/05/2015 14:06:59
To: Elaine.McCabe [redacted] **GRO**
Subject: RE: 1.NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED-All Networks: Post Office Fraud Rita O Reilly - Derrylin

Elaine

Just an update. If we believe that we are some time from a court appearance and if Horizon issues may be used to mitigate in this case then we are of a mind to close the investigation, however this is a Police lead investigation and we will take our direction from you.

Regards

Simon



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From: Elaine.McCabe [redacted] **GRO** [mailto:Elaine.McCabe@[redacted]] **GRO**
Sent: 18 May 2015 13:00
To: Simon I Hutchinson
Subject: 1.NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED-All Networks: Post Office Fraud Rita O Reilly - Derrylin

Simon

Further to our recent conversation re the Fraud at Derrylin Post Office,

I need a number of points clarified, I must apologise if some of the questions appear basic but in order for me to prepare a prosecution case I require this information

What would be really useful is a full evidential statement, as to what the post office are alleging and how the post office believe this has happened.. How are the post office saying that the money was taken twice. I would also require an evidential statement explaining the Horizon system and specifically the transactions at Derrylin Post Office on the day of the alleged fraud. (Exhibit SW01 previously supplied by Suzanne Winter lists the transactions) It is important that this statement is in laymans term so that I along with the PPS have a clear and concise understanding of what is being alleged. This will also ensure that no key evidential points are being missed.

The Initial Complaint

The initial complaint and irregularities on the Post Office account show what we believe to be £21 837.20 missing from the account, My understanding is that Rita O Reilly has entered a number of suspicious transactions on the Horizon

System at her post office on the 23rd/24th July 2013, ultimately resulting in £21,837.20 being removed from the Post Office account. On speaking to Suzanne she believed that Rita had told the Horizon System that she had received a cheque for this amount (this cheque never materialised) and that she had paid out that amount, thereby leaving the horizon system and therefore the Post Office short by £21 837.20

If this is what the Post Office are alleging, are we suggesting that she removed £21 837. 20 from the Post Office Safe, would she have had that amount of money in the safe, would that be a normal enough amount of money to have had in the safe at this branch? Have we any way of evidencing this?

Or has she transferred the money from the Post Office directly and if so can you show where this has gone to? I have obtained production orders for Rita's bank accounts and cannot see any large sums of money being transferred into her account

Santander Complaint

The second complaint relates to a Giro Slip received by Santander in the name of B Price, for £21 787.20 this slip is dated the 5th July 2013, have the transactions for that date been checked, or do we believe that this transcash slip relates to the transaction on the 24th July 15

When a transcash slip is received at the counter, is cash automatically paid out on it?

Has the Giro Account Holder been identified, I have limited knowledge of Transcash payments but if the slip is paid in then the money will have been paid out to them, or do we suspect this giro slip is fraudulent, what enquiries have the Post Office made in order to identify the Account Holder

Do the post office know where the slip came from and how it relates back to the Post Office in Derrylin (again this will need to be evidenced)

If Santander paid out on this Giro, have they been spoken to by the Post Office, can they identify where the money went to

How did Santander end up with this Transcash slip, surely it would have had to go through the Centre in Belfast at some stage, is there a record of this, could this be the slip that Belfast are saying they didn't receive?

Horizon System

The day after the interview Rita O Reilly provided two large folders detailing problems with the Horizon System and informed me that there is a judicial review in relation to the Horizon system and wrongful convictions of Postmasters, what is the current situation re this ?

Thanks

Elaine

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