

POST OFFICE OVERTURNED CONVICTIONS
INDEPENDENT COMPENSATION ASSESSMENT PANEL
(PECUNIARY LOSSES)

JUNE 2025 REPORT

Introduction

Following discussion with the Horizon Compensation Advisory Board, this quarterly report has been commissioned by the Department of Business and Trade (“the DBT”)¹.

Figures

The position in respect of claims as at 2 June 2025 (Column 2), with the figures as at the end of the previous quarter (31 March 2025) for comparison (Column 1), is as follows.

	Column 1	Column 2
Number of Overturned Convictions	(111)	111
Number of Claims Notified	(111)	111 ²
Number of Ongoing Particularised Pecuniary Claims Received (i.e. Net of Full and Final Settlements)	(11)	12 ³
Number of Assessed Offers Made in Ongoing Claims (i.e. Net of Full and Final Settlements)	(8)	8
Number of Offers Accepted (£600,000)	(62)	62
Number of Offers Accepted (other than £600,000)	(8)	9
Number of Ongoing Claims in which Interim Payments Made	(41)	40 ⁴
Number of Claims Referred to Panel	(1)	1 ⁵
Number of Claimants Assessed by Panel	(0)	1
Number of Assessments/Offer after Assessment Accepted	(0)	0
Number of Full and Final Settlements	(70)	71
Number of Claims Closed	(63)	65 ⁶
Total Amount of Interim Payments in Ongoing Claims	(£18.65m)	£18.72m ⁷
Total Amount of Final Payments	(£48.12m)	£49.75m ⁸

Observations

1. This report covers the Overturned Convictions Pecuniary Compensation Assessment Process (“the OC Scheme”) which refers to the arrangements put in place by Post Office Limited (“POL”) to compensate those who had suffered pecuniary losses as a result of

convictions for offences in respect of Horizon shortfalls which were subsequently overturned by the courts. I have prepared this report as Chair of that Panel.

2. The DBT set up a separate scheme to compensate those who had suffered losses as a result of convictions for offences in respect of Horizon shortfalls which were subsequently overturned by statute (the Horizon Convictions Redress Scheme, “the HCRS Scheme”). That scheme has a separate Independent Assessment Panel with essentially the same assessment function as the OC Scheme Panel, which I also chair.
3. This will be my last report on the OC Scheme. On 3 June 2025, the remaining claims in the OC Scheme were transitioned into the HCRS Scheme. That is why the data in this report are as at 2 June 2025.
4. My previous report with the data as at 31 March 2025 was finalised on 13 May 2025, and the observations set out in that report still apply. The final regular meeting between the Panel Chair and the parties, also attended by Dentons (who are facilitators on the HCRS Scheme), duly took place on 19 May 2025, at which various transitional issues (such as costs) were discussed. These issues will now be taken forward in the context of the HCRS Scheme. There is nothing further to report in respect of the OC Scheme than the matters set out in the earlier report.
5. Finally, I would like to thank all parties in the OC Scheme for their assistance over the last two years; and I hope that the remaining claimants from the OC Scheme will obtain full and fair redress for their pecuniary losses through the HCRS Scheme process as quickly as such resolution can be achieved.

Sir Gary Hickinbottom
Chair
7 June 2025

¹ This is the fifth and final report of the Chair of the OC Scheme Panel. The first report, published in July 2024, included a brief overview of the scope and processes involved in the Scheme, as well as data and observations. The later reports, including this report, focus on the current data and observations on progress.

² This is the total number of claimants who have been in contact with POL regarding the OC. Because claimants whose convictions were overturned by statute – as opposed to the court, as in this cohort – are the subject of a different redress scheme (the HCRS Scheme), the number of claimants shown in the table (111) represent a closed group. As described in the body of this report, the remaining claims in the OC Scheme were transferred into the HCRS Scheme on 3 June 2025.

³ This figure excludes a small number of claimants who have submitted partially particularised claims only.

⁴ This is the total number of claimants to whom interim payments have been made, including £163,000 initial interim payments, proactive settlement payments, non-pecuniary settlements, and other interim or part settlement payments. This figure does not include claimants who had received interim payments but subsequently fully and finally settled their claims. As can be seen from the figures, as at 2 June 2025, interim payments had been made to all claimants whose claims have not been fully and finally settled (i.e. 40).

⁵ This claim was referred to the Panel for its consideration of the principles on which loss of opportunity/chance claims should be approached. An Assessment in respect of those principles was handed down to the parties on 17 April 2025 (shown in the next line of the table) and, on the basis of those principles, DBT and the claimant are currently engaged in negotiations towards a settlement of that claim.

⁶ Of the 71 full and final settlements, 6 claims still have outstanding legal costs to be agreed or assessed before they can be closed.

⁷ This figure includes all interim payments and includes proactive, part and non-pecuniary settlement payments; but does not include interim payments made to claimants who have subsequently fully and finally settled their claims.

⁸ This figure includes all £600,000 settlements as well as those who have accepted offers following submission and assessment of a particularised claim.