



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date
13 November 2024

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/01393

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 16 October 2024, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”).

In your email you have requested the information shown verbatim in bold below:

“I would like to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Between 1989 and 2001, the Post Office ran an abatement policy, whereby an incoming sub-postmaster would receive 75% of their monthly remuneration during the first year of their contract. The Post Office would retain 25%.

The scheme stopped in 2001.

I would like to know how many sub-postmasters had to make this payment during this 12 year period, along with how much money the Post Office retained in total. Finally, what has happened to this money? Any additional context would be helpful.”

We can confirm that Post Office does not hold the information you have requested for the Appointment Scale, the correct name for ‘Abatement Policy.’

We carried out a search of our records and do not hold the data for Appointment Scale records from 1989 to 2001, and, as such we are unable to answer your subsequent questions.

Given the age of the information you are looking for, you may wish to contact the Postal Museum to see if they hold any information. You can contact the Postal Museum at the following link:

<https://www.postalmuseum.org/collections/the-archive/>

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this response, you do have a right to request an internal review. You can do this by writing to the address above within 40 working days of receipt of this response stating your reasons for your internal review request or alternatively, by emailing information.rights@postoffice.co.uk.

If, having requested an internal review by Post Office, you are still not satisfied with our response you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team
information.rights@postoffice.co.uk
<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/access-to-information/access-to-information/>

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