



[Redacted]

Date
29 August 2024

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear [Redacted],

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/00329

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 20 February, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”). We sincerely apologise for the delay in our response.

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

“I’m writing to please request the following internal email correspondence under the freedom of information act.

I would like to request a memo sent by Henry Staunton to colleagues, including chief executive Nick Read, and any replies sent to that email.

In this email Mr Staunton says that he recorded, and communicated, his conversation with a civil servant, who told him to change course on compensation so the Government could “limp into the election”.

Further email on 21 February 2024:

Could I please amend my requested search terms based on new information published this morning.

Please could you also search for the terms “hobble”; “rip off the band aid”; Sarah Munby; permanent secretary; “politicians do not necessarily like to

confront reality”; “now was not the time for dealing with long-term issues”.

The note was reportedly sent on or around January 5, 2023, if that assists in finding the email more quickly.

Could I please also ask that if the note was sent to Nick Read's email, that I am provided with a copy of that email.”

We can confirm that Post Office does hold the information you have requested and this can be found in the document titled, “FOI2024_00329 – Information_Redacted.pdf”.

We have withheld personal data within the document, under sections 40(2) and 40(3A) of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to other persons. These sections exempt personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data because names of junior staff members, signatures and contact details would not reasonably be expected to be disclosed in relation to this request for information.

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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