



[Redacted]

Date
5 June 2024

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear [Redacted],

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/00303

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 18 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:

“In January 2024 a letter was sent from Post Office CEO, Nick Read, to the Justice Secretary, Alex Chalk. It concerned Sub-Postmaster convictions and included a statement from Post Office solicitors Peters and Peters.

Please can you disclose the letter and the response received by the Post Office from Alex Chalk. Please can you also disclose all communications between the Post Office and UKGI concerning this letter.”

We can confirm that Post Office does hold the information you have requested.

The letter sent on 9 January 2024 by Post Office Chief Executive Officer, Nick Read, is published at the following link:

<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/key-reports-statements/letter-to-justice-secretary-january-2024/>

As the information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, under section 21 of the FOIA, Post Office are not required to provide a copy of the information with this response.

The response to Nick Read from Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Justice, The Right Honourable Alex Chalk KC MP, and communications between Post Office and UK Government Investments about Nick Read's letter of 9 January 2024, are provided in the attached document titled, "FOI2024_00303 – Information_Redacted.pdf". Please note, we have removed information from the document, that does not fall within scope of your request.

We have withheld personal data within the disclosable bundle, 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/>

Post Office Limited is committed to protecting your privacy, information about how we do this can be found on our website at www.postoffice.co.uk/privacy