



[REDACTED]

Date  
5 November 2024

[REDACTED]

Post Office  
100 Wood Street  
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref: FOI2024/01263

**Classification:**  
Public

Dear [REDACTED],

## Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/01351

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 8 October, 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:

**“Thanks for replying. You said in response to my first and third questions:**

**We can confirm that Post Office does not hold the information you have requested.**

**Does this mean the post office has no information on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] or that it did not consider the matter during the consultation on the [REDACTED] branch?**

**Could you also please tell me whether [REDACTED] is deemed to be a ‘fit and proper’ person to run a post office?”**

We have interpreted your request to mean any recorded information held by Post Office in respect of any fit and proper checks carried out in relation to the individual named in your request.

Post Office can confirm that in order for any person to successfully apply for the position of Postmaster and provide Bureau or Money Transfer services they (or anyone who holds a responsible position i.e. beneficial Owner, Director, or Secretary within their company) must undergo checks, meet and maintain the requirements set out under the HMRC fit and proper test. You can find out more about the requirements of the test and what it means on the link below

[The fit and proper test - GOV.UK](#)

Subject to the foregoing, we can confirm that Post Office does hold the information that you have requested, but we have decided that the information should be withheld 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 the named individual and other Post Office staff involved would not reasonably expect their application details 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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints)

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team

[information.rights@postoffice.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/privacy)**