



[REDACTED]

Date  
09 December 2024

[REDACTED]

Post Office  
100 Wood Street  
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

**Classification:**  
Public

Dear [REDACTED],

## Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/00348

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 26 February, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”). We sincerely apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

We have provided your requests in bold. We have provided a response next to each part of your request to outline whether Post Office holds information within scope.

**The recorded minutes, including details of other persons in attendance, from meetings involving Kemi Badenoch, business secretary, and Henry Staunton, former Post Office chair, between February 7 2023 and February 21 2024.**

Post Office do not record minutes for these meetings and therefore the information is not held.

**The recorded minutes, including details of other persons in attendance, from meetings involving Kevin Hollinrake, postal affairs minister, and Henry Staunton, former Post Office chair, between October 27 2022 and February 21 2024.**

Post Office do not record minutes for these meetings and therefore the information is not held.

**The recorded minutes, including details of other persons in attendance, from**

**meetings involving Kemi Badenoch, business secretary, and Nick Read, Post Office chief executive, between February 7 2023 and February 21 2024.**

Please find the information attached.

**The recorded minutes, including details of other persons in attendance, from meetings involving Kevin Hollinrake, postal affairs minister, and Henry Staunton, former Post Office chair, between October 27 2022 and February 21 2024.**

Post Office do not record minutes for these meetings and therefore the information is not held.

**Any correspondence between Kemi Badenoch and Henry Staunton between February 7 2023 and February 21 2024.**

Post Office does not hold any information.

**Any correspondence between Kemi Badenoch and Nick Read between February 7 2023 and February 21 2024.**

Please find the information attached.

**Any correspondence between Kevin Hollinrake and Henry Staunton between October 27 2022 and February 21 2024.**

Please find the information attached.

**Any correspondence between Kevin Hollinrake and Nick Read between October 27 2022 and February 21 2024.**

Please find the information attached.

We have determined that two letters between Nick Read and Kevin Hollinrake, should be withheld in their entirety, as they fall under the exemption in section 43(2) of the FOIA, which relates to information which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure.

We recognise that there is a public interest in disclosure of information relating to Post Office's liability and tax positions, as this helps promote transparency in Post Office business and reassurance about the way public money is being spent.

However, there is a strong public interest in withholding the information as it would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial interests of Post Office. This is because this information relates to ongoing discussions with the government about our liability and its potential impact on Post Office.

Providing the information at this point in time is not in the public interest, as Post Office would be unable to operate fairly in the marketplace and would be commercially damaged by the release of the information.

We have also withheld some information in the attachment under section 40(2) 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 information relates to an employee who would not reasonably expect their personal details to be disclosed in relation to this request for information and signatures of the letter authors.

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/>

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