



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

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Dear Alan,

Thank you for your letter dated 15 June regarding the Post Office Group Litigation. I would first like to assure you that I value the ongoing communication between yourself and your colleagues around these issues and did respond to your letter dated 1 April. I am sorry you did not receive this, and I have re-attached the letter to this response.

Unfortunately, as stated in our previous correspondence, Government cannot accept any requests for payment as it was not party to the litigation, which has now been settled.

In your letter you raise your proposed approach to engagement with the Independent Review. Let me first clarify that Government wants to be fully assured that through this Review, there is a public summary of the failings that occurred at Post Office Ltd, drawing on the judgments from the Horizon case and by listening to those that have been most affected, without repeating the work leading to the extensive findings of Justice Fraser. The review will take account of these as a minimum and is keen to engage with both former and existing postmasters, where possible, to ensure full lessons are learned and reforms made at Post Office. Whilst the Terms of Reference for the Review chime with that of a statutory inquiry, a Review, in other words, a non-statutory inquiry, will allow progress to be achieved in an accelerated timeframe due to the cooperation committed to by the Post Office. I do hope you will reconsider your position of engagement, as it will no doubt be valued by the Chair when they come to draw their conclusions and recommendations, whatever these may be.

Finally, thank you for notifying me about the submission being made to the Parliamentary Ombudsman regarding this case.

PAUL SCULLY MP
Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Labour Markets
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