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Dear Darren,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 October regarding the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry.

The launch of the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry is an important milestone towards getting the affected postmasters and their families the answers they are seeking and deserve. Sir Wyn Williams has 28 years' judicial experience, and the Government have full confidence in his ability to chair this Inquiry.

To answer the two specific points raised in your letter:

First, you note that Lord Callanan stated that the Chair of the Review will have full access to the Ministers and civil servants involved in the case. I can confirm that my Department and UK Government Investments intend to cooperate fully with the Inquiry and work is already underway to gather relevant evidence for submission to the Inquiry.

Second, you ask about the mechanisms available to the Chair, Sir Wyn Williams, to ensure he has access to important evidence. I am pleased to note that, as well as my Department, Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu have already agreed to cooperate fully with the Inquiry. Sir Wyn will keep government updated on access to information and cooperation and can raise concerns about either.

It is now for the Inquiry to look at what happened at the Post Office, to gather the evidence and build on Mr Justice Fraser's findings, to establish the facts and get postmasters the answers they are looking for. The Inquiry will also assess whether lessons have been learned and concrete changes have been made or are underway at Post Office Ltd.

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