



**Department for
Business & Trade**

Kevin Hollinrake MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

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Darren Jones MP
Chair, Business and Trade Committee
House of Commons
London
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Dear Darren,

Your Committee has always taken a strong interest in all issues relating to the Post Office and in relation to the issues associated with the Post Office Horizon IT system in particular. Consequently, I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you as Chair of the Business and Trade Select Committee with a short update.

The Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry is led by retired high court judge Sir Wyn Williams who has over 28 years' judicial experience. Sir Wyn is tasked with ensuring there is a public summary of the failings which occurred with the Horizon IT system at the Post Office leading to the prosecution and conviction of postmasters, with 86 having those convictions quashed to date, and the incorrect repayment of shortfalls by thousands more. The Inquiry will look to establish a clear account of the implementation and historic failings of the system starting from its rollout in the late 1990s.

As you will be aware, today the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry has published an interim report, which has been laid before the House. The report can be found at www.postofficehorizoninquiry.org.uk.

I have today announced that Government will review this report and consider how to respond to its content in due course.

I would like to thank Sir Wyn Williams and to everyone in his team for their ongoing work and commitment to delivering the Inquiry's work on these issues. It is vital that we establish the facts behind this scandal and learn the lessons so that something like this can never happen again.

I would also like to thank you and the Committee for your interest on this important issue.

Yours ever,

KEVIN HOLLINRAKE MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – Department for Business and Trade