



Business and Trade Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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The Rt Hon Jonathan Reynolds MP
Secretary of State for Business and Trade
Department for Business and Trade
Old Admiralty Building, Admiralty Place
London SW1A 2DY
[By email]

28 March 2025

Dear Secretary of State,

Capture accounting software redress

I write to ask about your approach to ensuring justice for victims of the Post Office Capture scandal.

In September 2024, the report of the independent investigation into Capture accounting software concluded that there was a reasonable likelihood that Capture could have created shortfalls for postmasters.

The Committee welcomed the subsequent Government commitment (made in December 2024) to provide redress for postmasters who suffered losses as a result of Capture. The Committee noted that the Government had committed to:

- engage with postmasters, the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters, and the Horizon Compensation Advisory Board, on the form of redress - with publication on the approach to redress by Spring 2025; and
- continue to work with the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC), Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commissions (SCCRC) and the Post Office on ongoing investigations into Capture (and into the use of Capture in prosecutions).

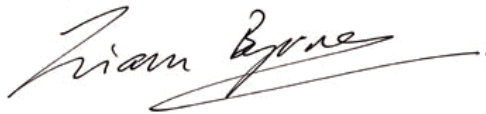
Further to this, the Committee would be grateful for answers to the following questions:

1. What progress has been made on the form and scope of redress and the eligibility criteria?
 - Will the approach to redress be published in Spring 2025?
2. How confident are you that the current approach for prosecutions related to Capture, which is for the CCRC and SCCRC to review the cases that have been submitted for consideration for referral to appellate courts, is the right one?

- Has the Government considered amending the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Act 2024 to include convictions based on evidence relating to Capture? If so, I would be grateful for your conclusions and rationale.
3. What steps has the Government taken to communicate with postmasters who may have suffered losses as a result of Capture?

I would be grateful if you could provide an update by Monday 28 April.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Liam Byrne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chair of the Business and Trade Committee