



Information Rights Team  
Post Office Limited  
Ground Floor  
Finsbury Dials  
20 Finsbury Street  
London EC2Y 9AQ  
033 3665 3951  
Your reference:  
Our reference: FOI2020/00429

Mr Peter Bell

request-673916-7837f2fd@whatdotheyknow.com

29 July 2020

Dear Mr Bell,

### **Freedom of Information Request – FOI2020/00429**

I refer to your recent request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("**FOIA**"), as set out below:

*"Please provide a copy of the current guidance and/or rules which are provided to Post Office prosecutors and/or investigators when criminal prosecutions are being brought against Post Office subpostmasters and/or other staff for theft, fraud, false accounting or similar offences."*

At present our view is that your request falls within the scope of a qualified exemption, namely legal professional privilege under section 42 FOIA. As permitted by section 10 FOIA, Post Office Limited ("**Post Office**") requires further time to consider the public interest test in relation to this exemption. In accordance with paragraph 4.6 of the Code of Practice, Post Office considers a 20 working day extension would be appropriate at this stage and will therefore aim to respond to you by 28 August 2020.

Yours sincerely

Chris Russell

Head of Data Protection & Information Rights & DPO

[information.rights@postoffice.co.uk](mailto:information.rights@postoffice.co.uk)

<http://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/secure-corporate/about-us/access-to-information/>