



Peter C. Bell
[request-1018562-](#)
f647fcaa@whatdotheyknow.com

Date
27 October 2023

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear Peter C. Bell,

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2023/00502

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited ("**Post Office**") on 25 August, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("**FOIA**").

In your email you have requested the information shown in bold below:

"Could you please provide the following information:

a) the date that the decision was taken to publish the HSF report to remuneration committee produced by Herbert Smith Freehills which was used to provide assurance to the committee regarding the metrics mentioned on pages 38-41 (Transformation Incentive Scheme) of the annual report and consolidated financial statement 2021/22

b) Please state if there is a decided publication deadline (but publication could be at any date before then); if yes, please provide that deadline date, OR

c) please state if publication will take place once other actions have been completed; and if so, please state what those other actions are; OR

d) please state if publication will take place by reference to other related events; if so, please state what those other related events are; OR

e) please state if there is a draft publication schedule that hasn't been finalised; if so, please state the date that the publication scheduled is expected to be finalised.

f) in deciding to rely upon section 22 please state all the factors that were taken in to account, both for and against, in deciding whether it is reasonable, in all the circumstances, to withhold information until the date of publication.

Please provide this information in electronic form."

We can confirm that Post Office does hold some information within scope of your request, and this has been provided below.

To provide context to your request for information, the document you refer to as the "HSF report", is a document authored by Herbert Smith Freehills ("HSF") and Post Office to set out progress on Rule 9 requests as part of a wider Public Inquiry update provided to the Post Office Board in January 2022. The document was then used by a number of Remuneration Committee members who had access to the document to consider how to proceed in assessing the bonus sub-metric.

Regarding part a) of your request, Post Office had taken the decision to publish this document by 2 June 2023. The document was subsequently published, along with the five appendices referenced in Amanda Burton's Report, on 16 August 2023 and it can be found on Post Office's corporate website here:

<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/key-reports-statements/post-office-annual-report-accounts-2021-22/>

As Post Office had published this document before receiving your request for information, parts b) to f) of your request are no longer applicable.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this response, you do have a right to request an internal review. You can do this by writing to the address above within 40 working days of receipt of this response stating your reasons for your internal review request or alternatively, by emailing information.rights@postoffice.co.uk.

If, having requested an internal review by Post Office, you are still not satisfied with our response you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team
information.rights@postoffice.co.uk
<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/access-to-information/access-to-information/>

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