

## Information Access Team Shared Services Directorate 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF Switchboard 020 7035 4848

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Mr Steve Elibank request-28408-c37b7532@whatdotheyknow.com

26<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Dear Mr Elibank,

## Freedom of Information request (ref: 13991)

Thank you for your email of 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010 asking for clarification on your Freedom of Information request response. You ask us 'why the redacted information on p 4 of "FOI PDF 3" was removed'. The redactions you refer to are set out below.

- 3.2 RMG has a zero tolerance policy towards crime. Since 1793 when the Post Office Investigation Branch was first formed (it is the oldest recognised criminal investigations authority in the world), its investigation teams have used investigative policing methods to prosecute crimes made against it. Each year about offenders are either successfully prosecuted or formally cautioned following criminal investigations by RMG Investigators.
- 3.3 Approximately of these offenders are in respect of offences connected to the provision of the Universal Postal Service. The remaining concern other criminal investigations usually involving the theft of RMG Ltd assets and normally fall into one of the following categories:

The information was redacted as it was considered exempt under section 31 (a), (b) and (c) of the Act. This exemption relates to law enforcement, specifically the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension or prosecution of offenders and the administration of justice.

If the information were released it would inform criminals about where or how particular crimes took place and the measures employed to prevent such crimes occurring. The Royal Mail asked us to consider withholding the statistics as it could potentially provide useful information to criminals. This

could jeopardise the Royal Mail's ability in preventing and detecting crimes against the Postal Service.

You may request a full independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference 13991. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team Home Office Ground Floor, Seacole Building 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

e-mail: info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

L Fisher

**Information Access Team** 

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