



Information Rights Team
Post Office Limited
Ground Floor
Finsbury Dials
20 Finsbury Street
London EC2Y 9AQ

Your reference:
Our reference: FOI2021/00065

Mr Tim McCormack

request-723318-8f0f1f00@whatdotheyknow.com

26 February 2021

Dear Mr McCormack,

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2021/00065

I am writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 2 February, which I am dealing with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”).

In your email you have requested the information set out below. I can confirm that Post Office does hold the information you have requested.

As previously answered by yourselves you indicated that a payment of some £52.25m was paid to Freeths from your Barclays Account on the 12th December 2019.

Could you please provide me with evidence of the source of these funds.

The Source of the funds that was used for the civil settlement was surplus cash that was derived from trading profit and not funding from Government.

A study of your annual accounts for the past 10 years does not indicate that POL at any time has had access to such liquidity. That is confirmed by POL's negotiations with BEIS and the provision by BEIS of a new facility of £50m to cover such an eventuality of requiring £52.25m at a couple of days notice.

If the source of the funds was 'cash in the network' please provide me with evidence that the necessary 'cash in the network' was NOT replenished by accessing funds available from the Working Capital Facility provided by BEIS/UKGI.

We refer to our previous response. Post Office has not replenished 'cash in the network' by accessing funds available from the Working Capital Facility provided by BEIS/UKGI.

If you have any queries about this response, please contact me. Do remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

I hope the information I have provided on this occasion is useful, however 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 below stating your reasons for your internal review request.

Information Rights Manager
Post Office Limited
Information Rights Team
Ground Floor
Finsbury Dials
20 Finsbury Street
London
EC2Y 9AQ
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
<https://ico.org.uk>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JA Lawrence". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Jackie Lawrence
Information Rights Team
information.rights@postoffice.co.uk
<http://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/secure-corporate/about-us/access-to-information/>
@postofficenews

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