



Information Rights Team  
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Mr Francis Wheeler  
[request-207714-8dc31170@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-207714-8dc31170@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our reference : FOI201404220840

20 May 2014

Dear Mr Wheeler,

**Ref: Freedom of Information Request - FOI201404220840**

I am writing in response to your email dated 17 April 2014, which I am dealing with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In your email, you have requested the information in three parts:

*The Post Office established a Strategic Partnership Board with the National Federation of SubPostmasters to work together to achieve the overall aims and objectives of the business, including the delivery of the Network Transformation Programme.*

*Could you please supply the names of all members of the board?*

I can confirm that Post Office Limited do hold the information you have requested. The members of the Strategic Partnership Board are detailed below:

Kevin Gilliland - Network & Sales Director  
Nick Beal - Head of Network Development  
Alwen Lyons - Company Secretary  
Lesley Sewell - Chief Operating Officer/Head of IT & Change  
Chris Day - Chief Financial Officer  
George Thomson - General Secretary, National Federation of Subpostmasters (NFSP)  
Mervyn Jones - Network & Commercial Director, NFSP Trading  
David Milner - National Treasurer, NFSP

General Manager Network Services & Transformation (Post holder has left Post Office Limited)  
Commercial Director (Post holder has left Post Office Limited)

[www.postoffice.co.uk](http://www.postoffice.co.uk)

Regarding Strategic Partnership Board members who are no longer employed by Post Office Limited, we have provided the Job Title, but the individual names have been withheld. We have relied on Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act relating to Personal Information which is set out below.

*How many times has the board met, dates and attendees please?*

I can advise the Board met three times. The first meeting was held on the 23 April 2012 and was attended by, Kevin Gilliland, Nick Beal, George Thomson, Mervyn Jones and David Milner. The second meeting was held on 06 June and was attended by Nick Beal, Chris Day, Neil Ennis, Lesley Sewell, Mervyn Jones, David Milner and George Thomson, Chair of Negotiating Committee (NFSP) along with the following Post Office Limited (POL) staff: Internal Communications Specialist and Assistant Company Secretary. The third meeting was held on 12 November and was attended by Nick Beal, Chris Day, Alwen Lyons, Kevin Gilliland, Network Change Operations Manager (POL), Commercial Director (POL), George Thomson, Mervyn Jones, David Milner and Chair of Negotiating Committee (NFSP), along with the following POL staff: Project & Scoping Manager, Head of Customer Experience & Modernisation Operations and Business Solutions Manager.

The job titles for the Strategic Partnership Board non-member meeting attendees have been provided however we have withheld individual names, relying on Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act relating to Personal Information which is set out below.

#### Personal Information

Post Office Limited believes that the names of some individuals noted as Strategic Partnership Board members and attendees is the personal data relating to a third party. In this respect we rely on the exemption contained in Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act concerning personal information. We believe the disclosure of this information would contravene data protection principles – disclosing such information would be likely to breach the principle of fair and lawful processing. As such we have released the job titles but withheld information we believe identifies third parties.

#### Public Interest

As information has been exempted under Section 40(2) of the act, a public interest test applies. We understand the public interest in promoting transparency and accountability. However, there is also a strong public interest in ensuring the disclosure of this information should not contravene data protection principles. Post Office Limited considers that, with regard to the information that has been withheld from disclosure, the public interest is best served by maintaining the exemption in respect of the information requested.

*Could you please supply me with a copy of the minutes of all board meetings?*

I can confirm that Post Office Limited do not hold formal minutes of these meetings.

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.

Senior Engagement & Involvement Manager  
Post Office Limited  
Information Rights Team  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Old Street Wing  
148 Old Street  
London  
EC1V 9HQ  
[foia@postoffice.co.uk](mailto:foia@postoffice.co.uk)

If, having requested an internal review by Post Office Limited, 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: 01625 545 700  
[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely



**Anna Gos**

Information Rights Team Support  
Information Rights Team  
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<http://www.postoffice.co.uk/our-publication-scheme>