1		Wednesday, 13 December 2023	1	ti	me that is not possible and it was not
2	(10.	.00 am)	2	p	ossible in Mr Smith's case to deal with
3	MS	PRICE: Good morning, sir. Can you see and hear	3	ι	pwards, as I understand it, of 700 documents in
4		us?	4	t	he time available between the disclosure of
5	SIR	NYN WILLIAMS: Yes, I can, thank you.	5	t	hose documents and Mr Smith's evidence
6	MS	PRICE: Sir, may we please call Mr Knight.	6	t	omorrow.
7		Announcement re Evidence of MARTIN SMITH	7		As I have said repeatedly, fairness demands
8	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: Just before you do that, I need	8	t	hat witnesses see relevant documents in good
9		to make a public announcement. Yesterday	9	ti	ime to digest them and understand them before
10		I caused the Inquiry Team to notify Mr Smith,	10		hey give their evidence to the Inquiry.
11		who was due to give evidence tomorrow, and Core	11		As it happens, no great damage has been
12		Participants, that it would not be possible for	12	c	eaused by this latest episode, save for the loss
13		Mr Smith to give his evidence on account of	13		of one day of the Inquiry's time, because
14		there being significant disclosure of documents	14		Ar Smith can return at a later stage, as was
15		over the last number of days, which were	15		always anticipated that he would, and so instead
16		relevant to his evidence.	16		of his giving evidence over two days, his
17		I want to stress publicly that the members	17		evidence will be given over one day at some
18		of the Inquiry Team are working extremely hard	18		suitable date in the New Year.
19		to ensure that, when they are faced with late	19		Thank you, Ms Price. Over to you.
20		disclosure, they assess the relevance of the	20	MS P	RICE: Thank you, sir.
21		documents in the hope that a witness to whom the	21	1410 1	CHRISTOPHER GRANVILLE KNIGHT (sworn)
22		documents relate will be able to give evidence	22		Questioned by MS PRICE
23		as scheduled. In most instances, happily, that	23	MS D	RICE: Good morning, Mr Knight. My name is Emn
24		has occurred.	24		Price and, as you know, I will be asking you
25		However, as everyone now knows, from time to	25		puestions on behalf of the Inquiry. Could you
		1			2
1		confirm your full name, please.	1		ou remain employed by the Post Office today?
2	Α.	It's Christopher Granville Knight.	2	A . I	do, yes.
3	Q.	Thank you for coming to the Inquiry to assist it	3	Q. I	n the last 40 years you have held a range of
4		in its work and for providing a statement in	4	r	oles including Postal Officer roles, various
5		advance of today. You should have in front of	5	İI	nvestigator roles and now a role within the
6		you a hard copy of that statement. It is dated	6	li	ntelligence Team; is that right?
7		23 October 2023. Do you have that statement?	7	A . T	hat's correct.
8	A.	I do, yes.	8	Q. Y	ou say in your statement that in 1997, you
9	Q.	If you turn to page 41 of that, please	9	a	applied and were promoted within the Post Office
10	A.	Yes.	10	li	nvestigation Department from a Postal Officer
11	Q.	you should have a copy with a visible	11	r	ole to an Assistant Investigation Officer; is
12		signature; is that right?	12	t	hat right?
13	A.	Correct.	13	A. T	⁻ hat's correct.
14	Q.	Is that your signature?	14	Q. Y	ou held this role until the year 2000?
15	A.	It is, yes.	15	A . Y	es.
16	Q.	Are the contents of that statement true to the	16	Q. V	What kind of investigations were you involved in
17		best of your knowledge and belief?	17	٧	when you held this Assistant Investigation
18	A.	Yes, they are.	18	(Officer role?
19	Q.	For the purposes of the transcript the reference	19	A. I	t was working for the Post Office Investigation
20		for the statement is WITN08290100.	20		Department, which was a sort of corporate
21		Starting, please, Mr Knight, with	21	li	nvestigation Department that sat over the
22		an overview of your career at the Post Office,	22	b	ousiness and, initially, I was in a team, and
23		you've worked for the Post Office since 1983; is	23	t	he first enquiries we did was regarding
24		that right?	24	p	oostage, we used postage stamps, counterfeit

25 A. That's correct.

stamps, things like that. And then I moved on

- 1 to a team, I think there was six of us and we
- 2 looked at losses of Special Delivery items over
- 3 the Royal Mail Network, so it sort of covered
- 4 the country.
- 5 Q. You say in your statement that, when you were in
- 6 this role, the Post Office Investigation
- 7 Department underwent a structure change and
- 8 changed its name to the Post Office Security and
- 9 Investigation Service. How did your role change
- 10 when these structural and name changes came in?
- 11 A. There was the name change, that was a major
- 12 change, and then I think it was in 2000 there
- 13 was options to move into other parts of the
- 14 business, and I ended up moving to a newly
- 15 formed part of the business called Cash Handling
- 16 and Distribution which was an amalgamation of
- 17 the Cash Centres and the in-house Cash In
- 18 Transit business.
- 19 Q. When you moved into that role, you say you were
- 20 a Lead Investigator; is that right?
- 21 A. I think I was the only -- I think there was two
- 22 of us who went over, we were the only
- 23 Investigators. The previous or the current, as
- 24 it were, Security Managers were physical
- 25 Security Managers.

- 1 Investigator, or whatever.
- 2 Q. You were doing the job of an Investigator?
- 3 A. Yes, yeah.
- 4 Q. This was a role you held until 2016, when you
- 5 moved to your current role in the Intelligence
- 6 Team?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. Is it right that in your current role you have
- 9 no involvement in internal investigations?
- 10 A. There aren't any. Yes, correct.
- 11 Q. Turning, please, to the training you received as
- 12 an Investigator, in 1997 when you first started
- 13 as an Assistant Investigator Officer, did you
- 14 have any experience of criminal investigations?
- 15 **A.** No.
- 16 Q. Is it right that you recall attending
- 17 a three-week residential training course when
- 18 you took up the role?
- 19 A. Yes, I believe it was three weeks.
- 20 Q. You say in your statement at paragraph 5 that
- 21 you recall this covering the Police and Criminal
- 22 Evidence Act Codes of Practice and the relevant
- 23 investigation forms that were used to ensure
- 24 adherence to the Police and Criminal Evidence
- 25 Act. Do you recall disclosure obligations being

- 1 Q. Is it right that your investigations in this
- 2 role focused on possible criminal offences,
- 3 involving the in-house Cash in Transit Service
- 4 and Cash Centre staff?
- 5 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 6 Q. You say the role soon became one of physical
- 7 security; is that right?
- 8 A. It became, yeah, dual yeah.
- 9 Q. You stayed in this role until around 2003 --
- 10 A. 2003/2004, I think, yes.
- 11 Q. -- at which point you took up a role as
- 12 an Investigator for the Post Office,
- 13 investigating possible criminal offences within
- 14 the network?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. This related to both directly managed branches,
- 17 formally Crown Office branches --
- 18 **A.** Yes
- 19 Q. -- and also the Branch Network; is that right?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. Your job title during this period was
- 22 Investigation Manager?
- 23 A. Yes, it -- yeah. There was sort of -- I think
- 24 it sort of changed but, ultimately, it was the
- 25 same job, it was just different types: Fraud

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- 1 covered on that initial three-week course?
- 2 A. I can't say that I remember it fully. It was
- 3 '97, so I apologise for that. There were --
- 4 I think as I've stated, there were disclosure
- 5 forms that were part of the sort of plethora of
- 6 forms that were used in investigations. So it
- 7 would have been covered within that, I believe.
- 8 Q. So you recall being introduced to the forms on
- 9 that initial training course?
- 10 A. Yeah, yeah, and the disclosure. Yeah.
- 11 Q. You did some study in 1999 and 2000, as part of
- 12 an NVQ level 4 in Investigation but you didn't
- end up completing that qualification; is that
- 14 right?
- 15 A. Yeah, I started it, I believe, when I was in
- 16 POID and my line manager was the assessor or
- 17 mentor, or whatever, but when I moved over to
- 18 CH -- Cash Handling and Distribution, CH&D,
- 19 there wasn't many investigations, so some of --
- you had to sort of covering certain aspects of
- an investigating role. So it sort of got
- 22 prolonged and then I got towards the end and it
- 23 never got sort of finalised, but --
- 24 Q. You then had some Cash Handling and
- 25 Distribution-specific training in the year 2000;

- 2 A. It would have been around then, yes.
- 3 Q. When you started in your role as
- 4 an Investigation Manager for the Post Office --
- 5 and so I think you say that was around three or
- 6 2004 --
- 7 A. I think so, yeah.
- 8 $\,$ **Q.** -- were you given any refresher training on
- 9 criminal investigation?
- 10 A. I don't believe so. I don't believe so.
- 11 **Q.** Could we have on screen, please, paragraph 10 of
- 12 Mr Knight's statement. That is page 7 of
- 13 WITN08290100.

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In the context of the role of Investigation

15 Manager, you say this:

"During this time, although I cannot recall exactly when, I attended Chesterfield Future Walk building to receive counter training. The training would have given a basic understanding of Horizon, ie how the system performed transactions, not data analysis. There was also a refresher course where we were tasked with working in the DMBs for 3 days during the Christmas period and again when we were tasked

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with covering strike action win the DMBs ..."

looked and assessed and reported, whether it pointed to or away from the suspect. Also, every line of inquiry that was reasonable would be followed. I would have been aware of this process through the policies that were in place and training that was provided although I can no longer remember the specifics."

So you are clear, are you, that you understood when you were an Investigator, that you had an obligation to pursue lines of inquiry which pointed away from the guilt of a suspect, as well as towards?

13 **A.** Yes.

14 Q. Going over the page, please, to paragraph 49.15 You say here:

"As mentioned previously in this statement the Investigator disclosure obligation would be by discharged by completing the various PO SEC disclosure forms, 006 A, B, C & D. I would have been aware of the disclosure forms from the policies that were in place although I can no longer remember the exact policy in place during my time in the team. I also received training when I joined the team as well as guidance from the Legal team."

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So those are directly managed branches?

2 **A.** Yes.

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Q. "... (possibly 2006 to 2008, I cannot recall
 exactly). We also received training on security

5 equipment at various times when I was within POL

6 as the role covered both investigative and

7 physical security. I also recall Cartwright

8 King giving specific training which covered

9 notebook use, interviewing and disclosure to

10 solicitors at interview."

The Cartwright King training you refer to here, is that the Cartwright King training which happened in 2013, which is addressed in a number of emails sent to you by the Inquiry for the purposes of preparing your statement?

16 A. I think it would be latterly, yes.

17 Q. You address at paragraphs 44 and 45 of your
18 statement the refresher training that you do
19 recall receiving dealing with interviews and
20 taking statements. Could we turn, please, to
21 page 18 of this statement, paragraph 47, and you
22 say this:
23 "Investigators had a duty to investigate

"Investigators had a duty to investigate a case fully. During an investigation any evidence/information that came to light would be

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You refer here to the Investigator disclosure obligations.

3 A. Mm-hm.

Q. Could we have on screen, please, a document provided to you by the Inquiry for the purposes of preparing your statement, which governs the disclosure of unused material to the defence. The document reference is POL00104762.

This document is dated May 2001, which we can see at the bottom and we can see from the title at the top that it refers to the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 Codes of Practice. Did you recognise this document when

it was sent to you by the Inquiry?
A. Yes, I did, the content of it. I don't know
whether it was this particular one as in the

17 date but, yeah, I recognised it.

18 **Q.** Do you think it was provided to you when you19 were an Investigator?

20 A. I would suggest it was available, yes, and21 provided.

22 Q. Under "Purpose", the document says this:

"The aim of this policy is to ensure that Security Managers know and understand the Investigation Procedures in relation to the

1	Disclosure of Unused Material as described in
2	the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act
3	1996 Codes of Practice, which must be adhered to
4	by all Consignia staff undertaking
5	investigations."
6	You refer in your statement to the Inquiry

You refer in your statement to the Inquiry to the Criminal Procedure and Investigations
Act, governing the conduct of your investigations. At the time you were an Investigator, were you aware of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act Code of

12 Practice?

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- 13 A. Yes, I believe it was -- I think it might have14 been a little book
- 15 Q. Were you aware that this applied to your work as16 an Investigator?
- 17 A. Yes
- 18 Q. The document explains in the "Introduction"19 that:

20 "The rules relating to the disclosure of 21 unused material to the defence are laid down in 22 the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 23 1996.

> "In light of the Human Rights Act 1998 the Attorney General has issued new Guidelines on 13

Do you recall that being the case, that the Investigator and the Disclosure Officer in a case were usually the same person?

- 4 A. Usually. There was only one Investigator in the5 case. So yes.
- 6 **Q.** You refer in your statement at paragraph 49,
 7 which we've looked at, to the disclosure forms
 8 which were completed by the Investigator. Did
 9 you understand, when you were an Investigator
 10 completing disclosure documentation, that you
 11 were acting as the Disclosure Officer in the
 12 case?
- 13 A. I don't know in those terms. I knew that they
 14 were to be completed. I guess, by its
 15 reference, that if I was disclosing it then
 16 I would be the Disclosure Officer but I wouldn't
 17 associate myself as that, I'd just be the
 18 Investigator providing those documents -19 completing those forms.
- Q. At the time, did you understand that the
 Disclosure Officer role was a distinct role over
 and above your role as an Investigator, which
 imposed on you additional and distinct duties?
- 24 A. I don't recall thinking that. I don't know.
- 25 Q. In terms of your training on the Horizon system,

the disclosure of unused material. The
 Guidelines clarify the responsibilities of
 Investigators, Disclosure Officers, Prosecutors
 and Defence Practitioners."

Were you aware at the time you were
 an investigator of the Attorney General's
 Guidelines on Disclosure?

8 A. I don't recall that specifically.

Q. It is not referenced in this document but were
 you aware of, and did you ever refer to, the
 Code for Crown Prosecutors?

12 A. I don't believe so.

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13 Q. Further down this page, we have the general
14 principles section with a section on
15 Investigators and Disclosure Officers. Then
16 over the page, please, the second paragraph on
17 this page says this:

"The Disclosure Officer is the person responsible for examining material retained during an investigation, revealing material to Legal Services during the investigation and any criminal proceedings resulting from it, and certifying to Legal Services that he has done this. Normally the Investigator and the Disclosure Officer will be the same person."

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we have looked on screen at paragraph 10 of your
 statement already. You deal in that paragraph
 with the counter training you received on the
 Horizon system. Do you recall the rollout of

5 the Horizon system?

6 A. I don't, no.

Q. Were you told, when you were trained on the
 Horizon system, about any Acceptance Incidents
 or technical problems with the system arising
 during the rollout?

11 A. No. The training was literally just seeing thescreen and using it to do little transactions.

Q. Were you ever given any training on Horizon from
 the point of view of an Investigator looking at
 Horizon data in the course of an investigation?

16 A. I don't believe there was specific training of17 looking at data.

18 Q. Turning, please, to the supervision there was of
 19 Investigators' work, could we have on screen,
 20 please, paragraph 24 of Mr Knight's statement.
 21 That is page 11 of the statement. You say here:

"The Inquiry has asked me what supervision there was over criminal investigations conducted by Security Managers. From what I recall

25 between 2004 to 2007 Senior Managers would view

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1 case papers that were submitted for legal advice 2 via our Casework Team and would add comments or 3 give advice to the Investigator. I believe this 4 then grew into the Case Compliance process. 5 This was a checklist setting out a list of 6 actions to ensure everything had been completed 7 correctly. In addition, during my latter years 8 as an Investigator there was a monthly Cases on 9 Hand meeting where Security Managers would 10 provide updates on their cases and what actions were needed. The team leaders would discuss and 11 12 come up back with any recommendations. In 13 general, I could always ask my team leader or 14 a peer for advice on a current investigation. 15 But my memory of how things changed over the 16 years is not complete."

> Should we take it from this that, at least within your team, Investigators would discuss their cases with each other?

- 20 A. Not in a formal -- there might be a mention of 21 a case. It wasn't a discussion about this case 22 and this was what happened. It might just be 23 a -- almost over a coffee type discussion.
- 24 Going back a page, please, to paragraph 23 of Q. 25 Mr Knight's statement. Here you address the

process for dealing with complaints about the 2 conduct of an investigation by the Security 3 Team, and you say this:

> "I am not sure of the process or if there was one. I would expect if an SPM had an issue with an investigation, they would raise it with their Contract Manager or the National Federation of SubPostmasters who would then follow up the issue with senior management in the Security Team."

This deals with subpostmasters. Do you know what the route or process was for Crown Office employees if they had an issue with an investigation? Those individuals, of course, would not have the benefit of the membership of the NFSP.

- 17 A. Potentially they would have their own union, the 18 UCW. So, it would be basically a union, 19 an equivalent union or, potentially, a line 20 manager, which would be the same sort of 21 structure as in the network.
- 22 Q. As far as you were aware, did Crown Office 23 employees, through any union or representative, 24 have any input into the policies and procedures 25 governing the investigation of Crown Office

1 employees?

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- 2 A. I don't believe so.
- 3 Q. Turning, please, to the involvement of 4 Investigators following an audit identifying 5 an apparent shortfall. Could we have on screen, 6 please, paragraph 29 of Mr Knight's statement, 7 that is page 13. You say here:

"In the early 2000s an Investigator was more likely to get called to an audit to enable them to approach the SPM and/or staff and arrange further enquiries. In later years this approach diminished as Auditors were instructed to write down any significant comments made by the SPM or staff. Auditors were trained in this and the fact that they should not solicit comments as they should not get into an interview scenario. This relates to adhering to PACE (cautioning someone before they were asked or if they were starting to admit to a crime)."

Were you aware of the practice of Auditors taking so-called admission statements from an SPM and getting them to sign it before the arrival of an Investigator?

24 I don't know if I was aware. I -- presumably 25 there must have been because I guess this is why

1 this was brought in. So -- I don't know how to 2 answer that, if I'm honest. I can't think of 3 any examples but I would assume that there must 4 have been something -- or I can't remember any 5 examples but I assume there must have been 6 something for this to have been implemented.

7 By "this", do you mean training of Auditors?

8 What do you mean by "this"? A. Sorry, yes. They called it a -- I think they 9

10 brought a form in and it was "Significant Comment". I forget the title of it. Notes --11

12 something of significant comment, and Auditors,

I believe, were -- I don't know who they were 13

14 trained -- I think they were possibly trained by

15 maybe some of the Security Team at team

16 meetings, or whatever, but there would be

something to give them details that, as it says 17

18 there, that they weren't to elicit -- you know,

19 get into a questioning scenario but if,

20 something was said to them, then they were to

21 write it down and get the person to sign it as

22 an agreed content.

23 Q. At paragraph 30, you deal with the circumstances 24 in which an investigation would take place, and 25 you say this:

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"In order to determine if an investigation was to take place, the information would be given to an Investigator by the Team Leader. It is my understanding that the decision would be made if the loss reached a threshold (from memory I think it was £5,000) or there was suspected/admitted dishonesty. If the matter was being dealt with by the Contract Team and there was no suspected criminality an investigation case would not be raised."

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You have used the word "or" between "the loss reaching a certain threshold" and there being "suspected/admitted dishonesty". Should the Chair understand from that that, where there was an apparent shortfall identified at audit, providing the amount met the threshold, there would be an investigation, regardless of whether there was suspected or admitted dishonesty?

18 Α. This wasn't my role to, you know, begin an investigation but I think there was some criteria. Like I say, £5,000, I think that was but I couldn't be certain of it. But I think there was certainly some sort of criteria involved but, again, it wasn't something that I would be doing. It was a Team Leader role.

1 Can have on screen please document reference 2 POL00126810. This is a copy of your CV from 3 a point in the past, I'm not sure exactly the 4 date of this document but you've seen this 5 before and were provided with a copy for the 6 purposes of preparing your statement. At the 7 top, you list a number of key achievements. The third bullet point down says this: 8

> "being the Lead Investigator in a number of cases where the employees have been found guilty after progressing an investigation to Court."

Was pressure ever placed on Investigators to increase the number of successful prosecutions?

- 14 Α. No. I don't see how it could be but, no, it 15 certainly wasn't, as far as I was aware.
- Q. Was your performance ever assessed by reference 16 17 to the number of cases where an individual had 18 been found guilty after an investigation was 19 progressed to court?
- 20 Α. No, not at all.
- 21 Q. Were bonuses or financial reviews ever linked to 22 the number of successful prosecutions achieved, 23 either by an individual Investigator or a team

24 of Investigators?

25 No. I don't believe so, no. Α.

Q. Going over the page, please, to paragraph 32, 1 2 about five lines up from the bottom of 3 paragraph 32, you say:

> "During the investigation of a case the decision as to what crime (Theft or False Accounting), if any, had been committed and the points to prove would have to be covered. The relevant information would be passed to the Legal Team who would have the final decision on whether a case should progress to court."

In terms of the culture of the Investigation Team, were investigations viewed as a fact-finding activity or were they seen instead as a form of prosecutorial support?

15 I would have to say the former, fact-finding, Α. 16 because I certainly, from experience, I can 17 recall interviewing somebody and realising that 18 this person wasn't either the suspect or there 19 was something else, so it was a start point.

20 Q. Looking at the wording there about points to 21 prove, were investigations seen as the vehicle 22 by which points were proved?

23 A. What I mean by that is the points to prove for 24 the offence. That would be to cover the mens 25 rea and actus reus, those points.

1 Q. Why was it that you considered it a professional 2 achievement to have been the Lead Investigator 3 in cases which led to guilty verdicts after 4 prosecution?

5 A. I don't -- well, it's obviously on my CV. 6 I don't recall when it was done. I'm guessing 7 at the time, ultimately, if you're investigating 8 a case and it went through to court and it had 9 been found guilty, you'd sort of done your job, 10 is only the way I can, you know, sort of explain 11 it.

12 Q. Could we have on screen, please, document reference POL00167241. This is an email from 13 14 Chris Card, whose role is described as Law 15 Enforcement and Performance Manager, if we can 16 scroll down a little, please -- at the bottom 17 there: Law Enforcement and Performance Manager 18 for Royal Mail Security.

> The email itself, going back up to the top, please, is dated 1 November 2011 and you are one of a long list of recipients. The email attached to it, if we can scroll down, please, showing the attachment, an Investigation Communication, "Investigation Communication 5".

Could we have that communication on screen,

1		please, the reference is POL00167242. This is	1	Q.	The Procedures & Standards document is referred
2		also dated 1 November 2011. It says it is	2		to in here but, reading the content of this
3		issued to "Royal Mail Letters Security	3		communication:
4		(Investigations)". Can you help with why it was	4		"The recovery of criminal assets and
5		being sent to Post Office Investigators?	5		business losses is of paramount importance to
6	SIR	R WYN WILLIAMS: Sorry, Ms Price, both those	6		Royal Mail Group Limited. This not only
7		documents on screen, I think, are dated 2010,	7		increases the deterrent effect of committing
8		not '11.	8		acquisitive crime it also makes complete
9	MS	PRICE: My apologies, sir. That is my	9		commercial sense. Accordingly, new Procedures &
10		misdescription. You're entirely right.	10		Standards dealing with the Recovery of Property
11	SIR	R WYN WILLIAMS: That's okay. I just want to be	11		Obtained Dishonestly, Compensation, Costs and
12		sure I had the right document, that's all.	12		Final Disposal of Case Exhibits have been
13	MS	PRICE: You entirely do, sir. My apologies.	13		published on the Royal Mail Security SharePoint
14		It's 2010.	14		site.
15		The "Issued to" lists "All Royal Mail	15		"Investigators should familiarise themselves
16		Letters Security (Investigations)". Can you	16		with the provisions of the new P&S and bring
17		help with why it was being sent to Post Office	17		them and the new forms into immediate effect."
18		Investigators?	18		The Procedures & Standards document referred
19	Α.	Hopefully I can, yes. Obviously, up until Royal	19		to in this investigation communication is at
20		Mail and Post Office Limited split in 2012	20		POL00104846. Could we have that on screen,
21		I believe it was, up until that time, so 2010,	21		please. We can see the title there "Recovery of
22		Royal Mail would have been the lead security	22		Property Obtained Dishonestly, Compensation,
23		investigation policyholder so they would have	23		Costs and Final Disposal of Case Exhibits, P&S
24		driven the policies and then disseminated it to	24		document 9.6", and the "Purpose" is:
25		everybody, as you've seen in that list.	25		"The aim of this document is to provide
		25			26
1		Investigators in Royal Mail Letters Security	1	A.	I don't know why it was worded like that or sent
2		with clear guidance on the procedure to be	2		like that.
3		adopted to ensure that the recovery of business	3	Q.	As an Investigator, did you ever feel any
4		assets dishonestly obtained is maximised and	4		pressure to use prosecutions as a means of
5		that appropriate applications are made for	5		recovery apparent losses from subpostmasters and
6		Compensation and Cost Orders at Court."	6		branch staff?
7		At paragraph 3.1, there is this:	7	Α.	No, no. Just on that one, branch staff well,
8		"The recovery of criminal assets and	8		yeah. Sorry, no. I was going to say branch
9		business losses is of paramount importance to	9		staff, if they have losses in branch, they don't
10		Royal Mail Group Limited. This not only	10		cover it but, if they were prosecuted
11		increases the deterrent effect of committing	11		potentially, yes, so I apologise.
12		acquisitive crime it also makes complete	12	Q.	
13		commercial sense. Accordingly Investigators	13	Œ.	reference POL00167366. This is an email from
14		must ensure that whenever possible offenders	14		Jane Owen to you and a number of others, and it
15		repay the value of any benefit acquired as	15		is dated 14 April 2010. The subject of the
16			16		·
17		a result of their criminality and any costs incurred by the business as a result of the	17		email is "Matters affecting case closures and failings", and it reads as follows:
					•
18		investigation or prosecution."	18		"Dear All
19		Do you recall reading this document now?	19		"Just a reminder that you need to ensure
20	Α.	I don't, I'm afraid, no.	20		that we are sent separate notifications for both
21	Q.	Do you recall there being any discussion about	21		the case closure and the failings.
22		why it was felt necessary to stress to	22		"There have been a couple of instances
23		Investigators that the recovery of criminal	23		whereby the failings have been included on the

24

25

assets and business losses is of paramount

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importance to Royal Mail Group?

closure document which has then been sent to

24

1	of the audience that receives the failings as
2	these are to identify improvements within the
3	business and not for sharing with the external
4	customer."

Do you recall the issue being raised in this email?

7 A. I don't, if I'm honest, no.

5

6

- 8 Q. Why would it have been a problem for secondary9 stakeholders to have been aware of failings
- 10 identified in the course of an investigation?
- 11 $\,$ **A.** The way I read that, and, presumably, if I read
- 12 it back then, would be because, obviously, the
- 13 Post Office conducts transactions on behalf of
- 14 numerous other stakeholders, so if there was
- 15 a failure in a product or a transaction of
- 16 a product, or something of that nature, that's
- 17 what I'm guessing what is being referred to.
- 18 Q. Was this reflective of a wider culture within
- 19 the Post Office to conceal failings from those
- 20 outside of the business?
- 21 A. I don't know.
- 22 Q. Could we have on screen, please, paragraph 33 of
- 23 Mr Knight's statement to the Inquiry, that is
- page 14. At paragraph 33 you say this:
- 25 "When I received a case for investigation
 - Credence data?
- 2 **A.** Yes.

1

- 3 Q. So you did that in all cases?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Before Credence data was available, what did you
- 6 rely upon?
- 7 A. I don't know. I don't know.
- 8 Q. Can you recall there being Horizon printouts
- 9 obtained by the Auditor printed from the counter
- 10 in a branch?
- 11 A. I do recall printouts. There was various
- documentation that is produced by a branch at
- various points, in a day, in a month, or
- 14 whatever.
- 15 Q. In general terms, did you consider that Credence
- 16 data was sufficient to evidence a loss to the
- 17 business?
- 18 A. I don't know whether it would evidence a loss.
- 19 It would just be sort of transactional data, as
- 20 I've said there, if there was something specific
- 21 you're looking for, it was transactional data.
- Nothing sort of stood out, per se.
- 23 Q. Where you had a report from an Auditor saying
- 24 what had been found in terms of cash and stock
- in a branch and that was being compared to

- 1 I would start by understanding the background,
- 2 including the audit result and why the audit had
- 3 taken place. Usually, the branch was targeted
- 4 for audit as the branch had come to the
- 5 attention of the Branch Analysis Team (BAT) due
- 6 to anomalies or concerns. For example, this may
- 7 be because the branch had not returned cash when
- 8 asked to do so or had complete suspicious
 - transactions such as a large number of reversals
- 10 or excess spoiled postage. I would also obtain
- 11 the last 3 months of Credence data to view the
- 12 updated data in relation to concerns raised by
- 13 BAT. If necessary, further archive data may
- 14 have been needed via the ARQ process."
- 15 You say here that you would obtain the last 16 three months of Credence data to view data 17 relating to concerns by the Branch Analysis
- 18 Team. First of all, what was the Branch
- 19 Analysis Team and where did it sit within the
- 20 structure of the business?
- 21 A. I think it sat in the FSC, the Finance Service
- 22 Centre, initially.
- 23 Q. In cases where the audit had taken place in the
- absence of any concerns being raised by the BAT,
- 25 would you obtain the last three months' of

30

- 1 Credence data about what the Horizon system said
- 2 should be in branch, in that context, did you
- 3 consider that the comparison between those two
- 4 things was sufficient to evidence a loss to the
- 5 business?
- 6 A. The audit would be the result. So they would do
- 7 their balance of what the Horizon system in
- 8 branch said should be there and they would count
- 9 it and if it was there or wasn't there. If it
- 10 wasn't there, obviously, there was a loss. The
- 11 Credence data was just the data of all the
- 12 transactions along the way. Obviously, there
- 13 was other data and the back office data, for
- 14 transfers and logging on and logging off and
- 15 suchlike. That was the data. So it wasn't used
- to verify the audit, if that makes sense.
- 17 Q. So from your perspective, the audit report
- 18 produced from the Auditor, was that the evidence
- 19 that you considered proved a loss to the
- 20 business?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. What guidance was given to Investigators to
- 23 assist them in obtaining Horizon data from
- 24 Fujitsu?
- 25 A. I just -- you could request it from the Security

- 1 Team, the archived data. So anything over three
- 2 months, obviously. You could request it from --
- 3 or they would request it on your behalf from
- 4 Fujitsu.
- 5 Q. You've referred to anything over three months.
- 6 Was that the only reason you would seek ARQ data
- 7 from Fujitsu, if you wanted to go further back
- 8 in time?
- 9 A. That was -- I guess so, yes.
- 10 Q. Could we have on screen, please, paragraph 57 of
- 11 Mr Knight's statement. That is page 22, please.
- 12 You say in the first sentence here:
- "When required, Credence data would morethan likely be used as that showed exactly the
- 15 same information as ARQ data."
- 16 Who told you that that was the case?
- 17 A. I don't know whether anybody told me that was
- 18 the case. I think it was -- I think it was
- 19 because it was transactional data, if that ...
- 20 Q. Were you aware, when you were an Investigator,
- 21 that the audit trail data held by Fujitsu
- 22 contained more information than in the standard
- 23 ARQ response?
- 24 A. Sorry, say that again?
- 25~ Q. Were you aware that there was additional data
 - 33
- 1 A. I don't know. I don't recall.
- 2 Q. Do you recall ever doing that?
- 3 A. I don't know -- no, I don't recall.
- 4 Q. Was this step ever taken before a decision was
- 5 made to prosecute?
- 6 A. I don't know.
- 7 Q. Was this step ever taken before a not guilty
- 8 plea was entered, to your recollection?
- 9 A. Again, I don't recall.
- 10 Q. Were you aware at the time that there was
- 11 a quota placed on audit request queries made of
- 12 Fujitsu?
- 13 A. I don't know. I'm aware now because of the team
- 14 I'm in, we manage that process. So I'm aware
- now. I don't know if I was aware then. I think
- 16 I probably was. I think there was made mention
- 17 of quotas but I don't think I could pinpoint
- 18 what it was at the time. But I think I was
- 19 aware.
- 20 Q. Was this something which you were ever conscious
- 21 of when deciding whether to seek further data
- 22 from Fujitsu?
- 23 A. No, I don't believe so.
- 24 Q. You say at paragraph 38 of your statement to the
- 25 Inquiry that NBSC call logs were requested to

- 1 held by Fujitsu, which contained more
- 2 information than you would find in a standard
- 3 ARQ response to a request?
- 4 A. I don't know, I can't recall.
- 5 Q. Were you ever made aware that an enhanced
- 6 interrogation of the audit trail could show when
- 7 a transaction or event had been performed by the
- 8 system?
- 9 A. There was transactional data and event data, if
- 10 that makes -- so one was the transaction and was
- sort of the front end, and the other one was the
- 12 back office. That's what I understand.
- 13 Q. Were you aware that others could perform
- 14 enhanced interrogation of audit data and find
- 15 more information, particularly when
- 16 a transaction or event had been performed by the
- 17 system?
- 18 A. I don't know if I was aware of that.
- 19 **Q.** Who was responsible for deciding whether to
- 20 retrieve Horizon data from Fujitsu?
- 21 A. I'd say the Investigator.
- 22 Q. Were there ever circumstances in which you would
- 23 request more detailed audit data from Fujitsu
- 24 before you interviewed a subpostmaster or branch
- 25 staff member?

- 1 understand if the branch had reporting issues
- 2 that related to the Inquiry. Would you request
- 3 NBSC call logs in all apparent shortfall cases
- 4 you dealt with?
- 5 A. Possibly not.
- 6 Q. In what circumstances would you?
- 7 A. Um ... I don't know. If somebody had been
- 8 querying something, if they thought they'd been
- 9 queried it, or just to check, I don't recall.
- 10 Q. In what circumstances would you request Horizon
- 11 helpline call logs in addition to the NBSC call
 - 12 logs?
- 13 A. I think that was probably -- I can't recall
- 14 doing it. Probably latterly, I would suggest.
- 15 I can't think -- sort of early, when I joined
- 16 POL.
- 17 Q. You say latterly. Why latterly?
- 18 A. I think there was -- just because that was --
- 19 I think that was sort of brought in towards --
- 20 I want to say latterly, probably 2010-ish,
- 21 around that way, I think.
- 22 Q. Turning, please, to the role of the Security
- 23 Team in relation to prosecution decisions.
- 24 Could we have on screen, please, paragraph 40 of
- 25 Mr Knight's statement to the Inquiry, which is

1		page 16. You say here:	1	Q.	Could we have, please, paragraph 56 of
2		"Once the Investigator had concluded the	2		Mr Knight's statement on the screen, please.
3		investigation or got to a point where legal	3		It's page 9 it's not page 9, my apologies.
4		advice was needed, the case file would be passed	4		It's page 22, paragraph 56. You say this:
5		to the Legal Team who would decide if a case was	5		"During my time in the Security Team before
6		to be taken to Court. The Designated Authority	6		the GLO, I do not recall an SPM, SPM assistant
7		Manager (DAM), a senior member of the Security	7		or Crown Office employee attributing a shortfall
8		Team, would give the final consent to continue	8		to problems with Horizon."
9		to prosecution."	9		Could we have on screen, please, document
10		Was the Designated Authority Manager the	10		reference POL00066743. This is a transcript of
11		same role as the Designated Prosecution	11		the interview with Peter Holmes on 19 September
12		Authority?	12		2008, for which you were a second officer, and
13	A.	Yes, I've probably called it the wrong name but,	13		this is one of the cases you address in your
14		yes.	14		statement. You were provided with the record of
15	Q.	Did an Investigator conducting the relevant	15		tape recorded interview for the purposes of
16		investigation have any input into the decision	16		providing your statement and you've more
17		as to whether someone should be prosecuted?	17		recently been provided with this transcript of
18	A.	No.	18		the tape. Have you had a chance to read through
19	Q.	Did it ever strike you as being inappropriate	19		it?
20		that a Senior Security Manager from the Security	20	A.	I believe I have, yes.
21		Team, which was responsible for conducting	21	Q.	It is just a full transcript, as opposed to the
22		initial investigations, was the one to give the	22		summary and partial transcription we find in
23		final consent to continue to prosecution?	23		a record of tape recorded interview.
24	A.	I never thought about it. It was just	24	A.	Right.
25		a process.	25	Q.	Could we go, please, to page 7. About halfway
		37			38
1		down the page, please, Robert Daily asks:	1		"Um, I suppose nine month ago for three
2		And your experience with Horizon, how would	2		month.
3		you how would you rate it?"	3		"So we're talking about the beginning of
4		Mr Holmes says:	4		this year? December?
5		"Very slow, um, it's okay it's an auditor's	5		"I'm not very good with times, but yes,
6		tool. Um, that particular one we had problems	6		possibly."
7		with because it was connected to a telephone	7		Mr Holmes, at this point in the interview,
8		line that also had the fax machine connected to	8		was raising some technical problems with the
9		it."	9		functioning of the system here, wasn't he?
10		Robert Daily says:	10	Α.	It seems that way.
11		"The one's that? Jesmond?	11	Q.	
12		Mr Holmes says:	12		document, and this Robert Daily again asking the
13		"At Jesmond [the branch]. And we had BT	13		questions. About two-thirds of the way down the
14		engineers in looking at the line, we had Horizon	14		page there, he says:
15		engineers in looking at the line. And	15		"Yeah. So what can you tell me about the
16		eventually we had to take the fax machine out,	16		shortage then?"
17		throw it away and get a new one in, provided by	17		Mr Holmes says:
18		Mr Canner. And now it seemed to work. But	18		"I have absolutely no idea.
19		there was a time when	19		"No idea?
20		"What, what", says Mr Daily.	20		"Absolutely no idea. Unless it's the
21		"It wasn't so slow it wasn't so good.	21		Horizon that's let us down. I I mean there's
22		People using cards just weren't getting	22		nobody in there storing 46,000, I haven't got
23		through."	23		it, it's not in my bank account. Um, I spent
24		Mr Daily says:	24		too many years in the police force seeing things
25		"Err, what period was that?	25		go wrong to start stealing money from anybody.

Um, I just -- I really do not know. 1 2 "Okay, [says Robert Daily]. Why is there 3 two cash declarations then? 4 "There was one in because I knew we were 5 showing short and I covered it up. 6 Mr Daley: "Covered what up?" 7 Mr Holmes: "The fact we were short in cash. 8 "By how much? 9 "... I can't remember ..." 10 So Mr Holmes here was offering, as a possible explanation, the shortage being 11 12 caused by the computer system, the computer 13 system letting them down, wasn't he? Yes, from reading that, on top of what he was 14 15 saying, it was slow and not very functional. 16 Q. Could we have on screen, please, document 17 reference POL00120627. This is a suspect 18 offender report sent by you to the Fraud Team 19 and to Graham Ward on 1 February 2009, relating 20 to the investigation of Scott Darlington. Next 21 to the "BRIEF summary of facts of the case", 22 there is this: 23 "Audit shortage, £40K. [Subpostmaster] told 24 auditors immediately that there would be a shortage. He said he was expecting TCs." 25

> see at the bottom it's from Jarnail Singh, Senior Lawyer, Criminal Law Division.

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Going back to the first page at the top, please. This is sent to Post Office Security and copied to you and Graham Ward, as well as the Press Office, and it is dated 2 March 2010. Mr Singh is reporting back on the outcome of the Darlington case, and he says this:

"The above named Defendant having pleaded Guilty to all 5 counts of false accounting at Chester Crown Court on 1 February 2010. He attended Chester Crown Court for sentence on 23 February. The prosecution was conducted by Deborah White and the defendant was also represented and the case was heard by His Honour Judge Dulton.

"On hearing the facts of the case His Honour Judge Dulton enquired whether there was an actual loss or whether the missing funds were the result of a 'glitch' in Royal Mail systems. Counsel for the defence maintained that he had pleaded on the basis that although there was a shortfall Mr Darlington was not responsible for it and had merely covered it up. Prosecution counsel requested a Newton Hearing 1 That's transaction corrections, isn't it?

2 A. Mm-hm.

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Q. Then under this, next to "BRIEF summary of admissions/denials made at interview":

5 "Admitted false accounting since first 6 shortage in September/October Trading Period. 7 Denied stealing -- adamant that it would be errors and TCs would come to light." 8

> So this subpostmaster was saying that the shortage was caused by errors and he expected transaction corrections to come to light. Is that a fair summary of what this document is saying?

14 A. Yes.

15 **Q.** Would you not categorise this as a subpostmaster 16 attributing a shortfall to the Horizon system?

17 No, I wouldn't. Not that. Errors to me -- and 18 TCs were errors, something that had occurred in 19 the branch by somebody making a mistake or, you 20 know, an error, not a technical Horizon 21 deficiency.

22 Q. Could we have on screen, please, document 23 reference POL00120600. This is a memo from 24 Jarnail Singh, if we can scroll down, please, to 25 the second page. Apologies, down again. You

1 to address the issue however having considered 2 the request His Honour Judge refused the 3 adjournment that the expense of the delay of 4 further investigation was unjustifiable and that 5 he proposed to proceed on the basis most 6 favourable for the defendant. As a result 7 Mr Darlington was sentenced on the basis that no 8 money was missing and His Honour Judge sentenced 9 as follows ..."

10 Then further down that page, the sentence is set out.

12 Do you recall being made aware that the 13 judge had queried in this case whether there was 14 an actual loss or whether instead there was 15 a glitch in the Royal Mail systems?

A. I believe I was but I think I was actually --16 17 I think I was actually in the -- not in the court but in the court building, I think, at the 18 19 time. But I don't remember the specifics like 20 that, and obviously to that but, yes.

Q. Did this cause you any concern at the time? 21

22 A. I don't think I sort of understood it, as such.

23 I think it was just something that was said

24 there. I don't know what a glitch, or however

25 it -- meant. Obviously, you know, hindsight and

1		where we are now, looking back, but, at the	1		always the audit.
2		time, I wasn't thinking of Horizon issues.	2	Q.	Could we have on screen, please, document
3	Q.	Can you recall if there was any discussion	3		reference POL00021244. This is the transcript
4		within the Security Team or with the Criminal	4		of the second tape from an interview which you
5		Law Team following this judicial comment?	5		conducted with Alison Hall on 28 September 2010,
6	A.	I don't believe I was if there was, I don't	6		some six months after the outcome in the
7		think I was party to it. I don't recall.	7		Darlington case had been communicated via that
8	Q.	Can you recall anyone suggesting there should be	8		correspondence we've just looked at.
9		a review of what had happened in this case?	9	A.	Mm-hm.
10	A.	No, I don't.	10	Q.	Again, you were provided with the record of tape
11	Q.	Were you ever trained or given instruction by	11		recorded interview for the purposes of preparing
12		the Criminal Law Team or anyone else at the Post	12		your statement and have more recently been
13		Office on proof of loss when relying on Horizon	13		provided with this transcript of the tapes.
14		data?	14		Again, have you had a chance to look through it?
15	A.	I would say not. As I said, previously, I think	15	A.	I've had a look through it, yes.
16		the loss was derived from an audit.	16	Q.	Could we go, please, to page 4 of this
17	Q.	Can you recall there being any discussion	17		transcript. About two-thirds of the way down
18		following this case of what would be required to	18		the page, you say this:
19		prove loss when Horizon data was being relied	19		"Right, so you're adamant that the £14,000
20		upon?	20		is nothing that you've done, criminally,
21	A.	I don't recall that.	21		fraudulently, however you want to put it."
22	Q.	Did the judicial comment in this case cause you	22		Alison Hall says:
23		to question your approach to proof of loss in	23		"I have not taken a penny out of that Post
24		any future cases?	24		Office, criminally. I wouldn't dare."
25	A.	I would say no because the process it was	25		You say:
		45			46
			4		
1		"It's something to do with some sort of	1		we'd been speaking about the Lottery. I don't
2		discrepancy."	2		say it would have been the Horizon system.
3		Mrs Hall says:	3		I don't think there was a discussion much about
4		"I think it's to do with discrepancy with	4	_	that.
5		the Lottery, and I'm hoping that we can come to	5	Q.	That comment from you about not wanting to "harp
6		the bottom of this."	6		on the subject" is not included in the record of
7		You say, "Right".	7		tape recorded interview that we've got. Do you
8		Mrs Hall says:	8		know why that is?
9		"I will pay any money back, what's owed to	9	Α.	I don't know. I would suggest when I was
10		Post Office Limited. I am not a thief. I will	10		if presumably I did this summary, that that
11		pay anything back, but I just want all this to	11	_	wasn't a significant comment or anything.
12		be looked at in detail, and because Horizon	12	Q.	Mrs Hall was telling you that the Horizon system
13		system's not 100%, if I've got all the details	13		was not 100 per cent and asking for that to be
14		here. I'd like that to, um, be taken into	14		taken into account. Do you accept that Mrs Hall
15		account, please."	15		was directly raising Horizon integrity issues in
16		You say:	16		her interview?
17		"Right, and that's fine. I understand that,	17	Α.	Looking at it now, looking back, but, at the
18		and like I said, I, you know, I don't want to	18		time, I don't think I took that as great
19		harp on the subject. Yes, you have given me	19		substance. Just it was just it just
20		some details."	20		seemed there, because Horizon not 100 per cent.
21		Why did you not want to "harp on the	21		Lots of computers, you might say, you know, like
22		subject" of the problems with Horizon being	22		the one previously, if it's slow, or whatever it

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reported by Mrs Hall here?

A. I don't think I was relating to the Horizon

problem. I think I was just relating to that

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25 **Q.** Could we have on screen, please, document 48

not 100 per cent.

might be, it's what the context is of why is it

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1	reference POL00091063. This is the report for
2	the Criminal Law Team which you produced
3	relating to Mrs Hall's case after interviewing
4	her. If we go, please, to the last page of that
5	document, maybe the penultimate page forgive
6	me. If we go back two pages, and again, and to
7	the bottom of that page, please, and that's the
8	last page of that document with your name and
9	the date of the report. That's 18 October 2010.

- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Have you had a chance to read through this12 document recently?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. In this report, you recounted the parts of the15 interview, if we can go, please, to page 2.
- 16 Without going through line by line, you set out
- 17 the parts of the interview with Mrs Hall where
- she raised issues relating to the Lottery
- 19 scratchcards but, having looked through this
- 20 a number of times, I can't find any reference to
- 21 Mrs Hall's request that the matter be looked at
- in detail because Horizon was not 100 per cent.
- Do you agree that that isn't in your report?
- 24 A. Yes, yes.

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25 **Q**. Why didn't you include that in your report?

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1 of where we are now but, back then, again, as 2 I said, that comment about not 100 per cent, 3 I wouldn't have taken that as something that was 4 fundamentally wrong with the system. And the 5 other bits and pieces, you said about the 6 glitch, I don't recall ever being given the full 7 explanation of, you know, what glitches and 8 whatever there was. 9

Q. Could we have on screen, please, document reference POL00055783. This is an email from Rob Wilson to Dianne Chan, prosecution counsel, copied to you. It is dated 17 November 2010 and it relates to Mrs Henderson's case. The email reads as follows:

"Dianne, have received a defence statement today despite the telephone conversation yesterday. A hard copy has been put in the post today.

"At point 2 the Defence allege that any discrepancy was as a result of the Horizon system. There is also a challenge to the initial missing figure of £18,000 which was reduced according to the Defence statement in a matter of minutes. The statement also maintains that further investigation by the

A. I guess I didn't take it as a comment. She was
 talking about scratchcards and Lottery, and
 that's what I was sort of focused on.

Q. By the time you completed this report, you were
aware of at least two cases of subpostmasters
raising issues to do with Horizon: Mr Holmes'
case that we've looked at and Mr Darlington's
case. You were also aware of the judge's
comments in the Darlington case.

You were aware at the time, weren't you, that the advice given by the Criminal Law Team on charging and prosecution decisions was based on the information contained in an Investigator's report to them; were you aware

16 **A.** Yes.

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17 Q. It was this document which the Criminal Law Team
 18 considered when assessing whether any further
 19 investigation was needed as well, wasn't it?

20 A. I presume so, yes.

of that?

Q. Would you accept, therefore, that it was
 important for your report fully to reflect any
 and all reasonable lines of inquiry raised by

24 Mrs Hall in interview?

25 **A.** I would concede that viewing this and in light

auditor 'would have discovered the whereaboutsof the alleged missing sum'."

Mrs Henderson had, by this point, made it part of her pleaded case that any discrepancy was as a result the Horizon system, hadn't she?

6 **A.** I believe the defence statement mentioned 7 that -- not during the interview, I think it was 8 the defence statement, I believe. I might be 9 corrected on that but ...

10 Q. Indeed. This email is telling you that
11 a defence statement received that day contained
12 an allegation that the discrepancy was as
13 a result of the Horizon system, and you were
14 being told about this, weren't you, in this
15 email from Mr Wilson?

16 **A.** Yes.

17 Q. Could we have on screen, please, document
18 reference POL00169422. This is an email from
19 Jane Owen to you and others. It is dated
20 18 January 2011. The subject line is "Urgent
21 update required", and Ms Owen's email reads as
22 follows:

23 "Dear All

"Can I please ask for your help urgently.
I have been asked to provide an update on the
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attached cases where Horizon integrity has come 1 1 puts it. On my count, this spreadsheet lists 20 2 2 into question and need the information by cases. Mr Darlington's case is one of these. 3 3 tomorrow. Do you accept that by January 2011, when 4 4 Ms Owen sent this email, you were aware that "I have checked against the spreadsheet but 5 am unable to cover off the 'gaps' which are 5 there were at least 20 cases where Horizon 6 namely 6 integrity had come into question? 7 "Court case details 7 A. Yes, I would have to say that viewing this, but 8 8 I don't know at the time if I was -- if that "Result 9 "Accused's defence (exactly). 9 had -- had comprehended that. 10 "Could you either add into the spreadsheet 10 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Well, the email is pretty using bright pink font as I have done in the 11 straightforward in its terms, Mr Knight. 11 12 recoveries column or just pop updates on A. Yes, sir, it's -- I understand what the email, 12 13 an email and I will collate. 13 and this sheet -- I -- again, I don't know. 14 "Many thanks." 14 I've got no response for it. 15 Ms Owen attached a spreadsheet. Could we SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Would I be fair if I concluded 15 16 have that on screen, please. The reference is 16 that, if you had read that email, you must have 17 POL00169423. 17 understood that the attachment contained 20 18 Just scrolling through this spreadsheet, if 18 cases where Horizon integrity issues had been 19 we're able to. we can see a number of cases 19 raised? 20 listed and, four columns in, column D, we see 20 A. Yes, I would say that's a reasonable assumption. 21 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Thanks. the Post Office branch being listed, with some 21 22 information relating to each of those cases --22 MS PRICE: Sir, I wonder if that might be 23 A. Mm-hm. 23 an appropriate moment for the morning break. 24 Q. -- which are said to be ones where Horizon 24 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Yes. 25 integrity has come into question, as Ms Owen MS PRICE: If we could take 15 minutes, please. 1 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Well, let's say 11.40, is it? 1 Talking Retail. Just scrolling down, please, 2 MS PRICE: 11.40, sir, thank you. 2 that's the bottom of the email, but we've got 3 (11.23 am) 3 the title there "Horizon challenges" of that 4 (A short break) 4 email. 5 5 (11.40 am) Did you understand those Horizon challenges 6 MS PRICE: Hello, sir, can you see hear us? 6 to be challenges to the integrity of the Horizon 7 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Yes, thank you. 7 system when you sent that email? 8 MS PRICE: Mr Knight, in light of the answers you 8 I don't recall, obviously, what the content of 9 gave us before the break, I'd like to go to one each one of those articles was but I knew that 9 10 further document and the reference is 10 there was a growing media -- as those, you know, POL00325402. 11 11 a talking point, a topic or whatever. But, 12 This top email is from you to Steve Bradshaw 12 again, in comparison with what the business was 13 dated 4 February 2010, forwarding the email 13 saying, I think that was probably my point, that 14 below which is the subject "Horizon challenges". 14 we were told that everything is fine, that -- we 15 If we can go, please, to the email below, this 15 weren't told anything different but there was 16 is you to Andy Hayward, Iain Murphy, Andrew 16 this under current. 17 Daley and Jason Collins. "Horizon challenges", 17 Q. In terms of what you say in your statement at 18 18 paragraph 56, that you do not recall an SPM, SPM you say: 19 assistant or Crown Office employee attributing "Gentlemen. 19 a shortfall to problems with Horizon, is that 20 "Further to my remark in my previous email. 20 21 "Regards, 21 not exactly what this is: an email about 22 "CK." 22 subpostmasters attributing shortfalls to

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Horizon?

A. It is, again, from where we are today, looking

back -- but, again, at the time, my viewpoint

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You seem to be providing links there

underneath to various articles and resources

including Computer Weekly, The Grocer, BBC,

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(14) Pages 53 - 56

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1 2		would have been one of what the business was saying and any sort of challenges, you know, to
3	_	Horizon that had been upheld.
4	Q.	So is paragraph 56 of your statement wrong, in
5		that case?
6	Α.	I don't know if it's wrong. I don't know how
7		how I'm interpreting this information. I'm
8		going by what I sort of believed at the time,
9		and what the message was, the overarching
10		message, I should say, from the business that
11	_	everything was okay.
12	Q.	We'll come in due course to the business message
13		but could we have on screen, please, document
14		reference POL00167369. This an email from
15		Graham Ward to a list of recipients, including
16		you. It is dated 14 April 2011, and the subject
17		line is "Credence v Fujitsu" and Mr Ward says
18		this in his email:
19		"All
20		"If anyone has any evidence of disparities
21		between Fujitsu and Credence transaction data,
22		please get in touch (eg timing issues
23		session numbers not matching for postage label
24		transactions etc).
25		"Ta muchly." 57
		O1
4	^	This should shouldn't have led you to
1	Q.	This should, shouldn't it, have led you to
2		question the reliability of the Credence data
3		you were relying on to prove loss, where you
4		hadn't requested further data from Fujitsu? Yes, looking at this in its you know, in the
5	Α.	sentence, yes. What those disparities were,
6		•
7		it's given some examples of timing issues,
8 9		session numbers not matching. I don't know if
		they would have affected the reliability of the data. I don't know.
10 11	^	
11	Q.	Could we have on screen, please, document
12		reference POL00107683. This is a report to
13		Legal Services which was produced by Stephen
14 15		Bradshaw on 18 April 2011, four days after
15 16		Mr Ward's email about Credence data versus
16 17		Fujitsu data. It relates to a case where you
17 18		sat in on an interview as a second officer. Could we have page 3 of this report, please.
18 19		
		About halfway down the page is a heading
20 21		covering the interview, with Ms Threlfall.
21 22		Underneath, Mr Bradshaw says this: "At 12.13 am I interviewed Mrs Rita
22 23		Catherine Threlfall at the Liverpool North
20		Oddienine Thiendi at the Liverpool North
24		Delivery Office Present throughout the

interview was Mr Christopher Knight Fraud

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1 What was your understanding of why this 2 enquiry was made of you? 3 A. I don't honestly recall the email, or -- the email -- the question. Reading it there, 4 I don't -- just discrepancies between the 5 6 Fujitsu and the Credence data, so ... 7 Q. On its face, it suggests there was an issue being investigated by Mr Ward of a disparity 8 9 between the transaction data shown on Credence 10 and the data held by Fujitsu, doesn't it? 11 A. Yes, I guess it does, from the -- on the face of it, yes. 12 13 Q. That would be potentially very significant, 14 would it not, where Investigators like you understood the Credence data to show exactly the 15 16 same information as ARQ data? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Did this concern you at all at the time or can 19 you simply not remember? 20 A. I don't -- I don't recall, I'm afraid. 21 Q. Looking at it now, would it have concerned you 22 at the time? 23 A. With hindsight, and everything that's gone on 24 subsequently, I think it would have made me 25 think, yes. 58 Investigator." 2 Then two paragraphs down, Mr Bradshaw 3 explains that a pre-prepared statement was read 4

Then two paragraphs down, Mr Bradshaw explains that a pre-prepared statement was react out in the interview by the legal representative in attendance and the content of that statement is then set out towards the bottom of that page and over to the next page. Going over to the next page, please, the third paragraph down:

"She then explained the type of transactions performed when she took over the branch, the contact she had with Post Office Limited and that she used to perform a weekly balance and that mistakes could readily [be] found."

Then going down four paragraphs, please, the paragraph starting "She then said":

"She then said that the system upgrades started to be implemented and that she did not know how these upgrades affected the balances. She told to leave the computer switched on.

"She said that when there were discrepancies it was difficult to get a result from the transaction log and she received a printed message stating 'no transaction found'.

"She then said that monies were placed to make good the supposed cash shortages due to

discrepancies becoming increasingly difficult to uncover. She said that on the balance snapshot the figures show an amount defined as cash and this fixed is meant to equal the declared cash and that for some considerable time these figures at her office differed greatly."

She sets out a number of other issues below and then, over the page, please, the second paragraph:

"She denied stealing any Post Office monies or false accounted and that she had received no assistance from Post Office Ltd. If these losses had happened at her office, then they must be happening at many more offices."

This is another example, is it not, of a subpostmaster, in an interview you were present at, attributing shortfalls to the Horizon system?

19 Α. Yes. it is.

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20 Q. Could we have on screen, please, document 21 reference POL00323734. This is an email chain 22 containing emails sent between you and Neil 23 Thorneycroft on 24 May 2011, a little over 24 a month after Mr Ward's email about Credence 25 data versus Fujitsu data. Can you explain,

1 a phantom."

> Then your response to Mr Thorneycroft is at the top, and you say this:

"Neil.

"Thanks. I hope it won't go to court either.

"I have heard she is blaming Horizon now ...!!!!"

There is no way of characterising Mrs Hall's position in this case other than she was attributing shortfalls to the Horizon system, is

- 13 A. It was around the Lottery -- she was saying it 14 was Lottery and I tried to, you know, get to the 15 bottom of that and it didn't seem it was
- 16 Lottery.
- 17 Q. But you're saying here, as a separate issue, aren't you, "I have heard she is blaming Horizon 18 now"? 19
- 20 Α. Yes.
- You were fully aware of that position at the 21 22 time because it's said, in terms, in this email,
- 23 weren't you?
- 24 Α. It's what, sorry?
- 25 You were fully aware that she was attributing

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1 please, who Mr Thorneycroft was?

2 Α. He worked in the Finance Service Centre on the 3 Lottery Team.

4 Q. The emails relate to Mrs Hall's case and starting, please, towards the bottom of the 5 6 page, you email Mr Thorneycroft attaching 7 a statement you put together for him from 8 previous notes about the case.

9 Just pausing there, was it usual for you to 10 prepare draft witness statements for court for 11 witnesses?

It would be, yeah, to go through it because 12 A. 13 the -- obviously, a member of staff wouldn't 14 know how to complete a witness statement, so it 15 would go through and then obviously he would 16 check that everything is correct that's been put 17

Q. Mr Thorneycroft's email replies in the middle of 18 19 the page, and he says this:

20 "Hi Chris.

21 "Made a few amendments. I'm no longer 22 working as the Lottery Team manager, I've gone 23 back to my previous PO role.

> "I hope this won't go to court. The perceived Lottery discrepancy was a bit of 62

1 shortfalls to the Horizon system because you 2 have said in terms that that is the case in this

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4 A. I think I must have heard it from Legal 5 Services.

7 those responsible for the Lottery and we've seen 8 the interaction here with Mr Thorneycroft but did you make any enquiries of Fujitsu or anyone 9 10 else within Post Office to explore Mrs Hall's 11 assertion that Horizon was not 100 per cent?

Q. In Mrs Hall's case you made some enquiries of

A. I believe I asked -- I got call logs, if she'd 12 13 reported any Lottery issues. I don't think 14

there was any Lottery calls to the helpline.

15 Q. So what --

A. But, no --16

17 Q. -- you were looking for was Lottery calls?

Yes, I was focused on the Lottery. 18

Is it the case that when you made your statement 19 20 and you say you don't recall cases where people 21 were attributing shortfalls to Horizon, is the

22 reason that you didn't recall that you didn't

23 treat the concerns raised as being significant? 24 That's probably a good explanation. I think it

25 was there was no -- I had no background on what

1		the claims were. And, obviously and I know
2		you said you're going to get on to it but
3		obviously what the business was saying. So that
4		was probably my thoughts on it.
_	_	Mandal variations and many theat variations and object

- Q. Would you accept now that you were undulydismissive of the concerns which were being
- 7 raised about the integrity of the Horizon
- 8 system?

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- 9 A. Probably looking at it now, on the information
 10 I had then, I was unaware, I would suggest, with
 11 all the other information, as we said, about the
- business and such like. So yeah, in hindsight.Q. Do you accept that, at least in Mrs Hall's case,
- by not exploring concerns about Horizon, you
- failed to pursue a reasonable line of inquiry?
- A. Again, I say, I was going with the Lottery, so,
 in essence -- in view of that, I would have to
 concede to that, I'd suggest.
- Q. Could we have on screen, please, page 40 of
 Mr Knight's statement paragraph 116. In the
 first sentence at 116 you say this:

22 "I do not recall being aware of any robust challenges to Horizon (other than the GLO)."

What do you mean by "robust challenges to Horizon"?

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but I can't recall them exactly. But it was
an overarching message, you know, that the
system was fine, and the -- this -- you know,
these -- as I say, these claims, or whatever,
were not an issue. Just that seemed to be -that was the message.

- 7 Q. You've mentioned John Scott. Was the message
 8 coming from outside of the Security Team as
- 9 well?
 10 A. I think it was. I think it was. I can't recall
 11 who it was but I think it was other senior, you
- know, managers, who probably had an awareness of what our team did and the business.
- 14 Q. Can you recall what level within the business15 you're talking about?
- 16 A. I think it would have been more senior people,17 you know, it would have been senior -- I guess
- 18 on a level with Mr Scott or potentially more --
- 16 of a level with wir Scott of potentially more -
- 19 higher. I can't recall exactly but it just
- seemed to be that that was the message.
- Q. Did you ever question the party line, given the
 mounting number of cases which you were aware
- 23 of, where Horizon integrity was being raised?

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- 24 A. No, is the answer to that.
- 25 Q. Do you think you should have?

1 A. Robust challenges where something had been shown

2 as Horizon was -- had failed or something had

3 been thrown out, you know, completely by

- Horizon, or some message or something had come
- 5 through. Obviously, the GLO was the big piece.
- 6 So I think I was basing it on that type of level
- 7 of detailed information.
- 8 Q. But, in the context of criminal prosecutions,9 isn't that the wrong way round? It is for the
- 10 prosecution to prove the guilt of someone, not
- 11 for them to prove their innocence?
- 12 A. Yes, that ...
- 13 **Q.** You go on:

"I dealt with a number of people who
admitted their dishonesty and so the integrity
of Horizon was not at the forefront of my mind.
The business message was consistent that Horizon
was robust so there was never any doubt in my
mind."

Who was the business message that Horizonwas robust coming from?

A. It was obviously within our Security Team, you
 know, John Scott, and it was -- it just seemed
 to be the business message. I think there was
 other people, other Senior Managers, you know.

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1 A. I think that email you showed where I sent the

2 four links, I think that was my point of seeing

3 these things and being -- you know, passing it

4 on. But, as for challenging the business ethos,

5 I don't know how I would have done that and I've

6 certainly -- I wouldn't have done that, and

7 I didn't, obviously.

- 8 Q. Regardless of what the business message was, you
- 9 were under a duty as an Investigator to pursue
- 10 reasonable lines of inquiry, weren't you?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 **Q.** What was a reasonable line of inquiry was your13 call, wasn't it, nobody else's?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. So would you accept that reassurance from thebusiness about Horizon could not have justified
- 17 a decision not to pursue an otherwise reasonable
- 18 line of inquiry?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Could we have on screen, please, document
- 21 reference POL00141218. This is an email from
- Andrew Daley, dated 5 July 2010, forwarding to
- you and others an email from Jane Owen below,
- 24 dated 2 July 2010, and there are a number of
- other emails beneath hers. The subject is

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"Duplication of Transaction Records in ARQ Returns", and this is a document you comment on at paragraph 61 of your statement to the Inquiry.

Ms Owen's email reads as follows, scrolling down a little, please:

"Dear Both ..."

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The original recipients being Jason Collins and Andrew Daley:

"Please see email below from Penny Thomas.

"Mark, Alan Simpson and myself have had a conference call today to look at potential problems that this is likely to cause. Firstly the suggested workaround will need to be put to our Legal Team and until that has been agreed any further ARQ requests, including those which have already been submitted, will be suspended.

"There are 2 cases currently with the court -- West Byfleet and Porters Avenue and I will speak to Lisa and Jon about these as we need to know what in the way of ARQs and the corresponding statements have been presented to court. In addition I have identified the following offices from the casework spreadsheet as ones that potentially could have already had

subpostmasters were raising concerns about the integrity of the Horizon system, did it occur to you, looking at this, that they might be right, that there might be a problem, not just with the ARQ data produced to support prosecutions but with the integrity of the Horizon data itself?

Probably not. Again, I'm going back to thinking back then, not from, you know, hindsight. And this was an ARQ -- potentially an ARQ issue but the Horizon data was -- you know, its integrity was intact. I think that was the thought.

Q. I'd like to go back, please, to your involvement in the investigation and prosecution of Allison Henderson and we touched on an email about that case earlier.

Could we have on screen, please, paragraph 79 of Mr Knight's statement to the Inquiry. It's page 29. At paragraph 79, you say this:

"In order to progress the investigation, the next step was to interview Ms Henderson. The timing of the interview is down to the Lead Investigator. It was standard procedure to have a second officer at all interviews. In this case it was my colleague Mr Paul Whitaker.

information presented to the court. Could you please confirm whether or not this is the case and also whether there are any I have missed as Fujitsu will need to take corrective action."

On the face of things, this email is 6 expressing concern, is it not, that inaccurate data may have been presented to the court in 8 support of prosecutions?

9 A. Yes, it is, ARQ, yeah.

Q. Was it your understanding, based on what you say 10 11 in your statement, that the issue affected the integrity of ARQ data provided by Fujitsu? 12

13 That's what I put in my statement. That's --14 I don't recall this but that's, I think, how 15 I understood it, that when it was -- yeah, 16 however it was taken off the main system, that 17 something had happened with the duplication.

18 Q. Did this concern you or, if you can't recall, 19 would it have concerned you at the time that 20 incorrect data might have been provided to the 21 court in support of prosecutions brought by the 22 Post Office?

23 A. Well, yeah, any -- anything that's not correct, 24 yeah.

25 Q. In circumstances where an increasing number of

I can see that in Ms Henderson's witness statement she states, 'I was allowed to bring my Federation rep, but he was not allowed to speak during the interview'. As part of PO rules a person being interviewed can have someone from the union present. This is only to act as an observer. They are told at the start of the interview of their role. They may be permitted to speak if it helps facilitate the interview."

Can you help with the circumstances in which it might facilitate the interview if a union representative was allowed to speak? I'm having -- relating an occasion, trying to explain -- if I'm trying to talk about

15 a transaction or something like that, and maybe 16 I'm not explaining it how the postmaster would 17 understand it, and maybe if the Federation rep 18 can sort of see past my confusion or whatever,

19 is to just facilitate it.

20 Q. You go on at paragraph 80 to say this:

21 "Disclosure would only be made to 22 a solicitor not the suspect so that the 23 solicitor could advise their client."

> Do you mean by this that pre-interview disclosure would only be provided if someone was

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		The Post Off
1		represented by a solicitor?
2	A.	Yes, we would only give the disclosure to
3		a solicitor.
4	Q.	Who was it who instructed or trained you to the
5		effect that pre-interview disclosure should only
6		be made if someone was legally represented?
7	A.	I believe that's how I understood it to be:
8		disclosure for the solicitor.
9	Q.	What was the reasoning behind this?
10	A.	Just so they could advise their client.
11	Q.	Forgive me, what was the reason for not
12		providing it, if there wasn't a solicitor?
13	A.	Probably mainly probably because we were
14		talking about something that person would
15		already know, I guess. I don't know.
16	Q.	Mrs Henderson's position in interview was that
17		she did not know what the cause of the apparent
18		shortfall was and that it was a complete shock
19		to her when the shortage was found on audit. In
20		effect, she was saying the cause of the apparent
21		shortfall was unexplained. Would you agree with
22		that, having that the opportunity to read the
23		documents?
24	A.	Yeah, yeah.
25	Q.	The interview took place on 11 March 2010. That
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1	Q.	Could we have on screen, please, paragraph 75 of
2		Mr Knight's statement. It's page 28. You say
3		here:
4		"In this case I was what was known as the
5		1st Officer or Lead Investigator. Various data
6		would have been obtained from Credence, which
7		gives the same data as ARQ but is immediately
8		accessible to download rather than having to
9		request from Fujitsu. Credence data covers the
10		3-month period prior to the current date. It's
11		also easier to read than the ARQ data as the
12		'Item Long name' is shown rather than just
13		an item ID. From Credence you can obtain
14		transactional data and event data (back office
15		items)."
16		So the data you obtained in this case was
17		Credence data not ARQ data; is that right?
18	A.	That's correct, yes.
19	Q.	Could we have on screen, please, POL00047155.

This is a memo from Rob Wilson. If we can go to

the bottom of that, please, and over the page,

so we see Rob Wilson, Head of Criminal Law.

please, it's dated 25 March 2010, and

Going back to the top of the first page,

Mr Wilson's memo, which is sent to the Security

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1 was nine days after Jarnail Singh had reported 2 to you and others the result of the Darlington 3 case with the judicial comment we looked at. 4 Mrs Henderson was someone apparently completely in the dark about the reasons for a shortfall. 5 6 Did occur to you at the time, with what you knew 7 by that point, that the Horizon data you were relying on might be wrong? 8 A. No. It didn't. 9 10 Q. Did you consider that you were under any 11 obligation to get to the bottom of the shortfall? 12 13 Yes, that's -- you're always looking to 14 understand what it was. 15 Q. You've had an opportunity to look at the record 16 of interview in Mrs Henderson's case. Your 17 questions in interview tend to suggest you were 18 convinced that Mrs Henderson was guilty of 19 theft. By way of example, you told her it was 20 difficult to believe she did not know what 21 happened to the money. Is that the case, that 22 you were convinced she was guilty of theft? 23 A. I believe she -- well, yeah -- of theft, 24 I believe she knew something that what she 25 wasn't telling me, but ...

Team and copied to you, reads as follows: "I understand from the papers that an audit discovered a shortage of just in excess of £11,900 at a sub post office that was only open on a limited basis. "I also understand from the papers that

whilst the suspect would maintain that she was unaware of the loss, the suspicion is that when she completed the branch trading statement on 6 January 2010 she would have been aware of the loss. Could you explain to me why she would have been aware of the loss? I note there is reference to a table in Appendix B which leads to the suspicion that she knew of the loss. I am not able to understand why it shows that she would have been aware that the accounts were short on that occasion.

"Presumably, we would be able to interrogate Horizon and establish a full accounting pattern for the sub office to show all transactions that were conducted and therefore how much money was paid out, how much was received in remittances and therefore how much should have been present in the account.

"Accordingly, I would like to understand how

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it is that we can pinpoint where this loss occurred. You may think it sensible at this stage, bearing in mind it is most unlikely that she will plead guilty that we start to put together full witness [statement] and exhibit bundles."

You replied to Mr Wilson on 20 April 2010. Could we have this reply on screen, please? It's POL00044501. You say here:

"I believe that Mrs Henderson would have been aware of the shortage on 6 January 2010 when she completed the Branch Trading statement as a discrepancy was shown in the Horizon Events log.

"I have spoken to a manager at the Crown Office and she couldn't understand why such a large figure had been entered. She confirmed that the 'CASH' figures would have been entered manually and then the system produces the Discrepancy Positive or Negative entry. It would appear very strange that an 'error' was £20 different to the audit shortage discovered 4 weeks later.

"Circumstantial possibly but Mrs Henderson hasn't been able to offer an explanation."

"In my opinion the evidence is sufficient to afford a realistic prospect of conviction of the above named on a charge of theft as set out on the attached Schedule. I have not drafted a commencement date in the theft as I am not clear when we are saying the losses started. Can you fill in such a date and explain to me your rationale for relying on this particular date.

"Bearing in mind Mrs Henderson's explanation in relation to the loss, it does not seemed appropriate to consider false accounting charges. It would be helpful if we could obtain some evidence to refute the possibility that the money she alleges must have gone missing was not, in fact, in the account during the last accounting period prior to the audit."

He requests some further evidence in this memo. Going over the page, please, at 4 he says:

"Reference is also made in the report at page 27 to the initial entry for £6,967.28. The paragraph goes on to explain that the other cash figure of 11,970.69 was probably a discrepancy shown which has been re-input to achieve a zero

Then two paragraphs down, you say this:

"If Mrs Henderson is to be believed and the
BT was correct on 6 January 2010 she lost nearly
£12K in 5 weeks to 10 February 2010. Then
factor in that she is open two full days and two
half days, so in essence three (3) full days.
The £12K loss has occurred in 15 days. The
largest transaction in that period was a Post
Office Card Account withdrawal for £400."

Just above that, we can see your sentence

"I hope you feel we can continue with charges(s) of theft and false accounting."

14 Was it usual for you to express hope that
 15 the Criminal Law Team would advise in favour of
 16 charges?

17 A. I think that's probably badly written on my
 18 part, for how it comes across. I think it was
 19 more of a -- that I've answered your questions
 20 and we can progress. It wasn't anything
 21 malicious or anything of that nature.

Q. Could we have on screen, please, POL00047159.
 This is the Criminal Law Team's advice dated
 24 21 May 2010 from Rob Wilson, who says this in
 the first two paragraphs:

balance. Could this theory also be explained in the form of a witness statement producing all documents that establish the theory. In other words, the prosecution really need to try to prove that the thefts in this case took place over a period of time in circumstances where the defendant must be the thief as she is the only person who has access to the cash at the Post Office."

A further memo was sent by Mr Wilson on the 19 August 2010. Could we have that on screen, please. It's POL00055189. This is sent direct to you and it reads as follows:

"The above-named entered a not guilty plea in relation to the current charge. The charge has been amended to read between 1 January 1997 and 10 February 2010. Clearly, this cannot be the full period of the fraud and no doubt some indication as to the beginning date will be given in due course.

"The prosecution are now required to prepare the witness [statement] and exhibit bundles and serve the disclosure evidence. I would be grateful if the statements as outlined in my advice of 21 May could be obtained. In addition

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1	to those statements, it would be helpful to
2	understand why the audit took place on
3	10 February.
4	"I am sure that this case will be one of
5	those cases where the Horizon evidence will be
6	challenged and in due course I expect we will
7	need to obtain expert evidence from Mr Jenkins
8	of Fujitsu."
9	So Mr Wilson was flagging that this may be
10	a case where Horizon evidence was challenged,

A. 12 Yes.

wasn't he?

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13 Q. At this stage, there was still some doubt, wasn't there, as to the date period in relation 14 to the alleged theft or fraud? 15

16 Α. Yes.

17 Q. Could we have on screen, please, POL00055314. 18 This is a memo dated 29 September 2010, to you, 19 again from Rob Wilson. In the third and fourth 20 paragraphs, Mr Wilson says this:

> "The current charge covers a period from 1 January 1997 to 10 February 2010. Is there any indication from the Horizon documentation, the defendant's bank statements, or any other material, when this money first went missing?

1 why it wasn't obtained.

Q. Going back, please, to the email from Mr Wilson dated 17 November 2010. Could we have that back on screen, please. It's POL00055783.

> This is the email we looked at a little earlier and we looked at the first two paragraphs there. In the last paragraph here:

> "Clearly if there were to be a plea to false accounting but on the basis that the Horizon system was at fault that would not be an acceptable basis of plea for the prosecution".

Looking at the email below this, this is Rob Wilson to Dianne Chan, the day before on 16 November, he says:

"Dianne

"Have spoken to defence solicitor who indicated that the defendant may be filling to plead to false accounting and pay money back. Taken instructions from Chris who has confirmed that he would be happy to proceed on this basis."

Is the "Chris" there a reference to you?

24 I would guess it is.

25 Did you form any view at the time about the 1 Can you confirm when the last audit took place 2 so that if necessary that date can actually 3 appear in the indictment?

> "At the moment I suspect that this will be a case where Horizon itself is challenged and, as such, the Prosecution will be under pressure to disclose a huge amount of Horizon data. It would therefore be extremely useful if we could identify something that assists the prosecution in the pursuit of this criminal allegation."

So it appears, even at this late stage, that nobody could pinpoint when the alleged loss first occurred; is that right?

14 A.

15 Q. Given all the doubt over the date in this case, 16 did it not occur to you that you should seek 17 further data from Fujitsu?

18 Yes, I presume it would. A.

19 Q. Why didn't you?

20 A. I don't know. I can't recall that.

21 Q. Did it not concern you, as an investigator, that 22 a theft charge was proceeding when nobody could 23 say when or how the loss occurred?

24 A. Yeah, it would have done, asking that -- he's 25 asking that question, I don't recall the reason

1 appropriateness of making a guilty plea to false 2 accounting, contingent upon Mrs Henderson not 3 making reference to her belief that the 4 discrepancies were as a result of the Horizon

5 system? 6 A. That -- the wording of that, "taken instructions 7 from Chris, who has confirmed he would be happy

8 to proceed on the basis", I don't know how --9 why that's written like that, because he 10 wouldn't have taken -- wouldn't have taken

11 instruction from me on anything. So I'd have to 12 query the meaning of that sentence.

13 Could we have on screen, please, document 14 reference POL00019111. This is a case file 15 event log and it relates, this time, to Alison 16 Hall's case. Was this event log completed by 17 you?

I believe -- yes, it was. 18 Α.

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There is an entry in it on 30 June 2011, if we 19 20 can scroll down, please. You say here:

"Phone call from Adrian Chaplin, Barrister, 22 while at Leeds Crown Court. Asked if we'd 23 accept False Accounting. I said we would but 24 nothing mention against Horizon."

This is your note in which you say the plea

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			4	in the cases of Marchall and Marchandanae de
1		was okay but nothing mentioned against Horizon.	1	in the cases of Mrs Hall and Mrs Henderson, do
2		You deal with this in your statement at	2	you feel any responsibility for what happened to
3		paragraph 107, if we could have that on screen,	4	those two subpostmistresses?
4		please. It's page 37. You've dealt with this	5	A. I was the Investigator, so I guess that would be
5		earlier in this paragraph but, as a point of		part of it, yes.
6		general principle, about halfway down this page	6	MS PRICE: Sir, those are all the questions I have
7		you say:	7	for Mr Knight. Do you have any questions before
8		"I have never had any involvement in making	8	I turn to Core Participants?
9		a plea deal or applying conditions to such	9	SIR WYN WILLIAMS: No, thank you, no.
10		a deal and this would be outside of my remit as	10	MS PRICE: Ms Patrick has some questions.
11		an Investigator."	11	SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Certainly.
12		Does that remain your position,	12	Questioned by MS PATRICK
13		notwithstanding the case event log that we've	13	MS PATRICK: Mr Knight, my name is Angela Patrick.
14		just looked at?	14	I act with Mr Moloney KC for a number of
15	Α.	Yes, because that case what I'm saying here,	15	subpostmasters who were prosecuted and who have
16		I've never had involvement in I think I'm	16	subsequently had their convictions quashed. We
17		trying to explain that case log, that I would	17	act including for Ms Henderson and Ms Hall, who
18		have been passing on a message because counsel	18	sits next to me today.
19		had phoned me. I wouldn't have been giving	19	I want to ask you about two topics and the
20		instructions, it would be more so passing on	20	first is about a document which is at
21		a message because I wouldn't have been involved	21	POL00136717. This isn't a message that we'd
22		in plea deals or conditions of any sort.	22	have expected you to see at the time, I just
23	Q.	You have referred a number of times to the	23	want to ask you about it. If we can start at
24		business line in relation to Horizon. In	24	page 2.
25		relation to your own involvement, particularly 85	25	A. Excuse me, nothing has come up. 86
1	Q.	I am going to say something	1	and understanding it. The volume of TCs [which
2	A.	Oh, sorry.	2	we know are transaction corrections] across the
3	Q.	for the document management team. If we can	3	network were, I recall, a concern. I owned
4		bring it up at page 2 at the very end, we can	4	Scratchcards as a fraud risk programme when
5		see where the email trail starts, and you can	5	I was Fraud Risk Manager up until around
6		see there we start with a request from Simon	6	May 2010. The problem was that scratchcards
7		Baker dated on 9 June 2013. I'll take it very	7	were the only product which wasn't simply remmed
8		quickly there. It's about a Spot Review, which	8	in and then sold. Instead, they had to be
9		we understand were exercises that were conducted	9	accepted on the Lottery Terminal as received and
10		during the Second Sight review, so not something	10	then activated as and when required on the
11		we'd have expected you to see at the time.	11	Lottery Terminal and remmed in on Horizon when
12	A.	Right.	12	activated, then sold, and then prizes/stock
13	Q.	If we can scroll up, we see a reply to that	13	holdings were recorded on Horizon as well as
14		email from Dave Posnett and, at the bottom of	14	online sales.
15		page 1 you can see the start of that. You see	15	"I ran a number of intervention/education
16		Dave Posnett replies on 10 June 2013.	16	initiatives and associate a zip file of two such
17	A.	Yes.	17	initiatives (1 & 2) both of which featured
18	Q.	What I want to look at, if we can scroll on to	18	Hightown "
19	•	the next page, it's first two paragraphs or	19	Now Hightown was Ms Hall's branch:
20		three paragraphs there. If you can read that to	20	" (so they weren't left to flounder as
21		yourself, I'll read it for the record.	21	seems to be the insinuation). There are also
22		"I've read the associated document and	22	help guides and comms articles included and

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I would say there were issues ... the

scratchcard process worked but some SPMRs

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[subpostmasters] had trouble getting to grips

I would think that POL sent out many more comms

to branches and the Lottery Team made numerous

1		as a point of reference in branch."	1	Δ	Yeah, yeah.
		He goes on:	2	Q.	He goes on to say that there were many audit
2		-	3	Q.	
		"Also in the file [and he refers to			shortages and concerns which highlighted other
4		a spreadsheet]. From this data we determined	4		branches.
5		branches that would be telephoned and branches	5		Now, this information about the education
6		that I would request an audit. If you see the	6		initiatives involving Hightown and that there
7		'branches of concern' tab you can get a sense of	7		was a known problem around scratchcards and
8		the concerns around perceived scratchcard	8		associated audit shortages, is that something
9		holdings. There were many audit shortages and	9		you would have known at the time you were
10		scratchcard holding concerns seemed to highlight	10		investigating Ms Hall in 2010?
11		other problems at branches."	11	A.	I don't believe so. I don't think I've seen
12		Now, what I wanted to ask you, Mr Knight,	12		this document or aware of the content of it.
13		was a few questions. This seems to suggest that	13	Q.	That content is all information that would have
14		there were problems known to the Post Office	14		been relevant to your investigation, isn't it?
15		arising from the management of Lottery	15	A.	It would have been, yes, it would have been
16		scratchcards in 2010; is that fair?	16		relevant.
17	A.	That's what that seems to imply, yes.	17	Q.	Thank you. Can we move on to the second topic,
18	Q.	And that those were problems that called, at the	18		and that's Ms Hall's interview. Now, you've
19	٠.	time, for initiatives and interventions on the	19		answered a number of questions from Ms Price on
		part of the Post Office; is that fair?	20		· ·
20		•			Ms Hall raising Horizon Issues and integrity,
21	Α.	Yeah, that's what it seems to be saying, some	21		and your failure to explore that as a reasonable
22	_	sort of, yeah, clarity, yeah.	22		line of inquiry. I only want to ask you a few
23	Q.	And that those initiatives included Hightown,	23		questions about the interview to be absolutely
24		which was Ms Hall's branch. That's recorded	24		clear on what she said to you. Can we look at
25		there in that message, isn't it?	25		POL00021252 and that's the transcript of
		89			90
1		interview, and I'd quite like to look at	1		question more. You said a while."
2		page 11, please.	2		She says, "Mm.
3		I'd like to start at the point where there	3		"Can you, you know, put some time frame on
4		is 00.07.37, so 7 minutes and 37 seconds into	4		that?
5		the transcript, please. Sorry, if I can just	5		"I don't know, really. It's just probably
6		catch up and check that we're all at the same	6		six months.
7			7		You say:
		place.	·		,
8		So we see there, can you see Mr Knight, at	8		" probably six months.
9		the top of that page, you say:	9		"Yeah.
10		"okay, um, can you tell me why there's	10		"So, are we in, let's say, beginning of
11		a cash shortage of £14,000 in the account?"	11		September.
12		Can you see that?	12		"I think it maybe started at the beginning
13	A.	Yes, I can see that.	13		of the year, when it all started, um, I'm
14	Q.	I'm going to read that just so we can all be	14		building up."
15		looking at the same thing. Mrs Hall says:	15		Now stopping there, Ms Hall was referring to
16		"Well, I think it's all to do with the	16		problems and she thought the problems might be
17		scratchers, um, I've been having problems with	17		about the Lottery, didn't she?
18		them for a while now, and I should have asked	18	A.	Yes, that's what we were talking about.
19		for help earlier on, and I didn't. Um, I can't	19	Q.	That's just what she thought, wasn't it?
20		see it being anything else. I know sometimes we	20	A.	Yes.
21		get, err, discrepancies for missing giros and	21	Q.	But she was raising other issues, wasn't she?
22		cheques and stuff, but I don't think it's going	22	A.	Sorry, in what sense?
23		to add up to that amount."	23	Q.	
24		You go on:	24	•	"There were other problems, there's missing
		"Right. Right, I'll ask you another	25		giros, cheques and stuff, discrepancies, it
25					

1		might not add up to that amount, but um"	1		me in touch with another lady. I wish I'd have
2		She didn't know what was going on, did she?	2		wrote all the reference number down and I didn't
3	A.	Sorry, yeah.	3		'cause I was just in such a state, but she"
4	Q.	She couldn't explain the shortfalls, could she?	4		You say:
5	A.	No.	5		"That's fine. When did you phone up?"
6	Q.	But she was telling you they'd been going on	6		She said:
7		from the start of the year and this was you in	7		"This is before, when I came back off, um,
8		September, wasn't she?	8		holiday. It all started because the branch was
9	Α.	Yes.	9		-
					rolling over. No, not the branch, the, the
10	Q.	That was a period of more than three months,	10		online, the, the, we were going online."
11		wasn't it?	11		You say:
12	Α.	Yes.	12		"Oh, you were going onto the next, yeah,
13	Q.	Okay. Now, if we can read on, if we go over the	13		changing [onto] the new, the next generation,
14		page. Just checking you can see it.	14		yes."
15	Α.	Yes, I can see.	15		She says, "Yeah, onto the new, new change
16	Q.	At the beginning she starts:	16		and that. So, I asked, um, I spoke to Denise at
17		"And I've been trying to rectify it and been	17		Chesterfield, and she gave me another lady's
18		calling the helpline, the Lottery line. Just	18		number to ring, and I requested an audit because
19		trying to get everything sorted, and it's just	19		I wanted all this sorting out. So, I've got
20		got on top of me. And I actually asked for	20		nothing to hide, I just want it all sorting out,
21		an audit myself."	21		so I can get back to my post.
22		You say, "When was that?"	22		"Right. Right, you're saying, just going
23		She says:	23		back. You said that it looks like it's been
24		"Um, I can't remember all the dates.	24		happening from the beginning of the year, you've
25		I spoke to Denise at Chesterfield, and she put	25		had a problem.
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1		"Yeah."	1		You have given evidence at paragraph 69 to
2		Now, I just want to ask you a few questions.	2		73 of your statement in relation to the
3		Stopping there, Ms Hall was telling you she knew	3		prosecution of Mr Holmes and your investigation
4		she had problems and she wanted help, wasn't	4		of him.
5		she?	5	A.	I can't see anything. I don't know if you're
6	Α.	Yes.	6		showing me something, sorry.
7	Q.	She wanted help to get to the bottom of it,	7	Q.	Okay, perhaps if we could turn that up.
8	Ψ.	didn't she?	8	٠.	WITN08290100. That's your witness statement,
9	A.	Yes.	9		and it's paragraphs 63 to 79. That's where you
10	Q.	She'd been experiencing problems over many	10		deal with Mr Holmes' case.
11	Q.	months, hadn't she?	10		
		·	12		Oh, yes, we'll locate the page number now.
12	Α.	Yes.			It is 27. Thank you.
13	Q.	That was at around the time of the transition to	13		So you say you were involved as the second
14	_	Horizon Online?	14	_	officer in that case.
15	A.	I believe so.	15	A.	Yes.
16	Q.	Thank you.	16	Q.	Do you recall that you attended a search of
17		We don't have any more questions for you,	17		Mr Holmes' family home?
18		Mr Knight. Thank you.	18	A.	I don't recall, I'm sorry, no.
19	MS	PRICE: Mr Jacobs has some questions, sir.	19	Q.	With Mr Daily, you don't recall it?
20		Questioned by MR JACOBS	20	A.	I don't recall it, no.
21	MR	JACOBS: Thank you, sir.	21	Q.	You've answered questions from Ms Price about
22		I'm going to ask you about Peter Holmes.	22		what Mr Holmes said at the interview that you
23		I represent him and a large number of other	23		attended? He said that he believed the Horizon
24		subpostmasters who were the victims in this	24		system may have been responsible for the alleged
25		scandal.	25		shortfalls. He repeated his concerns of the
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Horizon system during the interview and he said that he was hoping that error notices would have come back but he thought it was something the computer had done or hadn't done. Those were his words, effectively.

Now, his conviction, his subsequent conviction, was overturned by the Court of Appeal and quashed in 2021. Mr Holmes had died in 2015, so it was a posthumous overturning of his conviction, and the Court of Appeal found that Mr Holmes' prosecution was an abuse of process. They found that there was no evidence to corroborate the Horizon evidence, they found there was no investigation into the integrity of the Horizon figures and they found that there was no proof of any actual loss to the Post Office.

Now, can we look at paragraph 73 of your statement, so just scrolling down, please. Page 28, thank you. You say:

"The Inquiry has asked me for my reflections on the way the investigation and prosecution of Mr Holmes was conducted ... with regard to the Court of Appeal judgment ..."

I have just given you the findings of the

1 involved in any other part of it.

- 2 Q. Well, I appreciate, of course, that you were the 3 second officer and we're going to be asking very 4 similar, if not the same, questions of Mr Daily 5 who was the primary interviewing officer?
- 6 A. Right.

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- 7 But surely, as an investigating officer, present 8 and in attendance at that interview, when 9 a subpostmaster, as so many others did, was 10 making these claims, wouldn't that, as 11 an Investigator, at least raise a few red flags 12 in your mind and wouldn't you have said, or ought to have properly said, "Well, surely we 13 14 should look into this?" even though, as you say, 15 you weren't leading the investigation.
- A. Yeah, I appreciate what you're saying. It's 16 17 a very difficult question to answer, really, 18 because, as I said to Ms Price, it's -- from 19 what -- where we are now, looking back then, 20 I don't think there was anything of that -- that 21 there wasn't a process in place to sort of raise 22 it and discuss it, if that makes sense. 23 Probably not a very good answer, I apologise.
- 24 Q. No, I can see what you're saying. You're saying 25 that there wasn't a set procedure --

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Court of Appeal. You say, from what you recall, you did not have any concerns with the way the investigation was run at the time as second officer.

5 The question that we ask you, on behalf of 6 Marion Holmes, who is the widow of Peter Holmes, 7 is: surely you must have been concerned when you 8 were aware of this outcome from the Court of 9 Appeal that Mr Holmes had repeatedly challenged 10 the Horizon system and it was not investigated. 11 Why didn't you, as an Investigating Officer, 12 investigate the issue that Mr Holmes had raised 13 repeatedly at his interview? 14 I was the second officer, so I was literally

15 there on the day. I wasn't investigating the 16 case. I was there on the day to be a second 17 person for safety and other reasons, to 18 facilitate the interviews and searches, and such 19 like. So I was going by that, you know, and, 20 obviously, the case had been prosecuted so 21 I hadn't -- subsequently, obviously, having seen 22 the overturned and the reasons for that, then 23 that was that.

But, at the time. I believed it was -- from the bits I saw, that was fine. I wasn't

- Yeah, it wasn't like a forum --
- 2 -- for looking into allegations that 3 subpostmasters made.
- 4 A. Mm.

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- 5 Q. Surely that's part of the investigating function 6 though, to follow things through?
- 7 A. Yes, it would be.
- 8 Q. Right. The final question in relation to Mr Holmes is, with the benefit of hindsight, now 9 10 you know what the Court of Appeal said, do you 11 accept that Mr Daily and you failed properly to 12 investigate Mr Holmes' case in light of what he 13 said at interview?
- 14 A. It sounds like I'm trying to cop out, I'm not. 15 I was second officer, I was literally there on 16 the day so, yes, I appreciate, as you've just 17 said, what I would have heard, and no action. 18 What Mr Daily did, I'm not fully aware. So that --19
- 20 Q. Well, perhaps I'll put it in a different way. 21 As the second officer, do you accept that you 22 should have done more to ensure that this case 23 was properly investigated?
- 24 In hindsight, but, as the process was back then, 25 a second officer was just there on the day. 100

		The
1		Sorry if that's
2	Q.	All right, well, I'll move on. I want to ask
3		you about Rita Threlfall, and Ms Price has asked
4		you about your involvement in her interview.
5	A.	Mm-hm.
6	Q.	If I could perhaps ask you just to refresh your
7		memory to go to the if we could ask if we
8		could go to the document POL00107683, and it's
9		page 3 of 9. This is the document Ms Price took
10		you through, it's the investigation report of
11		Ms Threlfall.
12	A.	Oh, right.
13	Q.	3 of 9, please. I think we can see that it
14		says:
15		" I interviewed [and this is Mr Bradshaw
16		writing this] Ms Rita Threlfall at the Liverpool
17		North Office, Crown Street Liverpool Present
18		throughout the interview was Mr Christopher
19		Knight, Fraud Investigator."
20		That interview took place on 10 March 2011
21		and you confirmed you were there and present at
22		that interview.
23	A.	Yes.
24	Q.	Now, can we turn to the witness statement of
25		Ms Threlfall and I'll give you the reference for 101
1	Q.	It's quite striking, isn't it, that a disabled
2		lady, who is wheelchair dependent, has
3		an interview arranged up a staircase that she
4		cannot access and is transferred to the
5		interview room in a tiny parcel lift. Surely
6		that is something that you ought to have
7		remembered?
8	A.	I don't. I don't remember it. Now, I would
9		imagine when we interviewed and I'm speaking
10		sort of generically, if that makes if we
11		interviewed people, then we would find
12		a location and I don't know whether was this

13 at a Royal Mail site? 14 Q. She says Liverpool --A. Mail -- Sorting -- Post Office. 15 Q. -- sorting --16 A. Yeah, it would be a Royal Mail Sorting Office. 17 So that would have been a room within that 18 building. I'd imagine, as a sorting office, the 19 20 ground floor would be where they're doing their 21 sorting, so this would have been up there. 22 I didn't arrange it, so Mr Bradshaw did. 23 And talking about the tiny parcel lift, 24 knowing Royal Mail buildings, it would be

a lift. It would be a working -- not

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that, it is WITN02360100. Page 7 of 15, please. 1 2 I should make it clear, this isn't a document 3 that you've seen previously. 4 A. Okay. Q. If we could go, please, to paragraph 49. So we 5 6 can see, in fact starting at 48 -- I should say 7 that Ms Threlfall is wheelchair dependent and disabled. She says: 8 "Upon arrival they left my husband and me in q 10 a hallway, we asked for a chair and never 11 received one. I ended up having to sit down on the stairs. 12 13 "The interview room was upstairs and I told 14 them there was no way I could make it up the 15 stairs. In order to make it to the interview 16 room I was placed in a tiny parcel lift." 17 Now, Ms Threlfall is watching this hearing 18 today. She was going to give evidence in the 19 Human Impact part of the Inquiry but was too 20 upset to do so and so on 23 February 2002 21 Mr Stein, King's Counsel read a summary of her 22 statement to the Inquiry. Do you recall this 23 treatment of my client? 24 A. I don't, I'm afraid, no. I don't recall any of 25 the -- that day. 102 1 a passenger lift, as it were, it would be 2 a working lift. I don't know the size of it so 3 it might have appeared to be a bit rough and 4 ready not a -- as you would imagine a lift being 5 in a superstore or whatever. 6 Q. Well, her evidence, and this evidence is that 7 has been received by the Inquiry, is that it was 8 a tiny lift, it was inappropriate. She is still shaken by that experience. She says in her 9 evidence that she suffers from crippling anxiety 10 and depression. Do you think this is any 11 12 appropriate way to treat a disabled person who 13 you're investigating, or at all? 14 A. It's not -- no, taking this aside, everybody 15 should be treated fairly. So I don't know the circumstances of how -- what this lift was, tiny 16 17 in comparison to what? You know, and all I'm going by what I'm reading here is, if you go 18 into a first floor and there's a lift, then that 19 20 would be the lift. 21

Well, given that she says it is a tiny parcel 22

23 I can't argue either way. I don't know. Α.

24 You're still a current employee with Post 25 Office.

Α. 1 Yes.

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- 2 Q. Would Post Office put a disabled person into 3 such a lift today?
- 4 A. Probably not but I don't know what lifts --
- 5 whatever lift we had today, if we had a lift and
- 6 somebody is going up to another floor, we would
- 7 go in that lift. Over my years within the
- 8 business, I've been in some -- some buildings
- 9 had very old lifts with the old shutter, the
- 10 concertina shutter you pull across and then that
- 11 would go, whereas now they're more modern. So
 - I can't comment on what this was.
- 13 Q. If we can then go back to the statement, which
- 14 is still on the screen, paragraph 50,
- 15 Ms Threlfall says that she was interviewed under
- 16 caution. She says the interviewer was
 - horrendous, she had a solicitor with her and she
 - provided a no comment interview on advice.
- 19 Then scrolling down very slightly please, 20 paragraph 52. She says:
- 21 "At the end of the interview the Post Office 22 Investigator turned off the tape and the chap
- 23 turned to me and said 'Do you wear a watch,
- 24 I said yes and can I see your earrings and
- 25 rings, and, what are the colour of your eyes',
- 1 questions you'd have to go through. So that
 - sounds to me that that is what is taking place
- 3 there, although she's not possibly describing
- 4 it. She's describing how she took it but that's
- 5 what I would suggest is taking place.
- 6 Q. Mrs Threlfall, who is watching today, says that
- 7 she believes -- in her words that she's used to
 - us today, she believes that she was deliberately
- 9 persecuted and the question I have for you is:
- 10 was there a strategy or a tactic employed by
- 11 Investigators to unsettle or unnerve or
- 12 intimidate subpostmasters and subpostmistresses
- 13 under investigation to exert pressure upon them
- 14 during interviews and in the investigating
- 15 process?
- A. No, not at all. Not --16
- 17 Q. Do you accept from Ms Threlfall's evidence that
- 18 that is exactly what we see happening here?
- A. It's her feelings, so I can't argue with how she 19
- 20 feels. So if she's saying she felt like that
- 21 then I would have to accept that. But I don't
- 22 believe that was how it was delivered.
- 23 Q. Mrs Threlfall says the only motive for treating
- 24 her in this way was to unsettle her, belittle
- her, humiliate her and that was what Mr Bradshaw 25 107

- 1 so I responded and he said in a joking manner
- 2 'Good so we've got a description of you for when
- 3 they come'. It was so awful I nearly fell to
- 4 the floor when he said that. I couldn't believe
- what I had heard." 5
- 6 Now, it was Mr Bradshaw who was the Lead
- 7 Investigator?
- 8 Α.

12

19

20

- 9 Q. Do you recall these comments being made?
- 10 As I said, I don't but I could give you
- 11 an explanation of what I believe was taking
 - place. Following an interview and, again, I'm
- 13 not talking about this specifically, I'm talking
- 14 about all interviews, we have to fill a form out
- 15 called a NPA01, Non-police Prosecution
- 16 Authority 01 form and, on that form, there's
- 17
- lots of questions and it's basically identifying
- 18 a person.

I think it mirrors -- if you get arrested by the police you go into custody and they take

- 21 your fingerprints, so I think it mirrors that.
- 22 So basically, you'd have your name, da, da, da,
- 23 and then it would be: male, female; left-handed
- 24 or right-handed; scars, tattoos, distinguishing
- 25 marks; build; and there would be various
 - 106
- 1 was doing and you were involved in that as the
- 2 Second Investigator?
- 3 A. I don't believe that at all. I don't believe
- 4 that at all because, if you're interviewing --
- 5 it's putting somebody at ease rather than
- 6 putting them on the -- you know, aggravating
- 7 them.
- 8 Q. I'm going to ask to see if I have any more
- 9 questions.
- 10 Mrs Threlfall was originally prosecuted for
- false accounting and theft, the Post Office 11
- 12 dropped the charges and she was formally
- 13 recorded as not guilty, as a verdict. She's
- 14 watching today. As someone who was involved in
- 15 her investigation, do you have anything that
- 16 you'd like to say to her now?
- A. There was -- well, as far as -- I don't remember 17
- 18 it but would say there was nothing, as you've
- said there, malicious. 19
- 20 **Q.** Are you sorry for the way she was treated?
- 21 A. If that's how she felt she was treated, then
- 22 that's not nice for her.
- 23 Q. Are you sorry for how she was treated or are you
- 24 sorry --
- 25 A. I don't know --

1	Q.	if that's how she felt she was being treated?	1	M	S MILLAR: Good afternoon, sir. Can you see and
2	A.	I don't believe I wouldn't have treated	2		hear me?
3		anybody disrespectively (sic) so, if she felt	3	SI	R WYN WILLIAMS: Yes, I can, thank you.
4		like that, then that's you know, I'm sorry	4	M	S MILLAR: May we please call Mr Ryan.
5		that she feels like that, but	5		KEVIN JAMES RYAN (affirmed)
6	MR	JACOBS: Thank you. I haven't any further	6		Questioned by MS MILLAR
7		questions for you?	7	M	S MILLAR: Could you please confirm your full name
8	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: Anyone else?	8		Mr Ryan?
9	MS	PRICE: Sir, I think those are all the questions	9	A.	It's Kevin James Ryan.
10		from Core Participants.	10	Q.	You should have in front of you a witness
11	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: All right, thank you.	11		statement, which is dated 16 November 2023. If
12		I hope that Ms Hall and Mrs Threlfall have	12		you turn to the last page of that, which is
13		found today's proceedings informative.	13		page 44, is that your signature?
14		Thank you very much for making a witness	14	A.	It is.
15		statement and for coming to give evidence,	15	Q.	Are the contents of that statement true to the
16		Mr Knight. I'm grateful to you.	16		best of your knowledge and belief?
17		Where do we go from here, Ms Price?	17	A.	
18	MS	PRICE: Sir, if we can come back at 2.00 for this	18	Q.	·
19		afternoon's witness, please, if we take lunch	19		WITN08950100. My name is Megan Millar and, as
20		now.	20		you know, I will be asking you questions today
21	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: Fine, all right.	21		on behalf of the Inquiry.
22		PRICE: Thank you.	22		I'm going to be asking you about issues
23		.57 pm)	23		which arise in Phase 4 of the Inquiry, focusing
24	,	(The Short Adjournment)	24		on your involvement as an Investigator in the
25	(2.0	00 pm)	25		Security Team and, in particular, your
20	(=.0	109	20		110
1		involvement in the case study of Angela Sefton	1		use Horizon?
2		and Anne Nield.	2	A.	Yes, that was part of the training.
3		First, I'd like to ask you some questions	3	Q.	From 2005 to 2006, you were an Area Intervention
4		about your professional background. Is it	4		Manager; is that right?
5		correct that you joined the Post Office in 1985	5	A.	Yes.
6		as a counter clerk?	6	Q.	Can you please give a brief description of what
7	A.	It is, yes.	7		that role entailed?
8	Q.	Is it correct that you are still employed by the	8	A.	It was dealing with issues raised via a number
9		Post Office?	9		of sources, branch support, the helpline, Retail
10	A.	I am.	10		Line Managers. I worked for a Retail Line
11	Q.	Is it fair to say that you've had a varied	11		Manager and they would send me issues in
12		career, over almost 38 years you've been working	12		a branch, could be anything from customer
13		for the Post Office?	13		complaints, and it would be a case of trying to
14	A.	Very much so, yes.	14		resolve any issues in branches for the Retail
15	Q.	I just want to ask you about some of the roles	15		Line.
16		that you've held. Is it right that in 1997 you	16	Q.	In April 2010, you were appointed a Horizon
17		became a National Field Trainer?	17		Migration Manager for a short time until August
18	A.	I did, yes.	18		2010?
19	Q.	Do you remember the Horizon system being rolled	19	A.	Yes.
20		out during the time you held that role?	20	Q.	
21	A.	I'm not sure whether it was before I held that	21		that you were initially going to take redundancy

23

24 A. Yes.

22

23

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role or -- I'm not sure exactly the date it was

rolled out. But I did use Horizon in that role,

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25 Q. Were you involved in training subpostmasters to

but you then saw the Security Team advertising

112

vacancies and decided to apply?

25 Q. What motivated you to apply for a job in the

- 1 Security Team at that point?
- 2 A. I wanted to stay in the Post Office.
- 3 Unfortunately, the role I'd previously had as
- 4 sales manager wasn't something that I enjoyed,
- 5 so I decided to leave rather than continue in
- 6 that role. When the Security Manager role came
- 7 up I thought it was appropriate to my skillset,
- 8 so I applied for it.
- 9 Q. Is it then correct that you joined the team as
- 10 a Security Manager in January 2011?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. For a six-week period in July 2013, did you
- 13 temporarily step up in a Security Team Leader
- 14 role?
- 15 A. Yeah, the team leader that was my team leader
- 16 left the Post Office and I was asked to stand in
- 17 temporarily until they either appointed somebody
- or, due to restructure, they were not going to
- 19 replace that person, so they would shrink the
- 20 team -- the number of Team Leaders, sorry.
- 21 Q. Who was that, who was your team leader?
- 22 A. At that point it was Keith Gilchrist.
- 23 Q. Moving on then, please, to the structure of the
- 24 Security Team. Is it correct that when you
- joined in 2011 the physical Security Team and
 - 113
- 1 Q. Then when you became a Team Leader temporarily
- 2 in 2013 you reported to the Senior Security
- 3 Manager, who you remember being Andy Hayward?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. When you were a Team Leader, is it correct then
- 6 that you had three or four Security Managers
- 7 reporting to you?
- 8 A. Yeah, it may have been five, I'm not exactly
- 9 sure of the number.
- 10 Q. The Security Managers you recall reporting to
- 11 you were Mike Stanway, Steve Bradshaw and Robert
- 12 Daily; is that right?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. You explain at paragraph 11 of your statement
- 15 that you don't recall providing any in-depth
- 16 supervision to those Security Managers; is that
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Not a great deal, no. That I can recall -- and
- 19 I've checked with Post Office HR -- I think
- 20 I was only in the role for about seven weeks,
- 21 maybe a little bit longer. So really speaking,
- 22 it was literally just a stopgap to fill a role
- 23 while a replacement was sourced.
- 24 Q. But you did remember doing some of their
- 25 performance reviews and conducting one-to-ones

- 1 the Fraud and Crime Investigation Team emerged?
- 2 A. Yes.
- ${f 3}$ ${f Q}$. At that time there were three teams responsible
- 4 for three regions in the UK --
- 5 A. Yeah
- 6 Q. -- north, Midlands and South; is that right?
- 7 A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. Each time at that point had approximately 18 to
- 9 20 Security Managers; is that right?
- 10 A. I think so, yes. I can't exactly remember the
- 11 numbers too clearly but it was larger than the
- 12 team is currently.
- 13 Q. You explain in your statement that, over the
- 14 years, the size of the team has decreased, so
- 15 now there are eight Security Managers and one
- 16 Team Leader in total?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. You've told us that when you became a Security
- 19 Manager you reported to a team leader; is that
- 20 correct
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 Q. The team leaders you remember were Leslie
- 23 Frankland, Keith Gilchrist, Simon Hutchinson,
- 24 Helen Dickinson and Simon Talbot; is that right?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

114

- 1 and meetings; is that right?
- 2 A. Yeah, it was one-to-ones, yeah, some one-to-ones
- 3 with some of them.
- 4 Q. You go on later in your statement at
- 5 paragraph 28 to explain that Team Leaders
- 6 regularly provided supervision to Security
- 7 Managers conducting criminal investigations.
- 8 Did you provide it in that respect?
- 9 A. No, I didn't really have the experience, so
- 10 anything to do with the fraud side of things was
- 11 done by one of the other Team Leaders because
- 12 I was only standing in and I'd only been there
- in the team for just over two years. I didn't
- 14 really have the experience to supervise on
- 15 fraud.
- 16 Q. So one of the other team leaders managed the
- 17 Security Managers reporting to you in respect of
- 18 fraud; is that correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Who was that?
- 21 A. I seem to think it was a lady by the name of
- 22 Sharron Logan but I'm not 100 per cent sure on
 - 23 that.
- 24 Q. Can we, please, have a document with the
- reference POL00127137 on screen, please. This

1	is a one-to-one meeting record between you and
2	your line manager at the time, Simon Hutchinson
3	At page 2, if we can have a look at that,
4	please, at the bottom of the page, the very
5	bottom of the page, I think it's a comment from
6	you saying:
7	"Glad to be back in my old role and area and

"Glad to be back in my old role and area and a job I enjoy. Team Leader role was simply not for me but will fully support Simon in that

Can you explain why you didn't think that the Team Leader role was for you?

13 A. Throughout my career I've been working in the 14 field, being a desk job, I just didn't feel 15 comfortable with it, so -- and also there's the 16 pressures that were on that role at the time. 17 I just wanted to get back to doing what I know.

18 Moving on, then, to the training you received Q. 19 when you joined the Security Team. That 20 document can come down. Thank you. In your 21 statement you say that when you joined the 22 Security Team, you'd been working for the Post 23 Office for 26 years but you hadn't gained any 24 experience of investigations; is that correct? 25 Α. Yes.

117

1 those areas. 2

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"Additionally training was provided in respect of RIPA, Safe Systems of Work and PORA

5 What do you understand that to be 6 a reference to?

7 A. I can't remember. No, I can't recall what that 8 one is.

9 Q. "... NPA forms, notes of interview, tape summaries and offender reports." 10

11 Are those the things you remember being 12 covered?

13 Α. Yes.

14 Q. Thank you. That can come down. You explain at paragraph 45 of your statement that you believe 15 16 you would have learned when to seek relevant 17 evidence from third parties and about your 18 disclosure obligations through mentorship and 19 shadowing; is that right?

20 Α.

21 Does that mean that you don't remember receiving 22 training on those topics?

23 A. It was -- I would say it was probably on-the-job 24 training, so, as you were going through things, 25 the mentor would talk you through how to deal 119

Q. Did you have any knowledge of criminal law?

2 A.

Q. After you were offered the position, you went on 3 4 a residential training course, which lasted

three weeks; is that correct? 5

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You remembered this training being delivered by two Royal Mail Security Managers called Paul 8

Whitaker and Paul Southin; is that right? 9

10 A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember any lawyers being involved in 11 delivering this training? 12

13 Not in that training, no. Α.

14 Q. Could we have the document reference POL00129182

on screen, please. So we can see that's 15

16 "Investigations Workshop Feedback", and is that

17 then the residential training course?

18 Yes, it looks like, yes.

19 We can see underneath the title "Course

20 Content":

21 "The topics covered on the course enabled 22 the focus to be centred on interviewing suspect 23 offenders and witnesses, the cognitive witness 24 interview process, searching and notebook 25 entries. Detailed training was provided in

118

1 with certain things. I don't remember it 2 specifically, no.

3 Q. What did the mentorship and shadowing involve,

5 A. Basically, initially when we started -- when

6 I started, sorry, I would only be involved as

7 Second Officers for a number of months, so

8 shadowing the mentor mostly, and then eventually

I'd be allocated some cases and the mentor would 9

10 take me from start to finish right through the 11 cases, making sure that I covered all of the

12 relevant points that need to be covered.

13 Your mentor was Steve Bradshaw; is that right?

14 It was, yes.

then?

4

15 How long was the period of on the job training 16 before you were able to take on investigations

17 on your own?

A. I think I got my first lead -- well, you never 18 really took them on on your own, you always had 19

20 somebody as a second officer, which nearly

21 always was Steve Bradshaw but my first case as

22 a Lead Investigator, I think, was in late 2011.

23 Q. At paragraph 29 of your statement, you refer to

24 the fact that, even after you started

25 undertaking your own investigations, that Steve

- 1 Bradshaw attended interviews as your Second 2 Officer?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. For how long was that period of time where he
- 5 would attend interviews with you?
- 6 Α. Probably until we really stopped doing full
- 7 investigations. We were very small team, so
- 8 myself and Steve Bradshaw lived relatively
- 9 close, so it was easier to always be -- work
- 10 together.
- Was that in 2013? 11 Q.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Then at paragraph 48 of your statement you say Q.
- that Cartwright King Solicitors started to 14
- 15 deliver training in 2013. Do you know why they
- 16 started running the training at that point?
- 17 A. I don't know the reason behind it, no. They did
- 18 run number of courses, usually once a year, for
- 19 a few vears.
- 20 Can we please have POL00129310 on screen, Q.
- 21 please. So this is an email from Dave Posnett
- 22 to you and a number of others, dated 22 March
- 23 2013, and the subject is "Cartwright King
- 24 Training Day". So if we scroll down just
- 25 a little bit, please. There's a list of
- 1 that list on screen, please. It's page 10 of 2 your witness statement, which is WITN08950100.
- 3 If we can just go down to the end of that
- 4 list, please. In your statement you say that
- 5 you don't recognise the first 21 documents we
- 6 provided you with. So is it correct, then, that
- 7 you do recognise the final four in that list?
- 8 A. Yeah, I've probably seen them, yes, at some 9 point.
- 10 Q. Thank you. That can come down.

key points document.

- 11 Could we then, please, have POL00122557 on 12 screen, please. At the bottom of page 1 we can 13 see this is an email from Rob King and you're 14 cc'd in and it was sent on 21 July 2013. He is 15 sending through the draft case review policy and
 - If we go then to the top of that page. So we can see this is an email from you to another address which appears to be in your name. Is that your personal email address?
- It was at the time, yes. 21 Α.

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- 22 Q. I think you explain in your statement that you
- 23 sent policies to your personal email to enable
- 24 you to print and review them when you were
- 25 working away from the office; is that correct?

- 1 proposed topics, which includes: awkward
- 2 interviewees; significant statements; points to
- 3 prove; interviewing techniques; defence
- 4 solicitor role; pre-interviewing/caution; and
- 5 borrow v dishonesty.
- 6 Do you remember attended that training?
- 7 Α. Yes.
- 8 Q. What was your view of the training delivered by
- Cartwright King? 9
- 10 A. Obviously, as a relatively new Security Manager,
- 11 any kind of training was useful. So, yeah,
- I found it useful. 12
- 13 Q. Thank you. That document can come down. Do you
- 14 remember receiving any other refresher training
- during your time as Security Manager? 15
- 16 A. We did sessions when we had team meetings on
- 17 various aspects of the role but I can't remember
- 18 anything specific, other than the Cartwright
- 19 King days.
- 20 Q. Moving on, then, to the guidance which was
- 21 available to you, relating to the conduct of
- 22 criminal investigations. The Inquiry provided
- 23 you with a number of policy and guidance
- 24 documents, which you list in your statement at
- 25 paragraph 19. Could we have just the end of

 - A. Yes.
- 2 Q. So do we take from that that you couldn't access
- 3 those documents from your work devices when you
- 4 were away from the office?
- 5 A. We could access them but couldn't print them
- 6 when you're away from the office, you can
- 7 only -- because it wouldn't connect to
- 8 a personal printer. At that time, we weren't
- 9 allocated work printers at home, so the only way
- 10 to print something off at home would be to send
- it to my own email address so I could print it
- 12 at home, so I could be able to read it.
- 13 So you could access them remotely from your work
- 14 device?
- 15 A.

11

- You just couldn't print; is that correct? 16
- Just couldn't print. 17
- Thank you, that can come down. 18
- Where do you remember policy and guidance 19
- 20 documents being stored?
- 21 I would imagine they'd have been on a database
- 22 that we had access to.
 - 23 Q. If I could turn, then, please, to casework
 - 24 compliance. The Inquiry has provided you with
- 25 a number of emails from 2011 from David Posnett

- 1 relating to casework compliance. Is it right
- 2 that compliance checks were introduced shortly
- 3 after you joined the Security Team?
- 4 A. Yes, they were.
- 5 Q. What was your understanding of the reason those
- 6 checks were introduced?
- 7 A. I think they just wanted uniformity in the way
- 8 case files were put together, so that everybody
- 9 was doing everything in a standard fashion.
- 10 Q. Did you understand that there'd been a problem
- with that before? 11
- 12 No, it was mentioned that it had been something A.
- 13 that had been done in the past with previous
- 14 Investigation Managers, so they thought, because
- 15 we had so many new people, it would be
- 16 worthwhile running again.
- 17 Q. So one of the documents which Mr Posnett asked
- 18 recipients of his email to familiarise
- 19 themselves with was the Identification Codes
- 20 document, and this is a document which you
- 21 comment on at paragraph 58 of your statement and
- 22 you refer to as a "disgrace". The Inquiry is
- 23 familiar with this document and I don't intend
- 24 to display it on screen but do you know the
- 25 document I'm referring to?
 - 125
- 1 identification codes you're referring to?
- 2 A. That's the form we used, yes.
- 3 Q. Can you remember using any other identification
- 4 codes?
- 5 A. With physical security, sometimes we'd get
- 6 police reports that would have them on, so, if
- 7 I didn't know one, I would use Google to find
- 8 the latest ID codes. That's how I would refer
- 9
- Q. Rather than using the Post Office documents? 10
- A. Yeah. 11
- Q. So if there were only those Identification Codes 12
- documents being used by the Post Office, can you 13
- 14 think of any reason why Mr Posnett would have
- 15 circulated a separate Identification Codes
- 16 document?
- 17 A. I don't know.
- Q. I'd like to ask you some questions about the 18
- 19 involvement of Post Office Investigators
- following the identification of an apparent 20
- 21 shortfall at audit.
- 22 Who made the decision to commence a criminal
- 23 investigation?
- 24 A. As far as I recall, the cases were raised by
- 25 Team Leaders. Later on it may have been the 127

- A. I do, yes.
- 2 Q. Does it remain your position that you don't
- recall ever having seen this document before? 3
- 4 A. No, I don't.
- Q. Can you think of any reason why you wouldn't 5
- 6 have seen it, given Mr Posnett asked you to
- 7 familiarise yourself with the documents attached
- 8 and you were fairly new to the team?
- 9 A. I'd never really used identity codes, so it's
- 10 not something that I was familiar with anyway.
- 11 I mean, I may have opened the document but
- 12 I wouldn't have read it in depth but I can't
- 13 recall whether I did or not.
- 14 **Q.** So you go on to explain in your statement that
- 15 Security Managers used identification codes for
- 16 reporting offences following prosecution, and
- 17 these were recorded using the NPA01 form at
- 18 interview and NPA02 form at conviction; is that
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Could we have a document reference POL00118374
- 22 on screen, please. This is a blank NPA01 form,
- 23 if we could go to the top of page 2, please. So
- 24 we can see there's number of options for
- 25 recording ethnic appearance. Are those the
- 1 Casework Team but, so far as I remember, it was
- 2 Team Leaders who'd make the decision to commence
- 3 an investigation.
- 4 Q. When you were a Team Leader in 2013, do you
- 5 remember what factors you would have considered
- 6 in raising a case?
- 7 A. No, because, again, I didn't really raise --
- 8 that I can remember, I didn't raise any cases.
- It was done centrally at that point. But, 9
- 10 again, possibly by another team leader.
- 11 Q. So it wasn't your responsibility to raise a case
- 12 whenever you became --
- 13 Due to experience, no.
- 14 Q. At paragraph 36 of your statement, you explain
- 15 that you believe the level of loss required
- 16 changed over time. Can you explain what you
- 17 mean by that?
- A. I think once everything started to reduce with 18
- 19 regards to investigations, the team got smaller,
- 20 I think they didn't start looking at criminal
- 21 investigations until the value -- it started to
- 22 increase before they'd start looking at it.
- I can't remember any exact details but I did 24 hear that they were looking at different figures
- 25 at different times.

- 1 Q. When you refer to value, do you mean the --
- 2 A. Cash
- 3 Q. -- the size of the loss?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. At paragraph 31 of your statement, you explain
- 6 that if a significant shortage was reported
- 7 during a routine audit, your Team Leader may ask
- 8 you to attend to begin investigating the issue
- 9 as an open inquiry. Can you please explain what
- 10 an open inquiry is?
- 11 A. That's just an initial inquiry to find out the
- 12 facts of what's happened before any decision is
- 13 made on whether it would go to a full
- 14 investigation.
- 15 Q. So that was a step before --
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 Q. -- criminal investigation being commenced?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. At paragraph 32, you explain that you might also
- 20 be asked to attend an audit which was going to
- 21 be raised due to a suspicious activity?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Can you help us with what you mean by
- 24 "suspicious activity"?
- 25 A. Chesterfield -- the admin centre in
 - 129
- 1 obtained. What would that include at that
- 2 point?
- 3 A. Well, obviously, the auditors would run off
- 4 Horizon logs, cash declarations, et cetera, and
- 5 eventually they would produce an audit report,
- 6 so all those documents would be passed to the
- 7 Lead Investigator.
- 8 Q. What tools were available to you as
- 9 an Investigator to investigate that information
- 10 you'd been provided with?
- 11 A. Tools, as in?
- 12 Q. Transaction data or any requests that you could
- 13 make for further evidence?
- 14 A. Right, yeah. Obviously, we had access to
- 15 different types of data, such as Credence,
- 16 HORice, ARQ data, as well.
- 17 Q. How did you decide which type of transaction
- 18 data you would request in a certain case?
- 19 A. It varied from, in different circumstances --
- 20 depends on the circumstances, whether you
- 21 would -- I mean, Credence was virtually
- 22 downloaded on every occasion. ARQ data
- 23 occasionally, sometimes. It just depended on
- the facts of the case.
- 25 Q. With regard, then, specifically to ARQ data,

- 1 Chesterfield, they may have noticed some
- 2 suspicious transactions going through, or Cash
- 3 Management might have raised an issue with cash
- 4 not being sent back when the branch is holding
- 5 an excessive amount of cash. So, under those
- 6 circumstances, we may have been aware of
- 7 an audit taking place that may result in
- 8 a shortage, so we may be asked to attend on the
- 9 day.
- 10 Q. You explain in your statement at paragraph 37
- 11 that, where there was prior notice of
- 12 a potential shortage which resulted in an audit,
- 13 the Security Manager would speak to the
- 14 necessary individuals in the Post Office at the
- 15 outset.
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 Q. So who would that include?
- 18 A. The auditors, usually, and the postmaster or the
- 19 staff member who was on site at the time.
- 20 Q. Would those individuals be contacted in every
- 21 case?
- 22 A. If -- yeah, I would -- yes, eventually, yes.
- 23 Sometimes a postmaster might not be on site, so
- you'd have to contact them by phone.
- 25 **Q.** You go on to say that all relevant data would be 130
- 1 what circumstances would you request ARQ data?
- 2 A. I think I only ever requested it on one or two
- 3 occasions. Certainly high-value losses, later
- 4 on, as -- obviously as Horizon Issues became
- 5 more prevalent, then under those circumstances,
- 6 as well.
- 7 Q. You explain in your statement that you vaguely
- 8 remember a case you worked on in Newcastle --
- 9 **A.** Yeah.
- 10 Q. -- where a subpostmaster had attributed
- 11 a shortfall to Horizon and you requested two
- 12 months' worth of ARQ data?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. Did you request the ARQ data because they'd
- 15 attributed the shortfall to Horizon in that
- 16 case?
- 17 A. It was requested because my line manager at the
- 18 time asked me to get the data to basically
- 19 rebuild the account over two months, to see if
- 20 I could find any evidence of transactions that
- 21 were out of sorts, out of place.
- 22 Q. Is it correct that you remember going through
- the data yourself to rebuild the accounts?
- 24 **A.** Yes
- 25 Q. Do you believe you had the necessary expertise

1	to	interpret	the	ARO	data?

- 2 A. Probably not, if I'm being honest. I did manage
- 3 to rebuild the accounts, everything seemed to
- 4 balance on that occasion but I'd never had any
- 5 training in going through ARQ data at all.
- 6 Q. Would you personally be able to recognise the
- 7 bug or an error with Horizon from looking at the
- 8 ARQ data?
- 9 **A.** No.
- 10 Q. You say that, as far as you recall, Fujitsu
- 11 would not have gone through the data in this
- 12 case?
- 13 A. Not that I am aware of, no. They would just
- 14 provide the data.
- 15 Q. Was there a reason why they wouldn't have gone
- 16 through it?
- 17 A. I'm not aware of.
- 18 Q. You go on to say, then, you're unsure if Fujitsu
- 19 went through the data in any other case; is that
- 20 correct?
- 21 A. Yeah, I wouldn't be aware of that.
- 22 Q. Would you not have expected Fujitsu to be asked
- 23 to go through the data, given it was their data
- that they were providing?
- 25 **A.** Looking back probably, yes.

- 1 A. No. I mean, I'd only been in the role for two
- 2 months, so I wasn't really aware of any issues.
- 3 Q. Do you remember any further discussion about
- 4 that issue at the time?
- 5 **A.** No.
- 6 Q. Thank you. That can come down.
- 7 So you also explain in your statement that,
- 8 as part of the investigation, any activity would
- 9 be recorded on an event log. Again, is that by
- 10 the Security Manager?
- 11 A. Yes, the person who was running the case as part
- of the case file. There was an event log that
- 13 every action you took, you would list.
- 14 Q. Were entries made throughout the investigation
- 15 or just at a specific part?
- 16 A. Throughout that, that I recall.
- 17 Q. Was that from 2011 when you joined the Security
- 18 Team?
- 19 A. It may have started a little bit after that.
- 20 But I certainly did use event logs a lot.
- 21 Q. Is it correct that you were also involved in
- 22 conducting interviews as a Security Manager?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 $\,$ Q. So at paragraph 59 of your statement, you
- 25 explain you recall a new set of interview

135

- 1 Q. Do you remember there being a limit on the
- 2 number of ARQ requests, which could be provided
- 3 by Fujitsu?
- 4 A. There was a limit on the number of free ones,
- 5 yes
- 6 Q. Do you ever recall being told you could not have
- 7 ARQ data because of those limits?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Could we please have POL00167369 on screen,
- 10 please. This is an email from Graham Ward to
- 11 you and number of others and it's dated 14 April
- 12 2011. The subject is "Credence v Fujitsu" and
- 13 the body of the email says:
- 14 "All

15 "If anyone has any evidence of disparities

- 16 between Fujitsu and Credence transaction data,
- 17 please get in touch ([for example] timing issues
- 18 ... session numbers not matching for postage
- 19 label transactions etc)."
- 20 Do you remember there being disparities
- 21 between the Fujitsu and the Credence transaction
- 22 data?
- 23 A. I've never had an example of that, no.
- 24 Q. Did this email cause you concern when you
- 25 received it?

134

- 1 questions were provided to Security Managers in
- 2 2013?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Can we please have POL00031005 on screen,
- 5 please. This is the "Conduct of Criminal
- 6 Investigations Policy", which is one of the
- 7 documents you were provided with, and if we just
- 8 go to the bottom of the page, please. We can
- 9 see just at the very top right it's effective
- 10 from 29 August 2013.
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 Q. If we can go to the bottom of page 16, please,
- just starting at paragraph 5.11.6, it says:
- 14 "Should the recent Second Sight review be
- 15 brought up by a suspect or his representative
- during a PACE interview the Security Manager
- 17 should state: 'I will listen to any personal
- 18 concerns or issues that you may have had with
- 19 the Horizon system during the course of this
- 20 interview'."

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- 21 It goes on in the next paragraph to say:
- 22 "The following three areas need to be
- covered in as much detail as possible at
- 24 an appropriate point during all PACE interviews,
 - regardless of whether Horizon is mentioned or

1	not. Where the case clearly has no link with
2	Horizon ([for example] theft of mail) then you
3	must gain authorisation from your line manager
4	to proceed outside of this process."

So if we could scroll down just a bit further, we can see there's three topics: training, support and Horizon. Are those the new questions you're referring to?

- 9 A. Yeah, we were sent those on an email and, 10 obviously, they've been incorporated into that.
- Thank you. Can we please have POL00166044, 11 Q. please. So this is a document we will come back 12 13 to again later, but it's a record of a case file 14 governance meeting, which took place on 15 31 July 2013. We can see that you were present.
- 16 A. Yeah.

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17 Q. If we look at the fourth point in that document, please. It says: 18

> "Produce Template to assist Security Managers for investigation interviews (questions to include 'subpostmaster training, induction, support')."

We see your initials as one of the leads beside that point. Are those the new interview questions?

137

- 1 A. I think they just wanted to cover the bases with
- 2 regard to questions about it, to make sure that
- 3 they've asked about the training, the support
- 4 that the branches have been given, et cetera.
- 5 Q. Was it because you understood there had been
- 6 a problem with that previously?
- 7 A. With?
- Q. With covering the bases, in terms of training 8 9 and Horizon issues in interviews?
- 10 A. I don't think so, no.
- Q. You explain at paragraph 59 of your witness 11
- statement that, when the new interview questions 12
- 13 were introduced, if a subpostmaster raised
- 14 issues with Horizon, Investigators would have to
- report this in the case file? 15
- A. That's the way I understood it, yes. 16
- 17 And that an Investigator also had to request ARQ
- data for the relevant period? 18
- Yes, as far as I remember. 19 Α.
- 20 Q. Do we understand from that that these weren't explicit requirements before 2013? 21
- 22 A. I don't remember being told explicitly to do
- 23 that in the past, no.
- 24 Q. Could we have your witness statement on screen,
- 25 please, at the bottom of page 43. It's page 43 139

A. Yes. The initials are the people that the 1

2 action was given to. However, that was not

3 drawn up by myself. It was drawn up by a lady

called Sharron Logan, because the email that

5 I've got with that on, has come from Sharron.

- 6 Were you involved in drafting, then, the new 7 questions --
- 8 A. No.

4

- 9 Q. -- in the policy documents?
- No, not at all. 10
- So what questions are those referring to that --11
- They are those questions but it's just that that 12
- 13 action was actually transferred to somebody
- 14
- 15 Q. Okay, so even though it says you're one of the
- 16 leads, that's incorrect?
- 17 A. It's incorrect, yes.
- Q. Thank you. That document can come down. 18
- 19 Do you remember the reason why those new 20 questions were introduced?
- 21 A. I think it came after the Second Sight report.
- That's when it was drafted for us to use at 22
- 23 interview.
- 24 Q. Why did you understand Second Sight prompting
- 25 new --

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138

- 1 and paragraph 97. You say:
- 2 "Following the introduction of further
- 3 questions to be asked to [subpostmasters] in
- 4 an interview relating to the Horizon system,
 - I believe that I would have considered
- 6 a challenge to the integrity of Horizon in one
- 7 case to be relevant to others. We had to ask
- them in all new cases going forwards. I cannot 8
- 9 recall if I would have thought the same from
- when I started in 2011 ..." 10
- 11 So is it your position that, before 2011,
- you don't know whether you would have thought 12
- 13 that one Horizon case might be relevant to
- 14 another?
- 15 No, I don't think that's particularly clear. If
- 16 there were issues with Horizon, then, yes, it
- 17 would always have been relevant to other cases.
- Is that your position even before 2013? 18
- 19 Yes, yeah.
- 20 So at all points when you were a Security
- 21 Manager, you would have thought a challenge
- 22 would have been relevant to another case?
- 23 A. If we'd been aware of anything, then, yes, it
- 24 would be relevant. Of course it would.
- 25 Q. When you say "aware of anything", do you mean

1	aware of a bug or aware of an allegation?	What
2	do you mean by that?	

- 3 A. Yeah, aware of any bugs in the system that would4 affect balancing.
- 5 Q. What about if there was allegations that the
- 6 Horizon system was at fault for a loss?
- 7 **A.** Well, obviously that would need to be looked8 into.
- 9 Q. Thank you. That can come down.
- 10 Is it correct that following the interview,
- 11 the Lead Investigator would complete a report
- 12 which was reviewed by the Team Leader, before
- 13 being passed to the Legal Team?
- 14 A. Yes, unless he had any further investigation to
- 15 do before he completed the case file. But
- 16 eventually the case file would be passed to the
- 17 Team Leader and then on to the Legal Team.
- 18 Q. That case file would contain a report which is
- 19 sometimes referred to as an offender report?
- 20 A. Yes
- 21 **Q.** Who then made the decision to proceed to
- 22 prosecute someone?
- 23 A. That would be the Legal Team.
- 24 Q. So you say in your statement that, at the end of
- 25 the offender report, there was a conclusion
 - 141
- 1 to."
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. My question was: is that another way of saying
- 4 that we recommended charges which were
- 5 appropriate?
- 6 A. Wouldn't be recommended, it would be what it
- 7 showed, what the Investigator's opinion would
- 8 be. But it wouldn't recommend charges.
- 9 Q. So would it be "It's my opinion that the
- 10 evidence shows that there is theft in this
- 11 case"?
- 12 A. I can't recall, to be honest.
- 13 Q. Do you think that Investigators were qualified
- 14 to provide a summary of what the facts pointed
- 15 to in terms of criminal offences?
- 16 A. Possibly Senior Investigators, maybe, yes.
- 17 Obviously, it took time to learn those skills.
- 18 **Q.** By a Senior Investigator, do you mean Security
- 19 Managers that have been in the post for a long
- 20 time or team leaders and above?
- 21 A. Probably both.
- 22 $\,$ **Q**. Who made the decision, then, to recover a loss
- from a subpostmaster who was being prosecuted?
- 24 A. That would be the Financial Investigators.
- 25 **Q.** Did you have any involvement in relation to that 143

- 1 section --
- 2 **A.** Mm-hm.
- 3 $\,$ **Q.** -- where a summary could be provided of which
 - offence the facts pointed to; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes

- 6 Q. So is that another way of saying that
- 7 the Investigator would recommend which charges
- 8 they considered to be appropriate?
- 9 A. No, just what the evidence showed.
- 10 Q. But would they say "The evidence shows that this
- 11 is false accounting", "The evidence shows this
- 12 is theft"?
- 13 A. Can you just show me the phrase at the end of
- 14 the report? I just can't remember it. Just
- 15 repeat that question again?
- 16 Q. Of course, no problem. So in your statement at
- 17 paragraph 39, you say that, at the end of the
- 18 report which went to the Legal Team -- I can get
- 19 that up for you. It's page 18 of your
- 20 statement.
- 21 A. Ah right, yeah.
- 22 Q. You say at the end of that paragraph 39:
- 23 "At the end of the report there was
- 24 a conclusion section where a summary could be
- 25 provided in relation to what the facts pointed
 - 142
- 1 decision to recover losses?
- 2 A. Not that I recall, no.
- 3 Q. Could we please have POL00105025 on screen,
- 4 please. This sets out the Security Team
- 5 objectives from April 2013 to March 2014. If we
- 6 could go to page 117 of that document, please.
- 7 Thank you. Are those your objectives for
- 8 that year?

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- 10 Q. Go to the bottom of that document, section 3.
- 11 So we see the objective is:

A. They are, yes.

- 12 "To ensure a robust approach to fraud loss
- 13 recovery with a return rate of 65%."
- 14 Do you remember that being a personal
- 15 objective or a team objective?
- 16 A. It was a team objective.
- 17 Q. Did you personally receive any benefit if that
- 18 objective was met?
- 19 A. Not that I recall, no.
- 20 **Q.** Thank you very much, that document can come
- 21 down.
- In the two cases that we will go on to touch
- on in a moment, you explain that you were the
- 24 Second Officer in both cases; is that correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- Q. Can you just briefly explain the difference 1
- 2 between the Second Officer and the First or Lead
- 3 Investigator in a case?
- 4 A. The Second Officer is usually just in attendance
- 5 at an interview, sometimes at an audit shortage,
- 6 as well. At the interview, it would be around
- 7 meeting the interviewee, setting up the room,
- 8 making sure everything was set up for the
- 9 interview. You could interject with questions
- 10 if you felt there was a relevant one but most of
- the questions would normally be done by the Lead 11
- 12 Investigator.
- 13 Q. Would the First and Second Officer typically
- 14 discuss a case before an interview?
- Potentially, yes. 15 Α.
- 16 Q. Would there be any discussion afterwards about
- 17 further enquiries which might be necessary?
- Not that I recall no. Usually once the 18 Α.
- 19 interview was done, the Second Officer would
- 20
- 21 Q. If you had a concern in respect of issues raised
- 22 during an interview or any other aspect of
- 23 a case, would you raise it with the First
- 24 Officer?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Is it also correct that you attended one of the
- 2 court hearings in his case?
- 3 A. Yes, I did attend. It was more of a learning
- 4 experience because I'd never actually been to
- 5 a live courtroom.
- 6 Q. Was it for your own experience rather than you
- 7 were there to provide any assistance?
- 8 A. Yes, it was just for my own experience.
- 9 Q. Did you have any further involvement in this
- 10 case?
- A. Nothing at all. No. 11
- 12 Q. Moving on, then, to the case of Angela Sefton
- 13 and Anne Nield, who were employed at Fazakerley
- 14 Post Office.
- A. Yeah. 15
- Q. Could we please have POL00113343 on screen, 16
- 17 please, at page 6. This is a judgment of the
- 18 Court of Appeal in which the court quashed
- 19 Ms Sefton and Ms Nield's convictions, along with
- 20 others. If we could go to page 6, please,
- 21 starting at paragraph 23, I won't read the full
- 22 extract but I just wanted to highlight the
- 23 following paragraphs.
- 24 So at paragraph 23, then:
- 25 "On 11 April 2013, in the Crown Court at

147

- Q. Turning first, please, to the case of Khayyam 1
- 2 Ishaq, who was the subpostmaster at Birkenshaw
- 3 Post Office, is it correct that you attended
- 4 Mr Ishaq's follow-up interview with Steve
- Bradshaw --5
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. -- which took place on 27 September 2011?
- 8 A.
- 9 Q. Were you aware at that time that Mr Ishaq had
- 10 previously been interviewed earlier that year?
 - 11 A.
 - Q. Prior to attending the interview, did you 12
- 13 discuss the case with Mr Bradshaw?
- A. Vaguely. I can vaguely remember discussions on 14
- 15 the basics on the case, yeah.
- 16 Q. What did you understand about the case before
- 17 you attended the interview?
- 18 A. Not a great deal, to be honest. As I say, the
- 19 case had already been running for a while.
- 20 I was just asked to come along for the second
- 21 interview, the follow-up interview.
- 22 Is it right that you subsequently provided
- 23 a witness statement in the case exhibiting the
- 24 interview transcript?
- 25 A. Yes.

146

- 1 Liverpool before [His or Her Honour Judge]
- 2 Hatton, Angela Sefton and Anne Nield each
- 3 pleaded guilty to one count of false accounting
- 4 with which they were jointly charged. The
- 5 allegation against them was in short that
- 6 between 1 January 2006 and 6 January 2012 they
- 7 had falsified giro deposit entries on Horizon in
- 8 relation to the receipt of £34,115.50 in
- donations made to the charity Animals In Need." 9
- 10 So paragraph 25 states:

11 "Ms Nield was employed as the branch manager

- 12 in the Fazakerley Post Office where Ms Sefton
- was employed as a clerk. Their employer was the 13
- 14 [subpostmaster] but he was rarely at the branch 15 owing to illness. In 2006, the [subpostmaster]
- 16 identified an explained shortage of £4,000. He
- 17 paid half of the shortage and they paid the
- 18 other half. He told them that, from then on,
- 19 they would be responsible for all losses."
 - Paragraph 26:

20

- 21 "In December 2011, Santander bank contacted
- 22 [the Post Office] following a complaint to
- 23 Santander by Animals In Need that there was
- 24 a significant delay between money being 25

deposited in the Fazakerley Post Office and

1 payment into the charity's bank account. This 2 triggered an investigation." 3 Then paragraph 27: 4 "[The Post Office] audited the branch on 5 6 January 2012. During the audit, 40 giro 6 deposit slips and a number of cheque envelopes were recovered from a cupboard which showed 7 8 suppressed deposits in the sum of £34,219. 9 Ms Sefton and Ms Nield handed the Auditor 10 a jointly signed letter in which they said they'd tried to repay shortages by using their 11 12 own credit cards and their holiday money. They 13 had eventually run out of funds. As a result, 14 they began to covering up shortages by delaying 15 the processing of business deposits to Santander 16 and to one other bank. They could not explain 17 the shortages. They had reached 'breaking 18 point' in their lives and health had been deeply 19 affected." 20 Then paragraph 28: 21 "On 20 January 2012, Ms Sefton and Ms Nield 22 were each interviewed." 23 We'll come back to that interview. Over the 24 page at paragraph 33, then. The court's

149

1 audit had already been arranged at the branch 2 for the next day; is that correct? 3 **A.** Yes, due to the complaint made by Santander. 4 Q. Do you understand it then to be a coincidence

conclusion was:

- 5 the timing of her phoning Mr Bradshaw the day 6 before?
- 7 Yes, I don't think -- she wouldn't have been 8 aware that the Auditors were going.
- 9 Q. Is it correct, then, that you attended the audit of the Fazakerley branch on 6 January 2012 with 10 Mr Bradshaw? 11
- Yes, I accompanied Steve Bradshaw, yeah. 12 Α.
- When you arrived at the branch, the audit was 13 14 already under way; is that correct?
- 15 A.

25

- Q. So what was your role during the audit? 16
- 17 A. I think Steve took me along just -- again, just
- 18 for experience and to have somebody with him in
- case it moved on to searches, which it did. So 19
- 20 he obviously being local -- fairly local to
- 21 Steve, he asked me to come with him because it
- 22 was fairly short notice anyway.
- 23 But your evidence is that you didn't actually Q.
- 24 have any kind of active role during the audit?

151

25 A. No. 1 "In these circumstances, [the Post Office]

2 accepts that the prosecution of Ms Sefton and of

3 Ms Nield was unfair and an affront to justice."

4 That can come down.

5 So you explain at paragraph 76 of your 6 statement that the first thing you recall about

7 this case is Ms Nield phoning Steve Bradshaw on

8 the 5 January 2012; is that correct?

- 9 A. At the time, yes.
- 10 Q. Is it right that you understood she asked to
- 11 speak to him outside work about a matter?
- 12 Α.
- 13 Q. What did you understand she wanted to speak to

14 him about?

- 15 A. I don't know until the day we went to the audit,
- 16 when Steve told me that they were having
- 17 balancing difficulties and they wanted to tell
- 18 somebody about it.
- 19 Q. Why was it Mr Bradshaw that she contacted in
- 20 those circumstances, do you know?
- 21 A. As Steve lives in Liverpool, so he's probably
- 22 aware of the office and the staff in the office,
- 23 so he's probably had previous dealings with
- 24 them.
- 25 Q. At the time that Ms Nield phoned Mr Bradshaw, an 150
- 1 Q. You explain in your statement that you witnessed
- 2 Ms Nield hand a letter to Mr Bradshaw; is that
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Can you describe the circumstances in which the
- letter was handed to Mr Bradshaw? 6
- 7 A. I can't recall, no.
- 8 Q. Do you remember if anything prompted the letter
- being handed over, a question from Mr Bradshaw? 9
- A. No, I don't think so. 10
- 11 Q. So you then explain that you were directed to
- 12 a number of Girobank deposit slips; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 Α. Yes
- 15 Q. Who was that by?
- A. I can't recall for certainty. I think it was 16
- 17 Ms Sefton but I'm not sure on that.
- 18 So at this point, then, had the audit finished?
- A. No, I think it was still ongoing. 19
- 20 Q. Was there a reason that you were then directed
- 21 to participate rather than the Auditors?
- 22 A. Just because the -- I think the ladies told
- 23 Steve where to find the documents.
- 24 Q. So there was a conversation with Mr Bradshaw

152

25 during the Audit?

1	A.	Yes.	1		a £4,000 shortage. The Post Office said they
2	Q.	Is it correct, then, that you subsequently	2		would leave the shortage in abeyance for 6
3		attended the searches of both Ms Sefton and	3		months so that all work could be checked.
4		Ms Nield's homes later that day?	4		Nobody could find the shortage so the postmaster
5	A.	Yes.	5		was asked to pay it back in full."
6	Q.	What was your role during those searches?	6		So, stopping there, from the documents
7	A.	Just to assist Steve.	7		provided to you by the Inquiry, do you know
8	Q.	You were also present during their interviews on	8		whether the audit was the first time you
9		20 January 2012; is that correct?	9		attended Fazakerley branch?
10	A.	Yes.	10	A.	No, from the documents you provided, I didn't
11	Q.	If we could go, then, to the transcript of	11		remember them, but had done a couple of
12		Ms Sefton's interview, please, and the reference	12		intervention visits there back in, I think, it
13		is POL00044010. We can see that the date of the	13		was 2005.
14		interview is 20 January 2012 and you and	14	Q.	Thank you. That document can come down. If we
15		Mr Bradshaw attended along with Ms Sefton's	15		could have on the screen POL00044222. Thank
16		solicitor. If we go to page 2, please. So at	16		you. So we can see this is an "Area
17		7 minutes and 53 seconds in, it says:	17		Intervention Manager Visit Log". The date of
18		"SB read out the letter."	18		the visit is 14 September 2005, and the name of
19		Do you understand that to be a reference to	19		the AIM is that Area Intervention Manager
20		the letter handed to Mr Bradshaw during the	20	A.	Yes.
21		audit?	21	Q.	is yourself?
22	A.	Yes.	22	A.	Yeah.
23	Q.	The start of letter reads:	23	Q.	So the details of visit read as follows:
24		"In 2005 we had a change of computer systems	24		"The above office has a loss from week 19 of
25		by the Post Office. It occurred that we had 153	25		£592.21. OIC states this is something to do 154
1		with an upgrade of Horizon"	1		good."
2		Just pausing there, who is the OIC in those	2		Do you remember this visit?
3		circumstances?	3	A.	I don't.
4	A.	Officer in charge, so that would be I think	4	Q.	Do you accept, looking at that first
5		it was Anne Nield, I think. I think she was	5		paragraph first of all, actually, did you
6		the managing the office at the time.	6		complete the "Details of visit"? Would that
7	Q.	So in that context, then, the officer in charge	7		have been your entry?
8		is the person at the branch	8	A.	The top half is what would have been sent to me.
9	A.	Yes.	9		The bottom half is what I would have responded
10	Q.	rather than a criminal investigator?	10		with.
11	A.	No.	11	Q.	So what we can see on screen at the minute
12	Q.	" and a problem with the declaration of the	12	A.	Yeah
13		cash. There is no errors so I am unable to put	13	Q.	is that your entry or somebody else's?
14		in suspense. OIC is unable to make good as the	14	A.	Yeah, the above office bit, down to "Please
15		[postmaster] on holiday until 12/09/05.	15		contact office", that would have been
16		"Please contact office and reply within	16		pre-populated when it was sent out to me.
17		7 days."	17	Q.	Okay.
18		Then the next paragraph, it says:	18	A.	The bottom bit "I attended the office today",
19		"I attended the office today to find that	19		that would have been the bit that I would have
20		the loss has now cleared for no apparent reason.	20		filled in.
21		The office balanced £1,330 short last week but	21	Q.	
22		this was due to a £1,250 entry with the ATM	22	-	pre-populated by Ann Wilde? We can see that
23		meaning that this should straighten itself out	23	Α.	Yes.
		modring that the endula endighter teen out			:
24		on balancing today. This will make a shortage	24	Q.	Do you know who that would have been?

- 1 not 100 per cent sure. But I used to get --
- 2 some of these would come from Chesterfield.
- 3 Q. So are the circumstances this: that a problem
- 4 would be reported from a branch to Chesterfield?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Chesterfield would pre-populate part of the
- 7 form --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- send it to you to go to the branch?
- 10 A. To arrange a visit, yes.
- 11 Q. Then you would provide a response?
- 12 A. A response, yeah.
- 13 Q. If we could then just look at the first
- 14 paragraph. Do you accept that, from looking at
- that, that there seems to be a problem, at least
- on the face of it, with the Horizon system?
- 17 **A.** That seems to be what they've put it down to,
- 18 yes.
- 19 Q. When you attended the office, you found that the
- 20 loss had cleared for no apparent reason?
- 21 A. Yeah, it may well have been that they've
- 22 accepted another transaction correction because,
- 23 having read all the documents, they used to get
- 24 quite a few transaction corrections.
- 25 Q. But you can't tell that --

- 1 **Q.** Okay. So that would have been your entry but
- 2 you can't help us with --
- 3 A. I have no idea what a "DUPOF Visit" was because
- 4 it's obviously come out to me with just "DUPOF",
- 5 so at the time I assume I would have known what
- 6 that was about, so I must have been getting
- 7 a few of those at the time.
- 8 Q. Then, finally on this topic, can we please have
- 9 POL00044223 on the screen, please. This is the
- 10 third log and the date of the visit is
- 11 8 February 2006. In "Details of visit", we see
- there's a £3,959 shortage in week 41. Would
- 13 that have been your entry?
- 14 A. That would have been -- again, that would have
- 15 been pre-populated and sent out to me with the
- 16 details. I assume the branch must have settled
- 17 that centrally, so it's gone to Chesterfield so
- 18 they will have populated it to send somebody out
- 19 to see if they could --
- 20 Q. Sorry, can you just repeat your answer?
- 21 A. Can you just scroll it back down again a second
- 22 for me?
- 23 Q. Can we just go to the top, thank you.
- 24 $\,$ **A.** Yeah, the top part of that would have been
- 25 pre-populated. I would assume that the branch 159

1 **A.** No.

- 2 Q. -- from looking at this --
- 3 A. No
- 4 Q. -- and you have no independent recollection of
- 5 it
- 6 A. I can't recall, no.
- 7 Q. If we could go then to consider POL00068605,
- 8 please. This is another log, again with your
- 9 name on it, and the date of the visit is
- 10 18 January 2006. The "Details of visit" say
- 11 "DUPOF Visit".
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. What does this refer to?
- 14 A. I saw this one, I think you sent me this one
- 15 last week and I have no recollection of what
- 16 "DUPOF" stands for. I can only assume there was
- 17 some work going on at the branch. It could have
- 18 been disability access, or other things it could
- 19 have been involved with is security
- 20 installation, cameras, et cetera. But
- 21 I honestly cannot recall what that visit was
- 22 about
- 23 Q. But would that -- would you have completed that
- 24 "Details of visit" section?
- 25 A. Yes.

158

- 1 has settled the shortage centrally, so it's gone
- 2 to Chesterfield, and they would have
- 3 pre-populated the form and sent it out as
- 4 a request to go and assist.
- 5 Q. Thank you. If we could go to the bottom of that
- 6 page, then, please, we see another box which
- 7 says, "Current issues" -- would that have been
- 8 your entry, this box --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- which says:
- 11 "I attended the office as they had received
- 12 a request for payment for the loss sustained in
- 13 TP09. Chesterfield have now put a temporarily
- 14 block on this awaiting a transaction correction.
- 15 I have checked all the office documents,
- transaction logs and events logs for the week
- 17 concerned and there is no sign of what has
- caused this loss. I have contacted Girobank, who are looking to see if there are any errors
- who are looking to see if there are any errors that have come to light. I have advised the
- 21 manager that Chesterfield will only allow the
- 22 block to stand for so long unless they can
- discover where the errors were made. If not,
- then the postmaster will have to make
- 25 arrangements to settle with Chesterfield.

- Girobank have stated that there is nodiscrepancy showing."
- 3 Do you remember this visit?
- 4 A. I don't remember the visit, no.
- 5 Q. Do you, at any point, have a recollection of
- 6 speaking to either the subpostmaster or
- 7 Ms Sefton and Ms Nield?
- 8 A. I mean, obviously, I have visited the branch or
- 9 I must have spoken to them. I know the
- 10 postmaster wasn't in branch very often, he left
- 11 them to run the branch for them, so I would
- 12 assume I've spoken to one of the two ladies
- 13 there.
- 14 Q. Do you accept, then, that you've said that there
- is no sign of what's caused this almost £4,000
- 16 loss?
- 17 A. Yeah, I mean, my role in the visit was to go
- 18 through all of the documents to see if I could
- 19 see anything. Obviously, I can only go through
- 20 what was on hand. So, obviously, I'm not
- 21 finding anything, I've contacted Girobank. In
- those days, sometimes we could ring them to try
- 23 to speed up an error process, if there'd been
- 24 an error. And then I'd completed this to send
- 25 it back to where it came from so that they could
- 1 Q. Which you couldn't find an explanation for --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. -- when you attended? Do you accept that this
- 4 sounds similar to the loss reported in the
- 5 letter handed to Mr Bradshaw, the £4,000 loss?
- 6 A. Yeah, it's similar. I'm not sure on the
- 7 timeline how far away it was from then.
- 8 **Q.** They say it was 2005, and the date of this visit
- 9 is 2006 --
- 10 A. Right.
- 11 Q. -- at the start of 2006.
- 12 A. Possibly. I don't know, honestly.
- 13 Q. Did you inform Mr Bradshaw that you'd attended
- 14 this branch previously when it was experiencing
- 15 shortages?
- 16 A. No, because I had no recollection of it at the
- 17 time.
- 18 Q. Did you ever check your records to see if you'd
- 19 previously visited a branch you were involved in
- 20 investigating?
- 21 A. Unfortunately, as I said to you earlier, that
- 22 I was -- I'd decided to take redundancy, so
- 23 I was going through that process, so one of the
- 24 parts of that process was to clear my laptop, so
- 25 I didn't have all those records any more.

- 1 make further checks. So I had no access to any
- 2 other data
- 3 Q. So you would have completed that and sent it4 back to Chesterfield --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- is that your description?
- 7 So would it have been usual for you to have
- 8 received anything back from Chesterfield or
- 9 would it be usual for you to not hear anything
- 10 after that?
- 11 A. It would be -- usually, I would not hear
- 12 anything. I was just boots on the ground to go
- and have a look to see if I could help and then
- 14 it goes back to Chesterfield.
- 15 Q. Would you have been concerned about that
- situation, where you've got quite a large loss
- 17 and no sign of what's caused it?
- 18 **A.** In those days, the problem was a lot of errors
- 19 took a very long time to come back, hence the
- 20 shortcut by ringing Girobank to see if they
- 21 could identify anything because, historically,
- 22 Girobank were very, very slow on sending errors
- 23 back. But that wasn't -- I wouldn't say it was
- 24 common but it happened, where you'd have losses
- 25 like that.

- 1 Q. So even if you'd wanted to --
- 2 **A.** No
- 3 Q. -- when you joined the Security Team you
- 4 couldn't have checked your records?
- 5 **A.** No.
- 6 Q. Did you ever ask whether those checks could be
- 7 made or think about making those checks?
- 8 A. Not that I recall, no.
- 9 Q. Can you see any potential problems with not
- 10 making those checks?
- 11 A. I mean, ordinarily when an investigation is
- 12 going on, they would be checking for losses
- 13 anyway on the branch.
- 14 Q. But, in this circumstance, where maybe
- 15 Mr Bradshaw might not have known, can you see
- any problems with you not having independently
- told him that you'd been at this branch before?
- 18 A. Yeah, obviously, if I'd recalled it, then
- 19 I would have told him but I didn't at the time.
- 20 Q. You subsequently provided a witness statement in
- 21 this case, dated 21 March 2012; is that right?
- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 Q. That dealt with the audit, the searches --
- 24 **A.** Yes
- 25 $\,$ **Q**. -- and the interview. Did you have any further

1		involvement in this case?	1		So, obviously, the Post Office had paid or
2	A.	Nothing at all, no.	2		helped to pay for some renovations in some way.
3	MS	MILLAR: Thank you, sir. I wonder if that would	3		Thank you. That's just for completeness.
4		be a convenient moment. I don't have many more	4		Finally, I just want to turn to ask you some
5		questions for Mr Ryan but if we could have	5		questions about your knowledge about problems
6		a 15-minute break, please.	6		with the Horizon system. At paragraph 53 of
7	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: Yes, certainly so what time shall	7		your witness statement, you say:
8		we	8		"I do not recall ever having any issues or
9	MS	MILLAR: 3.25?	9		errors with the Horizon system being reported to
10	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: 3.25. All right, fine.	10		me. We were always assured by the Post Office
11	MS	MILLAR: Thank you very much.	11		and Fujitsu that the Horizon system was robust."
12	(3.0	5 pm)	12	A.	Yeah.
13		(A short break)	13	Q.	Does that remain your position?
14	(3.2	5 pm)	14	A.	Yes.
15	MS	MILLAR: Thank you, sir, can you see and hear us?	15	Q.	You also say in your statement that you were
16	SIR	WYN WILLIAMS: Yes, thanks, yes.	16		regularly informed the same by the Post Office
17	MS	MILLAR: Thank you.	17		in your team meetings?
18		Mr Ryan, earlier on I'd taken you to one of	18	A.	That's correct.
19		the logs where it said "DUPOF".	19	Q.	Can you help us with the names of the
20	Α.	Yes.	20		individuals from the Post Office who assured you
21	Q.	You couldn't remember what that was. Does	21		that Horizon was robust?
22		"Deprived Urban Post Office Fund" sound correct?	22	A.	It was a number of people from the top down, so
23	Α.	Yes, yes, it does. It was basically a fund for	23		I John Scott, Andy Hayward, and any of the
24		helping postmasters do branches up so that that	24		team leaders that I had over that timescale. So
25		equates to the work that was done in the branch. 165	25		Helen Dickinson, Keith Gilchrist. I think it 166
1		always came from the top. I don't know where it	1		the Post Office Security Team from Helen
2		came from beyond John Scott, but we were always	2		Dickinson, and it's dated 9 September 2011.
3		told it was business as usual, "Carry on,	3		If we go down the page, then, please, we can
4		Horizon is fine".	4		see that it discusses a financial investigation
5	Q.	Were those oral assurances, written assurances?	5		which has now been concluded:
6	A.	Mostly oral at team meetings on conference	6		"The subpostmaster was reinstated at the
7		calls.	7		branch as there had been failings in the
8	Q.	Who from Fujitsu assured you that Horizon was	8		training given by Post Office Limited. He
9		robust?	9		intimated to the Auditor that Horizon system had
10	A.	I had no contact direct from Fujitsu.	10		'lost' data. The Contracts Manager, Paul
11	Q.	So when you say in your statement "We were	11		Williams, felt that due to these issues he would
12		always assured by the Post Office and Fujitsu	12		have to reinstate with conditions attached
13		that the Horizon system was robust"	13		including a full repayment of the shortage."
14	A.	Yeah, the comments were from John Scott would	14		Next paragraph, it says:
15		be that Fujitsu had informed him, et cetera,	15		"Kevin Ryan, Security Manager discussed the
16		et cetera, and he filtered that down to us, that	16		case with Leslie Frankland and Dave Pardoe and
17		Horizon is robust.	17		it was decided that there was no point in
18	Q.	So it was something that he was passing on	18		continuing with the investigation."
19	A.	Yes.	19		Do you have any recollection of that case?
20	Q.	coming from Fujitsu?	20	A.	No, that would have been one of the very early
21	A.	Yes.	21		cases that I would have been allocated in 2011.
22	Q.	Was your understanding?	22		From reading that, I would say, the Contract
23	A.	That's my understanding, yeah.	23		Manager, probably following a discussion with
24	Q.	Could we please have POL00094108 on screen,	24		him, he decided that there was enough to put the
25		please. We can see this is an internal memo to 167	25		postmaster back in place. So I raised that with 168

- 1 my Team Leader, they decided that, under those
- 2 circumstances, we wouldn't proceed with
- 3 an investigation.
- 4 Q. Do you accept that, on one reading, the reason
- 5 for his reinstatement and the stopping of the
- 6 investigation was because the Horizon system had
- 7 lost data?
- 8 A. Well, the postmaster has intimated that. I had
- 9 no information on that at the time.
- 10 Q. Can you recall what information you had or --
- 11 A. I can't, no.
- 12 Q. Thank you. If we --
- 13 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: It wasn't just -- excuse me, it
- 14 wasn't the postmaster saying it. I think
- 15 Ms Millar's point is that, if you carry on
- 16 reading, the Contracts Manager, Mr Williams,
- 17 appears to have accepted it.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Do you know why he accepted it.
- 20 A. I can't recall why, no. He's obviously had his
- 21 own discussion with the postmaster.
- 22 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: But this is an example, is it
- 23 not, of a complaint about Horizon apparently
- 24 being accepted by the Post Office?
- 25 A. Feasibly, yes.

- 1 together that listed the whole -- all the active
- 2 cases, so that he could study every single case.
- 3 Q. Did that just involve you providing him
- 4 literally with the case files?
- 5 A. With the information, yeah. No, with the
- 6 information from the case files. It was just
- 7 an Excel spreadsheet, effectively, that had all
- 8 the active cases on.
- 9 Q. Were you responsible, then, for populating that
- 10 spreadsheet with information from the case
- 11 files?
- 12 A. I don't recall ever populating it, it was just
- putting the spreadsheet together. As I say,
- 14 I was surprised to be in the role because it was
- 15 quite early in my career. So I was just asked
- 16 to put that together. That tended to be the
- 17 kind of thing that they asked me to do.
- 18 **Q.** You go on to say that you were tasked with
- 19 putting together the spreadsheet and adjusting
- it, as and when requested by John Scott?
- 21 **A.** Yes
- 22 $\,$ Q. What does that mean: adjusting it as and when
- 23 requested?
- 24 A. One of the forms we saw earlier on mentioned

171

25 about adding certain tabs and lines to add

- 1 SIR WYN WILLIAMS: Yes, okay thanks.
- 2 MS MILLAR: Do you remember that when you stepped
- 3 into the role of Team Leader that the Second
- 4 Sight report was published around the same time?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. What was your understanding at the time of the
- 7 significance of that report for criminal
- 8 investigations?
- 9 A. Again, we were informed that we would carry on
- 10 as normal, because they would defend Horizon.
- 11 So that's what they were telling us, so that's
- 12 what we were led to believe, so that's what we
- 13 continued to do.
- 14 Q. Could we, please, have POL00125273 on screen,
- 15 please. This is a "Profile Form" and it's got
- your name on it. At the top of page 9 then,
- 17 please, it explains some of the activities that
- you undertook as the Team Leader and mentions
- 19 that it came at an exceptionally busy time when
- that it dame at an exceptionally bady time when
- 20 the Second Sight Report was published and this
- 21 resulted in a lot of work being generated around
- 22 case file governance.

23

8

- Can you help us with what that means?
- 24 A. John Scott decided he wanted to see every case
- 25 file. So I was asked to put a spreadsheet

170

- 1 further information to the spreadsheet.
- 2 Q. This may be the document you're referring to but
- 3 could we go back, then, to POL00166044. This is
- 4 the record of the case file governance meeting
- 5 that we looked at earlier, and we've looked at
- 6 point 4 already. Could we look at point 7, just
- 7 further down the page. It says:
 - "Cascade to Security Managers: Requirement
- 9 to censure emails, particularly with reference
- 10 to Second Sight review/Horizon and any
- 11 personal/opinionated comments that could become
- 12 public/requested under the Freedom of
- 13 Information Act."
- 14 Similar to earlier, we see that your
- initials are beside the lead for that point.
- 16 Can you help us with what that means?
- 17 A. Basically, that was a message from John Scott
- and the other Senior Security Managers and that
- was to be passed on to the members of your team.
- 20 Q. What was it that had to be passed on?
- 21 A. Basically, the message that is within that
- 22 information there.
- 23 Q. When it says, "The requirement to censure
- emails", is that censor, remove information?
- 25 A. No, just not to put any comments on around --

get

- 2 between Security Managers, like people do in
- 3 a workplace. So just to be careful what you put
- 4 in an email regarding Second Sight.
- 5 Q. Can you tell help us with what kind of banter
- 6 there was going around at the time that needed
- 7 to be controlled?
- 8 A. Yeah, just everyday stuff, you know, asking
- 9 people what they were doing at the weekend and
- 10 making jokes about it. Nothing to do with your
- 11 case files, it was just everything else. On
- 12 that particular point, he was asking us not to
- 13 make too many references to Second Sight.
- 14 Q. Why did you understand he was making that
- 15 request --
- 16 A. I don't know. I just followed what I was told
- 17 to do.
- 18 Q. Did you ever question what you were being told
- 19 to do?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Point 8, then:
- 22 "Liaison Cases: Ensure Security Managers
- 23 have oversight and are aware of third party
- 24 operations (Royal Mail/Police), that could
- 25 impact on the Second Sight Review/Horizon
 - 173
- was just to make them aware of it, is all I can recall.
- 3 Q. Thank you. That document can come down.
- 4 So having considered all of those documents
- 5 and the other ones provided to you by the
- 6 Inquiry, does it remain your position that you
- 7 don't recall ever having any issues or errors
- 8 with the Horizon system reported to you?
- 9 A. Not that I can remember, no.
- 10 Q. You explain in your statement at paragraph 14
- 11 that the decision was made not to pursue any new
- 12 prosecutions in 2013; is that correct?
- 13 A. I think there may have been one or two after
- 14 then but I certainly wasn't involved in any.
- 15 Q. Were you told about the reasons for that
- 16 decision at the time?
- 17 A. They were looking for a new subject matter
- 18 expert to defend Horizon.
- 19 Q. Did you understand that there had been an expert
- 20 previously that they were looking to replace?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Who was that, please?
- 23 A. Gareth Jenkins.
- 24 Q. Did you have any interaction with Mr Jenkins
- 25 that you can remember?
 - 175

- 1 integrity."
 - Again, we see your name beside the lead.
- 3 A. Yeah.

- 4 Q. Can you help us with what that is?
- 5 A. Yeah, there were a lot of cases that were police
- 6 liaison cases. So, as an example, if
- 7 a postmaster reported one of his clerks for
- 8 theft to the police, then we needed to notify
- 9 the police regarding the information around
- 10 Second Sight.
- 11 Q. So that was to provide information about Second
- 12 Sight --
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. -- to those people?
- 15 A. Yeah, we were given a document that we would
- send in those cases, we'd send out to the
- 17 police
- 18 Q. Do you remember what that document says?
- 19 A. I don't but I'm pretty sure I've probably got it
- 20 somewhere
- 21 Q. Was the message in the document that the Second
- 22 Sight had taken place and was there any
- 23 undertaking as to the integrity of Horizon in
- 24 that --
- 25 A. I can't remember exactly what was in it but it
 - 17
 - A. No.
- 2 Q. Who told you that he was the subject matter
- 3 expert?
- 4 A. It would have, again, been relayed at a team
- 5 meeting, he would have been mentioned. I know
- 6 from the documents you've provided he was
- 7 involved in the two cases that you raised
- 8 earlier.
- 9 Q. But at that point in both of those cases, you
- 10 had no involvement; is that correct?
- 11 **A.** No.
- 12 Q. So when you say they were looking for a new
- expert, what did you understand that led them to
- 14 seek a new subject matter expert?
- 15 A. I don't know. All I know was there was a reason
- why Gareth Jenkins couldn't be used in the
- future. So they were -- we were told that, once
- they'd found a new subject matter expert, we
- 19 would continue doing prosecutions.
- 20 $\,$ Q. Was that reason explained to you at the time?
- 21 **A.** No
- 22 $\,$ **Q.** Could we please have POL00124105 on screen,
- 23 please, at page 3. This is an email from Mark
- 24 Raymond to you and a number of others. Can you
- 25 help us with who Mark Raymond is, please?

1	A.	He's the current Head of Security.	1	Q.	Can you remember receiving this email?
2	Q.	It's dated 20 December 2017. The first	2	A.	No.
3		paragraph says:	3	Q.	If we go down, then, to the fourth paragraph, it
4		"I just wanted to give you a quick update	4		says:
5		from the prosecution's meeting"	5		"What has been highlighted is the risk of
6		The second paragraph says:	6		testing a case in the criminal court prior to
7		"A report has been produced externally	7		the civil hearing, where the burden of proof has
8		examining the issues with regard to the Group	8		to be beyond all reasonable doubt, as opposed to
9		Action litigation"	9		the balance of probability in civil cases. The
10		Do you have any understanding of what that	10		risk is that should a trial collapse or not
11		was at the time?	11		guilty advert be reached, this could have
12	A.	No.	12		a devastating impact on the civil cases"
13	Q.	The last two sentences of that paragraph read:	13		The next paragraph reads:
14		"The report has been considered by	14		"At this stage the risk appetite dictates
15		a specialist external lawyer."	15		that every case will be reviewed on its merits,
16		Can you help us with who that was?	16		weight of evidence and public interest as it is
17	A.	I have no idea at all, no.	17		now, however we are unlikely to proceed to
18	Q.	"Certain findings have been referred back for	18		prosecute until post-civil action"
19		clarity but overall there appear to be no major	19		Did you understand that to mean that there
20		flaws."	20		was going to be a pause on prosecutions because
21		What did you understand that to be	21		of the civil litigation?
22		a reference to?	22	Α.	Yes, I would say so.
23	A.	I would imagine that's in relation to Horizon	23		What was your view of the decision?
24		but I'm only assuming that. I don't know for	24	Α.	·
25		certain.	25		than I would, so we just accepted that. 178
1	Q.	Thank you. That can come down.	1	MS	S MILLAR: Correct, sir. Thank you.
2	٠.	With the benefit of hindsight, then, do you	2		R WYN WILLIAMS: All right, 10.00 on Friday.
3		have any reflections in respect of the way in	3		41 pm)
4		which criminal investigations were conducted by	4	(0.	(The hearing adjourned until 10.00 am
5		the Post Office?	5		on Friday 15 December 2023)
6	A.	Yeah, I wish we'd have been privy to all the	6		5
7	Α.	facts because we certainly weren't.	7		
8	MS	MILLAR: Thank you for your assistance, Mr Ryan.	8		
9	1110	I don't have any further questions for you.	9		
10		Sir, do you have any questions before I turn	10		
11		to the representatives from the Core	11		
12		Participants?	12		
13	CID	·	13		
14		R WYN WILLIAMS: No, thank you, no.	14		
	IVIO	MILLAR: I think those are all of the questions			
15	ein	for Mr Ryan. Thank you.	15 16		
16	SIR	R WYN WILLIAMS: All right.			
17		Well, thank you very much, Mr Ryan, for	17		
18		coming to give evidence to the Inquiry and	18		
19		providing your witness statement in advance.	19		
20		I'm obliged to you.	20		
21		E WITNESS: Thank you.	21		
22		MILLAR: Thank you, sir.	22		
23	SIR	R WYN WILLIAMS: I think, Ms Millar, tomorrow is	23		
24		now a non-sitting day and we will resume on	24		
25		Friday, yes? 179	25		180
		173			100

INDEX

Announcement re Evidence of MARTIN SMITH	1
CHRISTOPHER GRANVILLE KNIGHT (sworn)	2
Questioned by MS PRICE	2
Questioned by MS PATRICK	86
Questioned by MR JACOBS	95
KEVIN JAMES RYAN (affirmed)	110
Questioned by MS MILLAR	110

		1 January [2] 80/16	18 [3] 10/21 114/8	2011 [21] 24/20 25/2	3
MR J	ACOBS: [2]	81/22	142/19	52/20 54/3 57/16	3,959 [1] 159/12
95/21		1 January 2006 [1] 148/6	18 April [1] 59/14	59/14 61/23 84/19 101/20 113/10 113/25	3-month [1] 75/10
	ILLAR: [13]	1 November [1]	18 January [2] 52/20 158/10	120/22 124/25 134/12	3.05 [1] 165/12
I	110/4 110/7	24/20	18 October [1] 49/9	135/17 140/10 140/11	3.1 [1] 27/7
I	165/9 165/11	1 November 2011 [1]	18,000 [1] 51/22	146/7 148/21 168/2	3.25 [3] 165/9 165/10
I	5 165/17 170/2	25/2	19 [3] 80/11 122/25	168/21	165/14
179/8	179/14 179/22	1,250 [1] 155/22	154/24	2012 [9] 25/20 148/6	3.41 [1] 180/3
	ATRICK: [1]	1,330 [1] 155/21	19 September [1]	149/5 149/21 150/8	30 [1] 20/23 30 June 2011 [1]
86/13		10 [4] 9/11 16/1	38/11	151/10 153/9 153/14	84/19
1	RICE: [17] 1/3	101/20 123/1	1983 [1] 3/23	164/21	31 [1] 129/5
	20 2/23 25/9	10 February [1] 81/3	1985 [1] 111/5	2013 [18] 10/13 87/7	31 July 2013 [1]
25/13	54/22 54/25	10 February 2010 [3]	1996 [3] 12/12 13/3 13/23	87/16 113/12 115/2 121/11 121/15 121/23	137/15
I	55/6 55/8 86/6	78/4 80/17 81/22 10 June 2013 [1]	1997 [5] 4/8 7/12	123/14 128/4 136/2	32 [3] 22/1 22/3
I	95/19 109/9	87/16	80/16 81/22 111/16	136/10 137/15 139/21	129/19
1	8 109/22	10 00 [3] 1/2 180/2	1998 [1] 13/24	140/18 144/5 147/25	33 [3] 29/22 29/24
	/YN WILLIAMS:	180/4	1999 [1] 8/11	175/12	149/24
	1/5 1/8 25/6 54/10 54/15	100 [7] 47/13 48/20	1st [1] 75/5	2014 [1] 144/5	34,115.50 [1] 148/8
1	54/24 55/1 55/7	48/24 51/2 64/11	2	2015 [1] 97/9	34,219 [1] 149/8 36 [1] 128/14
1	36/11 109/8	116/22 157/1		2016 [1] 7/4	37 [3] 85/4 91/4
	1 109/21 110/3	100 per cent [2]	2 July 2010 [1] 68/24		130/10
1	165/10 165/16	48/13 49/22	2 March [1] 43/6	2021 [1] 97/8	38 [1] 35/24
	3 169/19 169/22	107 [1] 85/3	2.00 [2] 109/18 109/25	2023 [4] 1/1 3/7 110/11 180/5	38 years [1] 111/12
1	179/13 179/16	11 [4] 16/21 91/2 115/14 147/25	20 [5] 54/1 54/5	21 [1] 123/5	39 [2] 142/17 142/22
1	3 180/2	11 March 2010 [1]	54/17 77/22 114/9	21 July 2013 [1]	4
	WITNESS: [1]	73/25	20 April 2010 [1]	123/14	
179/2	<u> </u>	11,900 [1] 76/4	77/7	21 March 2012 [1]	4 February 2010 [1] 55/13
•		11,970.69 [1] 79/24	20 December 2017	164/21	4,000 [4] 148/16
'11 [1]	25/8	11.23 [1] 55/3	[1] 177/2	21 May [1] 80/25	154/1 161/15 163/5
97 [1]		11.40 [3] 55/1 55/2	20 January [1] 153/9	21 May 2010 [1]	40 [3] 36/24 65/19
	hes [1] 89/7	55/5	20 January 2012 [2]	78/24	149/5
'break	ing [1] 149/17	116 [2] 65/20 65/21	149/21 153/14 2000 [4] 4/14 5/12	22 [2] 33/11 38/4	40 years [1] 4/3
	l ' [1] 77/18	117 [1] 144/6	8/11 8/25	22 March [1] 121/22	400 [1] 78/9
	[1] 94/3	12.13 am [1] 59/22 12.57 [1] 109/23	2000s [1] 19/8	23 [3] 17/24 147/21 147/24	40K [1] 41/23
	105/23	12/09/05 [1] 155/15	2001 [1] 12/9	23 February [1]	41 [2] 3/9 159/12
	[1] 77/21	12K [2] 78/4 78/7	2002 [1] 102/20	43/13	43 [2] 139/25 139/25
	[1] 53/5 '[1] 43/20	13 [1] 19/7	2003 [1] 6/9	23 February 2002 [1]	44 [2] 10/17 110/13 45 [2] 10/17 119/15
	[1] 43/20 [1] 106/2	13 December 2023	2003/2004 [1] 6/10	102/20	46,000 [1] 40/22
	72/2 136/17	[1] 1/1	2004 [3] 6/10 9/6	23 October [1] 3/7	47 [1] 10/21
	[1] 72/2	14 [2] 29/24 175/10	16/25	24 [1] 16/20	48 [2] 102/6 121/13
	[1] 136/17	14 April [2] 57/16	2005 [5] 112/3	24 May 2011 [1]	49 [3] 11/14 15/6
'Item [1] 75/12	134/11	153/24 154/13 154/18 163/8		102/5
	1] 168/10	14 April 2010 [1] 28/15	2006 [8] 10/3 112/3	25 [1] 148/10 25 March 2010 [1]	5
	60/23	14 September 2005	148/6 148/15 158/10	75/24	
	ostmaster [1]	[1] 154/18	159/11 163/9 163/11	26 [1] 148/20	5 January 2012 [1] 150/8
137/2		14,000 [2] 46/19	2007 [1] 16/25	26 years [1] 117/23	150/6 5 July 2010 [1] 68/22
I	1 [1] 52/1	91/11	2008 [2] 10/3 38/12	27 [4] 40/11 79/22	5,000 [2] 21/6 21/21
0		15 [3] 54/25 78/7	2009 [1] 41/19	96/12 149/3	5.11.6 [1] 136/13
00.07.	37 [1] 91/4	102/1	2010 [31] 25/7 25/14	27 September 2011	50 [1] 105/14
I] 11/19	15 December [1]	25/21 28/15 43/6	[1] 146/7	52 [1] 105/20
	106/16	180/5	43/11 46/5 49/9 51/12		53 [2] 153/17 166/6
05 [1]	155/15	16 [2] 37/1 136/12	55/13 68/22 68/24 73/25 75/24 76/10	116/5 149/20 28 Soptombor [1]	56 [4] 38/1 38/4
1		16 November [1] 83/15	77/7 77/11 78/3 78/4	28 September [1] 46/5	56/18 57/4
I	uary 2009 [1]	16 November 2023	78/24 80/11 80/17	29 [3] 19/6 71/18	57 [1] 33/10
41/19		[1] 110/11	81/18 81/22 83/3 88/6		58 [1] 125/21 59 [2] 135/24 139/11
	uary 2010 [1]	17 November [1]	89/16 90/10 112/16	29 August 2013 [1]	592.21 [1] 154/25
43/11	, [1]	51/12	112/18 112/20	136/10	002.21[1] 107/20
		17 November 2010	2010-ish [1] 36/20	29 September 2010	
		[1] 83/3		[1] 81/18	
		l .	<u> </u>		MD IACODC: C lenvem

6	above [8] 15/22 43/9	activated [2] 88/10	affecting [1] 28/16	176/15 177/17 178/8
6 January 2010 [1]	78/10 79/3 80/14	88/12	affirmed [2] 110/5	179/6 179/14 179/16
78/3	143/20 154/24 156/14		181/12	180/2
6 January 2012 [2]	above-named [1] 80/14	171/1 171/8 activities [1] 170/17	afford [1] 79/2 affront [1] 150/3	allegation [4] 52/12 82/10 141/1 148/5
148/6 151/10	absence [1] 30/24	activity [4] 22/13		allegations [2] 100/2
6,967.28 [1] 79/22	absolutely [3] 40/18	129/21 129/24 135/8	102/24	141/5
61 [1] 69/3	40/20 90/23	actual [3] 43/19	after [15] 23/11 23/18	
63 [1] 96/9	abuse [1] 97/11	44/14 97/16	24/3 46/6 49/3 59/14	alleged [4] 52/2
65 [1] 144/13 69 [1] 96/1	accept [16] 48/14	actually [8] 44/16	61/24 74/1 118/3	81/15 82/12 96/24
	50/21 54/3 65/5 65/13		120/24 125/3 135/19	alleges [1] 79/15
7	68/15 84/23 100/11	138/13 147/4 151/23	138/21 162/10 175/13	
7 days [1] 155/17	100/21 107/17 107/21 156/4 157/14 161/14	actus [1] 22/25	afternoon [1] 110/1 afternoon's [1]	allocated [3] 120/9 124/9 168/21
7 minutes [1] 153/17	163/3 169/4	adamant [2] 42/7	109/19	allow [1] 160/21
700 [1] 2/3	acceptable [1] 83/11	46/19	afterwards [1]	allowed [3] 72/2 72/3
73 [2] 96/2 97/18 75 [1] 75/1	Acceptance [1] 16/8	add [5] 17/2 53/10	145/16	72/12
76 [1] 150/5	accepted [6] 88/9	91/23 93/1 171/25	again [31] 9/24 21/24	almost [3] 17/23
79 [3] 71/17 71/18	157/22 169/17 169/19	. 0	33/24 35/9 40/12	111/12 161/15
96/9	169/24 178/25	addition [4] 17/7	42/25 46/10 46/14	along [5] 32/12
0	accepts [1] 150/2	36/11 69/23 80/25	49/6 51/1 54/13 56/12	146/20 147/19 151/17
8	access [9] 80/8 103/4 124/2 124/5	additional [2] 15/23 33/25	56/24 56/25 65/16 71/7 81/19 106/12	153/15 already [8] 16/2
8 February [1]	124/13 124/22 131/14		125/16 128/7 128/10	69/17 69/25 73/15
159/11 80 [2] 72/20 155/25	158/18 162/1	119/2	135/9 137/13 142/15	146/19 151/1 151/14
	accessible [1] 75/8	address [7] 10/17	151/17 158/8 159/14	172/6
9	accompanied [1]	17/25 38/13 44/1	159/21 170/9 174/2	also [30] 6/19 9/21
9 June 2013 [1] 87/7	151/12	123/19 123/20 124/11	176/4	10/4 10/7 11/2 11/23
9 September [1]	according [1] 51/23	addressed [1] 10/13	against [4] 53/4	25/2 26/8 27/12 30/10
168/2	Accordingly [3] 26/9	adhered [1] 13/3	84/24 85/1 148/5	39/8 43/14 50/8 51/21
9.6 [1] 26/24	27/13 76/25 account [10] 1/13	adherence [1] 7/24 adhering [1] 19/17	aggravating [1]	51/24 70/3 75/11 76/6 79/21 80/1 88/21 89/3
97 [1] 140/1	40/23 47/15 48/14	adjourned [1] 180/4	ago [1] 40/1	117/15 129/19 135/7
A	76/24 78/9 79/16		agree [2] 49/23 73/21	
abeyance [1] 154/2	91/11 132/19 149/1	109/24	agreed [2] 20/22	153/8 166/15
able [8] 1/22 53/19	accounted [1] 61/11	adjusting [2] 171/19	69/15	although [5] 9/16
76/15 76/18 77/25	accounting [14] 22/6	171/22	Ah [1] 142/21	11/6 11/21 43/22
120/16 124/12 133/6	42/5 43/10 76/19	admin [1] 129/25	aim [3] 12/23 26/25	107/3
about [80] 16/8 17/21 18/1 22/2 22/20 27/21		admission [1] 19/21 admissions [1] 42/4	154/19 Alan [1] 69/11	always [12] 2/15 17/13 46/1 74/13
32/1 37/24 38/25 40/3		admissions/denials	Alison [3] 46/5 46/22	120/19 120/21 121/9
40/13 40/15 46/17	accounts [3] 76/16	[1] 42/4	84/15	140/17 166/10 167/1
48/1 48/3 48/5 50/2	132/23 133/3	admit [1] 19/19	Alison Hall [1] 46/22	167/2 167/12
51/2 51/5 52/14 56/21	Accused's [1] 53/9	admitted [5] 21/7	all [72] 13/4 23/20	am [15] 1/2 18/4
59/15 59/19 61/24	achieve [1] 79/25	21/13 21/18 42/5	25/12 25/15 28/18	47/10 53/5 55/3 55/5
62/8 65/7 65/11 65/14		66/15	30/18 31/3 32/11 36/3	
67/15 68/16 69/20	achievement [1] 24/2	Adrian [1] 84/21	43/10 47/11 47/13 50/23 52/23 57/19	87/1 111/10 133/13 155/13 180/4
71/1 71/14 72/14 73/14 74/5 83/25 85/6	achievements [1] 23/7	Adrian Chaplin [1]	58/18 65/11 71/24	amalgamation [1]
86/19 86/20 86/23	acquired [1] 27/15	84/21	76/20 80/2 82/15 86/6	
87/8 90/5 90/23 92/17	acquisitive [2] 26/8	advance [2] 3/5	90/13 91/6 91/14	amended [1] 80/16
92/18 95/22 96/21	27/12	179/19	91/16 92/13 93/24	amendments [1]
101/3 101/4 103/23	across [3] 78/18 88/2		94/2 94/8 94/19 94/20	l .
106/13 106/14 110/22		advertising [1]	101/2 104/13 104/17	amount [6] 21/16
111/4 111/15 115/20	act [12] 7/22 7/25 12/12 13/2 13/8 13/11	112/22	106/14 107/16 108/3 108/4 109/9 109/11	61/3 82/7 91/23 93/1 130/5
119/17 127/18 135/3 139/2 139/3 141/5	13/22 13/24 72/6	advice [8] 17/1 17/3 17/14 37/4 50/11	109/21 120/11 130/25	
145/16 146/16 150/6	86/14 86/17 172/13	78/23 80/25 105/18	131/6 133/5 134/14	30/5 30/17 30/19
150/11 150/14 150/18	l .	advise [3] 72/23	136/24 138/10 140/8	Andrew [3] 55/16
158/22 159/6 162/15	action [8] 9/25 70/4	73/10 78/15	140/20 147/11 148/19	68/22 69/9
164/7 166/5 166/5	100/17 135/13 138/2	advised [1] 160/20	154/3 156/5 157/23	Andy [3] 55/16 115/3
169/23 171/25 173/10	l .	affect [1] 141/4	160/15 161/18 163/25	l .
174/11 175/15	actions [2] 17/6 17/10	affected [4] 59/9 60/18 70/11 149/19	165/2 165/10 171/1 171/7 175/1 175/4	Angela [4] 86/13 111/1 147/12 148/2
	17/10	00/10/0/11 149/19	17 1/1 17 3/1 17 3/4	111/114//12140/2

Animals [2] 148/9 148/23 **Ann [1]** 156/22 Anne [4] 111/2 147/13 148/2 155/5 announcement [3] 1/7 1/9 181/2 anomalies [1] 30/6 another [14] 61/15 91/25 94/1 94/17 105/6 123/18 128/10 140/14 140/22 142/6 143/3 157/22 158/8 160/6 answer [5] 20/2 67/24 99/17 99/23 159/20 answered [3] 78/19 90/19 96/21 answers [1] 55/8 anticipated [1] 2/15 anxiety [1] 104/10 any [109] 7/10 7/14 9/8 10/24 14/21 16/8 16/13 17/12 18/23 18/24 19/13 20/3 20/4 22/6 27/15 27/16 27/21 28/3 30/24 37/16 44/21 45/3 45/17 45/24 47/9 49/20 50/18 50/22 51/19 52/4 57/2 57/20 61/10 64/9 64/13 64/14 65/22 66/18 69/16 70/3 70/23 74/10 81/23 81/24 83/25 85/8 85/22 86/2 86/7 95/17 97/16 98/2 99/1 102/24 104/11 108/8 109/6 112/14 115/15 117/23 118/1 118/11 122/11 122/14 126/5 127/3 127/14 128/8 128/23 129/12 131/12 132/20 133/4 133/19 134/15 135/2 135/3 135/8 136/17 141/3 141/14 143/25 144/17 145/16 145/22 147/7 147/9 151/24 160/19 161/5 162/1 163/25 164/9 164/16 164/25 166/8 166/23 168/19 172/10 172/25 174/22 175/7 175/11 175/14 175/24 177/10 179/3 179/9 179/10 anybody [3] 33/17 40/25 109/3 anyone [6] 45/8 45/12 57/20 64/9 109/8 134/15

anything [25] 33/1 33/5 47/11 48/11 56/15 70/23 78/20 78/21 84/11 91/20 96/5 99/20 108/15 112/12 116/10 122/18 140/23 140/25 152/8 161/19 161/21 162/8 162/9 162/12 162/21 anyway [3] 126/10 151/22 164/13 apologies [4] 25/9 25/13 38/3 42/25 apologise [3] 8/3 28/11 99/23 apparent [9] 19/5 21/15 28/5 36/3 73/17 73/20 127/20 155/20 157/20 apparently [2] 74/4 169/23 Appeal [7] 97/8 97/10 97/24 98/1 98/9 100/10 147/18 appear [3] 77/21 82/3 around [15] 6/9 9/2 177/19 appearance [1] 126/25 appeared [1] 104/3 appears [3] 82/11 123/19 169/17 **Appendix [1]** 76/13 **Appendix B [1]** 76/13 appetite [1] 178/14 applications [1] 27/5 applied [3] 4/9 13/15 113/8 **apply [2]** 112/23 112/25 applying [1] 85/9 appointed [2] 112/16 113/17 appreciate [3] 99/2 99/16 100/16 approach [4] 19/10 19/11 45/23 144/12 appropriate [8] 27/5 54/23 79/12 104/12 113/7 136/24 142/8 143/5 appropriateness [1] 84/1 approximately [1] 114/8 **April [8]** 28/15 57/16 59/14 77/7 112/16 134/11 144/5 147/25 April 2010 [1] 112/16 **April 2013 [2]** 144/5 147/25 archive [1] 30/13 archived [1] 33/1

are [54] 1/18 1/19

3/16 3/18 10/1 11/8

11/8 13/21 24/20 25/7 27/5 28/20 29/2 45/1 51/1 53/5 53/24 56/24 68/24 69/18 70/3 72/7 79/6 80/21 86/6 88/2 88/21 92/10 99/19 108/23 109/9 110/15 110/17 111/8 114/15 119/11 126/25 137/7 137/24 138/1 138/11 138/12 144/7 144/9 157/3 160/19 160/19 172/15 173/23 178/17 179/14 area [4] 112/3 117/7 154/16 154/19 areas [2] 119/1 136/22 aren't [2] 7/10 63/18 argue [2] 104/23 107/19 arise [1] 110/23 arising [2] 16/9 89/15 assist [5] 3/3 32/23 9/5 36/21 63/13 88/5 89/8 90/7 95/13 145/6 147/7 179/8 170/4 170/21 172/25 173/6 174/9 **ARQ [28]** 30/14 33/6 33/15 33/23 34/3 58/16 69/1 69/16 70/9 70/12 71/5 71/9 71/9 75/7 75/11 75/17 131/16 131/22 131/25 132/1 132/12 132/14 133/1 133/5 133/8 134/2 134/7 139/17 **ARQs [1]** 69/21 arrange [3] 19/10 103/22 157/10 arranged [2] 103/3 151/1 arrangements [1] 160/25 arrested [1] 106/19 **arrival [2]** 19/23 102/9 arrived [1] 151/13 articles [3] 55/24 56/9 88/22 as [202] aside [1] 104/14 ask [21] 17/13 52/24 86/19 86/23 89/12 90/22 91/25 95/2 95/22 98/5 101/2 101/6 101/7 108/8 111/3 111/15 127/18 129/7 140/7 164/6 166/4 asked [28] 16/22 19/18 30/8 52/25 64/12 84/22 91/18

93/20 94/16 97/21 101/3 102/10 113/16 125/17 126/6 129/20 130/8 132/18 133/22 139/3 140/3 146/20 150/10 151/21 154/5 asking [10] 2/24 40/12 48/13 82/24 82/25 99/3 110/20 110/22 173/8 173/12 asks [1] 39/1 aspect [1] 145/22 aspects [2] 8/20 122/17 assertion [1] 64/11 assess [1] 1/20 assessed [2] 11/1 23/16 assessing [1] 50/18 assessor [1] 8/16 assets [4] 26/4 27/4 27/8 27/24 137/19 153/7 160/4 assistance [3] 61/12 assistant [5] 4/11 4/17 7/13 38/6 56/19 assists [1] 82/9 **associate [2]** 15/17 88/16 associated [2] 87/22 90/8 assume [7] 20/3 20/5 158/16 159/5 159/16 159/25 161/12 assuming [1] 177/24 assumption [1] 54/20 assurances [2] 167/5 112/17 136/10 167/5 assured [4] 166/10 166/20 167/8 167/12 at [270] at page 2 [1] 87/4 **ATM [1]** 155/22 attached [6] 24/22 53/1 53/15 79/4 126/7 168/12 attaching [1] 62/6 54/17 attend [5] 121/5 129/8 129/20 130/8 147/3 attendance [3] 60/5 99/8 145/4 attended [19] 9/17 43/12 96/16 96/23 121/1 122/6 146/3 146/17 147/1 151/9 153/3 153/15 154/9 155/19 156/18 157/19

160/11 163/3 163/13 **attending [2]** 7/16 146/12 attention [1] 30/5 **Attorney [2]** 13/25 14/6 105/25 108/20 108/23 170/25 171/15 171/17 attributed [2] 132/10 132/15 attributing [8] 38/7 42/16 56/19 56/22 61/17 63/11 63/25 64/21 audience [1] 29/1 audit [49] 19/4 19/9 21/15 30/2 30/2 30/4 30/23 32/6 32/16 32/17 33/21 34/6 34/14 34/23 35/11 41/23 45/16 46/1 73/19 76/2 77/22 79/17 81/2 82/1 89/6 89/9 90/2 90/8 93/21 94/18 127/21 129/7 129/20 130/7 130/12 131/5 145/5 149/5 150/15 151/1 151/9 151/13 151/16 151/24 152/18 152/25 153/21 154/8 164/23 audit had [1] 151/1 audited [1] 149/4 auditor [6] 31/9 31/23 32/18 52/1 149/9 168/9 auditor's [1] 39/5 auditors [10] 19/12 19/14 19/20 20/7 20/12 41/24 130/18 131/3 151/8 152/21 August [3] 80/11 authorisation [1] 137/3 **Authority [4]** 37/6 37/10 37/12 106/16 Authority 01 [1] 106/16 available [5] 2/4 12/20 31/5 122/21 131/8 Avenue [1] 69/19 attachment [2] 24/23 awaiting [1] 160/14 aware [53] 11/4 11/20 13/10 13/15 14/5 14/10 18/22 19/20 19/24 23/15 29/9 33/20 33/25 34/5 34/13 34/18 35/10 35/13 35/14 35/15 35/19 44/12 50/5 50/8 50/10 50/14 54/4 63/21 63/25 65/22

67/22 76/10 76/12

76/16 77/11 90/12

30/24 **BBC** [1] 55/25 aware... [17] 98/8 be [196] 100/18 130/6 133/13 bearing [2] 77/3 133/17 133/21 135/2 79/10 140/23 140/25 141/1 became [7] 6/6 6/8 141/1 141/3 146/9 111/17 114/18 115/1 150/22 151/8 173/23 128/12 132/4 175/1 because [47] 2/13 awareness [1] 67/12 19/25 22/16 29/12 away [8] 11/2 11/11 30/7 33/19 35/13 39/17 123/25 124/4 36/18 39/7 41/4 45/25 124/6 145/20 163/7 47/12 48/20 49/22 awful [1] 106/3 62/12 63/22 64/1 awkward [1] 122/1 73/13 84/9 85/15 85/18 85/21 94/8 94/18 99/18 108/4 back [51] 17/12 116/11 124/7 125/14 17/24 24/19 29/12 128/7 132/14 132/17 32/13 33/7 34/12 43/3 134/7 138/4 139/5 43/7 45/1 47/9 47/11 147/4 151/21 152/22 48/17 49/6 51/1 56/25 157/22 159/3 162/21 62/23 71/7 71/8 71/12 163/16 169/6 170/10 75/14 75/23 83/2 83/3 171/14 178/20 179/7 83/19 94/7 94/21 become [1] 172/11 94/23 97/3 99/19 **becoming [1]** 61/1 100/24 105/13 109/18 been [138] 2/11 8/7 117/7 117/17 130/4 9/2 11/4 11/20 13/14 133/25 137/12 149/23 17/6 19/25 20/4 20/5 154/5 154/12 159/21 20/6 22/6 23/10 23/18 161/25 162/4 162/8 24/2 24/9 25/22 26/12 162/14 162/19 162/23 28/22 28/23 28/24 168/25 172/3 177/18 29/8 29/9 30/14 31/24 background [3] 30/1 34/7 34/16 36/7 36/8 64/25 111/4 38/17 46/7 46/12 48/1 badly [1] 78/17 48/2 51/17 52/25 Baker [1] 87/7 54/18 57/1 57/3 62/16 balance [6] 32/7 66/1 66/3 67/16 67/17 60/12 61/2 80/1 133/4 69/15 69/17 69/22 178/9 70/7 70/20 75/6 76/10 balanced [1] 155/21 76/12 76/16 76/23 **balances** [1] 60/18 77/11 77/17 77/18 balancing [3] 141/4 77/25 79/25 80/16 150/17 155/24 85/18 85/19 85/21 bank [5] 40/23 81/24 90/14 90/15 90/15 148/21 149/1 149/16 91/17 93/6 93/17 banter [2] 173/1 93/17 94/23 95/10 173/5 96/24 98/7 98/20 **Barrister [1]** 84/21 103/18 103/21 104/7 **based [2]** 50/12 105/8 111/12 115/8 70/10 116/12 117/13 117/22 bases [2] 139/1 124/21 125/10 125/12 139/8 125/13 127/25 130/6 **basic** [1] 9/19 131/10 135/1 137/10 basically [8] 18/18 139/4 139/5 140/17 106/17 106/22 120/5 140/22 140/23 143/19 132/18 165/23 172/17 146/10 146/19 147/4 172/21 149/18 151/1 151/7 **basics** [1] 146/15 156/7 156/8 156/15 basing [1] 66/6 156/19 156/21 156/24 basis [8] 43/22 44/5 157/21 158/18 158/19 believes [2] 107/7 44/7 76/5 83/9 83/11 159/1 159/6 159/13 83/22 84/8 159/14 159/15 159/24 **BAT [3]** 30/5 30/13 160/7 161/23 162/7

162/15 164/17 168/5 168/7 168/20 168/21 175/13 175/19 176/4 176/5 177/7 177/14 177/18 178/5 179/6 before [32] 1/8 2/9 19/18 19/22 23/5 31/5 beside [3] 137/24 34/24 35/4 35/7 38/5 55/9 83/14 86/7 94/7 111/21 120/16 125/11 126/3 128/22 129/12 129/15 139/21 140/11 140/18 141/12 141/15 145/14 146/16 148/1 151/6 164/17 179/10 began [1] 149/14 begin [2] 21/19 129/8 beyond [2] 167/2 **beginning [6]** 40/3 80/19 92/10 92/12 93/16 94/24 behalf [5] 2/25 29/13 33/3 98/5 110/21 behind [2] 73/9 121/17 being [61] 1/14 7/25 8/8 15/1 21/8 21/13 23/9 25/5 25/17 27/21 blaming [2] 63/7 29/5 29/17 30/24 31/8 63/18 31/25 37/19 41/11 44/12 45/17 45/19 47/22 51/6 52/14 53/21 58/8 64/23 65/6 **body [1]** 134/13 65/22 67/23 68/3 69/8 bonuses [1] 23/21 72/5 91/20 104/4 106/9 109/1 111/19 115/3 117/14 118/7 118/11 119/11 124/20 **both [10]** 6/16 10/6 127/13 129/17 130/4 133/2 134/1 134/6 134/20 139/22 141/13 176/9 143/23 144/14 148/24 **bottom [24]** 12/10 151/20 152/9 166/9 169/24 170/21 173/18 49/7 56/2 60/6 62/5 belief [3] 3/17 84/3 110/16 believe [39] 7/19 8/7 8/15 9/10 9/10 13/13 14/12 16/16 17/3 19/2 20/13 23/25 25/21 35/23 38/20 44/16 45/6 52/6 52/8 64/12 73/7 74/20 74/23 74/24 77/10 84/18 90/11 95/15 106/4 106/11 107/22 108/3 108/3 109/2 119/15 128/15 132/25 140/5 170/12 believed [4] 57/8 78/2 96/23 98/24 107/8 belittle [1] 107/24 below [6] 55/14

55/15 61/7 68/23 31/12 31/25 32/2 32/8 69/10 83/13 beneath [1] 68/25 benefit [5] 18/15 27/15 100/9 144/17 179/2 172/15 174/2 best [2] 3/17 110/16 **better [1]** 178/24 between [16] 2/4 16/25 21/11 32/3 57/21 58/5 58/9 61/22 80/16 117/1 134/16 134/21 145/2 148/6 148/24 173/2 178/8 **big** [1] 66/5 Birkenshaw [1] 146/2 bit [10] 62/25 104/3 115/21 121/25 135/19 bright [1] 53/11 137/5 156/14 156/18 156/19 156/21 bits [2] 51/5 98/25 blank [1] 126/22 block [2] 160/14 160/22 **book [1]** 13/14 boots [1] 162/12 borrow [1] 122/5 25/6 28/20 69/7 88/17 bundles [2] 77/6 143/21 144/24 153/3 22/2 24/16 43/1 47/6 63/15 74/11 75/21 87/14 95/7 117/4 117/5 123/12 136/8 136/12 139/25 144/10 156/9 156/18 160/5 box [2] 160/6 160/8 Bradshaw [30] 55/12 59/14 59/21 60/2 101/15 103/22 106/6 107/25 115/11 120/13|but [131] 6/24 8/12 120/21 121/1 121/8 146/5 146/13 150/7 150/19 150/25 151/5 151/11 151/12 152/2 152/6 152/9 152/24 153/15 153/20 163/5 163/13 164/15 branch [54] 6/19 28/6 28/7 28/8 28/9 30/3 30/4 30/5 30/7 30/17 30/18 31/10

34/24 36/1 39/13 42/19 53/21 60/10 76/9 77/12 88/19 89/1 89/24 94/8 94/9 112/9 112/12 130/4 148/11 148/14 149/4 151/1 151/10 151/13 154/9 155/8 157/4 157/9 158/17 159/16 159/25 161/8 161/10 161/11 163/14 163/19 164/13 164/17 165/25 168/7 branches [11] 6/16 6/17 10/1 88/24 89/5 89/5 89/11 90/4 112/14 139/4 165/24 break [5] 54/23 55/4 55/9 165/6 165/13 brief [3] 41/21 42/3 112/6 briefly [1] 145/1 bring [3] 26/16 72/2 87/4 brought [5] 20/1 20/10 36/19 70/21 136/15 **BT [2]** 39/13 78/3 bug [2] 133/7 141/1 **bugs [1]** 141/3 build [1] 106/25 **building [4]** 9/18 44/18 92/14 103/19 buildings [2] 103/24 105/8 bullet [1] 23/8 80/22 burden [1] 178/7 business [33] 4/22 5/14 5/15 5/18 26/5 27/3 27/9 27/17 27/24 29/3 29/20 30/20 31/17 32/5 32/20 56/12 57/1 57/10 57/12 65/3 65/12 66/17 66/20 66/24 67/13 67/14 68/4 68/8 68/16 85/24 105/8 149/15 167/3 busy [1] 170/19 8/17 8/23 12/17 14/9 15/16 17/15 20/3 20/5 20/16 20/19 21/20 21/22 21/22 21/24 23/4 23/14 26/2 28/10 35/17 35/18 37/13 39/18 40/5 44/16 44/18 44/19 44/20 45/1 47/11 48/17 49/19 51/1 52/9 53/4 54/7 56/2 56/9 56/11

17/1 17/4 17/21 17/21 Catherine [1] 59/23 В 86/23 87/3 87/4 87/5 charged [1] 148/4 87/13 87/15 87/18 21/10 22/4 22/10 24/8 cause [6] 44/21 **charges** [7] 78/13 but... [91] 56/15 87/20 89/7 90/17 26/12 26/23 28/16 45/22 69/13 73/17 78/16 79/13 108/12 56/25 57/13 63/17 90/24 91/5 91/8 91/10 28/21 29/25 33/16 73/20 134/24 142/7 143/4 143/8 64/8 64/16 65/2 66/8 91/12 91/13 91/14 33/18 37/4 37/5 41/21 caused [7] 1/10 2/12 **charging [1]** 50/12 67/1 67/1 67/11 67/19 92/3 93/13 93/14 43/8 43/15 43/17 41/12 42/10 160/18 **charity** [1] 148/9 68/4 70/14 71/5 71/9 93/15 94/21 97/18 44/13 45/9 45/18 161/15 162/17 charity's [1] 149/1 72/3 74/25 75/7 77/24 99/24 101/13 101/24 45/22 46/7 49/3 50/7 caution [2] 105/16 check [4] 36/9 62/16 83/9 84/23 85/1 85/5 102/6 105/13 105/24 50/8 50/9 51/13 52/4 122/4 91/6 163/18 87/24 91/22 92/21 109/18 110/1 110/3 53/7 54/2 57/5 59/16 **cautioning [1]** 19/17 checked [5] 53/4 93/1 93/6 94/3 97/3 112/6 115/18 116/24 62/4 62/8 63/10 64/2 115/19 154/3 160/15 cc'd [1] 123/14 98/24 99/7 100/24 64/6 64/19 65/13 70/2 censor [1] 172/24 117/3 117/11 117/20 164/4 102/19 105/4 106/10 118/15 118/19 119/14 71/15 71/25 74/3 censure [2] 172/9 checking [2] 93/14 107/4 107/21 108/18 121/20 122/13 123/3 74/16 74/21 75/4 172/23 164/12 109/5 111/23 112/22 123/10 123/12 123/18 75/16 80/5 81/4 81/10 cent [8] 48/13 48/20 **checklist** [1] 17/5 114/11 115/24 116/22 124/6 124/18 126/5 82/5 82/15 84/14 48/24 49/22 51/2 checks [6] 125/2 117/9 117/23 120/21 64/11 116/22 157/1 126/24 127/3 127/13 84/16 85/13 85/15 125/6 162/1 164/6 122/17 124/5 125/24 128/8 128/16 129/9 85/17 96/10 96/14 centrally [3] 128/9 164/7 164/10 126/11 126/12 128/1 129/23 135/6 136/4 98/16 98/20 100/12 159/17 160/1 **cheque [1]** 149/6 128/9 128/23 133/4 136/8 136/12 137/6 100/22 111/1 112/13 centre [4] 6/4 30/22 **cheques [2]** 91/22 135/20 137/13 138/12 137/11 137/15 138/18 120/21 123/15 125/8 62/2 129/25 92/25 141/15 142/10 143/8 141/9 142/13 142/18 128/6 128/11 130/21 centred [1] 118/22 Chester [2] 43/11 145/10 147/22 148/14 144/20 145/1 146/14 131/18 131/24 132/8 **Centres [1]** 5/17 43/12 151/23 152/17 154/11 150/4 152/5 153/13 132/16 133/12 133/19 certain [8] 8/20 21/12 Chesterfield [17] 155/21 156/25 157/1 154/14 154/16 156/11 135/11 135/12 137/1 21/22 120/1 131/18 9/17 93/25 94/17 157/25 158/20 158/23 171/25 177/18 177/25 156/22 158/16 159/8 137/13 139/15 140/7 129/25 130/1 156/25 159/1 162/23 162/24 140/13 140/22 141/15 certainly [10] 21/23 159/20 159/21 159/23 157/2 157/4 157/6 164/14 164/19 165/5 160/22 161/19 164/9 141/16 141/18 143/11 22/16 23/15 68/6 159/17 160/2 160/13 167/2 169/22 172/2 164/15 165/15 166/19 145/3 145/14 145/23 86/11 132/3 135/20 160/21 160/25 162/4 174/19 174/25 175/14 167/25 168/3 169/10 146/1 146/13 146/15 165/7 175/14 179/7 162/8 162/14 176/9 177/19 177/24 170/23 172/16 173/5 146/16 146/19 146/23 certainty [1] 152/16 Chris [5] 24/14 62/20 Byfleet [1] 69/19 **certifying [1]** 14/23 174/4 175/1 175/3 147/2 147/10 147/12 83/20 83/23 84/7 150/7 151/19 164/21 175/9 175/25 176/24 cetera [5] 131/4 **Christmas** [1] 9/24 177/16 178/1 179/1 165/1 168/16 168/19 139/4 158/20 167/15 CHRISTOPHER [5] call [10] 1/6 35/25 can't [35] 8/2 20/2 170/22 170/24 171/2 167/16 2/21 3/2 59/25 101/18 36/3 36/11 36/11 20/4 34/4 36/13 36/15 171/4 171/6 171/10 CH [2] 8/18 8/18 181/4 64/12 68/13 69/12 41/9 49/20 67/1 67/10 172/4 173/11 178/6 chain [1] 61/21 circulated [1] 127/15 84/21 110/4 circumstance [1] 67/19 70/18 82/20 178/15 **chair [2]** 21/14 called [9] 5/15 19/9 102/10 164/14 91/19 93/24 96/5 cases [42] 17/8 19/21 20/9 37/13 104/23 105/12 107/19 17/10 17/19 23/10 **challenge [3]** 51/21 circumstances [19] 89/18 106/15 118/8 114/10 119/7 119/7 23/17 24/3 30/23 31/3 140/6 140/21 20/23 34/22 36/6 138/4 122/17 126/12 128/23 36/3 38/13 45/24 50/5 challenged [4] 81/6 36/10 70/25 72/10 calling [1] 93/18 142/14 143/12 152/7 53/1 53/19 53/22 54/2 81/10 82/5 98/9 80/6 104/16 130/6 calls [4] 64/14 64/17 131/19 131/20 132/1 152/16 157/25 158/6 54/5 54/18 64/20 **challenges** [9] 55/14 88/25 167/7 159/2 169/11 169/20 67/22 69/18 81/5 86/1 55/17 56/3 56/5 56/6 132/5 150/1 150/20 came [9] 5/10 10/25 152/5 155/3 157/3 174/25 120/9 120/11 127/24 57/2 65/23 65/24 66/1 94/7 113/6 138/21 Canner [1] 39/18 128/8 140/8 140/17 challenging [1] 68/4 169/2 161/25 167/1 167/2 Circumstantial [1] cannot [6] 9/16 10/3 144/22 144/24 168/21 **Chan [2]** 51/11 83/14 170/19 80/17 103/4 140/8 171/2 171/8 173/22 **chance [3]** 38/18 77/24 cameras [1] 158/20 158/21 174/5 174/6 174/16 46/14 49/11 civil [5] 178/7 178/9 can [149] 1/3 1/5 178/12 178/18 178/21 Card [2] 24/14 78/9 176/7 176/9 178/9 **change [6]** 5/7 5/9 2/14 11/6 11/21 12/10 cards [2] 39/22 178/12 5/11 5/12 94/15 CK [1] 55/22 12/10 22/16 23/1 149/12 casework [5] 17/2 153/24 **claims [3]** 65/1 67/4 24/10 24/15 24/22 69/24 124/23 125/1 career [4] 3/22 changed [4] 5/8 6/24 99/10 25/4 25/16 25/19 111/12 117/13 171/15 128/1 17/15 128/16 clarify [1] 14/2 26/21 31/8 40/15 changes [1] 5/10 cash [23] 5/15 5/17 clarity [2] 89/22 careful [1] 173/3 42/24 45/3 45/8 45/17 5/17 6/3 6/4 8/18 8/24 **carry [3]** 167/3 **changing [1]** 94/13 177/19 47/5 49/15 52/24 clear [7] 11/8 27/2 169/15 170/9 30/7 31/24 41/3 41/7 **chap [1]** 105/22 53/19 55/6 55/15 60/25 61/3 61/4 79/23 Chaplin [1] 84/21 79/6 90/24 102/2 **Cartwright [7]** 10/7 58/18 61/25 67/14 10/11 10/12 121/14 80/8 91/11 129/2 140/15 163/24 characterising [1] 72/1 72/5 72/10 72/18 121/23 122/9 122/18 130/2 130/3 130/5 63/9 **cleared [2]** 155/20 75/13 75/20 77/1 Cascade [1] 172/8 131/4 155/13 charge [7] 79/3 80/15 157/20 78/10 78/12 78/20 80/15 81/21 82/22 case [127] 2/2 10/24 catch [1] 91/6 clearly [4] 80/17 83/8 79/7 82/1 82/2 84/20

categorise [1] 42/15

155/4 155/7

15/1 15/3 15/5 15/12

114/11 137/1

27/13 68/16 68/20 69/25 C conditions [3] 85/9 **controlled** [1] 173/7 **committed** [1] 22/6 85/22 168/12 **convenient** [1] 165/4 70/1 71/16 72/23 clerk [2] 111/6 committing [2] 26/7 **conduct [4]** 13/8 18/2 **conversation [2]** 73/10 75/1 75/19 148/13 27/11 122/21 136/5 51/16 152/24 76/11 77/8 78/22 clerks [1] 174/7 common [1] 162/24 **conducted [7]** 16/23 conviction [5] 79/2 79/13 80/1 80/11 client [3] 72/23 73/10 comms [2] 88/22 43/13 46/5 76/21 87/9 97/6 97/7 97/10 80/25 81/17 82/8 102/23 97/23 179/4 126/18 82/12 82/22 83/3 88/23 **close [1]** 121/9 **conducting [5]** 37/15 84/13 85/3 93/4 96/7 communicated [1] convictions [2] 86/16 **closure [2]** 28/21 37/21 115/25 116/7 101/6 101/7 101/8 46/7 147/19 28/24 102/5 102/14 106/10 communication [5] 135/22 **convinced** [2] 74/18 closures [1] 28/16 24/24 24/24 24/25 conducts [1] 29/13 74/22 110/7 112/12 118/14 Code [2] 13/11 14/11 26/3 26/19 122/25 123/11 124/5 conference [2] 69/12 cop [1] 100/14 codes [11] 7/22 copied [3] 43/5 51/12 compared [1] 31/25 167/6 124/11 124/12 124/13 12/12 13/3 125/19 comparison [3] 32/3 confirm [4] 3/1 70/2 124/23 126/21 126/23 76/1 126/9 126/15 127/1 131/12 132/20 134/2 56/12 104/17 82/1 110/7 **copy [5]** 3/6 3/11 127/4 127/8 127/12 Compensation [3] confirmed [4] 77/17 23/2 23/5 51/17 134/6 134/9 137/5 127/15 83/20 84/7 101/21 139/24 142/3 142/24 26/11 26/22 27/6 Core [4] 1/11 86/8 coffee [1] 17/23 confusion [1] 72/18 complaint [3] 148/22 109/10 179/11 144/3 144/6 145/9 **cognitive** [1] 118/23 151/3 169/23 connect [1] 124/7 **corporate** [1] 4/20 147/16 147/20 149/16 coincidence [1] 153/11 154/3 154/4 complaints [2] 18/1 connected [2] 39/7 correct [47] 3/13 151/4 3/25 4/7 4/13 6/5 6/15 154/15 157/13 158/7 112/13 39/8 collapse [1] 178/10 158/17 158/18 159/19 complete [8] 17/16 conscious [1] 35/20 6/20 7/7 7/10 62/16 **collate [1]** 53/13 26/8 27/12 30/8 62/14 consent [2] 37/8 70/23 75/18 78/3 160/5 161/18 161/22 colleague [1] 71/25 73/18 141/11 156/6 37/23 111/5 111/8 113/9 161/25 162/13 162/21 Collins [2] 55/17 69/8 completed [11] 15/8 consider [5] 31/15 113/24 114/20 115/5 164/6 165/5 167/24 colour [1] 105/25 15/14 17/6 50/4 76/9 116/18 117/24 118/5 170/14 171/2 172/3 32/3 74/10 79/12 **column [2]** 53/12 77/12 84/16 141/15 123/6 123/25 124/16 172/6 172/11 173/24 158/7 53/20 158/23 161/24 162/3 126/19 132/22 133/20 176/22 178/11 considerable [1] columns [1] 53/20 completely [2] 66/3 61/5 135/21 141/10 142/4 couldn't [12] 21/22 come [35] 17/12 30/4 74/4 considered [9] 24/1 144/24 146/3 147/1 77/16 93/4 106/4 42/8 42/11 47/5 53/1 completeness [1] 32/19 44/1 50/18 150/8 151/2 151/9 124/2 124/5 124/16 53/25 54/6 57/12 66/4 166/3 128/5 140/5 142/8 151/14 152/3 152/13 124/17 163/1 164/4 86/25 97/3 109/18 153/2 153/9 165/22 completing [4] 8/13 175/4 177/14 165/21 176/16 117/20 119/14 122/13 11/18 15/10 15/19 **Consignia** [1] 13/4 166/18 175/12 176/10 counsel [5] 43/21 123/10 124/18 135/6 compliance [4] 17/4 consistent [1] 66/17 180/1 43/25 51/11 85/18 137/12 138/5 138/18 124/24 125/1 125/2 contact [5] 60/11 corrected [1] 52/9 102/21 141/9 144/20 146/20 130/24 155/16 156/15 correction [2] 157/22 comprehended [1] count [3] 32/8 54/1 149/23 150/4 151/21 54/9 160/14 148/3 167/10 154/14 157/2 159/4 computer [6] 41/12 contacted [5] 130/20 corrections [4] 42/1 counter [4] 9/18 16/3 160/20 162/19 175/3 41/12 55/25 60/19 148/21 150/19 160/18 42/11 88/2 157/24 31/9 111/6 179/1 97/4 153/24 161/21 corrective [1] 70/4 counterfeit [1] 4/24 **come' [1]** 106/3 computers [1] 48/21 contain [1] 141/18 correctly [1] 17/7 country [1] 5/4 comes [1] 78/18 counts [1] 43/10 conceal [1] 29/19 contained [5] 33/22 correspondence [1] comfortable [1] 34/1 50/13 52/11 couple [2] 28/22 concede [2] 50/25 46/8 117/15 54/17 154/11 65/18 corresponding [1] coming [6] 3/3 66/21 course [18] 7/17 8/1 concern [8] 44/21 containing [1] 61/22 69/22 67/8 109/15 167/20 content [8] 12/15 8/9 9/22 16/15 18/14 58/18 70/6 70/18 corroborate [1] 179/18 82/21 88/3 134/24 20/22 26/2 56/8 60/5 97/13 29/10 57/12 80/20 commence [2] 145/21 90/12 90/13 118/20 Cost [1] 27/6 81/6 99/2 118/4 127/22 128/2 concern' [1] 89/7 118/17 118/19 118/21 contents [2] 3/16 costs [3] 26/11 26/23 commenced [1] concerned [5] 58/21 110/15 27/16 136/19 140/24 142/16 129/17 70/19 98/7 160/17 context [5] 9/14 32/2 could [124] 2/25 9/11 courses [1] 121/18 commencement [1] 162/15 10/20 12/4 16/19 48/23 66/8 155/7 court [31] 22/10 79/5 concerns [14] 30/6 17/13 19/5 23/14 23/11 23/19 24/8 27/6 contingent [1] 84/2 comment [14] 20/11 30/12 30/17 30/24 continue [5] 37/8 24/12 24/25 26/20 37/6 43/11 43/12 20/12 45/5 45/22 48/5 64/23 65/6 65/14 71/1 37/23 78/12 113/5 28/12 29/22 32/25 44/18 44/18 53/7 48/11 50/1 51/2 69/2 89/8 89/10 90/3 96/25 33/2 33/10 34/6 34/13 62/10 62/24 63/5 176/19 74/3 105/12 105/18 98/2 136/18 continued [1] 170/13 35/17 36/24 38/1 38/9 69/19 69/23 70/1 70/7 117/5 125/21 concertina [1] continuing [1] 38/25 40/11 41/16 70/21 84/22 97/7 comments [8] 17/2 105/10 168/18 42/22 46/2 46/16 97/10 97/24 98/1 98/8 19/13 19/15 50/9 48/25 51/9 52/17 100/10 147/2 147/18 concluded [3] 37/2 Contract [3] 18/7 106/9 167/14 172/11 54/15 168/5 21/8 168/22 53/10 53/15 54/25 147/18 147/25 178/6 172/25 conclusion [3] 57/13 59/11 59/18 **Contracts [2]** 168/10 court's [1] 149/24 commercial [2] 26/9 **courtroom** [1] 147/5 141/25 142/24 149/25 169/16 60/13 61/20 65/19

С	106/22	day [17] 2/13 2/17	delaying [1] 149/14	14/10 15/8 15/20
	Daily [11] 39/1 39/10	31/13 52/11 83/14	deliberately [1] 107/8	
cover [4] 22/24 28/10 53/5 139/1	39/20 39/24 40/12	98/15 98/16 100/16	deliver [1] 121/15	31/5 31/15 32/2 37/15
	41/2 96/19 99/4	100/25 102/25 121/24	delivered [3] 107/22	37/19 44/21 45/22
covered [14] 5/3 8/1 8/7 10/6 10/8 22/7	100/11 100/18 115/12		118/7 122/8	47/21 48/10 56/5
41/5 41/6 43/24	Daley [4] 41/6 55/17	151/5 153/4 179/24	delivering [1] 118/12	58/18 60/17 64/9
118/21 119/12 120/11	68/22 69/9	days [13] 1/15 2/16	Delivery [2] 5/2 59/24	67/13 67/21 70/18
120/12 136/23	DAM [1] 37/7	9/23 59/14 74/1 78/5	demands [1] 2/7	71/2 73/17 74/6 74/10
covering [6] 7/21	damage [1] 2/11	78/6 78/6 78/7 122/19	denials [1] 42/4	74/20 82/16 82/21
8/20 9/25 59/20 139/8	dare [1] 46/24	155/17 161/22 162/18	denied [2] 42/7 61/10	83/25 93/2 94/5 98/2
149/14	dark [1] 74/5	deal [10] 2/2 16/2	Denise [2] 93/25	99/9 100/18 103/22
covers [2] 75/9 81/21	Darlington [7] 41/20	20/23 85/2 85/9 85/10		111/18 111/23 113/12
Credence [25] 30/11	43/8 43/23 44/7 46/7	96/10 115/18 119/25	Department [4] 4/10	115/24 116/8 118/1
30/16 31/1 31/5 31/15	50/9 74/2	146/18	4/20 4/21 5/7	120/3 121/17 122/16
32/1 32/11 33/13	Darlington's [2] 50/7	dealing [4] 10/19	depended [1] 131/23	125/10 126/13 128/23
57/17 57/21 58/6 58/9	54/2	18/1 26/10 112/8	dependent [2] 102/7	131/17 132/14 133/2
58/15 59/2 59/15	data [94] 9/21 16/15	dealings [1] 150/23	103/2	134/24 135/20 138/24
61/24 75/6 75/9 75/13	16/17 30/11 30/12	deals [2] 18/11 85/22		143/25 144/17 146/12
75/17 131/15 131/21	30/13 30/16 30/16	dealt [5] 21/8 36/4	deposit [3] 148/7	146/16 147/3 147/9
134/12 134/16 134/21	31/1 31/5 31/16 31/19		149/6 152/12	150/13 151/19 156/5
credit [1] 149/12	31/21 32/1 32/11	Dear [3] 28/18 52/23	deposited [1] 148/25	163/13 163/18 164/6
crime [5] 19/19 22/5	32/11 32/13 32/13	69/7	deposits [2] 149/8 149/15	164/25 171/3 173/14 173/18 175/19 175/24
26/8 27/12 114/1	32/15 32/23 33/1 33/6			
criminal [39] 6/2 6/13	33/13 33/15 33/19 33/21 33/25 34/9 34/9	December [5] 1/1 40/4 148/21 177/2	depression [1] 104/11	176/13 177/21 178/19 didn't [28] 8/12 49/25
7/14 7/21 7/24 9/9	24/44 24/20 24/22	180/5	Deprived [1] 165/22	50/1 63/15 64/22
12/11 13/2 13/7 13/10	35/21 45/14 45/19	December 2011 [1]	depth [2] 115/15	64/22 68/7 74/9 82/19
13/22 14/22 16/23	57/21 58/6 58/9 58/10	148/21	126/12	91/19 92/17 93/2 94/2
26/4 27/8 27/23 43/2	58/15 58/16 50/2 50//	decide [2] 37/5	derived [1] 45/16	95/8 98/11 103/22
45/4 45/12 49/2 50/11	59/10 59/15 59/16	131/17	describe [1] 152/5	116/9 116/13 117/11
50/17 66/8 75/22	61/25 61/25 70/7	decided [7] 112/23	described [2] 13/1	117/14 127/7 128/7
78/15 78/23 82/10	70/12 70/20 71/5 71/6		24/14	128/8 128/20 151/23
116/7 118/1 122/22	71/10 74/7 75/5 75/7	168/24 169/1 170/24	describing [2] 107/3	154/10 163/25 164/19
127/22 128/20 129/17	75/9 75/11 75/14	deciding [2] 34/19	107/4	died [1] 97/8
136/5 143/15 155/10	75/14 75/16 75/17	35/21		
170/7 178/6 179/4	75/17 82/7 82/17 89/4		112/6 162/6	difference [1] 145/1
criminality [2] 21/9	130/25 131/12 131/15		Designated [3] 37/6	different [8] 6/25
27/16	131/16 131/18 131/22		37/10 37/11	56/15 77/22 100/20
criminally [2] 46/20	131/25 132/1 132/12	129/12 141/21 143/22	desk [1] 117/14	128/24 128/25 131/15
46/24	132/14 132/18 132/23	144/1 175/11 175/16	despite [1] 51/16	131/19
crippling [1] 104/10	133/1 133/5 133/8	178/23	detail [3] 47/12 49/22	difficult [4] 60/21
criteria [2] 21/21 21/23	133/11 133/14 133/19	decisions [2] 36/23	136/23	61/1 74/20 99/17
	133/23 133/23 134/7	50/12	detailed [3] 34/23	difficulties [1] 150/17
Crown [13] 6/17 14/11 18/12 18/22	134/16 134/22 139/18	declaration [1]	66/7 118/25	digest [1] 2/9
18/25 38/7 43/11	162/2 168/10 169/7	155/12	details [11] 20/17	diminished [1] 19/12
43/12 56/19 77/15	database [1] 124/21	declarations [2] 41/3	47/13 47/20 53/7	direct [2] 80/12
84/22 101/17 147/25	date [18] 2/18 12/17	131/4	128/23 154/23 156/6	167/10
culture [2] 22/11	23/4 49/9 75/10 79/5	declared [1] 61/4	158/10 158/24 159/11	
29/18				152/20
cupboard [1] 149/7	82/2 82/15 111/22	deeply [1] 149/18	determine [1] 21/1	directly [3] 6/16 10/1
current [11] 5/23 7/5	153/13 154/17 158/9	defence [13] 12/7	determined [1] 89/4	48/15
7/8 17/14 56/16 75/10	159/10 163/8	13/21 14/4 43/21	deterrent [2] 26/7	disability [1] 158/18
80/15 81/21 104/24	dated [24] 3/6 12/9	51/15 51/19 51/23	27/11	disabled [4] 102/8
160/7 177/1	24/20 25/2 25/7 28/15		devastating [1]	103/1 104/12 105/2
currently [2] 69/18	43/6 51/12 52/19	83/17 122/3	178/12	discharged [1] 11/18
114/12	55/13 57/16 68/22	defend [2] 170/10	device [1] 124/14	disclose [1] 82/7
custody [1] 106/20	68/24 75/24 78/23	175/18	devices [1] 124/3	disclosing [1] 15/15
customer [2] 29/4	81/18 83/3 87/7	defendant [5] 43/9	Dianne [4] 51/11	disclosure [33] 1/14
112/12	110/11 121/22 134/11	43/14 44/6 80/7 83/18		1/20 2/4 7/25 8/4 8/10
CV [2] 23/2 24/5	164/21 168/2 177/2	defendant's [1] 81/24	Dickinson [3] 114/24	10/9 11/17 11/19
<u> </u>	dates [1] 93/24		166/25 168/2	11/20 12/2 12/7 13/1 13/20 14/1 14/3 14/7
<u>D</u>	Dave [4] 87/14 87/16 121/21 168/16	deficiency [1] 42/21 defined [1] 61/3	dictates [1] 178/14 did [82] 4/23 5/9 7/13	14/15 14/18 14/25
da [3] 106/22 106/22	David [1] 124/25	delay [2] 44/3 148/24		15/2 15/7 15/10 15/11
	Daviu [1] 124/20	uciay [2] 44/3 140/24	0/11 12/10 12/10	10/2 10/1 10/10 10/11
				(53) cover - disclosure

D disclosure... [9] 15/16 15/21 72/21 72/25 73/2 73/5 73/8 80/23 119/18 discover [1] 160/23 discovered [3] 52/1 76/3 77/22 discrepancies [6] 58/5 60/20 61/1 84/4 91/21 92/25 discrepancy [10] 47/2 47/4 51/20 52/4 52/12 62/25 77/13 77/20 79/24 161/2 discuss [5] 17/11 17/18 99/22 145/14 146/13 discussed [1] 168/15 discusses [1] 168/4 discussion [10] 17/21 17/23 27/21 45/3 45/17 48/3 135/3 145/16 168/23 169/21 discussions [1] 146/14 disgrace [1] 125/22 dishonestly [3] 26/11 26/22 27/4 dishonesty [5] 21/7 21/13 21/18 66/15 122/5 dismissive [1] 65/6 disparities [4] 57/20 59/6 134/15 134/20 disparity [1] 58/8 display [1] 125/24 **Disposal** [2] 26/12 26/23 disrespectively [1] 109/3 disseminated [1] 25/24 distinct [2] 15/21 15/23 distinguishing [1] 106/24 Distribution [3] 5/16 8/18 8/25 Distribution-specific [1] 8/25 **Division [1]** 43/2 DMBs [2] 9/23 9/25 do [108] 1/8 3/7 3/8 4/2 7/25 10/18 12/18 15/1 16/4 16/12 18/11 20/7 20/8 25/13 27/19 27/21 29/5 30/8 31/11 32/6 35/2 38/6 41/1 44/12 47/1 47/4 48/7 48/14 49/23 50/6 54/3 56/18 65/13 65/22 65/24 67/25 72/24

86/1 86/7 91/16 96/16 doesn't [1] 58/10 100/10 100/21 102/20 doing [12] 7/2 21/25 102/22 104/11 106/9 107/17 108/15 109/17 111/19 116/10 118/11 119/5 121/15 122/6 122/13 123/7 124/2 124/19 125/24 126/1 128/4 129/1 132/25 134/1 134/6 134/20 135/3 138/19 139/20 139/22 140/25 141/2 141/15 143/13 143/18 144/14 150/20 151/4 152/8 153/19 154/7 154/25 156/2 156/4 156/24 157/14 161/3 161/5 161/14 163/3 165/24 166/8 168/19 169/4 169/19 170/2 170/13 171/17 173/2 173/10 173/17 173/19 174/18 177/10 179/2 179/10 document [70] 12/4 12/8 12/9 12/13 12/22 13/18 14/9 23/1 23/4 24/12 25/12 26/1 26/18 26/24 26/25 27/19 28/12 28/24 38/9 40/12 41/16 42/12 42/22 46/2 48/25 49/5 49/8 49/12 50/17 51/9 52/17 55/10 57/13 59/11 61/20 68/20 69/2 84/13 86/20 87/3 87/22 90/12 101/8 101/9 102/2 116/24 117/20 118/14 122/13 123/16 125/20 125/20 125/23 125/25 126/3 126/11 126/21 127/16 165/4 167/1 171/12 137/12 137/17 138/18 173/16 174/19 175/7 144/6 144/10 144/20 154/14 172/2 174/15 174/18 174/21 175/3 documentation [3] 15/10 31/12 81/23 documents [29] 1/14 1/21 1/22 2/3 2/5 2/8 15/18 25/7 73/23 80/3 122/24 123/5 124/3 124/20 125/17 126/7 127/10 127/13 131/6 136/7 138/9 152/23 154/6 154/10 157/23 160/15 161/18 175/4 176/6 does [11] 58/11 79/11 85/12 119/21 126/2 158/13 165/21

165/23 166/13 171/22

175/6

35/2 36/14 103/20 108/1 115/24 117/17 121/6 125/9 173/9 176/19 don't [129] 9/10 9/10 12/15 14/8 14/12 15/13 15/24 15/24 16/6 16/16 19/2 19/24 131/22 20/1 20/13 23/14 23/25 24/5 24/6 27/20 123/15 28/1 28/9 29/7 29/21 31/7 31/7 31/18 33/17 138/22 34/4 34/18 35/1 35/1 35/3 35/3 35/6 35/9 35/13 35/15 35/17 35/23 36/7 36/9 44/19 driven [1] 25/24 44/22 44/24 45/6 45/6 dropped [1] 108/12 45/7 45/10 45/21 47/18 47/24 48/1 48/3 due [12] 1/11 30/5 48/9 48/18 51/6 54/8 54/13 56/8 57/6 57/6 58/3 58/5 58/20 58/20 59/8 59/10 64/13 64/20 68/5 70/14 73/15 82/20 82/25 84/8 90/11 90/11 91/22 92/5 95/17 96/5 96/18 96/19 96/20 99/20 102/24 102/24 103/8 103/8 103/12 104/2 104/15 104/23 105/4 106/10 107/21 108/3 108/3 108/17 108/25 109/2 115/15 119/21 120/1 121/17 123/5 125/23 126/2 126/4 127/17 139/10 139/22 140/12 140/15 150/15 151/7 152/10 156/3 161/4 163/12 176/15 177/24 179/9 donations [1] 148/9 done [18] 14/23 24/6 24/9 46/20 53/11 68/5 68/6 82/24 97/4 97/4 100/22 116/11 125/13 earlier [11] 71/15 128/9 145/11 145/19 154/11 165/25 doubt [5] 66/18 80/18 81/13 82/15 178/8 down [53] 13/21 14/13 19/13 20/21 23/8 24/16 24/22 39/1 earrings [1] 105/24 ease [1] 108/5 40/13 40/21 41/13 easier [2] 75/11 42/24 42/25 44/10 46/17 56/1 59/19 60/2 121/9 60/8 60/14 69/6 71/22 education [2] 88/15 78/1 84/20 85/6 94/2 97/19 102/11 105/19

122/13 123/3 123/10 124/18 135/6 137/5 138/18 141/9 144/21 150/4 154/14 156/14 157/17 159/21 166/22 eg timing [1] 57/22 167/16 168/3 172/7 175/3 178/3 179/1 download [1] 75/8 downloaded [1] draft [2] 62/10 drafted [2] 79/4 drafting [1] 138/6 **drawn [2]** 138/3 138/3 dual [1] 6/8 57/12 60/25 80/20 81/6 113/18 128/13 129/21 151/3 155/22 168/11 **Dulton [2]** 43/16 43/18 duplication [2] 69/1 70/17 **DUPOF [5]** 158/11 158/16 159/3 159/4 165/19 during [31] 6/21 9/16 9/23 10/24 11/22 14/20 14/21 16/10 17/7 22/4 38/5 52/7 72/4 79/16 87/10 97/1 61/22 62/4 68/25 107/14 111/20 122/15 129/7 136/16 136/19 136/24 145/22 149/5 151/16 151/24 152/25 employed [6] 4/1 153/6 153/8 153/20 duties [1] 15/23 duty [2] 10/23 68/9 each [7] 17/19 53/22 56/9 88/25 114/8 148/2 149/22 83/6 85/5 91/19 146/10 163/21 165/18 end [13] 8/13 8/22 171/24 172/5 172/14 176/8 early [4] 19/8 36/15 168/20 171/15

90/5

117/20 119/14 121/24 27/11 73/5 73/20

171/7 39/15 effect [5] 26/7 26/17 34/14

effective [1] 136/9 effectively [2] 97/5 eg [1] 57/22 eight [1] 114/15 either [7] 22/18 23/23 53/10 63/6 104/23 113/17 161/6 elicit [1] 20/18 else [7] 22/19 45/12 64/10 91/20 109/8 138/14 173/11 else's [2] 68/13 156/13 email [63] 24/13 24/19 24/21 28/13 28/16 29/6 51/10 51/13 52/10 52/15 52/18 52/21 53/13 54/4 54/10 54/12 54/16 55/12 55/13 55/15 55/20 56/2 56/4 56/7 56/21 57/14 57/18 58/3 58/4 59/15 61/21 61/24 62/6 62/18 63/22 64/3 68/1 68/21 68/23 69/5 69/10 70/5 71/14 83/2 83/5 83/13 87/5 87/14 121/21 123/13 123/18 123/20 123/23 124/11 125/18 134/10 134/13 134/24 137/9 138/4 173/4 176/23 178/1 emails [7] 10/14 124/25 172/9 172/24 emerged [1] 114/1 Emma [1] 2/23 107/10 111/8 147/13 148/11 148/13 **employee [3]** 38/7 56/19 104/24 **employees [4]** 18/13 18/23 19/1 23/10 **employer [1]** 148/13 enable [2] 19/9 123/23 enabled [1] 118/21 34/11 87/4 105/21 112/20 122/25 123/3 141/24 142/13 142/17 142/22 142/23 ended [2] 5/14 102/11 **Enforcement [2]** 24/15 24/17 engineers [2] 39/14 enhanced [2] 34/5

28/3 34/5 34/22 35/2 facts [8] 41/21 43/17 77/18 97/15 128/24 Ε **Exhibits [2]** 26/12 35/4 35/7 35/20 37/19 26/23 129/12 131/24 142/4 file [13] 37/4 84/14 enjoy [1] 117/8 45/11 51/6 67/21 expect [2] 18/5 81/6 142/25 143/14 179/7 88/16 89/3 135/12 enjoyed [1] 113/4 126/3 132/2 134/6 **expected [4]** 42/10 failed [3] 65/15 66/2 137/13 139/15 141/15 enough [1] 168/24 163/18 164/6 166/8 86/22 87/11 133/22 100/11 141/16 141/18 170/22 enquired [1] 43/18 170/25 172/4 171/12 173/18 175/7 **expecting [1]** 41/25 failings [7] 28/17 **enquiries** [5] 4/23 every [7] 11/3 130/20 28/21 28/23 29/1 29/9 files [5] 125/8 171/4 expense [1] 44/3 19/11 64/6 64/9 131/22 135/13 170/24 experience [12] 7/14 29/19 168/7 171/6 171/11 173/11 145/17 171/2 178/15 22/16 39/2 104/9 failure [2] 29/15 fill [3] 79/7 106/14 enquiry [1] 58/2 116/9 116/14 117/24 **everybody [3]** 25/25 90/21 115/22 ensure [10] 1/19 7/23 128/13 147/4 147/6 104/14 125/8 fair [5] 42/12 54/15 filled [1] 156/20 12/23 17/6 27/3 27/14 147/8 151/18 **everyday [1]** 173/8 89/16 89/20 111/11 filling [1] 83/18 28/19 100/22 144/12 **everyone** [1] 1/25 experiencing [2] fairly [4] 104/15 **filtered [1]** 167/16 173/22 **everything** [11] 17/6 95/10 163/14 126/8 151/20 151/22 final [7] 22/9 26/12 entailed [1] 112/7 56/14 57/11 58/23 expert [7] 81/7 fairness [1] 2/7 26/23 37/8 37/23 entered [4] 35/8 62/16 93/19 125/9 175/18 175/19 176/3 false [13] 22/5 42/5 100/8 123/7 77/17 77/18 80/14 128/18 133/3 145/8 176/13 176/14 176/18 43/10 61/11 78/13 finalised [1] 8/23 entirely [2] 25/10 173/11 **expertise [1]** 132/25 79/12 83/8 83/19 84/1 **finally [2]** 159/8 25/13 explain [32] 24/10 evidence [45] 1/7 84/23 108/11 142/11 166/4 entries [3] 118/25 148/3 61/25 72/14 76/11 1/11 1/13 1/16 1/22 Finance [2] 30/21 135/14 148/7 2/5 2/10 2/16 2/17 79/7 79/23 85/17 93/4 falsified [1] 148/7 62/2 entry [9] 77/20 79/22 114/13 115/14 116/5 | **familiar [2]** 125/23 7/22 7/24 10/25 31/16 financial [3] 23/21 84/19 155/22 156/7 31/18 32/4 32/18 117/11 119/14 123/22 126/10 143/24 168/4 156/13 159/1 159/13 57/20 79/1 79/14 126/14 128/14 128/16 **familiarise [3]** 26/15 find [12] 34/2 34/14 79/18 80/23 81/5 81/7 129/5 129/9 129/19 125/18 126/7 38/22 49/20 103/11 envelopes [1] 149/6 81/10 96/1 97/12 130/10 132/7 135/7 127/7 129/11 132/20 family [1] 96/17 episode [1] 2/12 135/25 139/11 144/23 **far [8]** 18/22 23/15 152/23 154/4 155/19 97/13 102/18 104/6 **equal [1]** 61/4 145/1 149/16 150/5 104/6 104/10 107/17 108/17 127/24 128/1 163/1 equates [1] 165/25 109/15 119/17 131/13 152/1 152/11 175/10 133/10 139/19 163/7 **finding [3]** 22/13 **equipment** [1] 10/5 132/20 134/15 142/9 **explained** [4] 60/9 22/15 161/21 fashion [1] 125/9 **equivalent** [1] 18/19 142/10 142/11 143/10 80/1 148/16 176/20 fault [2] 83/10 141/6 findings [2] 97/25 err [2] 39/25 91/21 151/23 178/16 179/18 explaining [1] 72/16 favour [1] 78/15 177/18 error [5] 42/20 97/2 181/2 explains [3] 13/18 fine [8] 47/17 56/14 favourable [1] 44/6 133/7 161/23 161/24 evidence/information 60/3 170/17 fax [2] 39/8 39/16 67/3 94/5 98/25 errors [11] 42/8 **[1]** 10/25 explanation [7] 41/11 Fazakerley [5] 109/21 165/10 167/4 42/10 42/17 42/18 51/7 64/24 77/25 147/13 148/12 148/25 fingerprints [1] exact [2] 11/22 155/13 160/19 160/23 128/23 79/10 106/11 163/1 151/10 154/9 106/21 162/18 162/22 166/9 exactly [14] 9/17 explicit [1] 139/21 Feasibly [1] 169/25 finish [1] 120/10 175/7 finished [1] 152/18 10/4 23/3 33/14 53/9 **explicitly [1]** 139/22 featured [1] 88/17 **essence [2]** 65/17 56/21 58/15 67/1 **explore [2]** 64/10 **February [10]** 41/19 first [29] 4/23 7/12 78/6 67/19 107/18 111/22 90/21 43/11 43/13 55/13 30/18 33/12 42/5 43/3 establish [2] 76/19 114/10 115/8 174/25 exploring [1] 65/14 78/4 80/17 81/3 81/22 65/21 75/23 78/25 80/3 102/20 159/11 81/25 82/13 83/6 **examining [2]** 14/19 express [1] 78/14 et [5] 131/4 139/4 177/8 86/20 87/19 104/19 expressing [1] 70/6 Federation [3] 18/8 158/20 167/15 167/16 example [8] 30/6 111/3 120/18 120/21 **external** [2] 29/3 72/3 72/17 et cetera [4] 131/4 61/15 74/19 134/17 123/5 145/2 145/13 Feedback [1] 118/16 177/15 139/4 167/15 167/16 134/23 137/2 169/22 **externally [1]** 177/7 feel [4] 28/3 78/12 145/23 146/1 150/6 etc [2] 57/24 134/19 174/6 extract [1] 147/22 86/2 117/14 154/8 156/4 156/5 ethnic [1] 126/25 feelings [1] 107/19 **examples** [3] 20/3 **extremely [2]** 1/18 157/13 177/2 ethos [1] 68/4 20/5 59/7 82/8 feels [2] 107/20 Firstly [1] 69/13 even [6] 82/11 99/14 Excel [1] 171/7 eyes' [1] 105/25 109/5 five [2] 22/2 115/8 120/24 138/15 140/18 fell [1] 106/3 fixed [1] 61/4 exceptionally [1] 164/1 felt [7] 27/22 107/20 170/19 flagging [1] 81/9 event [10] 34/7 34/9 face [4] 58/7 58/11 108/21 109/1 109/3 excess [2] 30/10 flags [1] 99/11 34/16 75/14 84/15 70/5 157/16 76/3 145/10 168/11 flaws [1] 177/20 84/16 85/13 135/9 faced [1] 1/19 floor [4] 103/20 **excessive** [1] 130/5 female [1] 106/23 135/12 135/20 facilitate [4] 72/9 few [8] 62/21 89/13 104/19 105/6 106/4 **excuse [2]** 86/25 **events [2]** 77/13 72/11 72/19 98/18 169/13 90/22 95/2 99/11 flounder [1] 88/20 160/16 fact [7] 19/15 22/13 121/19 157/24 159/7 **exercises** [1] 87/9 focus [1] 118/22 **eventually [6]** 39/16 22/15 41/7 79/16 exert [1] 107/13 field [2] 111/17 focused [3] 6/2 50/3 120/8 130/22 131/5 102/6 120/24 exhibit [2] 77/5 80/22 117/14 64/18 141/16 149/13 fact-finding [1] 22/15|figure [3] 51/22 focusing [1] 110/23 exhibit bundles [1] ever [25] 14/10 16/13 factor [1] 78/5 80/22 77/17 79/24 **follow [4]** 18/9 100/6 23/12 23/16 23/21 exhibiting [1] 146/23 | factors [1] 128/5 figures [5] 61/3 61/6 146/4 146/21

17/24 22/1 24/19 28/8 guilt [2] 11/11 66/10 Friday [3] 179/25 **Gentlemen [1]** 55/19 get [24] 19/9 19/16 180/2 180/5 43/3 49/16 57/8 60/7 guilty [14] 23/10 follow-up [2] 146/4 front [3] 3/5 34/11 20/19 20/21 39/17 60/14 65/2 65/16 71/7 23/18 24/3 24/9 35/7 146/21 110/10 57/22 60/21 63/14 75/23 79/19 83/2 87/1 43/10 74/18 74/22 followed [2] 11/4 FSC [1] 30/21 65/2 74/11 89/7 91/21 91/14 91/22 93/2 93/6 77/4 80/14 84/1 173/16 Fujitsu [35] 32/24 93/19 94/21 95/7 94/10 94/12 94/22 108/13 148/3 178/11 following [13] 19/4 33/4 33/7 33/21 34/1 106/19 117/17 127/5 95/22 98/19 99/3 45/5 45/18 69/24 132/18 134/17 142/18 34/20 34/23 35/12 102/18 104/18 105/6 106/12 126/16 127/20 had [131] 8/20 8/24 35/22 57/17 57/21 157/1 157/23 173/1 108/8 110/22 112/21 136/22 140/2 141/10 10/23 11/10 17/6 18/5 58/6 58/10 59/4 59/16 getting [4] 19/22 113/18 119/24 129/20 147/23 148/22 168/23 18/13 22/6 23/17 24/8 61/25 64/9 70/4 70/12 39/22 87/25 159/6 130/2 132/22 133/5 follows [8] 28/17 25/12 30/2 30/4 30/7 75/9 81/8 82/17 140/8 151/8 158/17 Gilchrist [3] 113/22 44/9 51/14 52/22 69/5 30/8 30/23 31/23 133/10 133/18 133/22 114/23 166/25 163/23 164/12 173/6 76/1 80/13 154/23 31/24 34/7 34/16 36/1 134/3 134/12 134/16 giro [2] 148/7 149/5 178/20 font [1] 53/11 36/7 37/2 38/18 39/6 134/21 166/11 167/8 **Girobank [6]** 152/12 gone [7] 58/23 62/22 force [1] 40/24 39/8 39/13 39/14 167/10 167/12 167/15 160/18 161/1 161/21 79/15 133/11 133/15 forefront [1] 66/16 39/16 42/18 43/21 162/20 162/22 167/20 159/17 160/1 forget [1] 20/11 43/24 44/13 45/9 46/7 full [14] 3/1 38/21 giros [2] 91/21 92/25 good [11] 1/3 2/8 forgive [2] 49/5 73/11 46/14 46/15 49/11 51/6 76/19 77/5 78/5 give [16] 1/11 1/13 2/23 39/21 40/5 60/25 form [14] 20/10 52/3 54/6 54/9 54/9 78/6 80/18 110/7 1/22 2/10 17/3 20/17 64/24 99/23 110/1 22/14 80/2 83/25 54/16 54/18 57/3 121/6 129/13 147/21 37/8 37/22 73/2 155/14 156/1 106/14 106/16 106/16 60/11 61/11 61/13 154/5 168/13 101/25 102/18 106/10 Google [1] 127/7 126/17 126/18 126/22 64/25 65/10 66/1 66/2 fully [7] 8/2 10/24 got [19] 8/21 8/22 109/15 112/6 177/4 127/2 157/7 160/3 66/2 66/4 67/12 69/11 50/22 63/21 63/25 179/18 8/23 37/3 40/22 47/13 170/15 100/18 117/9 given [23] 2/17 9/8 48/7 54/14 56/2 64/12 69/25 70/17 74/1 formal [1] 17/20 93/20 94/19 106/2 74/15 77/17 85/8 function [1] 100/5 9/19 16/13 21/3 32/22 formally [2] 6/17 85/16 85/19 86/16 120/18 128/19 138/5 **functional** [1] 41/15 45/11 47/19 50/11 108/12 87/25 88/8 94/25 95/4 51/6 59/7 67/21 80/20 162/16 170/15 174/19 functioning [1] 40/9 **formed [1]** 5/15 97/4 97/8 98/9 98/12 fund [2] 165/22 82/15 96/1 97/25 governance [3] former [1] 22/15 98/20 105/5 105/5 104/21 126/6 133/23 137/14 170/22 172/4 165/23 forms [11] 7/23 8/5 138/2 139/4 168/8 105/9 105/17 106/5 fundamentally [1] **governing [2]** 13/8 8/6 8/8 11/19 11/20 111/11 113/3 114/8 51/4 174/15 18/25 15/7 15/19 26/17 115/6 120/19 122/16 gives [1] 75/7 governs [1] 12/6 **funds [2]** 43/19 119/9 171/24 124/22 125/12 125/13 149/13 giving [3] 2/16 10/8 **Graham [4]** 41/19 forum [1] 100/1 125/15 131/14 132/10 further [29] 14/13 85/19 43/5 57/15 134/10 **forwarding [2]** 55/13 132/25 133/4 134/23 19/11 30/13 33/7 Glad [1] 117/7 **Graham Ward [2]** 136/18 139/5 139/17 35/21 44/4 44/10 glitch [3] 44/15 44/24 43/5 134/10 forwards [1] 140/8 140/7 141/14 145/21 50/18 51/25 55/10 51/6 GRANVILLE [3] 2/21 found [14] 23/10 146/9 146/19 148/7 55/20 59/4 69/16 glitches [1] 51/7 3/2 181/4 23/18 24/9 31/24 149/13 149/17 149/18 79/18 80/10 82/17 **GLO [3]** 38/6 65/23 grateful [2] 80/24 60/13 73/19 97/10 150/23 151/1 152/18 109/6 131/13 135/3 66/5 109/16 97/12 97/13 97/15 153/24 153/25 154/11 137/6 140/2 141/14 go [59] 33/7 38/25 great [4] 2/11 48/18 109/13 122/12 157/19 145/17 147/9 162/1 40/11 40/25 46/16 115/18 146/18 157/20 160/11 162/1 176/18 164/25 172/1 172/7 49/4 49/6 49/15 55/9 163/16 166/1 166/24 greatly [1] 61/6 found' [1] 60/23 grew [1] 17/4 167/10 167/15 168/7 179/9 55/15 62/12 62/15 four [6] 53/20 59/14 future [3] 9/17 45/24 grips [1] 87/25 168/9 169/6 169/8 62/24 63/5 66/13 60/14 68/2 115/6 169/10 169/20 171/7 71/12 72/20 75/20 Grocer [1] 55/25 176/17 123/7 172/20 174/22 175/19 91/24 93/13 101/7 ground [2] 103/20 four paragraphs [1] G 176/10 101/8 102/5 104/18 162/12 60/14 gain [1] 137/3 105/7 105/11 105/13 **Group [4]** 26/6 27/10 hadn't [6] 52/5 59/4 fourth [3] 81/19 gained [1] 117/23 95/11 97/4 98/21 106/20 107/1 109/17 27/25 177/8 137/17 178/3 Gareth [2] 175/23 117/23 116/4 123/3 123/17 **growing [1]** 56/10 frame [1] 92/3 half [5] 78/6 148/17 176/16 126/14 126/23 129/13 guess [9] 15/14 Frankland [2] 114/23 Gareth Jenkins [2] 148/18 156/8 156/9 130/25 133/18 133/23 19/25 33/9 50/1 58/11 168/16 175/23 176/16 halfway [3] 38/25 136/8 136/12 144/6 67/17 73/15 83/24 fraud [13] 6/25 41/18 59/19 85/6 gave [2] 55/9 94/17 144/10 144/22 147/20 86/4 59/25 80/18 81/15 Hall [17] 46/5 46/22 general [5] 13/25 153/11 153/16 157/9 guessing [2] 24/6 88/4 88/5 101/19 14/13 17/13 31/15 47/3 47/8 47/23 48/12 158/7 159/23 160/4 29/17 114/1 116/10 116/15 85/6 48/14 49/17 50/24 160/5 161/17 161/19 guidance [6] 11/24 116/18 144/12 86/1 86/17 90/10 General's [1] 14/6 162/12 168/3 171/18 27/2 32/22 122/20 fraudulently [1] generated [1] 170/21 90/20 91/15 92/15 172/3 178/3 122/23 124/19 46/21 generation [1] 94/13 95/3 109/12 goes [5] 79/23 89/2 **Guidelines [3]** 13/25 free [1] 134/4 Hall's [11] 49/3 49/21 generically [1] 90/2 136/21 162/14 14/2 14/7 Freedom [1] 172/12 103/10 62/4 63/9 64/6 64/10 going [46] 11/14 guides [1] 88/22

141/15 148/14 148/16 85/15 104/18 107/18 16/13 16/15 31/8 32/1 114/23 117/2 Н 148/18 151/20 151/21 109/17 32/7 32/23 34/20 **Hall's... [5]** 65/13 161/10 167/16 167/18 hers [1] 68/25 36/10 38/8 39/2 39/14 84/16 88/19 89/24 168/8 168/11 168/24 Hi [1] 62/20 40/21 42/16 42/20 I accompanied [1] 90/18 151/12 169/19 170/24 171/2 hide [1] 94/20 45/2 45/13 45/19 **hallway [1]** 102/10 173/12 173/14 176/2 high [1] 132/3 47/12 47/22 47/24 lact [1] 86/14 hand [3] 17/9 152/2 176/5 176/6 high-value [1] 132/3 48/2 48/12 48/15 I actually [1] 93/20 161/20 I also [2] 11/23 76/6 he's [5] 82/24 150/21 **higher [1]** 67/19 48/20 49/22 50/6 handed [7] 106/23 51/20 52/5 52/13 53/1 **I am [9]** 18/4 47/10 150/23 169/20 177/1 **highlight [2]** 89/10 106/24 149/9 152/6 76/15 79/5 81/4 87/1 53/24 54/5 54/18 Head [2] 75/22 177/1 147/22 152/9 153/20 163/5 111/10 133/13 155/13 heading [1] 59/19 highlighted [2] 90/3 55/14 55/17 56/3 56/5 **Handling [3]** 5/15 56/6 56/20 56/23 57/3 I apologise [3] 8/3 health [1] 149/18 178/5 8/18 8/24 28/11 99/23 hear [7] 1/3 55/6 **Hightown [4]** 88/18 61/18 63/7 63/11 happened [9] 10/13 110/2 128/24 162/9 88/19 89/23 90/6 63/18 64/1 64/11 I applied [1] 113/8 17/22 45/9 61/13 l appreciate [3] 99/2 162/11 165/15 him [12] 62/7 95/23 64/21 65/7 65/14 70/17 74/21 86/2 65/23 65/25 66/2 66/4 99/16 100/16 heard [6] 43/15 63/7 96/4 150/11 150/14 129/12 162/24 63/18 64/4 100/17 151/18 151/21 164/17 66/16 66/17 66/20 l asked [2] 64/12 happening [3] 61/14 164/19 167/15 168/24 67/23 68/16 71/2 71/6 94/16 106/5 94/24 107/18 l assume [3] 20/5 hearing [5] 43/17 171/3 71/10 74/7 76/19 happens [1] 2/11 43/25 102/17 178/7 77/13 81/5 81/10 159/5 159/16 hindsight [7] 44/25 happily [1] 1/23 | I attended [4] 9/17 81/23 82/5 82/7 83/9 180/4 58/23 65/12 71/8 happy [2] 83/21 84/7 155/19 156/18 160/11 hearings [1] 147/2 100/9 100/24 179/2 84/4 84/24 85/1 85/24 hard [3] 1/18 3/6 I be [1] 54/15 held [10] 4/3 4/14 his [22] 1/13 1/16 88/11 88/13 90/20 51/17 4/17 7/4 33/21 34/1 2/16 2/16 43/15 43/17 95/14 96/23 97/1 I believe [20] 7/19 harp [3] 47/19 47/21 58/10 111/16 111/20 44/2 44/8 57/18 96/25 97/13 97/15 98/10 8/7 8/15 13/13 17/3 48/5 97/5 97/6 97/6 97/10 111/19 111/23 112/1 20/13 25/21 38/20 111/21 has [39] 1/24 2/11 44/16 52/6 52/8 64/12 98/13 125/18 136/15 112/16 131/4 132/4 Helen [3] 114/24 13/25 14/23 16/22 73/7 74/23 74/24 132/11 132/15 133/7 166/25 168/1 147/2 148/1 169/5 28/24 51/17 53/1 77/10 84/18 95/15 Hello [1] 55/6 169/20 174/7 136/19 136/25 137/2 53/25 57/20 69/15 help [18] 25/4 25/17 106/11 140/5 137/7 139/9 139/14 historically [1] 78/7 79/25 80/8 80/16 140/4 140/6 140/13 I believed [1] 98/24 52/24 72/10 88/22 162/21 83/20 84/7 86/10 hm [6] 12/3 42/2 46/9 I came [1] 94/7 91/19 95/4 95/7 140/16 141/6 148/7 86/25 95/19 97/21 129/23 159/2 162/13 53/23 101/5 142/2 155/1 157/16 166/6 I can [20] 11/6 11/21 101/3 103/2 104/7 22/16 24/10 25/19 166/19 170/23 172/16 holding [2] 89/10 166/9 166/11 166/21 114/14 124/24 134/15 72/1 91/5 91/13 93/15 173/5 174/4 176/25 130/4 167/4 167/8 167/13 137/1 138/5 154/24 94/21 99/24 110/3 177/16 167/17 168/9 169/6 holdings [2] 88/13 155/20 160/1 160/17 115/18 128/8 142/18 169/23 170/10 172/10 helped [1] 166/2 89/9 168/5 169/8 177/7 146/14 158/16 161/19 helpful [2] 79/13 81/1 173/25 174/23 175/8 holiday [3] 94/8 177/14 178/5 178/7 175/1 175/9 helping [1] 165/24 149/12 155/15 175/18 177/23 hasn't [1] 77/25 I can't [30] 8/2 20/2 helpline [4] 36/11 Holmes [17] 38/11 horrendous [1] **Hatton [1]** 148/2 20/4 34/4 36/15 41/9 64/14 93/18 112/9 39/4 39/12 40/7 40/17 105/17 have [297] 49/20 67/1 67/10 helps [1] 72/9 41/7 41/10 95/22 96/3 house [2] 5/17 6/3 haven't [2] 40/22 67/19 82/20 91/19 hence [1] 162/19 96/22 97/8 97/23 98/6 **how [36]** 5/9 9/20 109/6 98/6 98/9 98/12 100/9 17/15 20/1 23/14 39/2 93/24 96/5 104/23 **Henderson** [11] 52/3 having [16] 43/9 44/1 105/12 107/19 114/10 71/14 71/21 74/4 Holmes' [5] 50/6 39/3 41/8 57/6 57/7 49/19 72/13 73/22 119/7 119/7 122/17 74/18 77/10 77/24 96/10 96/17 97/11 60/18 62/14 68/5 75/8 91/17 98/21 126/12 128/23 143/12 70/14 72/16 73/7 78/2 84/2 86/1 86/17 100/12 102/11 126/3 150/16 152/7 152/16 158/6 Henderson's [5] home [4] 96/17 124/9 76/21 76/22 76/23 157/23 164/16 166/8 169/11 169/20 174/25 51/13 72/1 73/16 124/10 124/12 76/25 78/18 82/23 175/4 175/7 84/8 104/16 107/4 I cannot [3] 9/16 10/3 74/16 79/10 homes [1] 153/4 Hayward [3] 55/16 140/8 her [24] 48/16 49/4 honest [5] 20/2 29/7 107/19 107/22 108/21 115/3 166/23 I caused [1] 1/10 52/4 61/6 61/13 73/19 133/2 143/12 146/18 108/23 109/1 119/25 he [59] 2/15 14/23 74/19 84/3 101/4 120/15 121/4 127/8 I certainly [3] 22/16 honestly [3] 58/3 40/9 40/14 41/13 135/20 175/14 102/21 104/6 104/9 131/17 163/7 158/21 163/12 41/14 41/25 41/25 I concluded [1] 54/15 105/17 107/7 107/19 **Honour [5]** 43/15 however [7] 1/25 42/10 43/8 43/11 I could [11] 17/13 107/24 107/24 107/25 43/17 44/2 44/8 148/1 44/1 44/24 46/21 43/21 44/5 62/2 62/15 70/16 138/2 178/17 35/17 101/6 102/14 107/25 108/15 108/16 hope [6] 1/21 62/24 62/19 72/3 79/18 106/10 124/11 124/12 108/22 148/1 151/5 63/5 78/12 78/14 HR [1] 115/19 79/19 81/11 83/15 109/12 124/23 132/20 161/18 here [25] 10/12 11/15 huge [1] 82/7 83/21 84/7 84/9 89/2 12/1 16/21 17/25 19/7 Hopefully [1] 25/19 162/13 **Human [2]** 13/24 89/3 90/2 96/23 96/23 26/2 30/15 33/12 37/1 hoping [2] 47/5 97/2 I couldn't [2] 21/22 102/19 96/25 97/1 97/2 97/3 106/4 40/9 41/10 47/14 **HORice [1]** 131/16 humiliate [1] 107/25 100/12 106/1 106/4 47/23 63/17 64/8 75/3 Horizon [130] 9/20 I covered [2] 41/5 husband [1] 102/9 121/4 123/14 141/14 120/11 77/9 78/11 83/7 84/20 15/25 16/4 16/5 16/8 **Hutchinson** [2]

I dealt [1] 66/14 I decided [1] 113/5 I did [8] 12/15 48/10 111/18 111/23 126/13 128/23 133/2 147/3 I didn't [13] 50/1 68/7 91/19 94/2 103/22 116/9 116/13 127/7 128/7 128/8 154/10 163/25 164/19 I do [7] 3/8 4/2 31/11 38/6 65/22 126/1 166/8 I don't [117] 9/10 9/10 12/15 14/8 14/12 15/13 15/24 15/24 16/6 16/16 19/2 19/24 20/1 20/13 23/14 23/25 24/5 24/6 27/20 28/1 29/7 29/21 31/7 31/7 31/18 33/17 34/4 34/18 35/1 35/1 35/3 35/3 35/6 35/9 35/13 35/15 35/17 35/23 36/7 36/9 44/19 44/22 44/24 45/6 45/6 45/7 45/10 45/21 47/18 47/24 48/1 48/3 48/9 48/18 51/6 54/8 54/13 56/8 57/6 57/6 58/3 58/5 58/20 58/20 59/8 59/10 64/13 68/5 70/14 73/15 82/20 82/25 84/8 90/11 90/11 91/22 92/5 96/5 96/18 96/20 99/20 102/24 102/24 103/8 103/8 103/12 104/2 104/15 104/23 105/4 106/10 107/21 108/3 108/3 108/17 108/25 109/2 120/1 121/17 125/23 126/4 127/17 139/22 140/15 150/15 152/10 156/3 161/4 163/12 165/4 167/1 171/12 173/16 174/19 176/15 177/24 179/9 I ended [2] 5/14 102/11 I enjoy [1] 117/8 I enjoyed [1] 113/4 I expect [1] 81/6 I forget [1] 20/11 I found [1] 122/12 I got [3] 8/22 64/12 120/18 I guess [8] 15/14 19/25 33/9 50/1 58/11 67/17 73/15 86/4 I had [8] 25/12 64/25 65/10 106/5 162/1

163/16 167/10 169/8 I hadn't [1] 98/21 I have [25] 2/7 38/20 40/18 46/23 52/25 53/4 53/11 63/7 63/18 158/14 69/23 70/3 77/15 79/4 | say [5] 21/21 65/16 85/8 86/6 97/25 107/9 67/4 146/18 171/13 108/8 158/15 159/3 160/15 160/18 160/20 | I seem [1] 116/21 161/8 177/17 I haven't [2] 40/22 109/6 I held [1] 111/21 I honestly [1] 158/21 I hope [4] 62/24 63/5 78/12 109/12 I interviewed [2] 59/22 101/15 I joined [2] 11/24 36/15 l just [14] 25/11 32/25 41/1 47/11 94/20 95/2 111/15 117/14 117/17 142/14 147/22 166/4 173/16 177/4 I knew [3] 15/13 41/4 56/9 I know [6] 65/1 91/20 117/17 161/9 176/5 176/15 I may [1] 126/11 I mean [8] 22/23 40/21 126/11 131/21 135/1 161/8 161/17 164/11 I might [1] 52/8 I moved [2] 4/25 8/17 I must [3] 64/4 159/6 161/9 I nearly [1] 106/3 I need [1] 1/8 I never [1] 37/24 I note [1] 76/12 I only [2] 90/22 132/2 I owned [1] 88/3 I presume [2] 50/20 82/18 I probably [1] 35/16 I put [1] 70/13 I raised [1] 168/25 I read [2] 29/11 29/11 I took [1] 48/18 I recall [6] 16/24 88/3 I tried [1] 63/14 164/8 I received [1] 29/25 I recognised [1] 12/17 I remember [3] 8/2 128/1 139/19 I represent [1] 95/23

I responded [1]

106/1

I said [8] 45/15 47/18 | I was [47] 4/22 5/21 51/2 84/23 99/18 105/24 106/10 163/21 I saw [2] 98/25 I see [1] 105/24 I sent [1] 68/1 I should [4] 57/10 91/18 102/2 102/6 I sort [2] 44/22 57/8 I spent [1] 40/23 I spoke [2] 93/25 94/16 I started [3] 8/15 120/6 140/10 I suppose [2] 40/1 178/24 I suspect [1] 82/4 I think [85] 5/1 5/12 5/21 5/21 6/10 6/23 8/4 9/5 9/7 10/16 13/13 20/9 20/14 21/20 21/21 21/22 25/7 30/21 33/18 33/18 35/15 35/16 35/18 36/13 36/18 36/19 36/21 44/16 44/17 44/18 44/23 45/15 47/4 47/25 52/7 56/13 58/24 64/4 64/24 66/6 66/24 67/10 67/10 67/11 67/16 68/1 68/2 70/14 71/11 78/17 78/18 85/16 91/16 92/12 101/13 106/19 106/21 109/9 114/10 115/19 117/5 120/18 120/22 123/22 125/7 128/18 128/20 132/2 138/21 139/1 151/17 152/16 155/4 155/5 155/5 156/25 158/14 166/25 169/14 175/13 179/14 179/23 I thought [1] 113/7 I told [1] 102/13 127/24 144/19 145/18 I turn [2] 86/8 179/10 I understand [4] 34/12 47/17 54/12 I understood [3] 70/15 73/7 139/16 I used [1] 157/1 I want [5] 1/17 36/20 I requested [1] 94/18 86/19 87/18 101/2 I wanted [3] 89/12

94/19 113/2

8/15 10/5 15/15 19/24 23/15 28/8 34/18 35/15 35/18 44/16 44/16 44/17 45/6 45/7 47/24 47/25 48/9 50/3 54/8 64/18 65/10 66/6 75/4 86/4 88/5 94/3 98/14 98/14 98/16 98/19 100/15 100/15 102/16 113/16 115/20 I've [24] 8/4 31/20 116/12 126/10 146/20 37/13 46/15 47/13 162/12 163/22 163/23 170/25 171/14 171/15 173/16 I wasn't [4] 45/2 98/15 98/25 135/2 I will [6] 2/24 47/9 47/10 53/13 69/20 110/20 I wish [2] 94/1 179/6 I won't [1] 147/21 I wonder [1] 165/3 I worked [1] 112/10 I would [50] 11/4 11/19 12/20 15/16 18/5 20/3 21/25 22/15 30/1 30/10 36/14 45/15 45/25 48/9 50/25 54/7 54/20 65/10 65/17 68/5 76/25 80/23 83/24 85/17 87/23 88/23 89/6 100/17 103/8 107/5 107/21 119/23 120/6 124/21 127/7 127/8 130/22 140/5 140/9 156/9 159/5 159/25 161/11 162/11 164/19 168/21 168/22 177/23 178/22 178/25 I wouldn't [11] 15/16 42/17 46/24 51/3 68/6 85/19 85/21 109/2 152/19 152/22 154/12 126/12 133/21 162/23 l'd [24] 15/17 34/21 47/14 55/9 65/18 71/12 84/11 91/1 91/3 94/1 103/19 111/3 113/3 116/12 120/9 126/9 127/18 133/4 135/1 147/4 161/24 163/22 164/18 165/18 **I'II [6]** 87/7 87/21 91/25 100/20 101/2 101/25 I'm [52] 20/2 23/3 24/6 27/20 29/7 29/17 35/13 35/14 35/14 40/5 47/5 57/7 57/7 58/20 62/21 71/7 72/13 72/14 72/16 85/15 85/16 91/14 92/13 95/22 96/18

100/14 100/14 100/18 102/24 103/9 104/17 104/18 106/12 106/13 108/8 109/4 109/16 110/22 111/21 111/22 115/8 116/22 125/25 133/2 133/17 152/17 156/25 161/20 163/6 174/19 177/24 179/20 I'm having [1] 72/13 54/14 62/22 68/5 78/19 85/16 87/22 90/11 91/17 93/17 94/19 105/8 115/19 117/13 123/8 134/23 138/5 161/12 161/21 174/19 lain [1] 55/16 **ID [2]** 75/13 127/8 idea [5] 40/18 40/19 40/20 159/3 177/17 identification [7] 125/19 126/15 127/1 127/3 127/12 127/15 127/20 identified [4] 21/15 29/10 69/23 148/16 identify [3] 29/2 82/9 162/21 identifying [2] 19/4 106/17 identity [1] 126/9 ie [1] 9/20 ie how [1] 9/20 if [160] 3/9 15/15 18/4 18/5 18/13 19/18 19/24 20/2 20/19 21/1 21/5 21/7 22/6 24/7 24/15 24/22 28/9 28/10 29/7 29/11 29/14 30/13 31/20 32/9 32/9 32/16 33/7 33/19 34/9 34/18 35/15 36/1 36/7 36/8 37/5 42/24 45/3 45/6 47/13 48/10 48/22 49/4 49/6 49/15 53/18 54/8 54/8 54/15 54/16 54/22 54/25 55/15 57/6 57/20 59/8 61/12 64/12 70/18 72/9 72/11 72/14 72/17 72/25 73/6 73/12 75/20 78/2 79/13 80/24 82/2 82/8 83/8 84/19 84/22 85/3 86/23 87/3 87/13 87/18 87/20 89/6 91/5 93/13 93/13 96/5 96/7 99/4 99/22 101/1 101/6 101/7 101/7 102/5 103/10 103/10

incurred [1] 27/17 146/10 149/22 instructed [2] 19/12 investigations [31] interviewee [1] 145/7 Indeed [1] 52/10 73/4 4/16 6/1 7/9 7/14 8/6 if... [65] 104/18 105/5 independent [1] instruction [2] 45/11 interviewees [1] 8/19 12/12 13/2 13/5 105/13 106/19 107/20 158/4 84/11 122/2 13/7 13/9 13/11 13/22 108/4 108/8 108/21 independently [1] instructions [3] interviewer [1] 16/23 22/12 22/21 109/1 109/3 109/18 164/16 83/20 84/6 85/20 105/16 25/4 25/16 37/22 109/19 110/11 117/3 indicated [1] 83/18 116/7 117/24 118/16 intact [1] 71/11 interviewing [8] 10/9 121/24 123/3 123/17 120/16 120/25 121/7 indication [2] 80/19 integrity [18] 48/15 22/17 49/3 99/5 108/4 124/23 126/23 127/6 53/1 53/25 54/6 54/18 118/22 122/3 122/4 122/22 128/19 128/21 81/23 127/12 129/6 130/22 56/6 65/7 66/15 67/23 interviews [12] 10/19 136/6 170/8 179/4 indictment [1] 82/3 132/19 133/2 133/18 individual [2] 23/17 70/12 71/2 71/6 71/10 71/24 98/18 106/14 investigative [1] 10/6 134/15 136/7 136/12 90/20 97/14 140/6 107/14 121/1 121/5 investigator [58] 4/5 23/23 137/5 137/17 139/13 individuals [4] 18/14 174/1 174/23 135/22 136/24 137/20 5/20 6/12 7/1 7/2 7/12 140/9 140/15 140/23 130/14 130/20 166/20 Intelligence [2] 4/6 139/9 153/8 7/13 11/9 11/17 12/1 141/5 144/5 144/17 induction [1] 137/21 intimated [2] 168/9 12/19 13/10 13/16 145/10 145/21 147/20 inform [1] 163/13 intend [1] 125/23 169/8 14/6 14/24 15/2 15/4 152/8 153/11 153/16 15/8 15/9 15/18 15/22 information [30] interaction [2] 64/8 **intimidate [1]** 107/12 154/14 157/13 158/7 16/14 17/3 17/8 19/8 10/25 21/2 22/8 33/15 175/24 into [25] 5/13 5/19 159/19 160/5 160/19 33/22 34/2 34/15 interest [1] 178/16 17/4 18/24 19/16 19/23 21/3 23/9 23/23 160/23 161/18 161/23 50/13 53/2 53/22 57/7 interject [1] 145/9 20/19 26/17 37/16 24/2 28/3 33/20 34/21 162/13 162/20 163/18 58/16 65/9 65/11 66/7 internal [2] 7/9 47/14 48/14 53/2 37/2 37/15 60/1 68/9 164/1 164/18 165/3 70/1 90/5 90/13 131/9 167/25 53/10 53/25 54/6 91/4 71/23 75/5 82/21 165/5 168/3 169/12 169/9 169/10 171/5 interpret [1] 133/1 97/14 99/14 100/2 85/11 86/4 99/11 169/15 174/6 178/3 171/6 171/10 172/1 interpreting [1] 57/7 104/19 105/2 106/20 101/19 105/22 106/7 illness [1] 148/15 172/13 172/22 172/24 **interrogate** [1] 76/18 137/10 141/8 149/1 108/2 110/24 120/22 imagine [5] 103/9 174/9 174/11 131/7 131/9 139/17 170/3 interrogation [2] 103/19 104/4 124/21 141/11 142/7 143/18 informative [1] 34/6 34/14 introduced [5] 8/8 177/23 145/3 145/12 155/10 109/13 intervention [5] 125/2 125/6 138/20 **immediate** [1] 26/17 informed [3] 166/16 88/15 112/3 154/12 139/13 Investigator's [2] immediately [2] 167/15 170/9 154/17 154/19 50/14 143/7 introduction [2] 41/24 75/7 intervention/educatio 13/18 140/2 initial [6] 8/1 8/9 **Investigators** [22] impact [3] 102/19 37/22 51/22 79/22 **n [1]** 88/15 investigate [4] 10/23 5/23 10/23 14/3 14/15 173/25 178/12 129/11 interventions [1] 98/12 100/12 131/9 17/18 19/4 23/12 implemented [2] initially [4] 4/22 89/19 investigated [3] 58/8 23/24 25/5 25/18 20/6 60/17 30/22 112/21 120/5 interview [76] 10/10 98/10 100/23 26/15 27/1 27/13 imply [1] 89/17 investigating [12] initials [3] 137/23 19/16 38/11 38/15 27/23 32/22 58/14 importance [3] 26/5 38/23 40/7 42/4 46/4 107/11 127/19 139/14 138/1 172/15 6/13 8/21 24/7 90/10 27/9 27/25 initiatives [5] 88/16 46/11 48/7 48/16 98/11 98/15 99/7 143/13 143/16 143/24 important [1] 50/22 49/15 49/17 50/24 100/5 104/13 107/14 88/17 89/19 89/23 Investigators' [1] **imposed [1]** 15/23 52/7 59/17 59/20 129/8 163/20 90/6 16/19 improvements [1] innocence [1] 66/11 59/25 60/4 61/16 investigation [72] involve [2] 120/3 29/2 input [3] 18/24 37/16 71/21 71/22 72/8 72/9 4/10 4/11 4/17 4/19 171/3 inaccurate [1] 70/6 79/25 72/11 72/24 73/5 4/21 5/6 5/9 6/22 7/23 involved [16] 4/16 inappropriate [2] inquiry [39] 1/10 1/18 73/16 73/25 74/16 8/12 9/4 9/9 9/14 21/24 85/21 96/13 37/19 104/8 2/10 2/25 3/3 10/14 74/17 90/18 90/23 10/24 12/25 14/20 99/1 108/1 108/14 **Incidents [1]** 16/8 11/3 11/10 12/5 12/14 91/1 96/22 97/1 98/13 14/21 16/15 17/14 111/25 118/11 120/6 include [4] 49/25 135/21 138/6 158/19 13/6 16/22 29/23 99/8 100/13 101/4 18/2 18/6 18/14 18/25 130/17 131/1 137/21 35/25 36/2 36/25 101/18 101/20 101/22 20/24 21/1 21/10 163/19 175/14 176/7 included [4] 28/23 50/23 65/15 68/10 102/13 102/15 103/3 21/17 21/20 22/4 involvement [14] 7/9 48/6 88/22 89/23 68/12 68/18 69/4 103/5 105/18 105/21 22/11 23/11 23/18 19/3 71/12 85/8 85/16 includes [1] 122/1 71/18 90/22 97/21 106/12 118/24 119/9 24/23 24/24 25/23 85/25 101/4 110/24 including [7] 4/4 30/2 102/19 102/22 104/7 126/18 135/25 136/16 26/19 27/18 29/10 111/1 127/19 143/25 55/25 57/15 69/16 110/21 110/23 122/22 137/24 138/23 139/12 29/25 37/3 37/16 147/9 165/1 176/10 86/17 168/13 140/4 141/10 145/5 124/24 125/22 129/9 41/20 44/4 50/19 involving [2] 6/3 90/6 incorporated [1] 51/25 71/13 71/20 129/10 129/11 154/7 145/6 145/9 145/14 is [329] 137/10 175/6 179/18 145/19 145/22 146/4 90/14 96/3 97/14 ish [1] 36/20 incorrect [3] 70/20 Ishaq [2] 146/2 146/9 146/12 146/17 146/21 97/22 98/3 99/15 Inquiry's [1] 2/13 138/16 138/17 insinuation [1] 88/21 146/21 146/24 149/23 101/10 107/13 108/15 Ishaq's [1] 146/4 increase [2] 23/13 153/12 153/14 164/25 114/1 125/14 127/23 isn't [8] 42/1 49/23 installation [1] 128/22 66/9 86/21 89/25 interview' [2] 72/4 128/3 129/14 129/17 158/20 **increases** [2] 26/7 135/8 135/14 137/20 instances [2] 1/23 136/20 90/14 102/2 103/1 27/11 28/22 interviewed [9] 34/24 141/14 149/2 164/11 issue [14] 18/5 18/9 increasing [1] 70/25 instead [4] 2/15 59/22 72/5 101/15 168/4 168/18 169/3 18/13 29/5 44/1 58/7 increasingly [1] 61/1 22/14 44/14 88/8 103/9 103/11 105/15 169/6 63/17 67/5 70/11 71/9

121/17 125/24 127/7 170/3 170/18 69/8 155/2 157/13 159/4 Jenkins [4] 81/7 159/20 159/21 159/23 127/17 140/12 150/15 leaders [10] 17/11 issue... [4] 98/12 175/23 175/24 176/16 162/12 166/3 166/4 150/20 154/7 156/24 113/20 114/22 116/5 129/8 130/3 135/4 Jesmond [2] 39/11 169/13 171/3 171/6 161/9 163/12 167/1 116/11 116/16 127/25 issued [3] 13/25 25/3 39/13 171/12 171/15 172/6 169/19 173/8 173/16 128/2 143/20 166/24 job [9] 6/21 6/25 7/2 172/25 173/3 173/8 176/5 176/15 176/15 leading [1] 99/15 issues [30] 36/1 45/2 173/11 173/16 175/1 177/24 178/24 24/9 112/25 117/8 leads [3] 76/13 48/15 49/18 50/6 117/14 119/23 120/15 177/4 178/25 knowing [1] 103/24 137/23 138/16 54/18 57/22 59/7 61/7 John [8] 66/23 67/7 justice [1] 150/3 knowledge [4] 3/17 learn [1] 143/17 64/13 87/23 90/20 166/23 167/2 167/14 justified [1] 68/16 110/16 118/1 166/5 learned [1] 119/16 92/21 110/22 112/8 known [6] 75/4 89/14 170/24 171/20 172/17 learning [1] 147/3 112/11 112/14 132/4 90/7 90/9 159/5 John Scott [7] 66/23 least [6] 17/17 50/5 134/17 135/2 136/18 KC [1] 86/14 67/7 166/23 167/2 164/15 54/5 65/13 99/11 139/9 139/14 140/16 **Keith [3]** 113/22 167/14 171/20 172/17 knows [1] 1/25 157/15 145/21 160/7 166/8 114/23 166/25 joined [10] 11/24 leave [3] 60/19 113/5 168/11 175/7 177/8 **KEVIN [4]** 110/5 36/15 111/5 113/9 154/2 it [487] 110/9 168/15 181/12 label [2] 57/23 113/25 117/19 117/21 led [4] 24/3 59/1 it's [64] 3/2 24/5 Kevin Ryan [1] 134/19 125/3 135/17 164/3 170/12 176/13 25/14 38/3 38/3 38/4 39/5 39/5 40/20 40/23 jointly [2] 148/4 168/15 ladies [2] 152/22 Leeds [1] 84/22 key [2] 23/7 123/16 161/12 149/10 left [5] 88/20 102/9 43/1 47/1 47/4 48/22 48/23 54/12 57/6 59/7 **jokes [1]** 173/10 **Khayyam [1]** 146/1 lady [4] 94/1 103/2 106/23 113/16 161/10 kind [5] 4/16 122/11 116/21 138/3 joking [1] 106/1 left-handed [1] 63/22 63/24 71/18 151/24 171/17 173/5 lady's [1] 94/17 Jon [1] 69/20 106/23 75/2 75/10 75/24 77/9 judge [6] 43/16 43/18 King [8] 10/8 10/11 laid [1] 13/21 legal [15] 11/25 80/12 83/4 85/4 87/8 44/2 44/8 44/13 148/1 10/12 121/14 121/23 laptop [1] 163/24 14/21 14/23 17/1 22/9 87/19 91/16 91/22 92/5 93/19 94/23 96/9 judge's [1] 50/8 122/9 122/19 123/13 large [4] 30/9 77/17 37/3 37/5 59/13 60/4 King's [1] 102/21 95/23 162/16 64/4 69/15 141/13 judgment [2] 97/24 99/16 99/18 101/8 knew [7] 15/13 41/4 larger [1] 114/11 147/17 141/17 141/23 142/18 101/10 103/1 104/14 56/9 74/6 74/24 76/14 largest [1] 78/8 judicial [3] 45/5 legally [1] 73/6 106/17 107/19 108/5 45/22 74/3 last [14] 1/15 4/3 **Leslie [2]** 114/22 110/9 117/5 123/1 Knight [16] 1/6 2/21 30/11 30/15 30/25 July [5] 68/22 68/24 168/16 126/9 134/11 136/9 2/23 3/2 3/21 54/11 49/4 49/8 79/16 82/1 113/12 123/14 137/15 let [1] 40/21 137/13 138/12 138/17 **July 2013 [1]** 113/12 55/8 59/25 86/7 86/13 83/7 110/12 155/21 let's [2] 55/1 92/10 139/25 142/19 143/9 89/12 91/8 95/18 158/15 177/13 June [3] 84/19 87/7 letter [8] 149/10 159/4 159/17 160/1 101/19 109/16 181/4 lasted [1] 118/4 87/16 152/2 152/6 152/8 163/6 168/2 170/15 late [3] 1/19 82/11 Knight's [11] 9/12 just [113] 1/8 6/25 153/18 153/20 153/23 177/2 120/22 16/20 17/25 19/6 15/17 16/11 17/22 163/5 item [1] 75/13 29/23 33/11 36/25 later [8] 2/14 19/11 25/11 28/7 28/19 **Letters [3]** 25/3 items [2] 5/2 75/15 38/2 65/20 71/17 75/2 77/23 116/4 127/25 31/19 32/11 32/25 25/16 27/1 its [8] 3/4 5/8 15/14 know [106] 2/24 132/3 137/13 153/4 36/9 36/18 37/24 letting [1] 41/13 54/11 58/7 59/5 71/10 latest [2] 2/12 127/8 12/15 12/24 15/13 38/21 39/22 41/1 level [5] 8/12 66/6 178/15 15/24 18/11 19/24 44/23 46/8 47/11 latter [1] 17/7 67/14 67/18 128/15 itself [4] 24/19 71/6 47/25 48/19 48/19 20/1 20/13 20/18 **latterly [5]** 10/16 level 4 [1] 8/12 82/5 155/23 21/19 24/10 28/1 36/14 36/17 36/17 48/19 53/12 53/18 **liaison [2]** 173/22 29/21 31/7 31/7 31/18 36/20 56/1 58/5 62/9 66/23 174/6 33/17 34/4 34/18 35/1 law [12] 24/14 24/17 67/5 67/19 71/4 72/19 lift [16] 102/16 103/5 Jacobs [3] 95/19 35/3 35/6 35/13 35/15 43/2 45/5 45/12 49/2 73/10 75/12 76/3 103/23 103/25 104/1 95/20 181/10 36/7 41/1 42/20 44/24 50/11 50/17 75/22 78/10 85/14 86/22 104/2 104/4 104/8 **JAMES [3]** 110/5 44/25 47/18 48/8 48/9 78/15 78/23 118/1 91/5 91/14 92/5 92/19 104/16 104/19 104/20 110/9 181/12 48/21 51/7 54/8 54/13 lawyer [2] 43/2 93/14 93/18 93/19 104/22 105/3 105/5 Jane [3] 28/14 52/19 56/10 57/2 57/6 57/6 177/15 94/3 94/20 94/22 95/2 105/5 105/7 68/23 59/5 59/8 59/10 60/18 lawyers [1] 118/11 97/19 97/25 100/16 lifts [2] 105/4 105/9 January [17] 52/20 100/25 101/6 111/15 62/14 63/14 65/1 66/3 lead [15] 5/20 23/9 light [8] 10/25 13/24 54/3 76/10 77/11 78/3 66/23 66/25 67/2 67/3 24/2 25/22 71/22 75/5 42/8 42/11 50/25 55/8 115/22 116/13 117/14 80/16 81/22 113/10 67/12 67/17 68/3 68/5 106/6 120/18 120/22 117/17 121/24 122/25 100/12 160/20 148/6 148/6 149/5 69/21 71/8 71/10 131/7 141/11 145/2 123/3 124/16 124/17 like [30] 4/25 21/21 149/21 150/8 151/10 145/11 172/15 174/2 73/15 73/15 73/17 125/7 129/11 131/23 28/1 28/2 44/19 47/14 153/9 153/14 158/10 74/20 82/20 84/8 88/2 leader [21] 17/13 133/13 135/15 136/7 47/18 48/21 55/9 January 2011 [2] 91/20 92/3 92/5 93/2 21/3 21/25 113/13 136/9 136/13 137/5 58/14 65/12 71/12 54/3 113/10 96/5 98/19 100/10 113/15 113/15 113/21 138/12 139/1 142/9 72/15 76/25 84/9 91/1 Jarnail [**3**] 42/24 43/1 103/12 104/2 104/15 114/16 114/19 115/1 142/13 142/14 142/14 91/3 94/23 98/19 104/17 104/23 105/4 115/5 117/8 117/12 145/1 145/4 146/20 100/1 100/14 107/20 Jason [2] 55/17 69/8 108/6 108/25 109/4 128/4 128/10 129/7 147/8 147/22 151/17 108/16 109/4 109/5 Jason Collins [1] 110/20 117/17 121/15 141/12 141/17 169/1 151/17 152/22 153/7 111/3 118/18 127/18

ſ	L	long [7] 24/21 75/12	made [31] 19/13 21/5	16/25 17/9 66/25	159/4 159/15 159/22
		120/15 121/4 143/19	27/5 34/5 35/5 35/11	67/12 112/10 114/9	166/10 169/13 171/17
	like [2] 162/25	160/22 162/19	35/16 42/4 44/12 52/3		mean [21] 20/7 20/8
	173/2	longer [4] 11/7 11/22	58/2 58/24 62/21 64/6		22/23 40/21 65/24
	likely [3] 19/9 33/14 69/13	62/21 115/21	64/19 72/21 73/6	118/8 125/14 126/15	72/24 119/21 126/11
	limit [2] 134/1 134/4	look [14] 46/14 46/15	79/21 88/24 100/3	136/1 137/20 143/19	128/17 129/1 129/23
	limited [7] 25/20 26/6	69/12 74/15 87/18	106/9 127/22 129/13	172/8 172/18 173/2	131/21 135/1 140/25
	27/10 47/10 60/11	90/24 91/1 97/10	135/14 141/21 143/22	173/22	141/2 143/18 161/8
	76/5 168/8	99/14 117/3 137/17	148/9 151/3 160/23	managing [1] 155/6	161/17 164/11 171/22
	limits [1] 134/7	157/13 162/13 172/6	164/7 175/11	manner [1] 106/1	178/19
	line [23] 8/16 11/3	looked [16] 5/2 11/1	mail [20] 5/3 24/18	Manual [1] 88/25	meaning [2] 84/12
	18/19 39/8 39/14	15/7 16/1 46/8 47/12	25/3 25/15 25/20	manually [1] 77/19	155/23
	39/15 49/16 49/16	49/19 49/21 50/7 74/3 83/5 83/6 85/14 141/7	27/10 27/25 43/20	many [12] 8/19 40/24 53/14 61/14 88/23	170/23 172/16
	52/20 57/17 65/15	172/5 172/5	44/15 103/13 103/15	89/9 90/2 95/10 99/9	meant [2] 44/25 61/4
	67/21 68/12 68/18	looking [32] 16/14	103/17 103/24 118/8	125/15 165/4 173/13	media [1] 56/10
	85/24 90/22 93/18	16/17 22/20 31/21	137/2 173/24		meeting [7] 17/9
	112/10 112/10 112/15	39/14 39/15 45/1	Mail/Police [1]	75/24 101/20 121/22	117/1 137/14 145/7
	117/2 132/17 137/3	48/17 48/17 56/24	173/24	144/5 164/21	172/4 176/5 177/5
	lines [5] 11/10 22/2 50/23 68/10 171/25	58/21 59/5 64/17 65/9	main [1] 70/16	March 2011 [1]	meetings [5] 20/16
	link [1] 137/1	71/3 74/13 83/13	mainly [1] 73/13	101/20	116/1 122/16 166/17
	linked [1] 23/21	91/15 99/19 100/2	maintain [1] 76/7	March 2014 [1] 144/5	
	links [2] 55/23 68/2	128/20 128/22 128/24	maintained [1] 43/21	Marion [1] 98/6	Megan [1] 110/19
	Lisa [1] 69/20	133/7 133/25 156/4	maintains [1] 51/25	Mark [3] 69/11	member [4] 34/25
	list [11] 17/5 23/7	157/14 158/2 160/19	major [2] 5/11 177/19		37/7 62/13 130/19
	24/21 25/25 57/15	175/17 175/20 176/12		marks [1] 106/25	members [2] 1/17
	121/25 122/24 123/1	looks [2] 94/23 118/18	64/9 102/2 102/14 102/15 128/2 131/13	MARTIN [2] 1/7 181/2	172/19
	123/4 123/7 135/13	loss [39] 2/12 21/5	139/2 155/14 155/24	matching [3] 57/23	membership [1] 18/15
	listed [3] 53/20 53/21	21/12 31/16 31/18	155/25 160/24 162/1	59/8 134/18	memo [7] 42/23
	171/1	32/4 32/10 32/19	173/13 175/1	material [7] 12/7 13/1	
	listen [1] 136/17	43/19 44/14 45/13	makes [6] 26/8 27/12	13/21 14/1 14/19	80/10 81/18 167/25
	lists [2] 25/15 54/1	45/16 45/19 45/23	32/16 34/10 99/22	14/20 81/25	memory [3] 17/15
	literally [5] 16/11 98/14 100/15 115/22	59/3 76/8 76/11 76/12	103/10	matter [8] 21/7 49/21	21/6 101/7
	171/4	76/14 77/1 78/7 79/11		51/24 150/11 175/17	mens [1] 22/24
	litigation [2] 177/9	82/12 82/23 97/16	84/1 84/3 85/8 99/10	176/2 176/14 176/18	mention [3] 17/20
	178/21	128/15 129/3 141/6	109/14 120/11 145/8	Matters [1] 28/16	35/16 84/24
	little [9] 13/14 16/12	143/22 144/12 154/24		maximised [1] 27/4	mentioned [8] 11/16
	24/16 61/23 69/6 83/5	155/20 157/20 160/12		may [28] 1/6 12/9	52/6 67/7 85/1 125/12
	115/21 121/25 135/19	160/18 161/16 162/16 163/4 163/5	malicious [2] 78/21	30/6 30/13 61/23 70/7 72/8 77/2 78/24 80/25	
	live [1] 147/5	losses [13] 5/2 26/5	108/19	81/9 83/18 88/6 96/24	
	lived [1] 121/8	27/9 27/24 28/5 28/9	manage [2] 35/14	110/4 115/8 126/11	119/25 120/8 120/9
	Liverpool [6] 59/23	61/13 70/6 132/3	133/2	127/25 129/7 130/1	120/13
	101/16 101/17 103/14	144/1 148/19 162/24	managed [3] 6/16	130/6 130/7 130/8	mentorship [2]
	148/1 150/21 lives [2] 149/18	164/12	10/1 116/16	135/19 136/18 157/21	
	150/21	lost [2] 78/3 169/7	management [4]	172/2 175/13	merely [1] 43/24
	local [2] 151/20	lot [4] 135/20 162/18	18/9 87/3 89/15 130/3		merits [1] 178/15
	151/20	170/21 174/5	manager [40] 6/22	May 2010 [1] 88/6	message [20] 57/9
	locate [1] 96/11	lots [2] 48/21 106/17	8/16 9/4 9/15 18/7	maybe [8] 20/15 49/5	57/10 57/12 60/23
	location [1] 103/12	Lottery [22] 47/5 48/1 49/18 50/2 62/3	18/20 24/15 24/17 37/7 37/10 37/20	72/15 72/17 92/12 115/21 143/16 164/14	66/4 66/17 66/20
	log [11] 60/22 77/14	62/22 62/25 63/13	62/22 77/15 88/5	me [42] 16/22 33/17	67/20 68/8 85/18
	84/15 84/16 85/13	63/14 63/16 64/7	112/4 112/11 112/17	40/15 42/17 47/19	85/21 86/21 89/25
	85/17 135/9 135/12	64/13 64/14 64/17	113/4 113/6 113/10	49/6 58/24 73/11	172/17 172/21 174/21
	154/17 158/8 159/10	64/18 65/16 88/9	114/19 115/3 117/2	74/25 76/11 79/7	met [2] 21/16 144/18
	Logan [2] 116/22 138/4	88/11 88/24 89/15	122/10 122/15 130/13	84/11 85/19 86/18	middle [1] 62/18
	logging [2] 32/14	92/17 93/18	132/17 135/10 135/22		Midlands [1] 114/6
	32/14	Ltd [1] 61/12	136/16 137/3 140/21	94/1 94/17 96/6 97/21	might [21] 13/13
	logs [10] 35/25 36/3	lunch [1] 109/19	148/11 154/17 154/19		17/20 17/22 48/21
	36/11 36/12 64/12	M	160/21 168/10 168/15		48/23 52/8 54/22
	131/4 135/20 160/16	machine [2] 39/8	168/23 169/16	120/10 132/18 142/13 150/16 151/17 151/21	
	160/16 165/19	39/16	managers [26] 5/24 5/25 12/24 16/24	156/8 156/16 158/14	129/19 130/3 130/23
			5,20 12127 1012 7	130/0 100/10 100/14	120/10 100/0 100/20

74/4 74/16 74/18 M morning [3] 1/3 2/23 Mr Daily [6] 39/20 54/23 39/24 96/19 99/4 77/10 77/24 78/2 might... [3] 140/13 most [4] 1/23 44/5 100/11 100/18 79/10 84/2 86/1 86/1 145/17 164/15 77/3 145/10 Mr Daley [1] 41/6 91/15 107/6 107/23 **Migration [1]** 112/17 mostly [2] 120/8 Mr Darlington [2] 108/10 109/12 Mike [1] 115/11 43/23 44/7 Mrs Hall [9] 47/3 167/6 Mike Stanway [1] motivated [1] 112/25 Mr Darlington's [2] 47/8 47/23 48/12 115/11 50/7 54/2 48/14 49/17 50/24 motive [1] 107/23 MILLAR [4] 110/6 mounting [1] 67/22 Mr Holmes [12] 39/4 86/1 91/15 110/19 179/23 181/14 39/12 40/7 40/17 41/7 move [3] 5/13 90/17 Mrs Hall's [7] 49/3 Millar's [1] 169/15 41/10 96/3 96/22 97/8 49/21 62/4 63/9 64/6 101/2 mind [5] 66/16 66/19 moved [5] 4/25 5/19 98/9 98/12 100/9 64/10 65/13 77/3 79/10 99/12 Mr Holmes' [5] 50/6 7/5 8/17 151/19 Mrs Henderson [8] mindful [1] 28/25 96/10 96/17 97/11 52/3 74/4 74/18 77/10 moving [5] 5/14 minute [2] 156/11 113/23 117/18 122/20 100/12 77/24 78/2 84/2 86/1 165/6 147/12 Mr Ishaq [1] 146/9 Mrs Henderson's [4] minutes [4] 51/24 Mr [118] 1/6 1/10 51/13 73/16 74/16 Mr Ishaq's [1] 146/4 54/25 91/4 153/17 1/13 2/2 2/5 2/14 2/23 Mr Jacobs [3] 95/19 79/10 mirrors [2] 106/19 3/21 9/12 16/20 17/25 95/20 181/10 Mrs Rita [1] 59/22 106/21 19/6 29/23 33/11 Mr Jenkins [2] 81/7 Mrs Threlfall [4] misdescription [1] 36/25 38/2 39/4 39/12 107/6 107/23 108/10 175/24 25/10 39/18 39/20 39/24 Mr Knight [11] 1/6 109/12 missed [1] 70/3 40/7 40/17 41/6 41/7 2/23 3/21 54/11 55/8 Ms [62] 2/19 2/22 missing [8] 43/19 41/10 43/7 43/23 44/7 86/7 86/13 89/12 91/8 25/6 52/21 53/15 44/8 51/22 52/2 79/15 50/6 50/7 52/15 54/2 95/18 109/16 53/25 54/4 59/20 69/5 81/25 91/21 92/24 54/11 55/8 57/17 58/8 Mr Knight's [11] 9/12 71/21 72/1 86/10 mistake [1] 42/19 86/12 86/17 86/17 59/15 59/21 59/25 16/20 17/25 19/6 mistakes [1] 60/13 60/2 61/24 62/1 62/6 29/23 33/11 36/25 88/19 89/24 90/10 Mm [8] 12/3 42/2 62/18 63/2 64/8 65/20 38/2 65/20 71/17 75/2 90/18 90/19 90/20 46/9 53/23 92/2 100/4 67/18 71/17 71/25 92/15 95/3 96/21 Mr Moloney [1] 86/14 101/5 142/2 75/2 75/25 77/7 80/10 Mr Paul [1] 71/25 99/18 101/3 101/9 **Mm-hm [6]** 12/3 42/2 81/7 81/9 81/20 83/2 Mr Posnett [3] 101/11 101/16 101/25 46/9 53/23 101/5 86/7 86/13 86/14 125/17 126/6 127/14 102/7 102/17 105/15 142/2 Mr Ryan [7] 110/4 107/17 109/12 109/17 89/12 91/8 95/18 modern [1] 105/11 95/19 95/20 96/3 110/8 165/5 165/18 110/6 147/19 147/19 Moloney [1] 86/14 96/10 96/17 96/19 179/8 179/15 179/17 148/11 148/12 149/9 moment [4] 54/23 96/22 97/8 97/11 Mr Scott [1] 67/18 149/9 149/21 149/21 82/4 144/23 165/4 97/23 98/9 98/12 99/4 Mr Singh [1] 43/7 150/2 150/3 150/7 money [10] 40/25 100/9 100/11 100/12 150/25 152/2 152/17 Mr Smith [3] 1/10 44/8 47/9 74/21 76/21 100/18 101/15 101/18 1/13 2/14 153/3 153/4 153/12 79/15 81/25 83/19 102/21 103/22 106/6 Mr Smith's [2] 2/2 153/15 161/7 161/7 148/24 149/12 107/25 109/16 110/4 169/15 179/23 181/6 monies [2] 60/24 110/8 125/17 126/6 Mr Stein [1] 102/21 181/8 181/14 61/10 127/14 146/4 146/9 Mr Thorneycroft [4] **Ms Hall [6]** 86/17 month [6] 31/13 40/1 146/13 150/19 150/25 62/1 62/6 63/2 64/8 90/10 90/20 92/15 40/2 61/24 75/10 151/5 151/11 152/2 Mr Thorneycroft's [1] 95/3 109/12 88/25 152/6 152/9 152/24 **Ms Hall's [3]** 88/19 62/18 monthly [1] 17/8 153/15 153/20 163/5 Mr Ward [2] 57/17 89/24 90/18 months [13] 30/11 163/13 164/15 165/5 58/8 Ms Henderson [2] 30/16 33/2 33/5 46/6 165/18 169/16 175/24 Mr Ward's [2] 59/15 71/21 86/17 92/6 92/8 93/10 95/11 179/8 179/15 179/17 61/24 Ms Henderson's [1] 120/7 132/19 135/2 181/10 Mr Williams [1] 72/1 154/3 **MS MILLAR [3]** 110/6 138/3 Mr Bradshaw [20] 169/16 months' [2] 30/25 Mr Wilson [6] 52/15 59/21 60/2 101/15 179/23 181/14 132/12 77/7 80/10 81/9 81/20 Ms Millar's [1] 103/22 106/6 107/25 more [24] 19/8 33/13 83/2 146/13 150/19 150/25 169/15 33/22 34/1 34/15 151/5 151/11 152/2 Mr Wilson's [1] Ms Nield [8] 148/11 34/23 38/16 46/12 152/6 152/9 152/24 75/25 149/9 149/21 150/3 61/14 67/16 67/18 150/7 150/25 152/2 153/15 153/20 163/5 Mrs [33] 47/3 47/8 78/19 85/20 88/23 163/13 164/15 47/23 48/12 48/14 161/7 92/1 93/10 95/17 Ms Nield's [2] 147/19 Mr Canner [1] 39/18 49/3 49/17 49/21 100/22 105/11 108/8 Mr Christopher [1] 50/24 51/13 52/3 153/4 132/5 147/3 163/25 59/22 62/4 63/9 64/6 101/18 **Ms Owen [3]** 53/15 165/4 Mr Christopher 64/10 65/13 73/16 53/25 54/4

Knight [1] 59/25

Ms Owen's [2] 52/21 69/5 Ms Patrick [3] 86/10 86/12 181/8 Ms Price [10] 2/19 2/22 25/6 90/19 96/21 99/18 101/3 101/9 109/17 181/6 Ms Rita Threlfall [1] 101/16 Ms Sefton [8] 147/19 148/12 149/9 149/21 150/2 152/17 153/3 161/7 Ms Sefton's [2] 153/12 153/15 Ms Threlfall [6] 59/20 101/11 101/25 102/7 102/17 105/15 Ms Threlfall's [1] 107/17 much [11] 41/8 48/3 76/21 76/22 76/23 109/14 111/14 136/23 144/20 165/11 179/17 muchly [1] 57/25 Murphy [1] 55/16 must [15] 13/3 19/25 20/3 20/5 27/14 54/16 61/14 64/4 79/15 80/7 98/7 137/3 159/6 159/16 161/9 my [56] 2/23 8/16 11/23 17/7 17/13 17/15 21/4 21/19 24/5 25/9 25/9 25/13 38/3 38/5 40/23 54/1 55/20 55/20 56/13 56/25 62/23 65/4 66/16 66/18 68/2 70/13 71/25 72/2 72/18 78/17 79/1 80/24 85/10 86/13 94/21 97/21 102/9 102/23 105/7 110/19 113/7 113/15 117/7 117/13 120/18 120/21 124/11 132/17 143/3 143/9 147/8 161/17 163/24 167/23 169/1 171/15 myself [5] 15/17 69/11 93/21 121/8

name [17] 2/23 3/1 5/8 5/10 5/11 37/13 49/8 86/13 106/22 110/7 110/19 116/21 123/19 154/18 158/9 170/16 174/2 name' [1] 75/12 named [3] 43/9 79/3 80/14

Ν namely [1] 53/6 names [1] 166/19 **National [2]** 18/7 111/17 nature [2] 29/16 78/21 **NBSC [3]** 35/25 36/3 36/11 nearly [3] 78/3 106/3 120/20 necessary [6] 27/22 30/13 82/2 130/14 132/25 145/17 need [14] 1/8 28/19 28/25 53/2 69/14 69/21 70/4 80/4 81/7 120/12 136/22 141/7 148/9 148/23 needed [6] 17/11 30/14 37/4 50/19 173/6 174/8 Negative [1] 77/20 Neil [2] 61/22 63/4 **network [5]** 5/3 6/14 6/19 18/21 88/3 never [11] 8/23 37/24 66/18 85/8 85/16 102/10 120/18 126/9 133/4 134/23 147/4 new [25] 2/18 13/25 26/9 26/16 26/17 39/17 94/13 94/15 94/15 122/10 125/15 126/8 135/25 137/8 137/24 138/6 138/19 138/25 139/12 140/8 175/11 175/17 176/12 176/14 176/18 New Year [1] 2/18 **Newcastle [1]** 132/8 newly [1] 5/14 Newton [1] 43/25 next [14] 41/20 42/3 60/7 60/8 71/21 86/18 87/19 94/12 94/13 136/21 151/2 155/18 168/14 178/13 NFSP [1] 18/16 nice [1] 108/22 Nield [12] 111/2 147/13 148/2 148/11 149/9 149/21 150/3 150/7 150/25 152/2 155/5 161/7 Nield's [2] 147/19 153/4 nine [2] 40/1 74/1 no [131] 2/11 7/9 7/15 11/6 11/21 16/6 16/11 21/9 23/14 23/14 23/20 23/25 48/24 49/22 51/2 52/7 23/25 27/20 28/7 28/7 56/18 56/21 57/23

28/8 29/7 35/3 35/23 37/18 40/18 40/19 40/20 42/17 44/7 45/10 45/25 54/14 61/11 62/21 63/9 64/16 64/25 64/25 67/24 74/9 80/18 86/9 86/9 93/5 94/9 96/18 96/20 97/12 97/14 97/16 99/24 100/17 102/14 102/24 104/14 105/18 107/16 115/18 116/9 118/2 118/13 119/7 120/2 121/17 125/12 126/4 128/7 128/13 133/9 133/13 134/8 134/23 135/1 135/5 137/1 138/8 138/10 139/10 139/23 140/15 142/9 142/16 144/2 144/19 145/18 147/11 151/25 152/7 152/10 152/19 154/10 155/11 155/13 155/20 157/20 158/1 158/3 158/4 158/6 158/15 159/3 160/17 161/1 161/4 161/15 162/1 162/17 163/16 163/16 164/2 164/5 164/8 165/2 167/10 168/17 168/20 169/9 169/11 169/20 171/5 172/25 173/20 175/9 176/1 176/10 176/11 176/21 177/12 177/17 177/17 177/19 178/2 179/13 179/13 nobody [5] 40/22 68/13 82/12 82/22 154/4 non [2] 106/15 179/24 Non-police [1] 106/15 normal [1] 170/10 normally [2] 14/24 145/11 north [3] 59/23 101/17 114/6 not [148] 1/12 2/1 2/1 9/21 14/9 17/16 17/20 18/4 18/15 19/15 19/16 21/10 23/3 23/20 25/8 26/6 27/10 29/3 30/7 35/7 36/5 38/3 38/6 40/5 40/23 41/1 41/15 42/15 42/17 42/20 43/23 44/17 45/15 46/23 91/18 92/15 93/13 47/10 47/13 47/21 48/5 48/6 48/13 48/20 99/19 100/9 101/24

58/14 58/19 59/8 60/17 61/15 64/11 65/14 65/22 66/10 66/16 67/5 68/16 68/17 70/2 70/6 70/23 71/4 71/7 71/8 72/3 72/16 72/22 73/11 73/17 74/20 75/17 76/15 79/4 79/5 79/11 79/16 80/14 82/16 82/21 83/10 84/2 87/10 93/1 94/9 98/2 98/10 99/4 99/23 100/14 100/18 103/25 104/4 104/14 105/4 106/13 107/3 107/16 107/16 108/13 108/22 122/23 124/25 126/24 118/23 111/21 111/22 113/18 134/2 134/4 134/11 115/8 115/18 116/22 117/8 118/13 126/10 126/13 130/4 130/23 133/2 133/11 133/13 133/17 133/22 134/6 134/18 137/1 138/2 138/10 144/2 144/19 145/18 146/18 149/16 152/17 157/1 160/23 161/20 162/9 162/11 163/6 164/8 164/9 164/15 164/16 166/8 169/23 172/25 173/12 objectives [2] 144/5 175/9 175/11 178/10 note [2] 76/12 84/25 notebook [2] 10/9 118/24 notes [3] 20/11 62/8 119/9 nothing [10] 31/22 46/20 84/24 85/1 86/25 94/20 108/18 147/11 165/2 173/10 notice [2] 130/11 151/22 noticed [1] 130/1 notices [1] 97/2 notifications [1] 28/20 **notify [2]** 1/10 174/8 notwithstanding [1] 85/13 November [6] 24/20 25/2 51/12 83/3 83/15 110/11 now [41] 1/25 4/5 27/19 35/13 35/15 39/18 45/1 48/17 51/1 58/21 63/7 63/19 65/5 65/9 80/21 88/19 89/12 90/5 90/18

102/17 103/8 105/11

106/6 108/16 109/20

NPA [1] 119/9 **NPA01 [3]** 106/15 126/17 126/22 **NPA02 [1]** 126/18 number [40] 1/15 23/17 23/22 28/14 30/9 49/20 53/19 61/7 66/14 67/22 68/24 70/25 85/23 86/14 88/15 90/19 94/2 94/18 95/23 96/11 112/8 113/20 115/9 120/7 121/18 121/22 149/6 152/12 166/22 176/24 numbers [4] 57/23 59/8 114/11 134/18 numerous [2] 29/14 88/24 **NVQ[1]** 8/12 0 objective [5] 144/11 144/15 144/15 144/16 144/18 144/7 obligation [3] 11/10 11/17 74/11 obligations [3] 7/25 12/2 119/18 obliged [1] 179/20 observer [1] 72/7 **obtain [6]** 30/10 30/15 30/25 75/13 79/13 81/7 obtained [9] 26/11 26/22 27/4 31/9 75/6 75/16 80/25 83/1 131/1 obtaining [1] 32/23 obviously [33] 24/5 25/19 29/12 32/10 32/12 33/2 44/20 44/25 56/8 62/13 62/15 65/1 65/3 66/5 66/22 68/7 98/20 98/21 122/10 131/3 131/14 132/4 137/10 141/7 143/17 151/20 159/4 161/8 161/19 161/20 164/18 166/1 169/20 occasion [4] 72/13 76/17 131/22 133/4 95/2 96/11 97/6 97/18 occasionally [1] 131/23 occasions [1] 132/3 occur [3] 71/2 74/6

114/15 155/20 160/13

82/16

168/5 178/17 179/24 occurred [7] 1/24 42/18 77/2 78/7 82/13 82/23 153/25 October [3] 3/7 42/6 49/9 off [7] 32/14 53/5 10/13 23/7 23/9 23/13 70/16 94/7 105/22 124/10 131/3 offence [2] 22/24 142/4 offences [4] 6/2 6/13 126/16 143/15 offender [4] 41/18 119/10 141/19 141/25 offenders [2] 27/14 offer [1] 77/25 offered [1] 118/3 offering [1] 41/10 office [99] 3/22 3/23 4/1 4/9 4/19 5/6 5/8 6/12 6/17 9/4 18/12 18/22 18/25 25/5 25/17 25/20 29/13 29/19 32/13 34/12 38/7 43/4 43/6 45/13 46/24 47/10 53/21 56/19 59/24 60/11 61/6 61/10 61/12 61/13 64/10 70/22 75/14 76/4 76/20 77/16 78/9 80/9 89/14 89/20 97/17 101/17 103/15 103/17 103/19 104/25 105/2 105/21 108/11 111/5 111/9 111/13 113/2 113/16 115/19 117/23 123/25 124/4 124/6 127/10 127/13 127/19 130/14 146/3 147/14 148/12 148/22 148/25 149/4 150/1 150/22 150/22 153/25 154/1 154/24 155/6 155/16 155/19 155/21 156/14 156/15 156/18 157/19 160/11 160/15 165/22 166/1 166/10 166/16 166/20 167/12 168/1 168/8 169/24 179/5 officer [35] 4/4 4/10 4/11 4/18 7/13 14/18 14/25 15/2 15/11 15/16 15/21 38/12 59/17 71/24 75/5 96/14 98/4 98/11 98/14 99/3 99/5 99/7 100/15 100/21 100/25 120/20 121/2 144/24 145/2 145/4 145/13 145/19 145/24 155/4 155/7

0	opinion [3] 79/1	127/3 133/19 140/17	Р	102/1
Officers [3] 14/3	143/7 143/9 opinionated [1]	145/22 148/18 149/16 158/18 162/2 172/18	PACE [3] 19/1/	page 9 [3] 38/3 38/3 170/16
14/15 120/7 offices [2] 61/14	172/11	175/5	136/16 136/24 page [83] 3/9 9/12	page number [1]
69/24	opportunity [2] 73/22		10/21 11/14 14/13	96/11
often [1] 161/10	74/15 opposed [2] 38/21	34/13 52/19 68/23 74/2 99/9 121/22	14/16 14/17 16/21	pages [1] 49/6 paid [4] 76/22 148/17
Oh [4] 87/2 94/12 96/11 101/12	178/8	134/11 140/7 147/20	17/24 19/7 22/1 29/24 33/11 37/1 38/3 38/3	148/17 166/1
OIC [3] 154/25 155/2	Ops [1] 88/25	176/24	38/4 38/25 39/1 40/11	papers [3] 17/1 76/2
155/14	options [2] 5/13 126/24	otherwise [1] 68/17 ought [2] 99/13 103/6	40/14 42/25 43/3	76/6 paragraph [79] 7/20
okay [13] 25/11 39/5 41/2 57/11 85/1 91/10	or [119] 5/23 7/1 8/16		44/10 46/16 46/18 49/4 49/5 49/7 49/8	9/11 10/21 11/14
93/13 96/7 102/4	8/17 9/5 11/2 16/9	67/13 69/15	49/15 59/18 59/19	14/16 15/6 16/1 16/2
138/15 156/17 159/1	17/2 17/13 18/4 18/7 18/12 18/19 18/23	out [32] 17/5 31/22 39/16 44/11 46/23	60/6 60/7 60/8 61/8	16/20 17/24 19/6 20/23 22/1 22/3 27/7
170/1	19/10 19/13 19/18	49/16 60/4 60/6 61/7	62/6 62/19 65/19	29/22 29/24 33/10
old [3] 105/9 105/9 117/7	20/4 20/16 21/6 21/11	66/3 76/22 79/3 88/23	71/18 75/2 75/21 75/23 79/19 79/22	35/24 36/24 38/1 38/4
on [293]	21/18 22/5 22/13 22/18 23/21 23/23	94/19 94/20 100/14 106/14 111/20 111/23	85/4 85/6 86/24 87/4	56/18 57/4 60/8 60/15 61/9 65/20 69/3 71/17
on Investigators [1]	27/18 28/1 29/15	129/11 132/21 132/21	87/15 87/19 91/2 91/9	71/18 72/20 75/1
23/12 once [5] 37/2 121/18	29/16 30/6 30/8 30/10	144/4 149/13 153/18	93/14 96/11 97/20 101/9 102/1 110/12	79/23 83/7 85/3 85/5
128/18 145/18 176/17	31/13 32/9 33/3 34/7	155/23 156/16 159/4	110/13 117/3 117/4	96/1 97/18 102/5
one [53] 2/13 2/17	34/16 34/24 36/9 37/3 38/7 42/19 43/19	159/15 159/18 160/3 174/16	117/5 123/1 123/12	105/14 105/20 115/14 116/5 119/15 120/23
6/6 12/16 15/4 18/5 24/20 28/7 34/10	44/14 44/24 45/4	outcome [3] 43/7	123/17 126/23 136/8 136/12 139/25 139/25	121/13 122/25 125/21
34/11 37/22 38/13	45/11 45/12 48/11	46/6 98/8	142/19 144/6 147/17	128/14 129/5 129/19
39/6 39/17 41/4 48/22	48/22 53/12 56/11 56/19 58/3 58/18	outlined [1] 80/24 outset [1] 130/15	147/20 149/24 153/16	130/10 135/24 136/13 136/21 139/11 140/1
54/2 55/9 56/9 57/1 81/4 102/11 114/15	61/11 64/9 66/2 66/4	outside [5] 29/20	160/6 168/3 170/16 172/7 176/23	142/17 142/22 147/21
115/25 116/2 116/2	66/4 67/4 67/18 70/2	67/8 85/10 137/4	page 1 [2] 87/15	147/24 148/10 148/20
116/11 116/16 117/1	70/18 72/15 72/18 73/4 75/5 77/20 78/21	150/11 over [38] 1/15 2/16	123/12	149/3 149/20 149/24 150/5 155/18 156/5
117/1 119/8 125/17 127/7 132/2 136/6	81/15 81/24 82/23	2/17 2/19 4/21 5/2	page 10 [1] 123/1 page 11 [2] 16/21	157/14 166/6 168/14
137/23 138/15 140/6	85/9 85/22 87/19	5/22 8/17 11/14 14/16	91/2	175/10 177/3 177/6
140/13 145/10 147/1	90/12 97/4 99/12 104/5 104/13 106/24	15/21 16/23 17/15 17/23 22/1 33/1 33/5	page 117 [1] 144/6	177/13 178/3 178/13 paragraph 10 [2]
148/3 149/16 158/14 158/14 161/12 163/23	107/10 107/11 107/11		page 13 [1] 19/7 page 14 [1] 29/24	9/11 16/1
165/18 168/20 169/4	108/23 111/22 113/18	61/23 75/21 79/19 80/6 82/15 93/13 94/9	page 16 [2] 37/1	paragraph 107 [1]
171/24 174/7 175/13	115/6 126/13 130/2 130/18 131/12 132/2	95/10 105/7 111/12		85/3 paragraph 11 [1]
one's [1] 39/11 ones [7] 53/24 69/25	133/7 135/15 136/15	114/13 116/13 128/16	page 18 [2] 10/21 142/19	115/14
115/25 116/2 116/2	136/18 136/25 141/1	132/19 149/23 152/9	page 2 [5] 49/15	paragraph 116 [1]
134/4 175/5	143/20 144/15 145/2 145/22 148/1 156/13	166/24 overall [1] 177/19	86/24 117/3 126/23	65/20 paragraph 14 [1]
ongoing [1] 152/19 online [4] 88/14	158/18 161/6 161/8	overarching [2] 57/9	153/16 page 22 [2] 33/11	175/10
94/10 94/10 95/14	162/8 164/7 166/1 166/8 169/10 175/7	67/2	38/4	paragraph 19 [1] 122/25
only [30] 5/21 5/22	175/12 179/10	oversight [1] 173/23 overturned [2] 97/7	page 27 [2] 40/11	paragraph 23 [3]
15/4 24/10 26/6 27/10 33/6 72/6 72/21 72/25	oral [2] 167/5 167/6	98/22	79/22 page 28 [2] 75/2	17/24 147/21 147/24
73/2 73/5 76/4 80/7	order [3] 21/1 71/20 102/15	overturning [1] 97/9	97/20	paragraph 24 [1] 16/20
88/7 90/22 107/23	Ordera [41 27/6	overview [1] 3/22 owed [1] 47/9	page 29 [1] 71/18	paragraph 25 [1]
115/20 116/12 116/12 120/6 124/7 124/9	ordinarily [1] 164/11	Owen [6] 28/14 52/19	page 3 [3] 59/18 101/9 176/23	148/10
127/12 132/2 135/1	original [1] 69/8	53/15 53/25 54/4 68/23	page 37 [1] 85/4	Paragraph 26 [1] 148/20
158/16 160/21 161/19	originally [1] 108/10 other [38] 5/13 17/19	Owen's [2] 52/21	page 4 [1] 46/16	paragraph 27 [1]
177/24 onto [3] 94/12 94/13	29/14 32/13 34/11	69/5	page 40 [1] 65/19 page 41 [1] 3/9	149/3
94/15	51/5 61/7 63/10 65/11 65/23 66/25 66/25	owing [1] 148/15 own [10] 18/17 85/25	page 43 [2] 139/25	paragraph 28 [2] 116/5 149/20
open [4] 76/4 78/5	67/11 68/25 79/23	120/17 120/19 120/25	139/25	paragraph 29 [2]
129/9 129/10 opened [1] 126/11	80/3 81/24 89/11 90/3	124/11 147/6 147/8	page 44 [1] 110/13 page 6 [2] 147/17	19/6 120/23
operations [1]	92/21 92/24 95/23 98/17 99/1 116/11	149/12 169/21 owned [1] 88/3	147/20	paragraph 3.1 [1] 27/7
173/24	116/16 122/14 122/18		page 7 [3] 9/12 38/25	paragraph 30 [1]
L	1	<u> </u>	·	4) Officers - paragraph 30

Р	87/19 87/20 96/9	48/20 48/24 49/22	174/22	40/7 51/19 52/3 56/11
paragraph 30 [1]	147/23	51/2 64/11 116/22	placed [4] 23/12	56/13 68/2 74/7 85/5
20/23	paragraphs 44 [1] 10/17	157/1	35/11 60/24 102/16	89/1 91/3 113/1
paragraph 31 [1]	paragraphs 63 [1]	per se [1] 31/22 perceived [2] 62/25	plea [8] 35/8 80/14 83/8 83/11 84/1 84/25	113/22 114/8 121/16 123/9 128/9 131/2
129/5	96/9	89/8	85/9 85/22	136/24 137/17 137/24
paragraph 32 [3] 22/1 22/3 129/19	paramount [3] 26/5	perform [2] 34/13	plead [2] 77/4 83/19	152/18 161/5 168/17
paragraph 33 [3]	27/9 27/24	60/12	pleaded [4] 43/9	169/15 172/6 172/6
29/22 29/24 149/24	parcel [4] 102/16	performance [4]	43/22 52/4 148/3	172/15 173/12 173/21
paragraph 36 [1]	103/5 103/23 104/21	23/16 24/15 24/17 115/25	please [148] 1/6 3/1 3/9 3/21 7/11 9/11	176/9
128/14	Pardoe [1] 168/16 part [17] 5/15 8/5	performed [4] 9/20	10/20 11/14 12/4	point' [1] 149/18 pointed [5] 11/2
paragraph 37 [1]	8/11 52/4 72/4 78/18	34/7 34/16 60/10	14/16 16/18 16/20	11/11 142/4 142/25
130/10	86/5 89/20 99/1 100/5		17/24 19/3 19/6 22/1	143/14
paragraph 38 [1] 35/24	102/19 112/2 135/8	100/20 101/6	23/1 24/12 24/16	points [10] 22/7
paragraph 39 [2]	135/11 135/15 157/6	period [16] 6/21 9/24	24/20 24/22 25/1	22/20 22/22 22/23
142/17 142/22	159/24	39/25 42/6 75/10 78/8 79/17 80/6 80/18	26/21 28/12 29/22 33/10 33/11 36/22	22/25 31/13 120/12 122/2 123/16 140/20
paragraph 40 [1]	partial [1] 38/22 Participants [4] 1/12	81/14 81/21 93/10	36/24 38/1 38/2 38/9	POL [3] 10/5 36/16
36/24	86/8 109/10 179/12	113/12 120/15 121/4	38/25 39/1 40/11	88/23
paragraph 45 [1] 119/15	participate [1]	139/18	41/16 42/22 42/24	POL00019111 [1]
paragraph 47 [1]	152/21	permitted [1] 72/8	43/4 46/2 46/16 47/15	
10/21	particular [5] 12/16	persecuted [1] 107/9		
paragraph 48 [1]	39/6 79/8 110/25 173/12	person [15] 14/18 14/25 15/3 20/21	51/9 52/17 52/24 53/16 54/25 55/15	46/3 POL00021252 [1]
121/13	particularly [4] 34/15			90/25
paragraph 49 [3] 11/14 15/6 102/5	85/25 140/15 172/9	98/17 104/12 105/2	59/11 59/18 60/8	POL00031005 [1]
paragraph 5 [1] 7/20	parties [1] 119/17	106/18 113/19 135/11		136/4
paragraph 5.11.6 [1]	parts [4] 5/13 49/14	155/8	62/5 65/19 68/20 69/6	
136/13	49/17 163/24 party [3] 45/7 67/21	personal [6] 123/20 123/23 124/8 136/17	69/10 70/2 71/12 71/16 75/1 75/19	153/13 POL00044222 [1]
paragraph 50 [1]	173/23	144/14 172/11	75/21 75/24 77/8	154/15
105/14 paragraph 52 [1]	passed [7] 22/8 37/4	personal/opinionated	78/22 79/19 80/12	POL00044223 [1]
105/20	131/6 141/13 141/16	[1] 172/11	81/17 83/2 83/4 84/13	159/9
paragraph 53 [1]	172/19 172/20	personally [2] 133/6 144/17	84/20 85/4 91/2 91/5	POL00044501 [1] 77/9
166/6	passenger [1] 104/1 passing [4] 68/3	perspective [1]	97/19 101/13 102/1 102/5 105/19 109/19	POL00047155 [1]
paragraph 56 [4] 38/1 38/4 56/18 57/4	85/18 85/20 167/18	32/17	110/4 110/7 112/6	75/19
paragraph 57 [1]	past [4] 23/3 72/18	Peter [3] 38/11 95/22	113/23 116/24 116/25	
33/10	125/13 139/23	98/6	117/4 118/15 121/20	78/22
paragraph 58 [1]	Patrick [4] 86/10 86/12 86/13 181/8	phantom [1] 63/1 Phase [1] 110/23	121/21 121/25 123/1 123/4 123/11 123/12	POL00055189 [1] 80/12
125/21	pattern [1] 76/19	Phase 4 [1] 110/23	124/23 126/22 126/23	
paragraph 59 [2] 135/24 139/11	Paul [4] 71/25 118/8	phone [3] 84/21 94/5	129/9 134/9 134/10	81/17
paragraph 61 [1]	118/9 168/10	130/24	134/17 136/4 136/5	POL00055783 [2]
69/3	pause [1] 178/20	phoned [2] 85/19	136/8 136/12 137/11	51/10 83/4
paragraph 69 [1]	pausing [2] 62/9 155/2	150/25 phoning [2] 150/7	137/12 137/18 139/25 144/3 144/4 144/6	POL00066743 [1] 38/10
96/1	pay [5] 47/9 47/11	151/5	146/1 147/16 147/17	POL00068605 [1]
paragraph 73 [1]	83/19 154/5 166/2	phrase [1] 142/13	147/20 153/12 153/16	
97/18 paragraph 75 [1]	payment [2] 149/1	physical [5] 5/24 6/6	155/16 156/14 158/8	POL00091063 [1]
75/1	160/12	10/7 113/25 127/5	159/8 159/9 160/6	49/1
paragraph 76 [1]	peer [1] 17/14 penny [2] 46/23	piece [1] 66/5 pieces [1] 51/5	165/6 167/24 167/25 168/3 170/14 170/15	POL00094108 [1] 167/24
150/5	69/10 40/23	pink [1] 53/11	170/17 175/22 176/22	
paragraph 79 [2] 71/17 71/18	Penny Thomas [1]	pinpoint [3] 35/17	176/23 176/25	12/8
paragraph 80 [1]	69/10	77/1 82/12	plethora [1] 8/5	POL00104846 [1]
72/20	penultimate [1] 49/5		pm [5] 109/23 109/25	l .
paragraph 97 [1]	people [12] 39/22 64/20 66/14 66/25	11/22 20/24 21/2 30/3 30/23 73/25 80/5 81/2		POL00105025 [1] 144/3
140/1	67/16 103/11 125/15	82/1 91/7 99/21	72/4	POL00107683 [2]
paragraphs [11] 10/17 60/2 60/14 78/1	138/1 166/22 173/2		POID [1] 8/16	59/12 101/8
78/25 81/20 83/7	173/9 174/14	107/5 130/7 132/21	point [36] 6/11 16/14	
	per [9] 31/22 48/13	137/14 146/7 168/25	22/19 23/3 23/8 37/3	147/16
			(65) parag	raph 30 POL0011334

P	Porters [1] 69/19	156/22 157/6 159/15	probably [29] 35/16	proof [4] 45/13 45/23
POL00118374 [1]	position [10] 63/10 63/21 73/16 85/12	159/25 160/3 pre-interview [2]	36/13 36/14 36/20 37/13 56/13 64/24	97/16 178/7 properly [3] 99/13
126/21	118/3 126/2 140/11	72/24 73/5	65/4 65/9 67/12 71/7	100/11 100/23
POL00120600 [1] 42/23	140/18 166/13 175/6	pre-interviewing/caut		Property [2] 26/10
POL00120627 [1]	Positive [1] 77/20	ion [1] 122/4	79/24 92/5 92/8 99/23	
41/17	Posnett [7] 87/14 87/16 121/21 124/25	pre-populate [1] 157/6	105/4 119/23 121/6 123/8 133/2 133/25	proposed [2] 44/5 122/1
POL00122557 [1] 123/11	125/17 126/6 127/14	pre-populated [5]	143/21 150/21 150/23	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
POL00124105 [1]	possibility [1] 79/14	156/16 156/22 159/15	168/23 174/19	141/22 178/18
176/22	possible [8] 1/12 2/1 2/2 6/2 6/13 27/14	159/25 160/3	problem [13] 29/8	prosecuted [6] 28/10 37/17 86/15 98/20
POL00125273 [1]	41/11 136/23	prepare [2] 62/10 80/21	47/25 71/4 88/6 90/7 94/25 125/10 139/6	108/10 143/23
170/14 POL00126810 [1]	possibly [9] 10/3	prepared [1] 60/3	142/16 155/12 157/3	prosecution [23]
23/2	20/14 36/5 40/6 77/24	preparing [4] 10/15	157/15 162/18	24/4 27/18 36/23 37/9
POL00127137 [1]	107/3 128/10 143/16 163/12	12/6 23/6 46/11 present [9] 59/24	problems [19] 16/9 38/8 39/6 40/8 47/22	37/11 37/23 43/13 43/25 50/12 51/11
116/25	post [69] 3/22 3/23	61/17 72/6 76/23 99/7	56/20 69/13 89/11	66/10 71/13 80/4
POL00129182 [1]	4/1 4/9 4/19 5/6 5/8	101/17 101/21 137/15		80/21 82/6 82/9 83/12
POL00129310 [1]	6/12 9/4 25/5 25/17	153/8	92/16 92/16 92/24	96/3 97/11 97/22
121/20	25/20 29/13 29/19 43/4 45/12 46/23	presented [3] 69/22 70/1 70/7	95/4 95/10 164/9 164/16 166/5	106/15 126/16 150/2 prosecution's [1]
POL00136717 [1] 86/21	47/10 51/17 53/21	Press [1] 43/6	procedure [8] 12/12	177/5
POL00141218 [1]	60/11 61/10 61/12	pressure [4] 23/12	13/2 13/7 13/11 13/22	
68/21	64/10 70/22 76/4 78/8 80/8 89/14 89/20		27/2 71/23 99/25 procedures [5] 12/25	23/13 23/22 28/4 66/8
POL00166044 [2]	94/21 97/16 103/15	presumably [4]	18/24 26/1 26/9 26/18	
137/11 172/3 POL00167241 [1]	104/24 105/2 105/21	19/24 29/11 48/10	proceed [7] 44/5	prosecutorial [1]
24/13	108/11 111/5 111/9	76/18	83/21 84/8 137/4	22/14
POL00167242 [1]	111/13 113/2 113/16 115/19 117/22 127/10	presume [2] 50/20 82/18	141/21 169/2 178/17 proceeding [1] 82/22	Prosecutors [2] 14/3 14/11
25/1	127/13 127/19 130/14		proceedings [2]	prospect [1] 79/2
POL00167366 [1] 28/13	143/19 146/3 147/14	174/19	14/22 109/13	prove [9] 22/7 22/21
POL00167369 [2]	148/12 148/22 148/25 149/4 150/1 153/25	prevalent [1] 132/5 previous [6] 5/23	process [19] 11/5 17/4 18/1 18/4 18/12	22/23 45/19 59/3 66/10 66/11 80/5
57/14 134/9	154/1 165/22 166/1	55/20 62/8 62/23	30/14 35/14 37/25	122/3
POL00169422 [1] 52/18	166/10 166/16 166/20	125/13 150/23	45/25 87/24 97/12	proved [2] 22/22
POL00169423 [1]	167/12 168/1 168/8	previously [10] 11/16		32/19
53/17	169/24 178/18 179/5 post-civil [1] 178/18	45/15 48/22 102/3 113/3 139/6 146/10	118/24 137/4 161/23 163/23 163/24	provide [9] 17/10 26/25 52/25 116/8
POL00323734 [1]		163/14 163/19 175/20		133/14 143/14 147/7
61/21 POL00325402 [1]	30/10 57/23 134/18	Price [11] 2/19 2/22	149/15	157/11 174/11
55/11	Postal [2] 4/4 4/10 posthumous [1] 97/9	2/24 25/6 90/19 96/21 99/18 101/3 101/9	produce [2] 131/5 137/19	provided [32] 11/6 12/5 12/18 12/21 23/5
police [11] 7/21 7/24	postmaster [12]	109/17 181/6	produced [6] 31/12	38/14 38/17 39/17
40/24 106/15 106/20 127/6 173/24 174/5	72/16 130/18 130/23	primary [1] 99/5	32/18 49/2 59/13 71/5	
174/8 174/9 174/17	154/4 155/15 160/24	principle [1] 85/6	177/7	70/20 72/25 105/18
policies [5] 11/5	161/10 168/25 169/8 169/14 169/21 174/7	principles [1] 14/14 print [6] 123/24	produces [1] 77/19 producing [1] 80/2	116/6 118/25 119/2 122/22 123/6 124/24
11/21 18/24 25/24	postmasters [1]	124/5 124/10 124/11	product [3] 29/15	131/10 134/2 136/1
123/23 policy [7] 11/22	165/24	124/16 124/17	29/16 88/7	136/7 142/3 142/25
12/23 122/23 123/15	potential [3] 69/12	printed [2] 31/9	professional [2] 24/1 111/4	146/22 154/7 154/10
124/19 136/6 138/9	130/12 164/9 potentially [8] 18/17	60/22 printer [1] 124/8	Profile [1] 170/15	164/20 175/5 176/6 providing [10] 3/4
policyholder [1] 25/23	18/19 28/11 58/13	printers [1] 124/9	programme [1] 88/4	15/18 21/16 38/16
pop [1] 53/12	67/18 69/25 71/9	printouts [2] 31/8	progress [3] 22/10	55/23 73/12 115/15
populate [1] 157/6	145/15 practice [5] 7/22	31/11 prior [5] 75/10 79/17	71/20 78/20 progressed [1] 23/19	133/24 171/3 179/19 provisions [1] 26/16
populated [6] 156/16	12/13 13/3 13/12	130/11 146/12 178/6	progressing [1]	public [3] 1/9 172/12
156/22 159/15 159/18 159/25 160/3	19/20	privy [1] 179/6	23/11	178/16
populating [2] 171/9	Practitioners [1]	prizes [1] 88/12	prolonged [1] 8/22	public/requested [1] 172/12
171/12	pre [10] 60/3 72/24	prizes/stock [1] 88/12	promoted [1] 4/9 prompted [1] 152/8	publicly [1] 1/17
PORA [1] 119/3	73/5 122/4 156/16	probability [1] 178/9	prompting [1] 138/24	
-				DOI 00440274 mublished

157/24 162/16 171/15 reasonable [9] 11/3 P recommendations refute [1] 79/14 quota [1] 35/11 50/23 54/20 65/15 **[1]** 17/12 regard [4] 97/23 published... [2] 170/4 quotas [1] 35/17 68/10 68/12 68/17 recommended [2] 131/25 139/2 177/8 170/20 90/21 178/8 143/4 143/6 **regarding [3]** 4/23 **pull [1]** 105/10 reasoning [1] 73/9 record [9] 38/14 173/4 174/9 Purpose [2] 12/22 raise [7] 18/6 99/11 reasons [4] 74/5 38/23 46/10 48/6 regardless [3] 21/17 26/24 99/21 128/7 128/8 98/17 98/22 175/15 74/15 87/21 117/1 68/8 136/25 purposes [7] 3/19 128/11 145/23 137/13 172/4 reassurance [1] regards [2] 55/21 10/15 12/5 23/6 38/15 raised [19] 21/10 recorded [9] 38/15 128/19 68/15 46/11 110/18 29/5 30/12 30/24 rebuild [3] 132/19 38/23 46/11 48/7 regions [1] 114/4 pursue [5] 11/10 49/18 50/23 54/19 132/23 133/3 88/13 89/24 108/13 **regularly [2]** 116/6 65/15 68/9 68/17 64/23 65/7 67/23 126/17 135/9 166/16 recall [87] 7/16 7/21 175/11 98/12 112/8 127/24 7/25 8/8 9/16 10/3 recording [1] 126/25 reinstate [1] 168/12 pursuit [1] 82/10 129/21 130/3 139/13 10/7 10/19 14/8 15/1 records [4] 69/1 reinstated [1] 168/6 put [20] 46/21 51/17 145/21 168/25 176/7 reinstatement [1] 15/24 16/4 16/24 163/18 163/25 164/4 62/7 62/16 69/14 raising [7] 40/8 48/15 22/17 24/6 27/19 recounted [1] 49/14 169/5 70/13 77/4 92/3 93/25 50/6 71/1 90/20 92/21 27/21 29/5 31/8 31/11 recover [2] 143/22 relate [2] 1/22 62/4 100/20 105/2 125/8 related [2] 6/16 36/2 128/6 34/4 35/1 35/2 35/3 144/1 155/13 157/17 160/13 ran [1] 88/15 35/9 36/9 36/13 38/6 recovered [1] 149/7 relates [4] 19/17 168/24 170/25 171/16 range [1] 4/3 44/12 45/3 45/7 45/8 51/13 59/16 84/15 **recoveries [1]** 53/12 172/25 173/3 rarely [1] 148/14 45/17 45/21 51/6 56/8 recovery [8] 26/4 relating [12] 13/20 puts [1] 54/1 rate [2] 39/3 144/13 56/18 58/3 58/20 26/10 26/21 27/3 27/8 30/17 41/19 47/24 putting [4] 108/5 rather [8] 75/8 75/12 64/20 64/22 65/22 27/23 28/5 144/13 47/25 49/3 49/18 108/6 171/13 171/19 108/5 113/5 127/10 67/1 67/10 67/14 rectify [1] 93/17 53/22 72/13 122/21 147/6 152/21 155/10 67/19 70/14 70/18 125/1 140/4 red [1] 99/11 rationale [1] 79/8 82/20 82/25 88/3 reduce [1] 128/18 relation [14] 12/25 qualification [1] 8/13 Raymond [2] 176/24 96/16 96/18 96/19 reduced [1] 51/23 30/12 36/23 79/11 qualified [1] 143/13 176/25 96/20 98/1 102/22 redundancy [2] 80/15 81/14 85/24 quashed [3] 86/16 re [3] 1/7 79/25 181/2 102/24 106/9 115/10 112/21 163/22 85/25 96/2 100/8 97/8 147/18 re-input [1] 79/25 115/15 115/18 119/7 142/25 143/25 148/8 refer [10] 10/11 12/1 queried [2] 36/9 rea [1] 22/25 13/6 14/10 15/6 126/3 126/13 127/24 177/23 44/13 reached [3] 21/5 133/10 134/6 135/16 120/23 125/22 127/8 **relatively [2]** 121/8 queries [1] 35/11 149/17 178/11 135/25 140/9 143/12 129/1 158/13 122/10 query [1] 84/12 reaching [1] 21/12 144/2 144/19 145/18 **reference [38]** 3/19 relayed [1] 176/4 querying [1] 36/8 read [22] 29/11 29/11 150/6 152/7 152/16 12/8 15/15 23/1 23/16 relevance [1] 1/20 question [17] 45/23 38/18 49/11 54/16 158/6 158/21 164/8 24/13 25/1 28/13 relevant [17] 1/16 2/8 53/2 53/25 54/6 58/4 60/3 73/22 75/11 38/10 41/17 42/23 166/8 169/10 169/20 7/22 22/8 37/15 90/14 59/2 67/21 82/25 92/1 80/16 87/20 87/21 171/12 175/2 175/7 46/3 49/1 49/20 51/10 90/16 119/16 120/12 98/5 99/17 100/8 87/22 91/14 93/13 52/18 53/16 55/10 130/25 139/18 140/7 recalled [1] 164/18 107/9 142/15 143/3 102/21 124/12 126/12 140/13 140/17 140/22 receipt [1] 148/8 57/14 59/12 61/21 152/9 173/18 147/21 153/18 154/23 receive [2] 9/18 68/21 76/13 79/21 140/24 145/10 Questioned [8] 2/22 157/23 177/13 144/17 83/23 84/3 84/14 89/1 reliability [2] 59/2 86/12 95/20 110/6 readily [1] 60/13 received [17] 7/11 94/2 101/25 116/25 59/9 181/6 181/8 181/10 reading [8] 26/2 118/14 119/6 126/21 10/4 11/23 16/3 29/25 relied [1] 45/19 181/14 27/19 41/14 58/4 51/15 52/11 60/22 153/12 153/19 172/9 **rely [1]** 31/6 questioning [1] 104/18 168/22 169/4 61/11 76/22 88/9 177/22 relying [4] 45/13 59/3 20/19 169/16 102/11 104/7 117/18 referenced [1] 14/9 74/8 79/8 questions [41] 2/25 reads [8] 28/17 51/14 134/25 160/11 162/8 references [1] remain [5] 4/1 85/12 40/13 74/17 78/19 52/21 69/5 76/1 80/13 receives [1] 29/1 173/13 126/2 166/13 175/6 86/6 86/7 86/10 89/13 153/23 178/13 receiving [4] 10/19 referred [7] 26/1 remark [1] 55/20 90/19 90/23 95/2 ready [1] 104/4 119/21 122/14 178/1 26/18 29/17 33/5 remember [52] 8/2 95/17 95/19 96/21 realising [1] 22/17 85/23 141/19 177/18 11/7 11/22 20/4 41/9 recent [1] 136/14 99/4 106/17 107/1 realistic [1] 79/2 44/19 58/19 93/24 recently [3] 38/17 **referring [6]** 92/15 108/9 109/7 109/9 really [12] 41/1 80/4 125/25 127/1 137/8 103/8 108/17 111/19 46/12 49/12 110/20 111/3 127/18 92/5 99/17 115/21 recipients [4] 24/21 138/11 172/2 114/10 114/22 115/3 136/1 137/8 137/20 116/9 116/14 120/19 refers [2] 12/11 89/3 57/15 69/8 125/18 115/24 118/11 119/7 137/25 138/7 138/11 121/6 126/9 128/7 reflect [1] 50/22 119/11 119/21 120/1 recognise [4] 12/13 138/12 138/20 139/2 135/2 123/5 123/7 133/6 reflections [2] 97/21 122/6 122/14 122/17 139/12 140/3 145/9 reason [16] 33/6 124/19 127/3 128/1 recognised [1] 12/17 179/3 145/11 165/5 166/5 64/22 73/11 82/25 recollection [6] 35/8 **reflective [1]** 29/18 128/5 128/8 128/23 179/9 179/10 179/14 121/17 125/5 126/5 158/4 158/15 161/5 132/8 132/22 134/1 refresh [1] 101/6 quick [1] 177/4 127/14 133/15 138/19 refresher [4] 9/8 9/22 163/16 168/19 134/20 135/3 138/19 quickly [1] 87/8 152/20 155/20 157/20 139/19 139/22 142/14 recommend [2] 10/18 122/14 quite [5] 91/1 103/1 169/4 176/15 176/20 142/7 143/8 refused [1] 44/2 144/14 146/14 152/8

R remember... [11] 154/11 156/2 161/3 161/4 165/21 170/2 174/18 174/25 175/9 175/25 178/1 remembered [2] 103/7 118/7 reminder [1] 28/19 remit [1] 85/10 remittances [1] 76/22 remmed [2] 88/7 88/11 remotely [1] 124/13 remove [1] 172/24 renovations [1] 166/2 rep [2] 72/3 72/17 repay [2] 27/15 149/11 repayment [1] 168/13 **repeat [2]** 142/15 159/20 repeated [1] 96/25 repeatedly [3] 2/7 98/9 98/13 replace [2] 113/19 175/20 replacement [1] 115/23 replied [1] 77/7 replies [2] 62/18 87/16 reply [3] 77/8 87/13 155/16 report [30] 31/23 32/17 41/18 49/1 49/9 49/14 49/23 49/25 50/4 50/14 50/22 59/12 59/18 79/21 101/10 131/5 138/21 139/15 141/11 141/18 141/19 141/25 142/14 142/18 142/23 170/4 170/7 170/20 177/7 177/14 reported [12] 11/1 47/23 64/13 74/1 114/19 115/2 129/6 157/4 163/4 166/9 174/7 175/8 reporting [6] 36/1 43/7 115/7 115/10 116/17 126/16 reports [2] 119/10 127/6 represent [1] 95/23 representative [4] 18/23 60/4 72/12

136/15

representatives [1]

179/11 reversals [1] 30/9 represented [3] review [8] 45/9 87/8 43/15 73/1 73/6 request [20] 32/25 33/2 33/3 34/3 34/23 35/11 36/2 36/10 44/2 49/21 75/9 87/6 89/6 131/18 132/1 132/14 139/17 160/4 160/12 173/15 requested [10] 35/25 43/25 59/4 94/18 132/2 132/11 132/17 171/20 171/23 172/12 requests [4] 69/16 79/18 131/12 134/2 required [6] 33/13 45/18 52/21 80/21 88/10 128/15 requirement [2] 172/8 172/23 requirements [1] 139/21 residential [3] 7/17 118/4 118/17 resolve [1] 112/14 resources [1] 55/24 respect [5] 116/8 116/17 119/3 145/21 179/3 responded [2] 106/1 156/9 response [6] 33/23 34/3 54/14 63/2 157/11 157/12 responsibilities [1] 14/2 responsibility [2] 86/2 128/11 responsible [9] 14/19 34/19 37/21 43/23 64/7 96/24 114/3 148/19 171/9 restructure [1] 113/18 result [15] 27/16 27/17 30/2 32/6 43/20 Robert [5] 39/1 39/10 44/6 51/20 52/5 52/13 53/8 60/21 74/2 84/4 130/7 149/13 resulted [2] 130/12 170/21 resulting [1] 14/22 resume [1] 179/24 Retail [4] 56/1 112/9 112/10 112/14 retained [1] 14/19 retrieve [1] 34/20 return [2] 2/14 144/13

returned [1] 30/7

Returns [1] 69/2

revealing [1] 14/20

reus [1] 22/25

87/10 123/15 123/24 review/Horizon [2] 172/10 173/25 reviewed [2] 141/12 178/15 reviews [2] 23/21 115/25 right [58] 3/12 3/24 4/6 4/12 5/20 6/1 6/7 6/19 7/8 7/16 8/14 9/1 25/10 25/12 38/24 75/17 82/13 87/12 91/25 91/25 94/22 94/22 99/6 100/8 101/2 101/12 106/24 109/11 109/21 111/16 routine [1] 129/7 112/4 112/20 112/20 114/6 114/9 114/24 115/12 115/17 116/1 118/9 119/19 120/10 120/13 125/1 131/14 136/9 142/21 146/22 150/10 163/10 164/21 165/10 179/16 180/2 right-handed [1] 106/24 **Rights [1]** 13/24 ring [2] 94/18 161/22 ringing [1] 162/20 rings [1] 105/25 **RIPA [1]** 119/3 risk [5] 88/4 88/5 178/5 178/10 178/14 Rita [3] 59/22 101/3 101/16 Rita Threlfall [1] 101/3 **Rob [7]** 51/11 75/20 75/22 78/24 81/19 83/13 123/13 **Rob Wilson [4]** 75/20 75/22 78/24 81/19 40/12 41/2 115/11 Robert Daily [3] 39/10 40/12 41/2 robust [11] 65/22 65/24 66/1 66/18 66/21 144/12 166/11 166/21 167/9 167/13 167/17 role [53] 4/5 4/11 4/14 4/18 5/6 5/9 5/19 same [14] 6/25 14/25 6/2 6/6 6/9 6/11 7/4 7/5 7/8 7/18 8/21 9/3 9/14 10/6 15/21 15/21 15/22 21/19 21/25 24/14 36/22 37/11 62/23 72/8 111/20 111/22 111/23 112/7

113/3 113/6 113/6 113/14 115/20 115/22 save [1] 2/12 117/7 117/8 117/10 136/14 172/10 173/25 117/12 117/16 122/4 122/17 135/1 151/16 151/24 153/6 161/17 170/3 171/14 roles [4] 4/4 4/4 4/5 111/15 rolled [2] 111/19 111/23 rolling [1] 94/9 rollout [2] 16/4 16/10 room [5] 102/13 46/19 47/7 47/17 71/3 102/16 103/5 103/18 145/7 rough [1] 104/3 round [1] 66/9 route [1] 18/12 **Royal [18]** 5/3 24/18 25/3 25/15 25/19 25/22 26/6 26/13 27/1 27/10 27/25 43/20 44/15 103/13 103/17 103/24 118/8 173/24 rules [2] 13/20 72/4 run [5] 98/3 121/18 131/3 149/13 161/11 running [4] 121/16 125/16 135/11 146/19 **Ryan [11]** 110/4 110/5 110/8 110/9 165/5 165/18 168/15 179/8 179/15 179/17 181/12 S **Safe [1]** 119/3 safety [1] 98/17

said [46] 2/7 20/20 31/20 32/1 32/8 41/25 44/23 45/15 47/18 51/2 51/5 53/24 60/15 60/16 60/20 60/24 61/2 63/22 64/2 65/2 65/11 84/23 90/24 92/1 94/6 94/23 96/22 96/23 97/1 99/12 99/13 99/18 100/10 100/13 100/17 105/23 105/24 106/1 106/4 106/10 108/19 149/10 154/1 161/14 163/21 165/19 sales [2] 88/14 113/4 15/3 18/20 33/15 37/11 58/16 75/7 91/6 91/15 99/4 140/9 166/16 170/4 Santander [4] 148/21 148/23 149/15 151/3 sat [3] 4/21 30/21

saw [4] 98/25 112/22 158/14 171/24 say [100] 4/8 5/5 5/19 6/6 7/20 8/2 9/5 9/15 10/22 11/15 16/21 18/3 19/7 20/25 21/21 22/3 22/15 28/8 29/24 30/15 33/12 33/24 34/21 35/24 36/17 36/20 37/1 38/4 45/15 45/25 46/18 46/25 47/7 47/16 48/2 48/21 54/7 54/20 55/1 55/18 56/17 57/10 63/3 64/20 65/16 65/21 67/4 70/10 71/19 72/20 75/2 77/9 78/1 82/23 84/20 84/25 85/7 87/1 87/23 90/2 91/9 92/7 92/10 93/22 94/4 94/11 96/13 97/20 98/1 99/14 102/6 108/16 108/18 111/11 117/21 119/23 121/13 123/4 130/25 133/10 133/18 136/21 140/1 140/25 141/24 142/10 142/17 142/22 146/18 158/10 162/23 163/8 166/7 166/15 167/11 168/22 171/13 171/18 176/12 178/22 saying [23] 31/23 41/15 42/9 42/13 56/13 57/2 63/13 63/17 65/3 73/20 79/6 85/15 89/21 92/23 94/22 99/16 99/24 99/24 107/20 117/6 142/6 143/3 169/14 savs [53] 12/22 14/17 20/17 23/8 25/2 39/4 39/10 39/12 39/20 39/24 40/14 40/17 41/2 43/8 46/22 47/3 47/8 57/17 59/21 62/19 78/24 79/20 81/20 83/15 91/15 92/2 93/23 94/15 101/14 102/8 103/14 104/9 104/21 105/15 105/16 105/20 107/6 107/23 134/13 136/13 137/18 138/15 153/17 155/18 160/7 160/10 168/14 172/7 172/23 174/18 177/3 177/6 178/4 **SB [1]** 153/18 scandal [1] 95/25 scars [1] 106/24 scenario [2] 19/16

59/17

89/9 90/3 90/8 149/11 S seconds [2] 91/4 88/21 89/13 89/17 **settled [2]** 159/16 153/17 89/21 157/15 157/17 160/1 149/14 149/17 163/15 scenario... [1] 20/19 section [6] 14/14 seen [11] 22/13 seven [1] 115/20 shortcut [1] 162/20 **Schedule [1]** 79/4 14/14 142/1 142/24 22/21 23/4 25/25 64/7 shadowing [3] **shortfall [14]** 19/5 scheduled [1] 1/23 144/10 158/24 90/11 98/21 102/3 119/19 120/3 120/8 21/15 36/3 38/7 42/16 **Scott [10]** 41/20 123/8 126/3 126/6 section 3 [1] 144/10 **shaken [1]** 104/9 43/23 56/20 73/18 66/23 67/7 67/18 security [73] 5/8 5/24 Sefton [11] 111/1 73/21 74/5 74/12 **shall [1]** 165/7 166/23 167/2 167/14 147/12 147/19 148/2 127/21 132/11 132/15 5/25 6/7 10/4 10/7 **SharePoint [1]** 26/13 170/24 171/20 172/17 12/24 16/24 17/9 18/2 148/12 149/9 149/21 shortfalls [7] 56/22 **sharing [1]** 29/3 scratchcard [3] 18/10 20/15 24/18 150/2 152/17 153/3 61/17 63/11 64/1 **Sharron [3]** 116/22 87/24 89/8 89/10 25/3 25/16 25/22 161/7 138/4 138/5 64/21 93/4 96/25 scratchcards [6] 26/13 27/1 32/25 **she [106]** 49/18 50/1 **Sefton's [2]** 153/12 **shortly [1]** 125/2 49/19 50/2 88/4 88/6 36/22 37/7 37/20 153/15 52/5 60/9 60/10 60/11 should [29] 3/5 3/11 89/16 90/7 37/20 38/5 43/4 45/4 60/12 60/15 60/16 17/17 19/15 19/16 send [7] 112/11 scratchers [1] 91/17 66/22 67/8 75/25 124/10 157/9 159/18 60/17 60/19 60/20 21/13 22/10 26/15 screen [58] 9/11 12/4 110/25 112/22 113/1 161/24 174/16 174/16 60/22 60/24 61/2 61/7 32/2 32/8 37/17 45/8 16/1 16/12 16/19 19/5 113/6 113/10 113/13 61/10 61/11 63/7 57/10 59/1 67/25 73/5 sending [2] 123/15 23/1 24/12 24/25 25/7 113/24 113/25 114/9 162/22 63/10 63/13 63/18 76/23 82/16 91/18 26/20 28/12 29/22 114/15 114/18 115/2 senior [13] 16/25 63/25 72/2 73/17 99/14 100/22 102/2 33/10 36/24 38/2 38/9 115/6 115/10 115/16 73/20 74/20 74/22 102/6 104/15 110/10 18/9 37/7 37/20 43/2 41/16 42/22 46/2 116/6 116/17 117/19 74/23 74/24 74/24 136/14 136/17 155/23 66/25 67/11 67/16 48/25 51/9 52/17 117/22 118/8 122/10 67/17 115/2 143/16 76/7 76/9 76/10 76/11 178/10 53/16 57/13 59/11 122/15 125/3 126/15 143/18 172/18 76/14 76/16 77/4 shouldn't [1] 59/1 61/20 65/19 68/20 127/5 130/13 135/10 sense [6] 26/9 27/13 77/12 77/16 77/17 **show [5]** 34/6 58/15 71/16 75/1 75/19 77/8 135/17 135/22 136/1 32/16 89/7 92/22 78/3 78/5 79/15 80/7 61/3 76/20 142/13 78/22 80/11 81/17 90/24 92/2 92/16 136/16 137/19 140/20 99/22 **showed [5]** 33/14 83/4 84/13 85/3 143/18 144/4 158/19 92/17 92/19 92/21 sensible [1] 77/2 68/1 142/9 143/7 105/14 116/25 118/15 164/3 168/1 168/15 sent [27] 10/14 12/14 92/21 93/2 93/2 93/4 149/7 121/20 123/1 123/12 172/8 172/18 173/2 25/5 25/17 28/1 28/20 93/4 93/6 93/8 93/16 **showing [4]** 24/23 125/24 126/22 134/9 173/22 177/1 28/24 41/18 43/4 54/4 93/23 93/25 94/3 94/6 41/5 96/6 161/2 136/4 139/24 144/3 see [70] 1/3 2/8 56/7 61/22 68/1 75/25 94/15 94/17 95/3 95/4 shown [5] 58/9 66/1 147/16 154/15 156/11 12/10 12/10 23/14 80/10 80/12 88/23 95/4 95/5 95/7 95/8 75/12 77/13 79/25 159/9 167/24 170/14 26/21 43/1 53/19 123/14 123/23 130/4 95/11 102/8 102/18 **shows [4]** 76/15 176/22 53/20 55/6 69/10 72/1 137/9 156/8 156/16 103/3 103/14 104/8 142/10 142/11 143/10 scroll [9] 24/16 24/22 72/18 75/22 78/10 158/14 159/15 160/3 104/9 104/10 104/21 shrink [1] 113/19 42/24 84/20 87/13 86/22 87/5 87/6 87/11 162/3 105/15 105/16 105/17 shutter [2] 105/9 87/18 121/24 137/5 105/17 105/20 107/4 87/13 87/15 87/15 sentence [7] 33/12 105/10 159/21 89/6 91/8 91/8 91/12 43/12 44/10 59/6 107/7 107/8 107/8 **sic [1]** 109/3 scrolling [5] 53/18 107/19 107/20 108/12 side [1] 116/10 91/13 91/20 93/14 65/21 78/10 84/12 56/1 69/5 97/19 108/20 108/21 108/21 Sight [13] 87/10 93/15 96/5 99/24 sentenced [2] 44/7 105/19 101/13 102/6 105/24 44/8 108/23 109/1 109/1 136/14 138/21 138/24 se [1] 31/22 107/18 108/8 110/1 sentences [1] 177/13 109/3 109/5 150/10 170/4 170/20 172/10 search [1] 96/16 118/15 118/19 123/13 separate [3] 28/20 150/13 150/19 151/7 173/4 173/13 173/25 searches [5] 98/18 174/10 174/12 174/22 123/18 126/24 132/19 63/17 127/15 155/5 156/25 151/19 153/3 153/6 **September [9]** 38/11 136/9 137/6 137/15 **she'd [2]** 64/12 95/10 sign [5] 19/22 20/21 164/23 137/23 144/11 153/13 **she's [6]** 92/23 107/3 160/17 161/15 162/17 42/6 46/5 81/18 92/11 searching [1] 118/24 93/8 146/7 154/18 **signature** [3] 3/12 154/16 156/11 156/22 107/4 107/7 107/20 **SEC [1]** 11/18 159/11 159/19 160/6 168/2 108/13 3/14 110/13 second [41] 14/16 **sheet [1]** 54/13 160/19 161/18 161/19 September/October signed [1] 149/10 38/12 42/25 46/4 162/13 162/20 163/18 **[1]** 42/6 **shock [1]** 73/18 significance [1] 59/17 61/8 71/24 164/9 164/15 165/15 **serve [1]** 80/23 short [10] 41/5 41/7 170/7 87/10 90/17 96/13 167/25 168/4 170/24 **Service [4]** 5/9 6/3 55/4 76/17 109/24 significant [10] 1/14 98/3 98/14 98/16 99/3 172/14 174/2 30/21 62/2 112/17 148/5 151/22 19/13 20/10 20/12 100/15 100/21 100/25 155/21 165/13 seeing [3] 16/11 Services [4] 14/21 48/11 58/13 64/23 108/2 120/7 120/20 40/24 68/2 14/23 59/13 64/5 **shortage [24]** 40/16 122/2 129/6 148/24 121/1 136/14 138/21 seek [5] 33/6 35/21 41/11 41/23 41/25 similar [4] 99/4 163/4 session [3] 57/23 138/24 144/24 145/2 82/16 119/16 176/14 42/6 42/10 73/19 76/3 163/6 172/14 59/8 134/18 145/4 145/13 145/19 seem [3] 55/23 63/15 sessions [1] 122/16 77/11 77/22 91/11 Simon [5] 87/6 146/20 159/21 170/3 129/6 130/8 130/12 116/21 set [7] 44/11 49/16 114/23 114/24 117/2 170/20 172/10 173/4 seemed [8] 39/18 60/6 79/3 99/25 145/5 148/16 148/17 117/9 173/13 173/25 174/10 48/20 66/23 67/5 135/25 145/8 154/1 154/2 154/4 simply [3] 58/19 88/7 174/11 174/21 177/6 67/20 79/11 89/10 sets [2] 61/7 144/4 155/24 159/12 160/1 117/8 secondary [2] 28/25 setting [2] 17/5 145/7 133/3 168/13 Simpson [1] 69/11 29/8 seems [7] 40/10 settle [1] 160/25 **shortages [8]** 60/25 since [2] 3/23 42/5

(69) scenario... - since

19/13 19/22 38/6 38/6 62/14 64/19 65/20 S 37/17 66/10 72/5 72/25 73/6 74/4 56/18 56/18 Singh [4] 42/24 43/1 108/14 141/22 SPMRs [1] 87/24 43/7 74/1 something [35] 20/4 spoiled [1] 30/10 single [1] 171/2 20/6 20/12 20/17 **spoke [2]** 93/25 sir [20] 1/3 1/6 2/20 20/20 21/24 22/19 94/16 25/9 25/13 54/12 29/16 31/20 35/20 spoken [4] 77/15 54/22 55/2 55/6 86/6 83/17 161/9 161/12 36/8 42/18 44/23 47/1 95/19 95/21 109/9 51/3 66/1 66/2 66/4 **Spot [1]** 87/8 109/18 110/1 165/3 70/17 72/15 73/14 spreadsheet [13] 165/15 179/10 179/22 74/24 82/9 87/1 87/10 53/4 53/10 53/15 180/1 90/8 96/6 97/3 103/6 53/18 54/1 69/24 89/4 sit [2] 30/19 102/11 113/4 124/10 125/12 170/25 171/7 171/10 site [4] 26/14 103/13 126/10 154/25 167/18 171/13 171/19 172/1 130/19 130/23 sometimes [7] 91/20 staff [11] 6/4 13/4 sits [1] 86/18 127/5 130/23 131/23 19/10 19/14 28/6 28/7 sitting [1] 179/24 141/19 145/5 161/22 28/9 34/25 62/13 situation [1] 162/16 130/19 150/22 somewhere [1] six [5] 5/1 46/6 92/6 stage [5] 2/14 77/3 174/20 92/8 113/12 81/13 82/11 178/14 **soon [1]** 6/6 size [3] 104/2 114/14 sorry [19] 20/9 25/6 **staircase [1]** 103/3 129/3 stairs [2] 102/12 28/8 33/24 63/24 87/2 **skills [1]** 143/17 91/5 92/22 93/3 96/6 102/15 skillset [1] 113/7 96/18 101/1 108/20 stakeholders [3] **slightly [1]** 105/19 108/23 108/24 109/4 28/25 29/9 29/14 slips [2] 149/6 stamps [2] 4/24 4/25 113/20 120/6 159/20 152/12 sort [27] 4/20 5/3 **stand [2]** 113/16 slow [5] 39/5 39/21 6/23 6/24 8/5 8/20 160/22 41/15 48/22 162/22 8/21 8/23 18/20 21/23 standard [4] 33/22 small [1] 121/7 24/9 24/10 31/19 34/2 71/23 125/9 **smaller [1]** 128/19 31/22 34/11 36/15 **Standards [3]** 26/1 **SMITH [5]** 1/7 1/10 36/19 44/22 47/1 50/3 26/10 26/18 1/13 2/14 181/2 57/2 57/8 72/18 85/22 **standing [1]** 116/12 Smith's [2] 2/2 2/5 89/22 99/21 103/10 stands [1] 158/16 **snapshot** [1] 61/2 sorted [1] 93/19 Stanway [1] 115/11 so [222] sorting [7] 94/19 start [15] 22/19 30/1 so-called [1] 19/21 40/25 72/7 77/4 86/23 94/20 103/15 103/16 sold [2] 88/8 88/12 103/17 103/19 103/21 87/6 87/15 91/3 93/7 **solicit [1]** 19/15 120/10 128/20 128/22 sorts [1] 132/21 solicitor [10] 72/22 **sound [1]** 165/22 153/23 163/11 72/23 73/1 73/3 73/8 **sounds [3]** 100/14 started [17] 7/12 73/12 83/17 105/17 107/2 163/4 8/15 9/3 60/17 79/6 122/4 153/16 92/12 92/13 94/8 sourced [1] 115/23 **solicitors [2]** 10/10 120/5 120/6 120/24 **sources [1]** 112/9 121/14 **South [1]** 114/6 some [42] 2/17 8/11 **Southin [1]** 118/9 128/21 135/19 140/10 stood [1] 31/22 8/19 8/24 20/15 21/20 starting [7] 3/21 speak [7] 69/20 72/3 21/23 40/8 46/6 47/1 72/9 72/12 130/13 19/19 60/15 62/5 47/20 53/21 59/7 61/5 150/11 150/13 102/6 136/13 147/21 64/6 66/4 79/14 79/18 speaking [4] 48/1 starts [2] 87/5 93/16 80/18 81/13 86/10 103/9 115/21 161/6 state [2] 94/3 136/17 87/24 89/21 92/3 stated [2] 8/4 161/1 **Special [1]** 5/2 95/19 105/8 105/8 **specialist [1]** 177/15 **statement [98]** 3/4 111/3 111/15 115/24 specific [6] 8/25 10/8 3/6 3/7 3/16 3/20 4/8 116/2 116/3 120/9 16/16 31/20 122/18 5/5 7/20 9/12 10/15 123/8 127/18 130/1 135/15 10/18 10/21 11/16 157/2 158/17 166/2 12/6 13/6 15/6 16/2 specifically [4] 14/8 166/2 166/4 170/17 106/13 120/2 131/25 16/20 16/21 17/25 somebody [12] 22/17 specifics [2] 11/7 19/6 23/6 29/23 33/11 36/7 42/19 105/6 35/24 36/25 38/2 44/19 108/5 113/17 120/20 **speed [1]** 161/23 38/14 38/16 46/12 138/13 150/18 151/18 spent [1] 40/23 51/15 51/23 51/24 156/13 159/18 **split [1]** 25/20 52/6 52/8 52/11 56/17 someone [9] 19/18 **SPM [8]** 18/5 19/10 57/4 60/3 60/5 62/7

69/3 70/11 70/13 71/17 72/2 75/2 76/9 77/5 77/12 80/2 80/22 173/8 85/2 96/2 96/8 97/19 101/24 102/22 105/13 subject [14] 28/15 109/15 110/11 110/15 47/19 47/22 48/6 114/13 115/14 116/4 117/21 119/15 120/23 121/13 122/24 123/2 123/4 123/22 125/21 126/14 128/14 129/5 130/10 132/7 135/7 135/24 139/12 139/24 subpostmaster [15] 141/24 142/16 142/20 146/23 150/6 152/1 164/20 166/7 166/15 167/11 175/10 179/19 **statements [8]** 10/20 19/21 62/10 69/22 80/24 81/1 81/24 122/2 states [3] 72/2 148/10 154/25 **stating [1]** 60/23 **stay [1]** 113/2 stayed [1] 6/9 stealing [3] 40/25 42/7 61/10 Stein [1] 102/21 step [6] 35/4 35/7 71/21 113/13 129/15 145/20 Stephen [1] 59/13 stepped [1] 170/2 **Steve [15]** 55/12 115/11 120/13 120/21 120/25 121/8 146/4 150/7 150/16 150/21 151/12 151/17 151/21 sufficient [3] 31/16 152/23 153/7 still [6] 81/13 104/8 104/24 105/14 111/8 152/19 121/14 121/16 128/18 stock [2] 31/24 88/12 **stopgap [1]** 115/22 **stopped [1]** 121/6 **stopping [4]** 92/15 95/3 154/6 169/5 stored [1] 124/20 storing [1] 40/22 **straighten [1]** 155/23 | 119/10 straightforward [1] 54/11 strange [1] 77/21 **strategy [1]** 107/10 **Street [1]** 101/17 stress [2] 1/17 27/22 **strike [2]** 9/25 37/19 **striking [1]** 103/1 **structural** [1] 5/10 structure [4] 5/7 support [8] 22/14 18/21 30/20 113/23 70/8 70/21 71/5 112/9

study [3] 8/11 111/1 171/2 stuff [3] 91/22 92/25 sub [2] 76/4 76/20 52/20 55/14 57/16 68/25 121/23 134/12 175/17 176/2 176/14 176/18 submitted [2] 17/1 69/17 34/24 41/23 42/9 42/15 61/16 99/9 132/10 139/13 143/23 146/2 148/14 148/15 155/25 161/6 168/6 subpostmasters [13] 18/8 18/11 28/5 50/5 56/22 71/1 86/15 87/25 95/24 100/3 107/12 111/25 140/3 subpostmistresses [2] 86/3 107/12 subsequent [1] 97/6 subsequently [6] 58/24 86/16 98/21 146/22 153/2 164/20 **substance [1]** 48/19 **successful [2]** 23/13 23/22 such [12] 30/9 44/22 65/12 77/16 79/7 82/6 85/9 88/16 94/3 98/18 105/3 131/15 suchlike [1] 32/15 **suffers [1]** 104/10 32/4 79/1 suggest [8] 12/20 36/14 48/9 65/10 65/18 74/17 89/13 107/5 suggested [1] 69/14 suggesting [1] 45/8 **suggests** [1] 58/7 suitable [1] 2/18 sum [1] 149/8 sum' [1] 52/2 summaries [1] **summary [9]** 38/22 41/21 42/3 42/12 48/10 102/21 142/3 142/24 143/14 **superstore** [1] 104/5 **supervise [1]** 116/14 supervision [4] 16/18 16/22 115/16 116/6

109/19 112/21 120/10 technical [3] 16/9 90/25 92/18 92/19 151/9 152/11 152/18 S 120/16 124/2 163/22 40/8 42/20 94/5 96/8 96/9 100/5 152/20 153/2 153/11 **support... [3]** 117/9 taken [16] 30/3 30/23 techniques [1] 122/3 101/1 107/4 108/21 155/7 155/18 157/11 137/7 139/3 35/4 35/7 37/6 46/23 **telephone** [2] 39/7 108/22 109/1 109/4 157/13 158/7 159/8 support' [1] 137/22 47/14 48/14 51/3 51/16 118/15 127/2 127/8 160/6 160/24 161/14 **suppose [2]** 40/1 70/16 83/20 84/6 telephoned [1] 89/5 129/11 138/16 138/22 161/24 162/13 163/7 178/24 84/10 84/10 165/18 139/16 140/15 166/3 164/18 168/3 170/16 tell [5] 40/15 91/10 supposed [1] 60/25 150/17 157/25 173/5 166/18 167/23 170/11 171/9 172/3 173/21 174/22 suppressed [1] taking [7] 10/20 telling [6] 48/12 170/11 170/12 177/23 174/8 175/14 178/3 149/8 19/21 104/14 106/11 52/10 74/25 93/6 95/3 theft [14] 22/5 74/19 179/2 sure [15] 18/4 23/3 107/2 107/5 130/7 170/11 74/22 74/23 78/13 theory [2] 80/1 80/3 25/12 81/4 111/21 79/3 79/5 81/15 82/22 there [182] **Talbot** [1] 114/24 **Template [1]** 137/19 111/22 115/9 116/22 talk [2] 72/14 119/25 temporarily [4] 108/11 137/2 142/12 **there'd [2]** 125/10 120/11 139/2 145/8 talking [10] 40/3 50/2 113/13 113/17 115/1 143/10 174/8 161/23 152/17 157/1 163/6 56/1 56/11 67/15 160/13 thefts [1] 80/5 there's [10] 40/21 174/19 73/14 92/18 103/23 tend [1] 74/17 their [21] 2/10 17/10 91/10 92/24 104/19 surely [5] 98/7 99/7 106/13 106/13 17/19 18/7 18/17 106/16 117/15 121/25 tended [1] 171/16 99/13 100/5 103/5 tape [8] 38/15 38/18 **Terminal [2]** 88/9 27/16 32/7 66/11 126/24 137/6 159/12 surprised [1] 171/14 38/23 46/4 46/10 48/7 88/11 66/15 72/8 72/23 therefore [4] 50/21 suspect [9] 11/2 105/22 119/9 73/10 86/16 103/20 76/21 76/23 82/8 terms [11] 15/13 11/11 22/18 41/17 15/25 22/11 31/15 115/24 133/23 148/13 these [17] 5/10 29/2 tapes [1] 46/13 72/22 76/7 82/4 targeted [1] 30/3 31/24 54/11 56/17 149/11 149/12 149/18 54/2 60/18 61/5 61/12 118/22 136/15 tasked [3] 9/22 9/24 63/22 64/2 139/8 153/8 67/4 67/4 68/3 69/20 suspected [4] 21/7 171/18 143/15 them [37] 2/9 2/9 99/10 106/9 126/17 21/9 21/13 21/18 tattoos [1] 106/24 19/9 19/22 20/17 139/20 150/1 157/2 testing [1] 178/6 suspected/admitted 20/20 26/17 32/23 TCs [4] 41/25 42/8 than [18] 33/14 33/22 168/11 **[2]** 21/7 21/13 they [95] 1/19 1/20 34/2 63/10 65/23 75/8 42/18 88/1 41/13 50/14 66/11 suspended [1] 69/17 67/1 91/18 102/14 team [110] 1/10 1/18 75/11 75/12 93/10 2/10 3/18 15/13 18/6 suspense [1] 155/14 4/6 4/22 5/1 7/6 11/23 108/5 113/5 114/11 107/13 108/6 108/7 18/13 18/17 19/15 **suspicion [2]** 76/8 11/24 11/25 17/2 122/18 127/10 147/6 116/3 120/19 123/8 19/16 19/18 19/18 76/14 123/24 124/5 124/5 20/9 20/9 20/13 20/14 17/11 17/13 17/18 152/21 155/10 178/25 suspicious [4] 30/8 18/3 18/10 20/15 thank [48] 1/5 2/19 124/13 127/6 130/24 20/18 20/20 22/13 129/21 129/24 130/2 2/20 3/3 55/2 55/7 20/15 21/3 21/8 21/25 140/8 148/5 148/18 25/23 28/9 28/9 28/10 sustained [1] 160/12 22/9 22/12 23/23 30/5 86/9 90/17 95/16 150/24 154/11 161/9 32/6 32/8 33/3 36/8 **switched** [1] 60/19 161/11 161/11 161/22 30/18 30/19 33/1 95/18 95/21 96/12 59/9 61/13 71/3 72/7 sworn [2] 2/21 181/4 35/13 36/23 37/5 37/8 97/20 109/6 109/11 175/1 176/13 72/8 73/10 88/8 88/20 svstem [48] 9/20 37/21 38/5 41/18 45/4 109/14 109/22 110/3 97/12 97/13 97/15 themselves [2] 26/15 15/25 16/4 16/5 16/8 45/5 45/12 49/2 50/11 117/20 119/14 122/13 125/19 102/9 106/3 106/20 16/9 32/1 32/7 34/8 50/17 62/3 62/22 123/10 124/18 135/6 110/17 112/11 113/17 then [111] 4/25 5/12 34/17 40/9 41/12 66/22 67/8 67/13 137/11 138/18 141/9 8/22 8/24 9/2 14/15 113/18 113/19 121/15 41/13 42/16 48/2 69/15 76/1 78/15 87/3 144/7 144/20 154/14 15/15 17/4 18/8 20/20 121/17 125/4 125/7 48/12 51/4 51/21 52/5 88/24 110/25 112/22 154/15 159/23 160/5 25/24 28/24 29/12 125/14 128/20 128/24 52/13 56/7 60/16 113/1 113/9 113/13 165/3 165/11 165/15 35/15 40/16 41/3 42/3 130/1 131/5 133/13 61/18 63/11 64/1 65/8 113/15 113/15 113/20 165/17 166/3 169/12 44/10 51/1 60/2 60/6 133/15 133/24 138/12 67/3 70/16 71/2 77/19 113/20 113/21 113/24 175/3 179/1 179/8 60/9 60/14 60/15 139/1 142/8 142/10 83/10 84/5 96/24 97/1 60/16 60/24 61/8 113/25 114/1 114/12 179/13 179/15 179/17 144/9 148/4 148/6 98/10 111/19 136/19 114/14 114/16 114/19 179/21 179/22 180/1 148/17 148/19 149/10 61/13 62/15 63/2 140/4 141/3 141/6 114/22 115/1 115/5 149/12 149/14 149/16 thanks [5] 53/14 65/10 71/8 77/19 78/1 157/16 166/6 166/9 116/5 116/11 116/13 54/21 63/5 165/16 78/4 88/8 88/10 88/12 149/17 150/16 150/17 166/11 167/13 168/9 116/16 117/8 117/12 88/12 98/22 99/19 154/1 157/23 159/18 170/1 169/6 175/8 117/19 117/22 121/7 that [866] 100/24 103/11 104/19 159/19 160/2 160/11 system's [1] 47/13 122/16 125/3 126/8 that I [3] 144/2 105/10 105/13 105/19 160/22 161/25 162/20 systems [4] 43/20 127/25 128/1 128/2 156/19 166/24 106/23 107/21 108/21 163/8 164/12 169/1 44/15 119/3 153/24 128/4 128/10 128/19 109/4 112/22 113/9 170/10 170/11 171/17 that's [63] 3/25 4/7 129/7 135/18 141/12 4/13 6/5 6/15 6/20 7/7 113/23 115/1 115/5 173/9 175/17 175/20 141/13 141/17 141/17 25/11 25/12 29/16 117/18 118/17 120/4 176/12 176/17 178/24 Ta [1] 57/25 141/23 142/18 143/20 34/12 40/21 42/1 120/8 121/13 122/20 they'd [7] 36/8 93/6 tab [1] 89/7 144/4 144/15 144/16 47/17 49/7 49/9 50/3 123/6 123/11 123/17 124/21 128/22 132/14 table [1] 76/13 164/3 166/17 166/24 54/20 56/2 58/23 124/23 131/25 132/5 149/11 176/18 tabs [1] 171/25 167/6 168/1 169/1 62/16 64/24 70/13 133/18 137/2 138/6 they're [2] 103/20 tactic [1] 107/10 170/3 170/18 172/19 70/13 70/14 70/23 140/16 140/23 141/17 105/11 take [15] 17/17 20/24 they've [4] 137/10 176/4 73/7 74/13 75/18 141/21 143/22 147/12 21/2 39/16 50/1 54/25 78/17 84/9 89/17 147/24 148/18 149/3 139/3 157/17 157/21 Team's [1] 78/23 70/4 87/7 106/20 teams [1] 114/3 89/21 89/24 90/18 149/20 149/24 151/4 thief [2] 47/10 80/7

55/12 63/3 75/23 91/9 transferred [2] 103/4 56/9 56/10 59/6 64/7 58/22 61/5 63/22 69/16 81/1 81/5 86/3 70/19 74/6 80/6 83/25 93/20 123/17 126/23 138/13 thing [4] 91/15 150/6 86/6 89/18 89/23 97/4 84/15 86/22 87/11 136/9 156/8 156/21 transfers [1] 32/14 171/17 173/1 109/9 115/16 119/1 89/19 90/9 92/3 95/13 159/23 159/24 166/22 **Transit [2]** 5/18 6/3 things [12] 4/25 transition [1] 95/13 119/11 119/22 124/3 98/3 98/24 111/20 167/1 170/16 17/15 32/4 40/24 68/3 125/5 126/25 127/12 112/17 114/3 114/8 topic [3] 56/11 90/17 treat [2] 64/23 104/12 70/5 100/6 116/10 130/5 130/20 131/6 117/2 117/16 121/4 treated [6] 104/15 159/8 119/11 119/24 120/1 132/5 134/7 137/7 122/15 123/21 124/8 108/20 108/21 108/23 topics [5] 86/19 158/18 137/9 137/24 138/11 128/16 130/19 132/18 118/21 119/22 122/1 109/1 109/2 think [114] 5/1 5/12 138/12 138/19 143/17 135/4 143/17 143/20 137/6 treating [1] 107/23 5/21 5/21 6/10 6/23 total [1] 114/16 144/7 150/20 153/6 146/9 150/9 150/25 treatment [1] 102/23 8/4 9/5 9/7 10/16 155/2 159/7 161/22 154/8 155/6 159/5 touch [4] 57/22 94/1 **trial [1]** 178/10 12/18 13/13 20/2 20/9 134/17 144/22 tried [2] 63/14 149/11 162/18 163/25 164/6 159/7 162/19 163/17 20/14 21/6 21/20 164/7 164/10 167/5 164/19 165/7 169/9 touched [1] 71/14 triggered [1] 149/2 21/21 21/22 25/7 169/1 174/14 174/16 170/4 170/6 170/19 towards [5] 8/22 trouble [1] 87/25 30/21 33/18 33/18 175/4 176/9 179/14 173/6 175/16 176/20 11/12 36/19 60/6 62/5 true [2] 3/16 110/15 35/15 35/16 35/17 try [2] 80/4 161/22 177/11 178/24 though [3] 99/14 **TP [1]** 88/25 35/18 36/13 36/15 **TP09 [1]** 160/13 trying [7] 72/13 72/14 100/6 138/15 timeline [1] 163/7 36/18 36/19 36/21 trading [3] 42/6 76/9 thought [11] 36/8 times [5] 10/5 40/5 85/17 93/17 93/19 44/16 44/17 44/18 49/20 85/23 128/25 100/14 112/13 37/24 71/11 92/16 77/12 44/22 44/23 45/7 92/19 97/3 113/7 timescale [1] 166/24 trail [3] 33/21 34/6 turn [9] 3/9 10/20 45/15 47/4 47/24 125/14 140/9 140/12 timing [5] 57/22 59/7 87/5 86/8 96/7 101/24 47/25 48/3 48/18 52/7 140/21 71/22 134/17 151/5 trained [6] 16/7 110/12 124/23 166/4 56/13 58/24 58/25 thoughts [1] 65/4 tiny [6] 102/16 103/5 19/14 20/14 20/14 179/10 64/4 64/13 64/24 66/6 103/23 104/8 104/16 45/11 73/4 three [18] 7/17 7/19 turned [2] 105/22 66/24 67/10 67/10 8/1 9/5 30/16 30/25 104/21 Trainer [1] 111/17 105/23 67/11 67/16 67/25 33/1 33/5 40/1 78/6 title [6] 6/21 12/11 training [46] 7/11 Turning [5] 7/11 68/1 68/2 70/14 71/11 87/20 93/10 114/3 7/17 8/9 8/25 9/8 9/18 16/18 19/3 36/22 20/11 26/21 56/3 77/2 78/17 78/18 114/4 115/6 118/5 118/19 9/19 10/4 10/8 10/11 146/1 85/16 88/23 90/11 136/22 137/6 today [17] 3/5 4/1 10/12 10/18 11/6 two [29] 2/16 5/21 91/16 91/22 92/12 three-week [1] 8/1 51/16 51/18 56/24 11/23 15/25 16/3 32/3 40/13 41/3 46/17 99/20 101/13 104/11 Threlfall [13] 59/20 69/12 86/18 102/18 16/11 16/13 16/16 49/6 50/5 60/2 78/1 106/19 106/21 109/9 59/23 101/3 101/11 105/3 105/5 107/6 20/7 111/25 112/2 78/5 78/5 78/25 83/6 114/10 115/19 116/21 101/16 101/25 102/7 107/8 108/14 110/20 117/18 118/4 118/7 86/3 86/19 87/19 117/5 117/11 120/18 102/17 105/15 107/6 118/12 118/13 118/17 155/19 155/24 156/18 88/16 116/13 118/8 120/22 123/22 125/7 107/23 108/10 109/12 118/25 119/2 119/22 132/2 132/11 132/19 today's [1] 109/13 126/5 127/14 128/18 Threlfall's [1] 107/17 together [8] 62/7 119/24 120/15 121/15 135/1 144/22 161/12 128/20 132/2 138/21 threshold [3] 21/5 77/5 121/10 125/8 121/16 121/24 122/6 175/13 176/7 177/13 139/1 139/10 140/15 171/1 171/13 171/16 122/8 122/11 122/14 21/12 21/16 two months [1] 143/13 151/7 151/17 133/5 137/7 137/21 through [32] 11/5 171/19 132/19 152/10 152/16 152/19 18/23 24/8 38/18 told [25] 16/7 33/16 139/3 139/8 168/8 two pages [1] 49/6 152/22 154/12 155/4 39/23 46/14 46/15 33/17 41/23 52/14 transaction [22] two paragraphs [4] 155/5 155/5 156/25 49/11 49/16 49/19 56/14 56/15 60/19 29/15 34/7 34/10 60/2 78/1 78/25 87/19 158/14 164/7 166/25 53/18 62/12 62/15 72/7 74/19 102/13 34/16 42/1 42/11 two years [1] 116/13 169/14 175/13 179/14 66/5 100/6 101/10 114/18 134/6 139/22 57/21 58/9 60/22 **two-thirds [2]** 40/13 179/23 107/1 119/18 119/24 148/18 150/16 152/22 60/23 69/1 72/15 78/8 46/17 thinking [3] 15/24 164/17 164/19 167/3 119/25 120/10 123/15 88/2 131/12 131/17 **type [5]** 17/23 60/9 45/2 71/7 134/16 134/21 157/22 66/6 131/17 173/1 130/2 132/22 133/5 173/16 173/18 175/15 third [6] 23/8 60/8 133/11 133/16 133/19 176/2 176/17 157/24 160/14 160/16 types [2] 6/25 131/15 81/19 119/17 159/10 133/23 161/18 161/19 tomorrow [4] 1/11 transactional [5] typically [1] 145/13 173/23 163/23 2/6 53/3 179/23 31/19 31/21 33/19 thirds [2] 40/13 34/9 75/14 throughout [5] 59/24 too [4] 40/24 102/19 46/17 **UCW [1]** 18/18 101/18 117/13 135/14 114/11 173/13 transactions [11] this [284] 9/21 16/12 29/13 30/9 **UK [1]** 114/4 135/16 took [18] 6/11 7/18 **Thomas [1]** 69/10 **ultimately [2]** 6/24 throw [1] 39/17 48/18 60/10 73/25 32/12 57/24 60/9 Thorneycroft [5] 80/5 81/2 82/1 101/9 76/20 130/2 132/20 24/7 thrown [1] 66/3 61/23 62/1 62/6 63/2 um [15] 36/7 39/5 time [79] 1/25 2/1 2/4 101/20 107/4 120/19 134/19 64/8 39/6 40/1 40/23 41/1 2/9 2/13 9/16 11/23 135/13 137/14 143/17 transcript [12] 3/19 Thorneycroft's [1] 38/10 38/17 38/21 47/14 91/10 91/17 13/9 14/5 15/20 24/7 146/7 151/17 162/19 62/18 91/19 92/13 93/1 25/21 33/8 35/10 tool [1] 39/6 46/3 46/13 46/17 those [63] 2/5 10/1 93/24 94/7 94/16 35/18 38/5 39/19 90/25 91/5 110/18 tools [2] 131/8 15/13 15/18 15/19 unable [3] 53/5 44/19 44/21 45/2 131/11 146/24 153/11 18/14 22/25 25/6 top [20] 12/11 23/7 155/13 155/14 48/18 50/4 50/10 54/8 transcription [1] 29/19 32/3 53/22 56/5 unaware [2] 65/10 56/25 57/8 58/18 24/19 41/14 43/3 38/22

U unaware... [1] 76/8 uncover [1] 61/2 under [13] 12/22 42/3 56/16 68/9 74/10 82/6 105/15 107/13 130/5 132/5 151/14 169/1 172/12 underneath [3] 55/24 59/21 118/19 understand [33] 2/3 2/9 12/24 15/9 15/20 21/14 34/12 36/1 47/17 54/12 56/5 72/17 74/14 76/2 76/6 76/15 76/25 77/16 81/2 87/9 119/5 125/10 138/24 139/20 146/16 150/13 151/4 153/19 173/14 175/19 **upon [5]** 31/6 45/20 176/13 177/21 178/19 understanding [11] 9/19 21/4 30/1 58/1 70/10 88/1 125/5 167/22 167/23 170/6 177/10 understood [9] 11/9 44/22 54/17 58/15 70/15 73/7 139/5 139/16 150/10 undertaking [3] 13/4 120/25 174/23 undertook [1] 170/18 underwent [1] 5/7 unduly [1] 65/5 unexplained [1] 73/21 unfair [1] 150/3 Unfortunately [2] 113/3 163/21 uniformity [1] 125/7 union [6] 18/17 18/18 18/19 18/23 72/6 72/11 unjustifiable [1] 44/4 unless [3] 40/20 141/14 160/22 unlikely [2] 77/3 178/17 unnerve [1] 107/11 unsettle [2] 107/11 107/24 unsure [1] 133/18 until [15] 4/14 6/9 7/4 25/19 25/21 69/15 88/5 112/17 113/17 121/6 128/21 150/15 155/15 178/18 180/4 unused [4] 12/7 13/1 13/21 14/1 up [41] 5/14 6/11 7/18 8/13 17/12 18/9

22/2 24/19 25/19

25/21 41/5 41/6 43/24 86/25 87/4 87/13 88/5 91/6 91/23 92/14 93/1 94/5 96/7 102/11 102/14 103/3 103/21 105/6 113/7 113/13 136/15 138/3 138/3 142/19 145/7 145/8 146/4 146/21 149/14 161/23 165/24 update [3] 52/21 52/25 177/4 updated [1] 30/12 **updates [2]** 17/10 53/12 upgrade [1] 155/1 upgrades [2] 60/16 60/18 upheld [1] 57/3 84/2 102/9 107/13 upset [1] 102/20 upstairs [1] 102/13 upwards [1] 2/3 **Urban [1]** 165/22 Urgent [1] 52/20 urgently [1] 52/24 URN [1] 110/18 us [22] 1/4 5/1 5/22 40/21 55/6 55/9 107/8 visible [1] 3/11 114/18 129/23 138/22 visit [18] 154/17 159/2 165/15 166/19 167/16 170/11 170/23 172/16 173/5 173/12 174/4 176/25 177/16 use [7] 10/9 28/4 111/23 112/1 127/7 135/20 138/22 used [16] 4/24 7/23 8/6 21/11 32/15 33/14 60/12 107/7 126/9 126/15 127/2 127/13 156/25 157/1 157/23 176/16 useful [3] 82/8 122/11 122/12 using [7] 16/12 39/22 53/11 126/17 127/3 127/10 149/11 usual [5] 62/9 78/14 162/7 162/9 167/3 usually [8] 15/3 15/4 30/3 121/18 130/18 145/4 145/18 162/11

vacancies [1] 112/23 vaquely [3] 132/7 146/14 146/14 value [4] 27/15 128/21 129/1 132/3 varied [2] 111/11 131/19 various [9] 4/4 10/5

11/18 31/11 31/13 55/24 75/5 106/25 122/17 vehicle [1] 22/21 verdict [1] 108/13 verdicts [1] 24/3 verify [1] 32/16 versus [2] 59/15 61/25 very [25] 39/5 40/5 41/15 58/13 77/21 87/4 87/7 99/3 99/17 99/23 105/9 105/19 109/14 111/14 117/4 121/7 136/9 144/20 161/10 162/19 162/22 107/6 108/14 162/22 165/11 168/20 way [27] 24/10 29/11 179/17 via [4] 17/2 30/14 46/7 112/8 victims [1] 95/24 view [8] 16/14 16/25 30/11 30/16 65/17 83/25 122/8 178/23 viewed [1] 22/12 viewing [2] 50/25 54/7 viewpoint [1] 56/25 virtually [1] 131/21 154/18 154/23 156/2 156/6 157/10 158/9 158/10 158/11 158/21 158/24 159/3 159/10 159/11 161/3 161/4 161/17 163/8 visited [2] 161/8 163/19 visits [1] 154/12 volume [1] 88/1 W **Walk [1]** 9/18 want [16] 1/17 25/11 36/20 46/21 47/11 47/18 47/21 86/19 86/23 87/18 90/22 94/20 95/2 101/2

111/15 166/4 wanted [15] 33/7 89/12 94/19 95/4 95/7 113/2 117/17 125/7 139/1 147/22 150/13 150/17 164/1 170/24 177/4 wanting [1] 48/5 Ward [6] 41/19 43/5 57/15 57/17 58/8 134/10 Ward's [2] 59/15 61/24 was [549] wasn't [42] 8/19

22/18 23/15 32/9 32/10 32/15 39/21 39/21 40/9 41/13 45/2 West Byfleet [1] 48/11 50/19 68/13 73/12 74/25 78/20 81/11 81/14 83/1 88/7 92/19 92/21 93/8 93/11 95/4 98/15 98/25 99/21 99/25 100/1 113/4 128/11 135/2 161/10 162/23 169/13 169/14 175/14 watch [1] 105/23 watching [3] 102/17 32/12 36/21 40/10 40/13 46/17 63/9 66/9 69/21 74/19 97/22 98/2 100/20 102/14 104/12 104/23 107/24 108/20 124/9 125/7 139/16 142/6 143/3 151/14 166/2 179/3 we [254] we'd [8] 48/1 84/22 86/21 87/11 127/5 140/23 174/16 179/6 we'll [3] 57/12 96/11 149/23 we're [4] 40/3 53/19 91/6 99/3 we've [9] 15/7 46/8 48/7 50/7 56/2 64/7 85/13 106/2 172/5 wear [1] 105/23 Wednesday [1] 1/1 week [8] 7/17 8/1 113/12 154/24 155/21 158/15 159/12 160/16 weekend [1] 173/9 weekly [2] 55/25 60/12 weeks [5] 7/19 77/23 78/4 115/20 118/5 weight [1] 178/16 well [30] 11/12 11/24 24/5 28/7 43/5 50/19 54/10 55/1 67/9 70/23 74/23 88/13 88/25 91/16 99/2 99/13 100/20 101/2 104/6 104/21 108/17 120/18 131/3 131/16 132/6 141/7 145/6 157/21 169/8 179/17 went [7] 5/22 24/8 81/25 118/3 133/19 142/18 150/15 were [208] weren't [12] 20/18 39/22 50/10 52/14 56/15 63/23 68/10

17/21 21/19 21/24

139/20 179/7 West [1] 69/19 69/19 what [158] 4/16 16/22 16/24 17/10 17/22 18/12 20/8 22/5 22/23 29/17 29/17 30/18 31/5 31/24 32/1 32/7 32/22 34/12 35/18 36/6 36/10 39/20 39/20 39/25 40/15 41/6 41/14 42/12 44/24 45/9 45/18 48/23 50/3 51/7 54/12 56/8 56/12 56/17 56/21 57/1 57/8 57/9 58/1 59/6 63/24 64/15 64/25 65/3 65/24 67/13 67/14 68/8 68/12 69/21 70/10 70/13 73/9 73/11 73/17 74/6 74/14 74/20 74/24 75/4 85/15 86/2 87/18 89/12 89/17 89/21 90/24 92/18 92/19 92/22 93/2 96/22 98/1 99/16 99/19 99/24 100/10 100/12 100/17 100/18 104/16 104/17 104/18 105/4 105/12 105/25 106/5 106/11 107/2 107/5 107/18 107/25 112/6 112/25 117/17 119/5 119/7 120/3 122/8 125/5 128/5 128/16 129/9 129/23 131/1 131/8 132/1 138/11 141/1 141/5 142/9 142/25 143/6 143/7 143/14 146/16 150/13 151/16 153/6 156/8 156/9 156/11 157/17 158/13 158/15 158/21 159/3 159/5 160/17 161/20 165/7 165/21 169/10 170/6 170/11 170/12 170/12 170/23 171/22 172/16 172/20 173/3 173/5 173/9 173/16 173/18 174/4 174/18 174/25 176/13 177/10 177/21 178/5 178/23 what's [4] 47/9 129/12 161/15 162/17 whatever [11] 7/1 8/17 20/16 31/14 48/22 51/8 56/11 67/4 72/18 104/5 105/5 wheelchair [2] 102/7 103/2

88/20 99/15 124/8

W when [100] 1/19 4/17 5/5 5/10 5/19 7/4 7/12 7/17 8/15 8/17 9/3 9/17 9/24 10/5 11/9 11/24 12/13 12/18 15/9 16/7 24/6 29/25 30/7 33/13 33/20 34/6 34/15 35/21 36/15 39/19 45/13 45/19 48/9 50/18 54/3 56/7 60/10 60/20 64/19 70/15 73/19 76/8 77/12 79/6 81/25 82/1 82/12 82/22 82/23 88/4 88/10 88/11 92/13 93/22 94/5 94/7 98/7 99/8 103/9 106/2 106/4 113/6 113/24 114/18 115/1 115/5 117/19 117/21 119/16 120/5 120/5 122/16 123/24 124/3 124/6 128/4 129/1 130/4 134/24 135/17 138/22 139/12 140/10 140/20 140/25 150/16 151/13 156/16 157/19 163/3 163/14 164/3 164/11 167/11 170/2 170/19 171/20 171/22 172/23 176/12 whenever [2] 27/14 128/12 where [53] 9/22 17/9 21/14 23/10 23/17 30/19 30/23 31/23 37/3 45/1 49/17 51/1 53/1 53/24 54/5 54/18 56/24 58/14 59/3 59/16 64/20 66/1 67/23 68/1 70/25 77/1 80/6 81/5 81/10 82/5 87/5 91/3 96/9 99/19 103/20 109/17 121/4 124/19 130/11 132/10 137/1 142/3 142/24 148/12 152/23 160/23 161/25 162/16 162/24 164/14 165/19 167/1 178/7 whereabouts [1] 52/1 whereas [1] 105/11 whereby [1] 28/23 whether [25] 11/1 12/16 21/17 22/10 31/18 33/17 34/19 35/21 37/17 43/18 43/19 44/13 44/14

50/18 70/2 70/3

103/12 111/21 126/13

129/13 131/20 136/25

140/12 154/8 164/6 126/5 127/14 133/15 which [88] 1/15 4/20 5/16 6/11 10/8 10/12 10/13 11/11 12/6 12/9 13/3 15/7 15/8 15/22 18/20 20/24 22/22 24/3 28/24 34/1 34/22 Wilde [1] 156/22 35/20 36/25 37/21 38/12 46/4 49/2 50/17 51/22 53/5 53/24 55/14 59/13 65/6 67/22 69/16 72/10 75/6 75/25 76/13 79/25 84/25 86/20 87/8 88/1 88/7 88/17 89/24 90/3 105/13 110/11 110/12 110/23 118/4 120/20 122/1 122/20 122/24 123/2 123/19 125/17 125/20 Wilson [12] 51/11 129/20 130/12 131/17 134/2 136/6 137/14 141/12 141/18 142/3 142/7 142/18 143/4 145/17 146/7 147/18 148/4 149/7 149/10 151/19 152/5 155/25 160/6 160/10 163/1 168/5 179/4 while [5] 84/22 91/18 92/1 115/23 146/19 whilst [1] 76/7 Whitaker [2] 71/25 118/9 White [1] 43/14 who [54] 1/11 5/22 18/8 20/13 22/9 33/16 34/19 37/5 62/1 66/14 WITN08290100 [3] 66/20 67/11 67/12 73/4 73/4 78/24 80/8 83/17 83/20 84/7 86/15 86/15 86/17 95/24 98/6 99/5 103/2 104/12 106/6 107/6 108/14 113/21 113/21 115/3 116/20 127/22 130/17 130/19 135/11 141/21 143/22 143/23 146/2 147/13 152/15 155/2 156/24 160/19 166/20 167/8 175/22 176/2 176/25 177/16 who'd [1] 128/2 whole [1] 171/1 whom [1] 1/21 whose [1] 24/14 why [36] 19/25 24/1 25/4 25/17 27/22 28/1 29/8 30/2 36/17 41/2 47/21 48/8 48/23 49/25 58/1 76/11 76/15 77/16 81/2

82/19 83/1 84/9 91/10

98/11 117/11 121/15

169/19 169/20 173/14 176/16 wider [1] 29/18 widow [1] 98/6 will [30] 1/22 2/17 2/24 14/25 47/9 47/10 53/13 69/14 69/17 69/20 70/4 77/4 80/19 81/4 81/5 81/6 82/4 82/6 110/20 117/9 136/17 137/12 144/22 worth [1] 132/12 155/24 155/25 159/18 worthwhile [1] 160/21 160/24 178/15 125/16 179/24 Williams [2] 168/11 169/16 52/15 75/20 75/22 77/7 78/24 80/10 81/9 81/19 81/20 83/2 83/14 Wilson's [1] 75/25 win [1] 9/25 wish [2] 94/1 179/6 withdrawal [1] 78/9 within [17] 4/5 4/9 6/13 8/7 10/5 17/18 29/2 29/18 30/19 45/4 wrong [7] 37/13 64/10 66/22 67/14 103/18 105/7 155/16 172/21 Without [1] 49/16 WITN02360100 [1] 102/1 3/20 9/13 96/8 WITN08950100 [2] 110/19 123/2 witness [20] 1/21 62/10 62/14 72/1 77/5 73/24 74/23 82/24 80/2 80/22 96/8 101/24 109/14 109/19 110/10 118/23 123/2 139/11 139/24 146/23 164/20 166/7 179/19 witnessed [1] 152/1 witnesses [3] 2/8 62/11 118/23 won't [3] 62/24 63/5 147/21 wonder [2] 54/22 165/3 word [1] 21/11 worded [1] 28/1 wording [2] 22/20 84/6 words [3] 80/4 97/5 107/7 work [15] 3/4 13/15 16/19 39/18 119/3 121/9 124/3 124/9

124/13 150/11 154/3 138/19 138/24 150/19 156/25 158/17 165/25 170/21 workaround [1] 69/14 worked [5] 3/23 62/2 87/24 112/10 132/8 working [10] 1/18 4/19 9/23 62/22 103/25 104/2 111/12 117/13 117/22 123/25 you'd [12] 24/9 **workplace** [1] 173/3 **Workshop [1]** 118/16 would [273] wouldn't [23] 15/16 42/17 46/24 51/3 62/13 68/6 84/10 84/10 85/19 85/21 99/10 99/12 109/2 124/7 126/5 126/12 133/15 133/21 143/6 143/8 151/7 162/23 169/2 write [2] 19/12 20/21 writing [1] 101/16 written [3] 78/17 84/9 167/5 40/25 51/4 57/4 57/6 66/9 74/8 wrote [1] 94/2

yeah [79] 6/8 6/8 6/23 7/3 8/10 8/10 8/10 8/15 9/7 12/17 28/8 40/15 62/12 65/12 70/9 70/15 70/23 70/24 73/24 89/21 89/22 89/22 90/1 90/1 92/9 93/3 94/12 94/15 95/1 99/16 100/1 103/17 113/15 114/5 114/7 114/21 115/8 116/2 116/2 122/11 123/8 127/11 129/16 130/16 130/22 131/14 132/9 133/21 136/11 137/9 137/16 140/19 141/3 142/21 146/15 147/15 151/12 154/22 156/12 156/14 157/12 157/21 159/24 161/17 163/6 164/18 164/22 166/12 167/14 167/23 171/5 173/8 174/3 174/5 174/15 179/6 year [10] 2/18 4/14 8/25 40/4 92/13 93/7

94/24 121/18 144/8 146/10 years [11] 4/3 17/7 17/16 19/11 40/24 105/7 111/12 114/14 116/13 117/23 121/19 yes [209] yesterday [2] 1/9 51/17 you [809] 106/22 107/1 108/16 117/22 130/24 131/10 162/24 163/13 163/18 164/1 164/17 you're [23] 24/7 25/10 31/21 46/19 63/17 65/2 67/15 74/13 94/22 96/5 99/16 99/24 99/24 104/13 104/24 108/4 123/13 124/6 127/1 133/18 137/8 138/15 172/2 you've [22] 3/23 23/4 25/25 33/5 38/16 46/20 67/7 74/15 85/4 90/18 94/24 96/21 100/16 102/3 108/18 111/11 111/12 111/16 114/18 161/14 162/16 176/6 your [161] 3/1 3/14 3/17 3/22 4/8 5/5 5/9 6/1 6/21 7/5 7/8 7/20 9/3 10/15 10/17 12/6 13/6 13/8 13/15 15/6 15/22 15/25 16/1 17/18 23/2 23/6 23/16 24/9 32/17 33/3 35/8 35/24 38/13 38/16 39/2 45/23 46/12 49/8 49/23 49/25 50/22 52/24 56/17 57/4 58/1 63/2 64/19 68/12 69/3 70/10 70/11 71/12 74/16 78/10 78/19 79/8 84/25 85/2 85/12 85/25 90/14 90/21 96/2 96/3 96/8 97/18 99/12 101/4 101/6 105/24 105/25 106/21 106/22 110/7 110/13 110/16 110/24 110/25 111/4 113/21 114/13 115/14 116/4 117/2 117/20 119/15 119/17 120/13 120/17 120/19 120/23 120/25 121/1 121/13 122/8 122/15 122/24 123/2 123/4 123/19 123/20 123/22 123/23 124/3 124/13

125/5 125/21 126/2

Υ		
your [53] 126/14		
128/11 128/14 129/5		
129/7 130/10 132/7		
135/7 135/24 137/3		
137/23 139/11 139/24		
140/11 140/18 141/24 142/16 142/19 144/7		
147/6 150/5 151/16		
151/23 152/1 153/6		
156/7 156/13 158/8		
159/1 159/13 159/20		
160/8 162/6 163/18		
164/4 166/5 166/7		
166/13 166/15 166/17 167/11 167/22 170/6		
170/16 172/14 172/19		
173/10 174/2 175/6		
175/10 178/23 179/8		
179/19		
yourself [4] 87/21		
126/7 132/23 154/21		
Z		
zero [1] 79/25		
zip [1] 88/16		
		(75) your - zin