

# Post Office (Horizon System) Compensation Bill

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Department for Business and Trade, are published separately as Bill 16—EN.

## EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Secretary Kemi Badenoch has made the following statement under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998:

In my view the provisions of the Post Office (Horizon System) Compensation Bill are compatible with the Convention rights.



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[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

A

**BILL**

TO

Provide for the payment out of money provided by Parliament of expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State under, or in connection with, schemes or other arrangements to compensate persons affected by the Horizon system and in respect of other matters identified in legal proceedings relating to the Horizon system.

**B**E IT ENACTED by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

## **1 Expenditure in connection with compensation schemes relating to Post Office Horizon system etc.**

- (1) *There may be paid out of money provided by Parliament expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State under, or in connection with, schemes or other arrangements—*
- (a) *to compensate persons affected by the Horizon system;*
- (b) *to compensate persons in respect of other matters identified in High Court judgments given in proceedings relating to the Horizon system.*
- (2) “The Horizon system” means previous versions of the computer system known as Horizon (and sometimes referred to as Legacy Horizon, Horizon Online or HNG-X) used by Post Office Limited.

## **2 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Post Office (Horizon System) Compensation Act 2024.



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*Presented by Secretary Kemi Badenoch  
supported by The Prime Minister, Secretary  
Oliver Dowden, Secretary James Cleverly,  
Secretary Grant Shapps, Secretary Alex Chalk,  
Secretary Michelle Donelan, Secretary Michael  
Gove, Secretary Mel Stride and Secretary Alister  
Jack*

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Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be  
Printed, 29th November 2023.

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