Dear Ms Morgan,

Thank you for your letter of 26 June 2018.

Regarding timing, the inquiry I am undertaking is extensive. It involves voluminous documentation. The Scope of the Inquiry is to consider whether the issues relating to the HBOS Reading fraud were properly investigated and appropriately reported to authorities at the time by Lloyds Banking Group, following its acquisition of HBOS and also to examine whether any individuals within Lloyds Banking Group deliberately sought to suppress or cover up information relating to these issues. You will find the Scope set out on the Dobbs Review website. (http://www.dobbsreview.com).

The Review covers a period from the takeover of HBOS in 2009 until the criminal trial in 2017, and involves the examination of relevant documents and interviewing witnesses.

We are aiming to finish our work as expeditiously as possible, consistent with carrying out a thorough inquiry. Our hope is that we will complete our report during the second half of next year.
As a general principle I favour transparency and I note that Lloyds Banking Group, which commissioned the Inquiry, has undertaken to provide you with the findings of the Review.

Yours sincerely

Dame Linda Dobbs DBE