



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Andrew Bailey
Chief Executive
Financial Conduct Authority
12 Endeavour Square
London E20 1JN

10th September 2019

Dear Andrew,

Bank Signature Forgery Campaign

Thank you for your letter dated 21st August 2019. Your letter was received just before the meeting on 23rd August 2019 at the NCA regarding bank signature forgery which was also attended by the FCA.

Your letter mentioned that you have received information regarding alleged bank signature forgery across a number of banks. The initial evidence that Julian Watts of the Bank Signature Forgery Campaign first showed me confirms this position and I subsequently wrote to you on 27th February 2019 in order to alert you to this issue. For clarification, my letter repeatedly referred to “banks” in the plural so I was not suggesting that you should “restrict our enquiries to one bank”.

As you had written to me expressing your interest in obtaining evidence, I wrote to you on 24th June & 29th July 2019 highlighting that there was an opportunity for the FCA to obtain key evidence from Lloyds Banking Group. According to your Mark Steward, FCA Director of Enforcement who attended the meeting, the FCA has not contacted Lloyds to request this evidence as he understood that this was to be then supplied to the APPG/Bank Signatory Forgery Campaign, which he felt was inappropriate. I apologise for any offence caused and can confirm that I make no such condition and would appreciate confirmation that you will now solicit this material.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Hollinrake'.

Kevin Hollinrake MP

Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Fair Business Banking