- Q. In reference to the evidence of Earl Ludlow, page 54, line 15, please advise how the Company monitors the employees' time on a particular call and provide details as to what percentage of the employees' time is dealt with on any particular call and any other statistical information the Company has in reference to the assertions made in line 15.
- A. Contact Centre employees' performance, including time per call, is monitored by means of the Contact Centre software. The software produces a daily Agent Activity Report, which identifies the length of time each agent spends on various categories of calls. This report facilitates the monitoring of individual employees' performance.

The software also enables Contact Centre management to obtain reports designed to gauge the overall performance of the Contact Centre. For example, reports can be produced that provide the average length of time per day devoted by Contact Centre staff to each type of call (e.g. new services, name changes), broken down by average "talk time", "hold time" and "wrap-up time". (Talk time refers to the length of time agents are actually speaking with customers. Hold time refers to the length of time customers are placed on hold. Wrap up time refers to the time taken after telephone calls to record information in the Customer Service System and prepare for the next call.).

The average length of incoming customer calls at the Contact Centre in 2002, excluding wrap-up time, was 2 minutes and 14 seconds. Wrap-up time averaged an additional 1 minute and 7 seconds.

In relation to the assertion at page 54, line 15, of the *Operations & Customer Service Evidence*, an analysis in 1998 revealed that the average time required to manually retrieve a customer's account information from the Customer Service System (CSS) was approximately 10 seconds. The "screen pop" feature of the technology used in the Customer Contact Centre eliminates the need to retrieve the information manually in approximately 28 per cent of incoming calls, thereby reducing the duration of those calls by an average of approximately 10 seconds. Incoming calls will trigger the screen pop feature if the customer enters a bill account number when prompted to do so, or if the telephone number from which the customer is calling matches the telephone number recorded in a single account in the CSS.