

Tim Brown
Chief Executive
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31st August 2010

Dear

Changes to C7 Notification Period

You will be well aware that in response to the request from Royal Mail of 12th April, Postcomm proposes in the current consultation to reduce customer notice by Royal Mail for C7 notification from 12 weeks to 6 weeks.

In making *any* change from the current three months notice of changes please consider the following:

1. The data used to support Royal Mail's application needs to be properly validated. The survey respondents are not defined and without proper analysis should not be relied on.
2. Meter suppliers to customers cannot react to pricing changes in the timeframe proposed.
3. Is any change to the timescale creating a market distortion regarding other licenced carriers who use Royal Mail Wholesale in their request for product access?
4. Currently C7 proposals are reviewed by Consumer Focus under statute. Their current experience in determining the practical impact of matters for bulk mail users is not adequate leaving those customers potentially disadvantaged.

It is difficult to imagine that bulk mail customers, particularly Mailing Houses, could be happy with any reduction in the time to change production processes. Equipment suppliers just cannot react in the time proposed and Access customers are put at a disadvantage to Royal Mail.

All in all any change to the current timeframes and conditions for C7 notification does not appear to be in the interests of the market as a whole.

Yours sincerely

Alan MJ Halfacre
Chairman Postaf