



Commission for
Communications Regulation

Draft Postal Strategy Statement 2020 – 2022

Public consultation on mid-term review of
ComReg's five year postal strategy

Consultation Questions

Reference: ComReg 19/90a

Date: 02/10/2019

Legal Disclaimer

This document is not a binding legal document and also does not contain legal, commercial, financial, technical or other advice. The Commission for Communications Regulation ('ComReg') is not bound by it, nor does it necessarily set out ComReg's final or definitive position on particular matters. To the extent that there might be any inconsistency between the contents of this document and the due exercise by ComReg of its functions and powers, and the carrying out by it of its duties and the achievement of relevant objectives under law, such contents are without prejudice to the legal position of ComReg. Inappropriate reliance ought not therefore to be placed on the contents of this document.

Content

1. Introduction.....	4
2. Consultation Questions	5
3. Submissions to Consultation	6

1. Introduction

1. ComReg hereby publishes its draft Postal Strategy Statement for the period 2020 - 2022 as ComReg Document 19/90, in line with Section 31 of the Communications Regulation Act 2002 (No. 20 of 2002), as amended.
2. This draft Postal Strategy Statement is concerned with ComReg's role as the regulator for postal services, in particular the universal postal service, and relates to the period 2020 to 2022. This draft Postal Strategy Statement also acts as a mid-term review of our five year strategy for postal regulation, which was published in December 2017 (ComReg Document 17/113).
3. As with ComReg Document 17/113, this draft Postal Strategy Statement includes three statements of strategic intent for ComReg. These strategic intents are motivated by the regulatory environment in which ComReg operates, the evolving nature of the postal sector, and the reasonable needs of postal service users.
4. Each strategic intent is divided into specific goals which are underpinned by particular programmes of work which ComReg intends to undertake over the period.
5. ComReg encourages all interested parties to read and provide feedback, considering the consultation questions set out below, on its draft Postal Strategy Statement 2020 - 2022.

2. Consultation Questions

6. In relation to ComReg's draft Postal Strategy Statement for 2020 - 2022:

Q.1 Do you agree that Chapter 2 captures the most important sectoral trends and challenges over the period 2020 to 2022? In providing your view, please also provide supporting evidence.

Q.1a In consideration of the sectoral trends and challenges, the European Commission's possible review of the postal regulatory framework¹ and ComReg's postal research², do you have any views on the reasonable needs of postal service users and the appropriate framework, in particular if related to the delivery frequency for universal postal services. Please also provide supporting evidence.

Q.1b ComReg is also interested in the views of postal service providers, including the universal postal service provider on whether any changes to the framework requirements on collection and delivery frequency of the universal postal service would be beneficial to postal service providers. Please also provide supporting evidence.

Q.2 Do you agree with the Strategic Intents discussed in detail in Chapters 3 to 6? In providing your view, please also provide supporting evidence.

Q.3 Do you believe that the Goals associated with the Strategic Intents are appropriate, and relevant? In providing your view, please also provide supporting evidence.

Q.4 In your view, is there anything else that should be added to, or omitted from the draft Postal Strategy Statement 2020 - 2022?

¹ WIK Consult study, Users needs in the postal sector, commissioned by the European Commission in the context of the future review of the postal regulatory framework can be found at <https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/37121>. The European Commission plans to publish Commission roadmap of the review of the postal regulatory framework: Q4 2019 and Report on application of PSD: mid-2020

² <https://www.comreg.ie/industry/postal-regulation/postal-framework/postal-research/>

3. Submissions to Consultation

7. By this public consultation, ComReg welcomes written comments to its draft Postal Strategy Statement 2020 – 2022. Having analysed and considered the comments received, ComReg will review the draft Postal Strategy Statement and update, where appropriate, in the final Postal Strategy Statement to be published in December 2019.
8. Garnering the views of external stakeholders is a key step in the process of developing ComReg's strategy for postal regulation and greatly assists ComReg in prioritising effectively for the next period. ComReg looks forward to receiving stakeholder inputs and to advancing its strategy.
9. The consultation period will run from 2 October 2019 to 1 November 2019 during which time the Commission welcomes written comments to its draft Postal Strategy Statement. All comments are welcome; however we would appreciate if comments followed the relevant question numbers as set out in Chapter 2 of this document. All submissions to this consultation should be clearly marked "Reference: Submission to ComReg document No 19/90", and sent by post or e-mail to arrive on or before 5.p.m, Friday 1 November, to:

Postal Regulation,
Commission for Communications Regulation,
One Dockland Central,
Guild Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 E4X0.
Email: retailconsult@comreg.ie

10. Having analysed and considered the comments received, ComReg will review the draft Postal Strategy Statement and update, where appropriate, for the final Postal Strategy Statement 2020 - 2022.
11. Please note in accordance with ComReg's Consultation Procedures in ComReg Document 11/34, ComReg will publish all respondents' submissions and comments with the Response to Consultation, subject to the provisions of ComReg's guidelines on the treatment of confidential information in ComReg Document 05/24.

Next Steps

12. When ComReg has concluded its review of all submissions received and other relevant material, it is ComReg's intention to publish a Response to Consultation and a final Postal Strategy Statement for 2020-2022 in December 2019.