



Commission for
Communications Regulation

An Post's price application of 29 January 2013

Information Notice

Reference: ComReg 13/21i

Date: 01/03/2013

1. The Commission for Communications (ComReg) has consented to An Post's application of 29 January 2013 to increase the prices of certain of its postal services within the scope of universal postal service that weigh less than 50 grams. Prices for these particular postal services were last increased in 2007.
2. In accordance with the Communications Regulation (Postal Services) Act 2011 ("2011 Act"), these price increases proposed by An Post require the prior approval of ComReg.
3. ComReg, by Consultation 12/138, sought the views of postal service users on price increases on December 20 last. For most of the price increases sought by An Post, ComReg expressed a preliminary view in the Consultation that it would consent to the price increases sought. However, for certain universal postal services, ComReg expressed a preliminary view that lower price increases may be appropriate.
4. Having considered ComReg's preliminary assessment in Consultation 12/138, An Post adjusted its price application on 29 January 2013, shortly before ComReg's consultation period closed. An Post's adjusted price application includes, amongst other things, a c.9% reduction to the 65 cent price originally sought by An Post for its Domestic Stamped Letter so that the price of a Domestic Stamped Letter will now be 60 cents.
5. In consenting to the price increases sought by An Post, ComReg has considered all nine responses received to its Consultation.
6. ComReg has also considered the financial challenges facing An Post. According to data from An Post, these price increases should provide An Post with an additional revenue of c.€11m in the first full year. ComReg notes that these price increases are just one measure necessary to ensure the continued financial viability of An Post and to maintain the provision of a universal postal service. Other measures that must be undertaken by An Post are cost containment and further growth in other commercial activities.
7. Further details can be found in Document 13/21 at www.comreg.ie.