



Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

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## **New Postal Proposals Require Public Input**

ComReg today announced that it has extended the deadline for submissions on its recent paper which proposes to introduce a Post Code System in Ireland and which also considers whether or not An Post should, under certain conditions, discontinue delivery to addresses in rural areas and to instead, deliver to designated roadside letterboxes. The deadline is extended so that interested parties are given plenty of opportunity to respond before ComReg makes its final decision.

An Post are required by law to provide daily deliveries to the home or premises of every legal or natural person in the State and ComReg is charged with monitoring An Post's compliance with this requirement. The Consultation Paper (02/95) asks for views as to whether it would be acceptable for An Post to deliver to roadside letter boxes providing they are on the land owned by the addressee and there is mutual agreement to their use. An Post would like to be able to require householders to use roadside letter boxes while some Direct Mail companies regard delivery to the front door as a necessity.

Whether Ireland should introduce a Postcode system in the same way as every other country in Europe except Greece is also up for decision. The use of a unique Postcode can help to reduce confusion between different townlands with the same name and can also speed up the sorting process. The Universal Postal Union describes the Postcode as the fundamental, essential element of an address. While An Post do not currently see the need for such a system there are many other players in the Postal Sector and wider who say they would like to see Ireland using the same system as most other countries.

**Etain Doyle**, Chairperson of ComReg said that some of these potential changes could be far reaching and it is important that in making our final decision that we have the views of all interested parties, including financial institutions, utility companies, business organisations, An Post and other delivery organisations but in particular consumer groups. "We need to assess the advantages and disadvantages, the costs and the merits but to do this we need to hear the concerns of the public".

The full document 02/95 can be viewed on [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie) and submissions can be sent in by 31 January 2003.

ENDS

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