



Office of the Director of  
**Telecommunications  
Regulation**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*  
1<sup>ST</sup> May 2001

### **Regulator Consults on Key Issues for Postal Regulation in Ireland**

Etain Doyle, Independent Regulator for the Postal Sector in Ireland today( Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2001 ) announced that she has published two Consultation Papers concerning Quality of Service and Accounting Separation with respect to An Post.

- ❖ **Regulation of Postal Services - Quality of Service Standards to be achieved by An Post ODTR 01/28**
- ❖ **Universal Postal Services - Accounting Separation & Costing Methodology Proposed Direction to An Post ODTR 01/29**

This first of these concerns the target the Regulator must set An Post for the next day delivery of letters. Statistics have shown for the last three years An Post has failed to deliver one letter in eight the next day.<sup>1</sup>

According to the Director "the target set must reflect what the customers want and what An Post can achieve by focussing its efforts on meeting the ever rising customer requirements."

She continued "While it may not be essential that all mail should be delivered by the next working day, a regular and reliable next day service should be available to those customers who need it. I would encourage business users and the general public to respond to the consultation as to what they think is an acceptable level of service to expect from An Post."

The second paper concerns the direction the Regulator must give to An Post to achieve transparency of accounting to ensure that profits earned from the provision of letter

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation of Postal Services - Quality of Service Standards to be achieved by An Post Consultation Paper  
Document No. ODTR 01/28 April, 2001

services reserved to An Post are not used to finance unfair competition in competitive parcels and non-postal services.

The most important proposal is that An Post should be required to produce separate accounts for the letters and SDS (Parcels) business units to the same standard as if they were provided by separate companies.

According to the Director "this is consistent with the trend towards the separation of monopoly and competitive activities in regulated sectors."

Another proposal is that the price the parcels business has to pay for the use of the letter network should be consistent with the price which any competitor of SDS who wished to use An Post's Letter network to deliver parcels would be charged.

Both papers are available on the ODTR website – [www.odtr.ie](http://www.odtr.ie)

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**ENDS**

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