

Your response

Question	Your response
<p>Question 1: Do you agree with our assessment that our proposals will not discriminate against any groups with protected characteristics? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? –N</p> <p>Yes, I agree. The current prices are affordable (even though letter prices have increased significantly over the past 2 years), without the existing cap the price of a 2nd Class stamp would be much higher and more in line with 1st Class stamps. This is according to your own surveys. The average letter sending by domestic users has declined over the years and the price of a 2nd Class stamp has remained affordable due to the cap.</p>
<p>Question 2: Do you agree with our assessment under the Welsh Language Policy Marking Standards? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? –N</p> <p>I have no opinion on this question.</p>
<p>Question 3: Do you agree with the objectives we propose to use for our review of safeguard caps? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? –N</p> <p>There must be a cap on RM pricing, particularly letters. The price increase over the past 2 years have been extortionate, well over the rate of inflation. Increases in line with CPI would seem to be the fairest way of administering the cap, especially as RM has increased letter prices by multiples of inflation over the past 2 years.</p>
<p>Question 4: Do you agree with our analysis of the market in relation to Second Class standard letters and large letters? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, RM in effect have a monopoly over those sending single piece mail. There is no effective competition for those sending single piece/low volume of letters.</p>

<p>Question 5: Do you agree with our analysis of the market in relation to Second Class parcels up to 2kg? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>As stated in your report there is plenty of competition in the <2kg parcel market. This has been evidenced by the reluctance of RM to increase inland parcel prices over the past 2 years.</p>
<p>Question 6: Do you agree with our approach to assessing affordability of postal services? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, customers have an affordable service like 2nd Class letters and have much choice in relation to the parcel supplier market then I agree that the approach has been correct.</p>
<p>Question 7: Do you agree with our assessment of the affordability of Second Class postal prices? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, cap on 2nd Class letter stamp prices due to lack of competition and much more competition in the parcel market.</p>
<p>Question 8: Do you agree with our analysis of the impact of the caps on the financial sustainability of the universal service? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? –N</p> <p>Yes, Ofcom continually monitor the market and continue to survey users. RM must have a product that is price capped, otherwise there is a real risk that vulnerable users would be priced out of the market.</p>
<p>Question 9: Do you agree with our proposal for the structure of the safeguard cap to be based on a single basket which includes Second Class standard and large letters? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, letter stamp pricing needs to be capped as there is no competition for single piece users or domestic users to go to. The same is not the case with parcels.</p>
<p>Question 10: Do you agree with our proposal to set the basket cap for Second Class standard and large letters at current prices plus CPI? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, CPI is dropping so by the time the cap is lifted inflation should have dropped further than it is today. This should minimise the price increase when it comes round in 2024.</p>
<p>Question 11: Do you agree with our proposal to set the cap for five years?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p>

<p>Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Yes, that is what Ofcom have done since the commencement of the first cap on 2nd Class stamps and I see no reason to lengthen or shorten the 5-year period.</p>
<p>Question 12: Do you agree with the structure of the basket set out in Annex 5 in which stamp prices are weighted by volumes of each service type based on the volumes measured two years prior to the control? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes. RM has consistently priced below the price cap ceiling over the beginning of this existing price cap. It is only in recent years that RM have increased their 2nd Class letter prices close to or at the level of the cap.</p>
<p>Question 13: Do you agree with our proposal to remove the safeguard cap from Second Class parcels up to 2kg? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, there is plenty of competition in this area of the market and RM have not increased their <2kg inland pricing by the same level as they have increased other services pricing.</p>
<p>Question 14: Do you consider that there is value in developing a targeted scheme focussing on vulnerable consumers? If yes, your views on characteristics of such a scheme including target groups, nature of support and delivery options. Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>No, I think this would be too difficult to implement and would be very time consuming to control. As the overall spend on post is very small in relation to energy or food spend, I don't see any benefit.</p>
<p>Question 15: Do you have any other comments on the proposed modifications to the relevant DUSP conditions through which we propose to implement our proposals, attached in Annex 5? Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>No</p>

Please complete this form in full and return to safeguardcaps@ofcom.org.uk.

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