

I wish to object to the proposal.

1. I understand that under the Post Office Act it is a criminal offence to fail to deliver an item to the location to which it is addressed. It would therefore follow that delivery to another address (as in the case of delivery to a 'neighbour') without explicit and specific instruction from the addressee (as happens for example in the case of Redirection of Mail) is illegal. As such the change of authority to allow such delivery will be a matter for Primary legislation via Parliament, not Regulatory amendment.
2. If the scheme were to be brought into being then it should be for addressees to 'opt in' to the scheme (i.e. the addressee opts to have mail delivered to another address if they are not at home, in the same way that an addressee has always been able to request mail to be redirected). The default position should be the status quo, i.e. delivery to the address on the postal packet.
3. The scheme, if it is to be implemented, should be done as an extension of the Redirection of Mail service and not as a change to the centuries old core of the postal service modus operandi.
4. The scheme as proposed requires addressees to 'opt out' by displaying a sticker by their letter box. Such stickers (to have effect) will necessarily be of high visibility:
 - a. Advertising to passing would-be criminals that the property is likely to be unoccupied during the day;
 - b. Detrimental to the visual amenity of an area and/or individual properties (I live in a Listed building within a Conservation Area);
 - c. It will also effectively advertise 'I don't like / trust / get on with my neighbours / my neighbours are also likely to be out and thus their homes empty for would-be criminals to burgle'.