

re. Consultation on Royal Mail Request to be allowed to leave mail with neighbours of addressees

We hope Ofcom will not consent to this request. When I pay to have Royal Mail take charge of an item, I expect it to be delivered at the specific address which I nominate. Should immediate delivery prove to be impossible, I expect the addressee to be notified by a card left at the specific given address to allow the actual person to whom the item has been sent to either collect it from the local delivery office or to arrange for delivery at the correct address on a mutually convenient occasion. If all else fails, I expect the item to be returned to me as the Sender at my own specific address.

IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR POSTAL STAFF TO BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE ITEMS OF MAIL AT NEARBY LOCATIONS AT WHICH, because the Recipient happens to be out, away or simply unable to open the door promptly enough when the Postman/Postwoman may call with an unexpected item.

If the current application should be accepted, the next logical step will be for all the mail destined for a group of properties to be left at a house with the same or similar Postcodes for householders to sort out amongst themselves - if they feel so inclined.

This Application is the thin end of a very nasty wedge which spells the end of Royal Mail as a Secure and Trustworthy conveyor of mail.

As a receiver of mail, there are certain of my neighbours I do not wish to be informed by a Postal Worker if I may appear to be out or away from home.

Past experience has given very clear expectations that Crime or Damage to Property may result from such information. I would have no great confidence that the mail would be either promptly delivered or delivered at all. Tampering with wrongly delivered items would be all too easy. We live in a "good area". The imagination quails at the thought of what might occur in less favoured localities.

In any case, we have no wish for any of our neighbours to know of our Interest or Business Affairs.

Common Sense must prevail.

The Royal Mail Application Must be rejected.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.