

15 October 2015

Mr Rod Sims
Chairman
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Australia Post charity mail rate increases

Dear Mr Sims,

I write on behalf of Cancer Council Queensland regarding the proposed increase to postage rates charged by Australia Post for charity mail.

As you may know, Australia Post offers a Charity Mail service which delivers barcoded pre-sorted articles at lower prices for approved charitable organisations such as Cancer Council Queensland.

Cancer Council Queensland relies on direct mail appeals for fundraising purposes. These appeals are essential to our efforts to reduce the burden of cancer on the community, providing vital donations towards research and support services for patients.

We make a major investment in mail services each year, sending nearly 550,000 letters and spending over \$1 million on mail production and postage.

Under the increase proposed by Australia Post, charity mail rates will rise by 13 per cent from January 2016. This follows a seven per cent jump on October 5 this year.

The proposed 2016 rate increase will have a significant financial impact on our charitable work. If these rate increases are approved by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, Cancer Council Queensland will be forced to reduce mail volumes in order to control costs, resulting in a decline in donations.

Of particular concern, the increase occurs in context of declining standards of Australia Post service quality over recent years, with costly delays in delivery of postage-paid envelopes and receipt of reply-paid mail.

Cancer Council Queensland would welcome decisive action by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to reject the proposed increase to postage rates charged by Australia Post for charity mail.

Please don't hesitate to contact Cancer Council Queensland's Chief of Staff, Anne Savage, on (07) 3634 5241 or annesavage@cancerqld.org.au for more information on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Jeff Dunn AO
Chief Executive Officer
Cancer Council Queensland