

Re increase in postage

I recently heard an Australia Post spokesman say on radio that the most cost in delivery (of letters) is "the last kilometre", so let me compare the cost to me of having a letter and a newspaper delivered to my home.

Australia Post is proposing to increase the cost of sending a letter in Australia from 55 cents to 60 cents. I weighed a letter (2 page, business envelope) that I have ready to post and it weighs 10 grams. I also weighed my Courier Mail which I have delivered to my home each Saturday. It weighs 1046 grams and is wrapped in plastic (both parts) and delivered in 2 parts – one on Friday evening and one early Saturday morning. For this service I pay 30 cents. In terms of distance, this service is similar to the "last kilometre" in delivering a letter ie. the dearest part of the process. If News Ltd charged the same rate per gram that Australia Post proposes to charge, it would cost me \$62.76 to get my newspaper delivered. Hence you can understand that I strongly disagree with any rise in the price of postage. The proposed rise must simply be another increase in tax collected via a public utility.

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