

<p>Are you responding to this survey as an individual or as a business representative?</p>	<p>Do you support or oppose the stamp price increase proposed?</p>	<p>Please provide comments setting out the reasons for your views</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>All businesses need to put their prices up, including Government services. In my opinion, ALL Govt charges, licences, fines, fees, should be indexed for inflation. And then social security payments (pension etc) should also be indexed for inflation.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The consultations seeks views in relation to stamp cost increases. Australia Post are continually agitating for cost increases and slower mail deliveries. How do those two things benefit the consumer?</p> <p>Have Australia Post's parcel delivery arm been taken into account when assessing these proposed cost increases?</p> <p>It seems to me that a holistic review of Australia Post's services and performances should be carried out before a 25% cost increase to the consumer for letters is able to be properly considered.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Price already went up 10 cents this year for a single stamp. To raise it a further 30 cents especially when sending letters more than 20mm thick (require multiple stamps) is a tort. If anything raise the price by 30 cents for a single but have the additional stamps be \$1.20 (current pricing) so would mean that larger letters prices go from 1.20 to 1.50, 2.40 to 2.70 and 3.60 to 3.90.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Costs are forever continuing to rise and the service for sending letters will be only further hindered by this rise (i.e higher costs, even more less letters sent and another price rise required in 12 months to overcome volume loss). I support the frequency of letter services be reduced to 3 days per week to keep costs where they are and support the continuation of as much volume as possible to continue to keep the costs as low as possible.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We are the owners of a small Post Office in Cohuna in northern Victoria. The extra revenue for us as Licensees would be a great help in increasing our revenue and helping us to remain economically viable.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I 100% support the increase of the basic postage rate. This increase will help our Licensed Post Office's bottom-line and make our business more viable. The extra revenue will enable us to reinvest the funds back into business. Please approve this increase.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I sell some low cost items which can Ben sent as large letter. Auspost has price increase every year and the letter prices were only recently increased from \$1 to \$1.20. Having another price rises so soon is ridiculous.</p>

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia post already provide terrible service. They frequently damage items in their care and often do not attempt to actually deliver your items instead making you pick them up from elsewhere even though you have paid for delivery. Plenty of other parcel delivery companies do better than Australia post. why should I pay more if they can't even provide the service
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>My primary reasoning is that the difference between small letter, letter and large letter is very minimal. From small to large letter it is only a few cm of extra size and large letter only an extra 15mm in thickness.</p> <p>Does it really cost 3x as much to deliver an extra 15mm thicker letter? I don't think so - and I don't think the price needs to increase by 3x either.</p> <p>Secondly, I feel increasing the large letter price to \$4.50 is Australia Post's way to no longer provide the service to customers by pricing it so high that nobody wants to use it. Other service providers like Sendle are offering \$4.55 delivery for parcels up to 250grams which INCLUDES picking up from the sending location. Increasing the price to \$4.50 will simply drive customers away from using the letter service and to using their competitors, resulting in even more lost profits.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Considering the service doesn't change for the better what would the extra %20 cost get the customer? Like life isn't hard enough for people at the moment and foreseeable future ? Service is actually terrible
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Rather than delivering 5 days per week I would rather they deliver 2 days per week and save costs and make stamps \$1. If people want letter more urgently they can use express post with tracking. I also suggest they scrap the priority system as that was just a price rise which added complexity and more decisions to be made for little to no measurable benefit for the sender and won't be needed when and if letter delivery moves to a few days per week.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	In particular the excessive proposed increase to prepaid envelopes & envelopes with tracking. 20%-25% is a ridiculous price increase on these varied envelope sizes - it is nothing more than price gouging!
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Should be no higher than inflation
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	We are currently not getting letters delivered to us daily and is fine with having the letters/mails delivered alternate days. Unfortunately, the price increase in stamps is too much considering the price increased this year. I am still sending mails / greeting cards including birthday cards and the price increase is unjustified. The current stamp price suffice the increase earlier this year.

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The existing prices of stamps is already prohibitive and expensive, particularly as the service and delivery times leave a lot to be desired. I'd have no issue with the increase if Australia Post were delivering on promised timeframes and services, but they aren't.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>it currently takes a week for a standard letter to get delivered withing Sydney Metro and it can take 3 - 6 weeks to travel from Sydney Metro to Melbourne Metro - I pop > 150 personal standard mail items in the post each year and it is frustrating that unless I put an additional priority stamp on the envelope there is no guarantee it will arrive anytime soon...</p> <p>get the SLAs being met and I'll be happy to paya higher price per item</p> <p>parcels are the same, it can take 2 days from dispatch to arrive at sorting 5km from end point and then bounces from centre to centre for a week before finally arriving, the auspost app shows every time it goes back anbd forth, so inefficient, clearly the sorting & redirection process needs tightening up</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia Post complains about losing money on small letters, however medium & large letters have increased 100% in last 2 years but they are not releasing these figures as Australia Post is trying to push no letters and all items sent as parcels, so wrong, they are a mail courier service. If they increase these letter postage prices to increase, then they are winning what they set out to achieve, getting rid of letters and parcels only, because who will pay \$4.50 or more for untracked when they can send by tracked letter with \$100 compensation. A 10c-20c increase is fair but not 30c, 60c & 90c but also they are increasing the cost of priority stamp label which were 50c, then went to .55c a few months ago now they are also going to increase these to 70c. The government should have never sold of assets and privatised, this is the consequences that we now, all must suffer, GREED.

OFFICIAL

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>This proposal of increase to stamp prices is really pushing the last straw for my business. I ship small items which are cheap in value using small letters and I've already had to increase the price after last years price raise but now an increase of 30 cents? So \$2.60 total now for a 20mm thickness letter is absurd. I cannot keep increasing my prices because no one will buy from me anymore and this will put a strain on mine and many other businesses. This increase is way too high and never seen before, it's up 30-50% in the last few years and we just had an increase earlier this year. A more respectable increase would have been 10c. We have never seen an increase this high before and covid is not finished so why is Australia Post continually increasing the prices? I and a lot of other online sellers completely oppose this decision and I hope the ACCC make the right decision and stop accepting every proposal Australia Post sends their way. Australia Post knows that all their proposals get accepted so for once please support the letter industry and understand that most small goods in Australia are shipped via untracked letter. The letter service runs the entire online cheap goods industry, this is how we can have cheap items like phone cases shipped at \$7 with free shipping on places like eBay or other websites. Please protect our cheap goods industry because all other countries offer very cheap services for small goods but we barely have one.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>It will increase the cost of running many businesses. Many people need to be able to send things and enjoy using the convince of the postal services.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I think it might be prudent for Aust Post to call in Auditors to examine there business to look at their Overall costs and staffing levels and to make sure they are not top heavy Or are not paying too much for services they use And where they can trim</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>A comprehensive review of the cost of running Australia Post should be undertaken prior to approving an increase in postage. From personal knowledge; the bloated business management team and poor management practices together with poor financial oversight of expenditure from David Johns management (excluding Christine Holgarth oversight) through to the present day has vastly increased the perception of uneconomic letter delivery costs. Selling Australia Post property assets prior to a change of managing directors so bonus payments could be calculated on inflated company profits in the remuneration packages of outgoing managers on their departure, is one example. The cost of refurbishment of official offices at staggering cost is clearly uneconomic, and we are talking millions here per annum.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia post has gone crazy with the price increases of their parcel and letter services. This is a killer to people that rely on letter stamp services.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed</p>	<p>05/09/2023</p>

	<p>stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) GPO Box 3131 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia</p> <p>Subject: Vigorous Opposition to Australia Post's Proposed Price Increase</p> <p>Dear Members of the ACCC,</p> <p>I write to vehemently oppose Australia Post's audacious proposal to increase prices for its postal services. As an impassioned citizen and unwavering customer, I am profoundly disturbed by the potential ramifications of such a price hike on Australian consumers and businesses.</p> <p>1. Revenue Growth and Letter Loss Claims: Australia Post touts remarkable revenue growth, largely credited to the boom in parcel deliveries. However, their audacious assertion of publishing letter loss casts a long shadow of doubt over the transparency and accuracy of their financial assessment. It is nothing less than a matter of consumer trust that the ACCC scrutinizes these claims with unyielding intensity.</p> <p>2. Dual Role of Letter Carriers: I must insist on a rigorous examination of whether Australia Post's financial reporting truthfully reflects the dual role of letter carriers who simultaneously handle small parcels. Failing to account for this pivotal aspect of their operations could lead to a financial miscalculation that would unjustly burden consumers.</p> <p>3. Impact of E-commerce and Parcel Deliveries: The explosive surge in e-commerce has led to a staggering increase in medium and large letters, often priced at dizzying multiples of standard rates. This grotesquely disproportionate impact on small businesses and everyday Australians, who depend on postal services for their daily communication and commerce, is indefensible.</p> <p>4. Transition to 2nd-day Delivery Model: In numerous regions, Australia Post has already shifted to a 2nd-day delivery model. It is essential to inquire why, in the wake of such a transition, consumers are now threatened with further financial hardships. The current demand for traditional letter services has waned considerably, rendering such price hikes not only unjust but also unwarranted.</p> <p>5. Safeguarding Consumers from Financial Consequences: It is the unassailable duty of Australia Post to shield Australian consumers from the financial repercussions of their management decisions or their artful accounting practices. Postal services are the lifeblood of our society and must remain affordable and accessible for all, regardless of the decisions made at the corporate level.</p> <p>6. Confronting Counterfeit Stamps:</p>
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<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We are extremely opposed to the price increase, as this will be the second price increase for stamps within 12 months. Stamps were \$1.10 in January 2023. Australia Post increased stamps to \$1.20 in January 2023. The the proposed price increase will mean large letters will have increased from \$2.20 in Jan 2023 up to \$3.00 dollars in 12 months. This is a staggering 36% increase, which our business will be unable to cover as we are unable to increase our prices so drastically to our customers in such a short period to cover the cost. This will suffocate our small business which relies on stamps and large letters.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>this is the second price rise in a year, as a business owner we are constantly fighting a price rise with australia post, Australia Post is here to serve the Australian community, to deliver post and mail to our homes and businesses. the excuse we are losing money is not good enough, australia post is making millions if not billions on their parcel service, share the profits and support australians. they are bullying the Australian people into the removal of a postal service period. within 2yrs it will cost \$11.99 to send a letter via Parcel post. the ACCC needs to clamp down on this ridiculous move and stop this price rise . this is hurting mine and everyone else small business, we cannot keep absorbing this cost, secondly customers shop online and more importantly OVERSEAS, 70% of our customer base buys from Chinese overseas sites like alibaba and aliexpress. you can buy a fishing lure for \$5 delivered to your door in Australia! how is this possible when Australia Post wants to charge now \$3 to send an A4 piece of paper. I beg the ACCC intervenes and stops this in its tracks</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We are already a declining industry due to factors such as; Digital Subscriptions Covid 19 ramifications Paper increases Wage / Tax / Superannuation increases Staff shortages</p> <p>An additional increase on top of the 15% already put through over the past 12 months for Business Mail will significantly impact our business and the industry as a whole. These proposed increase percentages will definitely cause many smaller printers and publishers to close up.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australian Post is a government-owned entity. Its purpose and sole goal should be to serve the Australian people - NOT to profit off the Australian people.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post cannot justify the increase in postage stamps for anyone when they are reducing the delivery services they provide. I bet the CEO still get his massive pay and bonuses - we aren't funding a service with these increases - we are funding overpaid heads.</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I oppose the raise of stamps because it's the businesses who will likely suffer long-term in terms of buying prepaid envelopes and stamps as a whole. How many times are businesses and personal customers going to suffer through these stamp rises because auspost can't get their end into gear? It's 100% unfair on the customer and definatley unfair for customers. Maybe they should up the speed of mail and parcel delivery process and maybe they will have alot more letters being sent</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I post between three to four letters a week, competition entries usually as I never do the ones I am thinking of via the computer. I do get the concession stamp booklets however I usually run out of them by, at the latest November each year, sometimes sooner. As my anniversary date for getting my new lot of booklets is March each year I am often forced to pay the cost of the normal stamps. As my only income is the age pension and with the cost of everything else skyrocketing the last thing I need is to have to pay a lot more than even now for postage. How about they stop doing their adverts so much and give us concession card holders more concession stamps each year.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post, need to go back to Basics..... Delivering post.</p> <p>I'm happy to pay for services rendered However, it's taking 3-4 weeks to get a letter from Melbourne to my home in Lara, this delay is infuriating and unexceptional.</p> <p>I contact Australia post, and get fobbed off, telling me to register my post, so it may be traced.</p> <p>Never excepting blame for decreasing service/ ? Staffing issues.</p> <p>Continuously increasing prices isn't going to decrease the delay in delivery, as it's shown at present.</p> <p>I also send cards/ gifts to Europe, the postage is disgusting, and often more than the treats I'm sending to a loved family member.</p> <p>Stop price gauging Pick up your game. Listen to your customers</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>With the cost of everyday living increasing all the time we simply can't afford an increase in postage. If AP is facing losses then it needs to review its business model and staffing levels. There are too many middle managers. The general public will probably cease sending cards and letters and therefore AP will lose even more next FY.</p> <p>My question is how much profit did AP parcels make since 2019? During and post the pandemic I wonder?? Are they the same businesses? If not consider amalgamate so to share the profits and losses.</p>

As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I'm a stamp collector and have a great collection but might have to stop buying stamps if they go up as I'm a pensioner . And I love my stamp collection but can't afford a 30cent rise in the stamp cost just a money maker to you don't think about the customers at all. No more buying stamps for me next year.
As an individual	Support the proposed stamp price increase	It is important to increase the stamps price to the letters serving continue, Australia post already loses more than 300 million dollars for this purpose. Now it is essential to increase the price.
As an individual	Support the proposed stamp price increase	It's a great service. Mail is delivered usually on time, and direct to recipients home or place of work. The posties are out in all kinds of weather, not to mention dealing with swooping Magpies and dogs. The price rise is acceptable.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia's postage is not cheap internationally. If prices rise so fast, it is very likely that many philatelic collectors will not continue.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia's postage is one of the most expensive compared to other countries. As someone who has a hobby of exchanging postcards with people around the world, collecting stamps, etc. The price increases are making me less and less willing to spend money on stamps. If the price of stamps goes up, people won't like to use stamps in the future as well as collect stamps.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Postage price already increased from \$1.1 to \$1.2 on 2023. The last time of postage increase was on 2020. It's too quick and too much for the another increase if on 2024. 2. Increasing burden to customer. Everyone is suffering after COVID-19, the market becomes more difficult than usual. 3. The speed of Australia Post letter is slow and inefficient. It didn't worth for \$1.5-\$4.5. 4. The postage price in Australia is higher than most countries. Postage for small letters in US is USD \$0.66 which is around \$1 Australian dollar. 5. I wouldn't be happy to use Australia post service if the price increases that exaggerated
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>While we understand that businesses, including Australia Post, must periodically adjust prices to reflect operational costs and economic conditions, the proposed price increase for stamps is disproportionately high, especially when considered in the context of our current economic climate.</p> <p>The already high inflation rate has been challenging for many Australians, leading to an increased cost of living across various sectors. Such a steep hike in stamp prices would further strain household and business budgets. Instead of shouldering consumers with such significant increases, Australia Post should consider implementing more gradual price adjustments to help mitigate the negative impact on its users.</p>

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The cost of postage of anything other than a letter is already exorbitant, which I think Australia Post should be able to make a profit from, considering the amount of things that are bought online and delivered to houses & businesses. Also considering the profit that Australia Post should be making from all the other services they provide in-store & online, this should be balanced out to compensate for a letter delivery loss. It is a vicious cycle, Australia Post says it need to increase the cost of letter postage to cover cost, yet each increase in cost discourages people from sending letters. One day it will allow Australia Post to remove itself from the letter delivery service.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	It's too expensive for us to do a post .
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	We have a cost of living crisis, why would we be increasing the cost again so soon after the last price rise? We are already one of the most expensive countries to send a letter in. This cost increase should not go ahead.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The service is appalling as it stands. I can't see how paying more is going to help consumers.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	A price increase of 25% from January 2014 cannot be justified. Current inflation is running at about 7 for goods and services therefore a 25% proposed increase is unreasonable and cannot by (any current economic measure) be justified. I know of and work in an industry where many low income people use Australia Post services and this proposed increase will undoubtedly impact them and their businesses greatly. Not only in the hip pocket but on flow on costs through retail and will only serve to worsen attempts to keep inflation low. I am opposed to this increase.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	While most of us we move with technology and adapt to communication changes over time it is very important to retain a reasonable cost to send (and therefore receive mail). Why are they proposing 25%, far beyond inflation and even if it was in line with inflation, why not take some of it instead of pushing it onto others. This will increase the cost to do business and increase the cost of staying in communication with loved ones. Also, through online subscriptions (sometimes forced) and unsolicited emails and cyber threats, having a secure communication for formal and sensitive communication is important. Aus Post does very well off Ecommerce and packages, letters are not there bread and butter anymore but we risk losing this function all together with this price increase. I think the increase is unreasonable.

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia needs a letter delivery service. To contemplate removal of the current service (or some variant of it) degrades Australia as a civilised, first-world nation. Email will never replace 100% of the postal service.</p> <p>The decision that is required by ACCC is multi faceted whose elements are inter-related:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the appropriate price of a stamp? 2. What is appropriate frequency of delivery? Does this change in Regions or non-urban settings? 3. What is the appropriate target timeframe between posting and receipt of a letter? <p>In my view it would be better to have a reliable service once or twice per week at \$2+ per standard letter than to have no service or an unreliable service at less frequency at a lower price.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I have no issue with increasing proposed stamp mailing - what is infuriating is the increases proposed to the Business Mail sector when we have just had increases to business mail in July 2023 - the increases they are proposing is between 14 - 27%. if this is approved this will reduce the mailing of Business letters dramatically as it is unsustainable for businesses to send mail.</p> <p>It will have a roll on affect to the Printing and Mailing Industry - which in turn will result in job losses and an increase in the Unemployment rate.</p> <p>maybe Australia Post needs to have a real good look at how they do business and more importantly look at the employment structure and wages the executive management team are paid - how is it that the executives earn more than the Prime Minister?</p> <p>Lets not forget that Australia Post is Government owned ,not all government departments provide a profit - but provide services the community requires.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Suggestion would be peg or reduce price of post office boxes and cut back home letter to 2 or 3 days a week. Surely it is more time efficient to put mail into PO Boxes than deliver around hundreds of houses! Other countries governments contribute to just cost of letters. Parcel service should stand alone and is on the whole very good especially express.</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I think the increase is too high in one jump. 20 cents should be enough. If stamps are too expensive less people will use them and just email. Australia Post so there will be little revenue gain. will need to increase the number of concession stamps as this is the group that uses the most stamps. The Australian Post parcel business can subsidise stamp prices, it is a total service and as long as it covers total costs each section may not need to be highly profitable. If one fee group is allowed to increase so much what is to stop other sections from attempting to apply a 25% increase.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I don't think Australia Post should be allowed to raise the price of stamps when their current letter delivery service is so bad. It takes more than a week to have a letter posted in inner city Sydney delivered in inner city Perth and sometimes as long as two weeks. Some people do like to still send letters/cards and consider this an essential service. It seems like Australia Post is providing poor service for the cheaper services (like basic letter deliveries) so that it can force people into paying more money to send letters/packages via their express services. I don't think this is fair. If Australia Post's letter volumes are declining, they should be more efficient at getting letters on planes and getting them delivered promptly, not less efficient! If Australia Post wants to raise stamp prices, they should have performance targets to meet - eg getting letters from one metropolitan area in Australia to another within four days.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post already increased stamps at the start of this year. Their parcel services more than make up for the supposed loss in sending letters, which are declining with the increased use of email anyway, so the people mostly impacted by this gouging are the elderly, which is unfair.</p>

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We mainly use Print Post to distribute our print magazine subscriptions - Fishing Monthly Magazine out of Brisbane.</p> <p>In recent memory (and I've been running this magazine for nearly 30 years), I can't pinpoint a price rise that has been less than or equal to CPI.</p> <p>It's obvious that Australia Post is leaning on its established businesses that can't un-couple from the monopoly to fund its inefficiency.</p> <p>If they want to grow their package business - they should gouge their package senders, not the guaranteed customers.</p> <p>It's criminal that the major threat to my business is the Postal Service. I sell lots of subscriptions, assuming a smaller increase. A 26% rise for a 2 year subscription that I sold just last month takes all of the profit out of it.</p> <p>The nett result to my business is the equivalent of losing half of an employee - and all of my meagre profit for the year.</p> <p>I'll end up employing 0.5 fewer staff and those funds will now be transferred to Australia Post. And this is where they'll spend it....</p> <p>"Australia Post's eight senior executives collected \$4.45 million in bonuses last financial year, or about \$556,579 each. The organisation's annual report disclosed that it paid an additional \$24 million in bonuses to 362 non-executive employees who receive more than \$235,000 in remuneration."</p> <p>In return, I'll continue to receive declining standards on service and accountability.</p> <p>Summary: Make the package senders pay for the increasing package infrastructure needed rather than the foundations of the postal system, who obviously don't need the network upgrades.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The price is already too high.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>This is a HUGE increase and should NOT be allowed given the cost of Living crisis that consumers & businesses are going through. What are they thinking???? Letters are still circulating and Australia Post should look elsewhere to save money. Maybe they should stop Gifting their CEOs? How about streamlining some of their services? How can smaller delivery start-ups do the same job for cheaper? Grow Up Australia Post!!</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed</p>	<p>Current Cost of living pressures Affordability of keeping in touch with my relatives via post</p>

	stamp price increase	
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>1. The size of these increases is totally unreasonable. The items I purchase from Australia Post are stamps, prepaid envelopes, domestic letter with tracking and it is proposed that all of these items increase by 20-25%. For example the cost of a large letter (250g-500g) is proposed to rise to \$7.50 and a large domestic letter with tracking (which has already increased in January and July 2023) will rise to \$8.35! This cost cannot be absorbed by a business sending out small items and so it will be passed on to the unsuspecting, already financially-stretched consumer.</p> <p>2. The increase is far greater than CPI (over the last 12 months to June 2023 the increase was 6%).</p> <p>3. The increase far exceeds wage growth at 3.7%.</p> <p>4. At a time when Australians are feeling massive financial stress, Australia Post is choosing to add to this stress. And the consequences will be far-reaching - some small business will close their doors, online sales will be pushed to other countries like China, and more counterfeit products, like stamps & satchels, will appear on the market.</p> <p>5. This increase will severely impact millions of Australians - small business owners, online retailers, and consumers, particularly consumers living in remote areas, elderly consumers, consumers with disabilities, as online buying is a necessity.</p> <p>6. According to an Australia Post survey, in 2022, the eCommerce and online shopping industry grew at 23.4%. How is it then, that Australia Post is continually raising prices, by excessive amounts, for all their products? And how is it that they can constantly point to letter delivery losses as the reason for the increases when the parcel and large letters deliveries have substantially increased? It seems that they are forcing businesses and consumers to stop using some services by way of unconscionable pricing.</p> <p>7. Due to delivery vehicle changes, many posties are delivering letter mail at the same time as delivering parcels, and as parcel post and large letters have substantially increased, the staff are still busy delivering mail.</p> <p>8. The domestic letter with tracking has risen 5 times in less than 5 years (with 2 increases this year). If the price rises again, it will be so close to the parcel rate that retailers will abandon Australia Post and send items by parcel post with an alternative Courier company (for the same or in some cases, a lower price). This was supposed to be the alternative to basic letter delivery and tracked parcels. Tracking is extremely important because so many deliveries (whether it be letter or parcel) go astray (or the consumer claims it wasn't delivered) and no online platform, or Australia Post, will compensate for the loss without tracking. And, as Australia Post requests that rigid items only be placed in the large tracked envelope (which is made of cardboard), this means that if a consumer orders an SD card and the seller wants to make sure the item is covered for loss, it will cost \$8.35 to mail this tiny item. I find this totally unreasonable.</p> <p>Does the fact that Australia Post holds the monopoly on letter postage mean that they can charge whatever they like, no</p>

		<p>matter how damaging it is to the business community, retailers and the consumers? If so, I dread to think what the cost of buying an item online will be in the next few years - where does it stop? Is \$15 to mail a knitting pattern book to be expected, maybe \$20 for a small cookbook or perhaps in 10 years' time consumers will be expected to pay \$50 to have a crochet hook delivered!!</p> <p>I am beyond disgusted by this unfair proposal from Australia Post and I implore the ACCC to prevent this outrageous price gouging.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>An increase in prices will have an adverse impact on most businesses and consumers. Many people rely on sending letters, especially larger ones, as an affordable alternative to expensive parcel postage.</p> <p>This price hike will result in the cost of sending a large letter ranging from approximately 3 to 7.5AUD, effectively bringing it closer in price to courier parcels that start at around 5AUD with services like Sendle. Consequently, the cost advantage of using Australia Post for sending letters disappears, and customers are likely to opt for more cost-effective courier services.</p> <p>However, despite this shift in customer preference, many businesses continue to use letters for their correspondence, which means that their operational costs and delivery routes will largely remain unchanged, except for the reduced revenue from traditional letters being sent.</p> <p>Using an analogy, it's like saying the bus must run regardless if there are passengers, it's more beneficial to have a fully occupied bus rather than only half full, with the other half opting for Uber and profiting them instead.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>How many times are they going to get away with jacking up the price of an essential service before the government steps in and re-nationalises them? Biggest privatisation failure of the lot.</p> <p>NO it is not ok to increase prices on essentials in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. How out of touch are these people? Re-nationalise please.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>This is a public service. Australia Post is making millions on parcels and think by separating the letters can justify continually raising prices. The people deserve better from this service, especially in the current economic climate.</p>

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	You need extra 10c stamps for virtually every letter you send now, the price goes up so often. There's not enough time to get through a book of stamps before they put the price up again. Why don't they ever have sales? Sell books of stamps for 3 for the price of 2 or something. Basic business sense, you need to have sales occasionally to get people through the door, some of whom will buy other things, while people who can't afford to will benefit from the sales and get what they need that they otherwise wouldn't be able to afford. It's not being run like a business at the moment, it's being run into the ground, and we're the ones who are being forced to fork out more for what's meant to be a basic service. Take it back into government control will you, they're hopeless.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia Post is a service to the community. Its financial position is exaggerated at best. The mail delivery side of the business funded the establishment of the parcels business and it has never got a return on investment for doing so. The mail side delivers 50 percent of all parcels and none of the costs are recovered from the parcels side of the business don't pay for the premises, delivery vehicles, uniforms wages etc only an inadequate \$ return per parcel
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Such a significant price increase. Australia Post price increases across the board are relentless.
As an individual	Support the proposed stamp price increase	The postal service needs to pay. The problem is the more the cost go up . The more ways we find to cut down on its use. Some of us in rural areas would be happy for a 3 day a week delivery. Still way ahead of courier delivery that has to be picked up from depo.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I am a australia post collectables collector and I do send letters and postcards regularly. Around 30 letters and postcards combined. An increase of 9 dollars every month for domestic means 108 dollars more every year just to send letters and postcards. In addition, it will also burden my buying power for aupost's collectables. I know my fellow penpals and postcrossing friends has shared the same sentiment when stamp prices went up as well last year. We already got hit with the international stamp prices going up last July and had to limit the amount of international letters and postcards being sent. This discourages new entrants to letter writing and postcard senders due to the cost.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I oppose this 25% increase
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	25% increase for postage stamps is way too high and is not inline with current inflation. Australia post rates are way too high for mail and parcels, there high increases needs to stop. Unfortunately for us customers there are no alternative postal vendors in Australia to compete with Australia post.

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>AusPost is creating a chicken and egg problem. They are making sending mail cost-prohibitive, and then complaining that not enough people use mail, so they have to increase the price.</p> <p>The post office should not be run for profit.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>There has already been a price hike up to \$1.20, it is unfair to then announce another hike so soon. As someone who sends a lot of letters, and has to buy stamps in bulk, it will be highly inconvenient to then have to order a whole bunch of 10 cent stamps to make up the difference. There is no justification for this increase, other than corporate greed.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The letter rate gives Australian retailers a cost effective way to send small items through the mail and remain competitive against Chinese on-line retailers.</p> <p>We have millions of items coming in directly from China for low or zero postage and local retailers cannot compete against this if the letter prices increase. I understand we have international agreements in place to distribute packages at no charge via Australia Post from all over the world. These agreements were put in place long before on-line retail and we are paying the price. There is a huge disparity in the quantity of on-line items coming into Australia versus what we send out and this is a huge cost that we, the Australian public and business sector are paying for.</p> <p>The price to send a small item via the tracked letter service goes some way into allowing us to compete against mainly Chinese sellers and without this service or by allowing the price of this service to rise, we cannot compete.</p> <p>In January 2016 the price of a stamp went from .70 cents to \$1, since then it has increased to \$1.10 in 2020, \$1.20 in 2022 and now it is proposed to go to \$1.50, all of this for a service level that is lower than before. It is not the price of one stamp that is the issue but when an item requires two or three stamps or in the case of a tracked letter, the price increase could be as much as .90 cents.</p> <p>The letters are generally delivered along with parcels so it's not like it costs any more to deliver. Postage is a service for all Australians and one we have to pay for. Australia Post is not there to make a profit and if one part of the business runs at a loss then so be it.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post appears to have the money to pay ridiculous bonuses to high level staff at the expense of the Australian people. It is interesting to note that they are making more money from parcel deliveries than letters. Somehow this does not factor into the proposed price rise.</p> <p>In country/regional areas we can not get the same level of service as capital cities ie. Express post can take days to be delivered to the recipient. Letters and parcels being lost but Australia Post not taking any responsibility for it.</p>

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I am opposed to the increase. Recently I had dealing with Australia Post as I had bought items that couldn't even be delivered by them and conveniently went missing at their Smeaton Grange Facility in NSW. They didn't even leave the warehouse. So my question to you is, Why would I want to pay more when they are not even providing a safe and secure service with their own staff'? SO NO, until they can guarantee better standards of service and reliability in there own facilities I rather use emails as it more reliable!!
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I write a lot of letters to Governments and politicians about their level of competence. or more generally for their level incompetence. Increasing the price of postage stamp to me is a real threat to democracy (death by a thousand cuts really) as I will not be able to afford to have my voice heard as frequently as I wish. Australia Post is a 'common wealth' service and a basic human right for ALL Australians...just like affordable water, energy, food, and shelter is.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	To big a rise.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>A letter price increase is completely understandable given the high inflation we have been experiencing lately. However, the proposed increase of around 25% across a range of products is too large and comes too soon after the latest increase earlier this year, resulting in a shock to both consumers and businesses. The price increase should be moderated and reviewed in another 6-12 months to decide whether further increases are justified.</p> <p>For example, instead of a 25% increase in the basic letter rate from \$1.20 to \$1.50 in January 2024, they could increase it to \$1.30, a more modest 8.3% increase but still above the annual rate of inflation. Perhaps a hike to \$1.35 could be justified, a 12.5% annual jump. These options would present less of a shock to consumers and businesses.</p> <p>The other proposed service price increases should likewise be moderated to no more than about 10% per year. That's still above the highest annual rate of inflation we've experienced.</p> <p>Consider that a letter cost increase from \$1.10 (late 2022) to \$1.50 (early 2024) is a 36% increase in barely more than 12 months, which seems unreasonable.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	It hasn't been long since the last increase and no changes to services (in terms of working to improve delivery times, etc)

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>I oppose the proposed increase to stamp prices for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are currently in a cost of living crisis. Businesses and individuals simply cannot afford a price increase. 2. Australia Post increased the price already in the last few years. 3. Australia Post is government owned. The government should fund Australia apostasy losses not the public. 4. Increasing stamp prices could effectively end letters. For some elderly or vulnerable community members this could greatly impact their ability to communicate and their mental health. Elderly or vulnerable community members may not be able to or have access to use a computer or phone. 5. Surely there are other ways Australia Post could reduce their costs. 6. A price increase of 30cents per stamp is too high. 10 or 15 cents maximum.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Letter delivery is an essential service and should not be tied to cost recovery or profit.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>I use Australia Post to send out my hand-made jewellery. I used to have a thriving business, mailing overseas in a large letter merchandise for \$ 3.20.</p> <p>You tried to delete this option once, but too many small sellers complained and you kept the option.</p> <p>Then COVID happened and - of course - you used the 'opportunity' to make things worse by quickly deleting the large letter merchandise.</p> <p>Now, mail costs \$21 instead of \$3.20 - business=dead. you only just increased postage for national letters and large letters and now you are threatening again. It will only stop when no-one uses Australia Post anymore.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Sending is already so expensive, a simple postcard costs over \$4.00 depending on where you send it... a postcard. Mail is already being sent less and less due to prices, this could kill it all together.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	People are struggling with day to day living another increase can affect peoples budgets

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post is a Government owned entity that provides an essential service to the citizens of Australia. Continuing to diminish that service (either by reducing the frequency of delivery and or increasing cost) will ultimately lead to customers exploring other options, which will lead to further decreases in volumes leading to further cuts and price increases.</p> <p>On the other hand, parcel volumes appear to have significantly increased which should have resulted in substantial increases in revenue. This assumes that the organisation is efficiently and competitively operated. Australia Post and its courier division/s should have a advantage over competitors in that it does not need to generate a profit for shareholders. Again that is based on the assumption that the Government is not milking it by deriving a dividend or income from it.</p> <p>Before considering price rises an essential service on top of substantial price rises and service reductions already applied Australia Post needs to review and address its executive structure and remuneration and the efficiency of its operational procedures where it is my belief that significant savings can be made. In tracking movements of a number of parcels in recent times I have been amazed at the back and forth movements of some (at times between states) during the course of delivery.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I would like stamp prices to decrease or at least remain the same - I cannot believe Australia Post is punishing those who like to send card and letters! Payphones are not used as much now due to the prevalence of mobile phones, but they are now free to use. That is a commercial utility. Why can't stamps for personal use and keeping in touch with friends and family not be considered in the same category? Please advise Australia Post against raising the cost of stamps. Thank you.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The size of this price rise is unprecedented and will severely damage my small business. We have had to deal with a huge increase in overseas postage costs (from around \$3 to over \$12 for larger letters) as well as local postage costs this year already and this will be very very hard. So dissappointed that there is no viable alternative to Australia post for a basic letter. They receive a huge financial advantage from their monopoly.</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I send out a lot of mail as someone who genuinely enjoys giving and receiving postcards, letters and other things. I would HATE this! Cost of living is already so hard; I understand that Auspost as a business needs to pay its workers but why is it always us as the consumer that struggles with rising costs? Where are the cuts for CEOs, for your highest paid workers? According to the Australian Financial Review, your CEO received a \$2.09 million dollar package in 2022 - why not put some of that back into Auspost? I would really love it if prices stayed the same at *least*, if not lowered slightly... I would send a LOT less and would spend less too as I already only send when I can afford to. The concession stamps are great and all but they only apply to within-Australia post, and I've never sent ANYTHING that qualifies for the greeting card stamp.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia post is making major profits as it is across the board with online shopping, it should be treated as it was originally designed a public service, making it semi private has sent the costs of postage spiralling.</p> <p>Small Australian businesses who sell light low cost items can't compete against the overseas subsidised post costs now let alone with another price rise. A small item (e.g an SD memory card) may cost \$3 to \$10 and currently if it is between the 5mm to 20mm width, minimum postage if under 125g is \$2.40 and \$3.60 if under 250g. If it's a few grams heavier yet still 20mm thick you have to pay the minimum parcel cost of \$10.60. How are Australian's supposed to compete the overseas sellers who can offer free postage on \$1.00 items even large bulky items. The parcel rates are even more disgraceful and utterly ruining the chance for Australian small business to compete.</p> <p>Leaving commerce aside what about people who still use mail, not everyone can use or afford internet access and as such still rely on posting letters, cards and paying bills via post. The profitability of the company should be assessed as a whole entity not separating letters vs parcels, it is fair to expect it to pay for itself but it was created as a public entity for the public good and should reflect that in it's service and prices, we are a huge country and need access to reliable and economical communications.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>A 25% increase is an unreasonable amount when the service provided is limited and not improving. What will be the price for large letters between 250g and 500g? and what about tracked letter service? Last time the basic stamp price was increased from \$1.10 to \$1.20, Aus Post just increased the number of stamps required for large letters, so the cost increased for all letter services.</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>A ten cents increase is reasonable not thirty cents. What's the point of getting a increase when everything else goes up?...low income users are the ones being disadvantaged here. Some services are necessary so it all shouldn't be made as a excuse that it has to be made profitable. Considering the waste that departments create, it is poor management vrs gouging the public to solve their issues.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>1. If last year's loss was due to falling addressed letter volumes, it may be time to reduce domestic deliveries to 2-3 times a week. For private mail this is of no real consequence and for business mail there are multiple methods of communication available today, including e-letters, if the delay is not acceptable. 2. I think the time has passed for this next one, but the removal of Christine Holgate by Fletcher was a disgrace. It seems Toll Group Int. Is doing very well now! Maybe Paul Graham should go, after all, I think I could make Australia Post profitable by increasing prices by 25%. It doesn't take much business nouse to come up with that one.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We run a small mum & dad ebay business which sends media via regular letter postage. We have absorbed all price increases so far but this very substantial price increase will make our business unviable if/when it comes into effect. People who buy disc based media are not going to want to pay an extra 60 cents per item so we will see a dramatic decline in sales and as a result if this goes through we will close down. We already make very little per item sold and are mainly doing this to try stay afloat in current hard economic we are unable to weather both the increase in cost per item to post (this is a substantial increase for a company whose business practices leave a lot to be desired) and the decline in sales that will result. There was talk time ago of reducing postage to every 2 or 3 days for delivery vs daily. Why isn't this being floated as an idea. Could they not then offer a \$3 premium service for those who wish their items to be delivered quicker?</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>As someone who still enjoys the feelings that come with sending friends and family cards and hearing from them as to how much they like it, I can't and won't support an increase of this amount!</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The price of postage has already increased many times in the near past and increasing it so much further will only deter people from using the postage system and sending letters; therefore even fewer letters sent and the net gain from letters won't increase.</p> <p>The restrictions on the size and weight of letters given the increasing costs are getting ridiculous and making letters almost like parcels. However Australians deserve a letter service.</p> <p>I think that a more intelligent way to save on the losses from Australia Post is to deliver letters less often. Letters could be delayed to only once or twice a week delivery (separate from parcels); I do not think this would worry people as much. This could save on the cost of posties and their deliveries.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I do not support this proposal for 2 reasons as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In my work capacity I interact with several older (75+yo) peoples who rely on Australia Post as their link to the broader outside world. They do not have (and do not want) a mobile phone with bells and whistles or emails etc. They only trust paper that they can touch and feel. Even with the concessional stamp price, they are struggling to pay for stamps and the people who contact them (doctors, hospitals and family) no longer think the service is worth paying for and therefore more and more are being left behind. 2. Australia Post is always crowing about how much profit the parcel delivery section is making and continues to make. This profit should off-set any losses on the letter side.

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I oppose this strongly as it will affect the general public that still take the time to write letters and post small gifts to family & friends, these are the people that can also not afford a price increase of 25% due to the cost of living!</p> <p>I recognise that the cost of providing a letter delivery service is out of proportion to the income from such, but with the expansion of business in parcel delivery in particular but also in the other services provided I believe it is Australia Posts responsibility to the people of Australia to keep this important service affordable and available.</p> <p>Due to the changing business climate especially in regional areas Australia Post has a huge opportunity to take the place of banks in rural towns as the banks are continuously closing branches and with the Banking aspect of the Australia Post business, I believe there will be a huge shift in the future to the growth of this sector of their business that should help cover the letter mail costs.</p> <p>Yes, they made a loss last financial year but a profit the year before so to increase the cost of postage by 25% is an outrageous money grab! A 10% increase is a more reasonable increase considering inflation etc.</p> <p>I recognise that Australia Post is supposed to make some sort of profit, but it is a Government Entity and as such should be looking after the people of Australia not unfairly price gauging the people that can least afford it!</p> <p>Having worked for Australia Post in Sydney from 1980 - 1988, as an acting Senior Postal Clerk I saw many changes in the way business was conducted and left just as the first "Shop" was preparing to open. So have with interest followed price increases and watched the business evolve. I truly believe the ability to bank at the Post Office is going to be a game changer (they just need to have access to ANZ banking) for them and their profits will again increase due to this but in the meantime maybe they need to decrease their delivery schedule so that it's 3 days a week instead of 5 and I'm sure there's lots of other measures that could be put in place.</p> <p>I'm fortunate to live in a country town of 700 that still has a 5 day a week delivery service and a Post Office that is busy! A lot of the towns around our area only have a PO Box delivery system (because of their size) or have in their local halls a combination of PO Boxes with a short period of time in the morning where you can pick up large packages. Our elderly still send letters and I recognise there's a concession rate that's not changing but I believe with encouragement younger generations could also be engaged to write letters, send birthday cards etc., Afterall something you can hold in your hand and put on display cannot be replaced by a computer! This needs to be used to engage people who have been brought up in the digital age.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to have my say!</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I'm struggling to make ends meet as it is. I have already stopped one hobby (Postcrossing) because of the increases to international mail. I still share mail with my two nephews who live interstate. This price rise would reduce the amount of contact I have with my nephews. Yet the CEO is laughing all the way to the bank with their most recent bonus maybe they can build a connection with my nephews via mail on my behalf?</p>

As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Too high, too fast
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>This is just ridiculous.</p> <p>The service is far worse, there is no accountability and you are KILLING businesses.</p> <p>2018 5.6% 2019 3.8% 2023 4% 2024 7.9% and now a proposed 14-26%</p> <p>How can you justify this? The service is poor at best.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Whilst it is expected that an increase in postage prices will occur year on year, the increase should be limited to be in line with CPI, not at a value as determined by Australia Post at their discretion. The proposed increase of ~25% is over and above the CPI figures released to date for 2023 and is disproportionate to the level of service being provided by Australia Post.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Increases well over CPI and excessive.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	It is appreciated that the letter part of the Australia Post business is no longer making money. However, this traditional form of communication is one of the basic services that should be provided to citizens by government, rather than for commercial benefit. Many people have family and friends living interstate or overseas or in aged care, and for those separated from family, letters and cards are greatly appreciated and enjoyed, but the increasing cost of postage is making this more difficult to continue. Further, the older generations and rural and remote Australians are more reliant on letters than younger and urban populations, and these are the populations that are likely to have lower incomes. In addition, with the increasing risk of online scams and hacks, traditional letters provide a way of avoiding some of these risks. Given that Australia Post is also proposing to reduce letter delivery to every second day, there should not be a price increase as well.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The cost of postage is high and other living expenses are high. 25% increase is unreasonable.

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I support the price increase as I believe it's critical that Australia Post be a sustainable service for businesses like mine, as well as for individuals. However, I have some issues with how this is being done.</p> <p>Firstly, we currently have boxes of stamps dating back prior to the previous price increase, along with the same number of separate 10 cent stamps to add to make up the shortfall. The changes proposed from January will mean we'll need to add even more small value stamps to make up the next shortfall. This is far from ideal and adds unnecessary complexity to the small number of items we send using stamps.</p> <p>Given the number of recent price increases, a far better option would be for Australia Post to exchange stamps people have on hand so they can pay the price difference for the new value stamps. Currently they will not do this. Even if it was a one off for the next price increase, that would be very helpful.</p> <p>Secondly, as the problem seems to be primarily with costs relating to letters, I would be happy both as an individual and as a business owner to have fewer deliveries of letters. Even going down to once a week would be fine.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>A 25% increase in postage is too much in one go. I would not be so upset by a smaller increase. Can Australia Post encourage more people to write to each other to boost stamp sales, or revert to the reduced delivery days per week like during Covid to reduce costs?</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Support the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We are using a lot less post as a department as we are attempting to digitise all contact and make it via email, text or portal account as a first point of contact. If there are geographical areas or persons who do not have the technical knowledge/ability, this is where we use post. Further, we utilise express post more than anything due to the tracking capabilities - but doesn't appear a price increase has been included in the consultation documents.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>25percent is excessive from the perspective as an individual, it would be more acceptable if the proposed increase is remained in the range of 7% to 10%, proportionate to CPI</p>

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>We are a small business performing live theatre shows to schools across Australia that educate students on bullying, cyber bullying and other wellbeing issues. We use small letter post as our main form of marketing and send around 35,000 letters per year. A 25% increase in cost would be an enormous strain on our budget. Our marketing is 80% cold canvassing for new business because teachers and decision makers in schools change all the time. Unfortunately, the privacy laws restrict us from sending this type of marketing in electronic format unless we have express consent from the recipients and although we do use that form of marketing as well, it is not possible to use it for cold canvassing due to these privacy laws. Post is really the most effective way for us to generate new business leads. We understand Australia Post needs to cover costs but believe they should be looking at their business model to make it more competitive in the ever-increasing market for parcel delivery rather than increasing costs in the small letter space. we understand that there has been a decrease in small letter post over the years and this is also expected to decrease significantly moving forward as well but parcel delivery is growing every day and should be where they focus their attention. Rather than increasing the cost of small letters, could Australia Post look at reducing the number of deliveries per week? We would be happy to have a cheaper postage price that takes longer to arrive if that helps them cut costs.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Before Australia post think of increasing their prices again, they must start by doing something to improve their deplorable service.</p> <p>Perhaps that might have something to do with their huge losses?? So many people, businesses especially, now just use other couriers because AusPost are so woefully inadequate.</p> <p>They are not even deserving of their current prices. Its a joke that they are even allowed to get away with everything they do!</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post seeks to increase the prices, yet they have reduced postal delivery services to many areas, including mine. They seem to care more about profit and bonuses for staff, than customers any more.</p> <p>I very rarely use the postal service, if ever; and whenever I need to go to a post office, the store is crammed full of goods they are trying to sell which is in no way related to their services.</p> <p>Rather than increase the cost of postage, how about introducing competition to the letter/mail delivery market? I can get mail quicker from USA or Germany, than from Sydney or Brisbane and it is usually cheaper as well.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>This would impact those in the community who depend on letters the most - not least my 90 year old father. It's how he corresponds with family and friends overseas. This would kill a vital lifeline for him. He could no longer afford these costs, being on the aged pension.</p>

As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	As a small business that sends 90% of their items to customers by letter rate this will impact us very much. There is no cheap parcel options to help offset us using letters. We sell mostly small light items so parcels are a ridiculous option.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	stamps have only recently gone up to \$1.20 and a .30c price increase to \$1.5 is a substancial jump in price.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Stamps are the only cheap method left of low level postage items
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I rely on reasonably priced untracked and tracked letters to mail my low cost items from online sales. My business won't survive such steep increases in postage cost on letters. As it is, it's hard to compete with international sellers who have much discounted postage costs. My handmade items are small (bookmarks, keyrings, costume jewellery). As it is I had to drop prices to get regular sales in the current economic climate. Unless Australia Post brings back a cheaper parcel post option for under 200g or so packages I will have to re-think my whole business or just not bother anymore.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia vpost is riding the wave of the biggest rise in online retail with associated postal delivery of bot letter mail and parcels. They recently increased the parcel rate significantly higher than the CPI giving the decline in letters as one of the reasons . This is a double dip
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	My Business model is selling items under \$10 cheap too customers in Australia, this change will most likely put me out of a job. After the Price raise last year profit margin have gotten a lot smaller, a further increase too the price will put me out of a job
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	25% increase prices were only just increased by 10% not that long ago.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	To have such a drastic price increase (by percentage) is just price gouging on a market that they have the monopoly on.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The majority of these products have already increased in price this year. The proposed price rise based on a percentage increase is ridiculous amount to increase. It will make it even harder for small business to turn a profit. Australia Post seems to be constantly increasing prices and reducing services (for example, delivering letters daily). I suspect Auspost is trying to get rid of this option all together, as the ridiculous price increase will make them unviable for most.

OFFICIAL

As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>Regular letter mail service has been decreased to delivering every 2nd day since covid and has yet to be restored to daily.</p> <p>Prepaid letter with tracking only just got increased in July by 20% and now they proposing another 21% increase.</p> <p>So a 41% increase in a 12 month period with a lower level of service.</p> <p>This is beyond reasonable and very detrimental to small business.</p>
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	This will seriously have an effect on my business that I simply can't absorb
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>In light of previous price increases across a range of services provided by Australia Post in the last few years, a 25% increase seems quite excessive.</p> <p>Additionally, the fact that Australia Post effectively holds a monopoly on this service, consumers are given no other alternatives or opportunity to "vote with their feet". It feels like the consumer is being seen as a captive customer, who can be gouged at will.</p>
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Letter mail may be down but online shopping is booming. A 25% increase for those of us that need to use letter post for low value items will decimate our current market. Australia needs competition in the postal delivery market & we need it now.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	My business, like many other online businesses, provides affordable prices for seeds and postage. Increase in stamps prices will significantly affect this sector of small business.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>The increase is too much. I use the large letters frequently in my business and they already increased in July. It is driving my business and support away from Australia Post.</p> <p>I do not believe the current service metric supports another increase. Here in WA it takes weeks to get mail from the east coast so we certainly are not getting service that warrants such a considerable hike</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The prices are rising beyond affordability or sensibility. The service has not changed or improved however the prices are going up again. It seems very unreasonable.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I love to write letter to my Grandma. I also would like to sell small seeds on EBay. The Price increase will damage my EBay side Hustle :(
As an individual	Oppose the proposed	I run a small business who still uses letter post. The price has increased not long ago and should not be put up again so soon. This will destroy my business eventually

	stamp price increase	
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Sales have dropped with the current hardship everyone is experiencing, increasing the cost of postage will only decrease even more online sales and many businesses will close down. So many businesses are only just hanging in there this will be enough to ruin them.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The main reason is after 20 year I will have to close my small business as a 25 percent increase is just way too much.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Way to expensive verve service provided
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Maybe rather than forever raising postage costs cut back on the ludicrous CEO paypackets & bonuses?
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>Many small businesses (myself included) send merchandise using Australia Post's letter rate.</p> <p>Whenever a representative of Australia Post talks about the letter business, they only talk about the decline in the amount of traditional letters (ie sheets of paper, bills, bank statements and the like). They neglect to mention that over the years that ecommerce has grown and grown, so too has the number of medium and large letter rate items being sent. These items use multiple stamps so provide more revenue for Australia Post than a simple one stamp letter.</p> <p>Australia Post's parcel rates are expensive especially for low cost items. If a business is selling items which are small enough/light enough to fit the dimensions of the "letter" rate, then they can provide their customers with a cheaper delivery cost. But if Australia Post keeps putting the stamp price up, they won't be able to do this for much longer. Large letter rates will soon be nearly as much as parcel rates. And those extra costs will of course be passed on to the end consumer.</p> <p>Why should Australian consumers be forced to pay more and more especially at this time of extraordinary cost of living pressures. And why should small businesses who use letter rate mail be put out of business or see their incomes decline because of poor Australia Post management decisions.</p> <p>Surely the point of Australia Post is to provide a reliable, affordable service to all Australians - not to produce vast profits. The parcel side of the business has been growing and growing. Why can the profits from that side of the business not be used to subsidise the letter side of the business without this constant need to gouge more and more from the Australian public.</p> <p>It's also incredibly unfair on rural Australians who depend most</p>

		on the postal service to be expected to pay more and more. Especially when Australia Post already charges more to send parcels to rural and remote areas than to urban areas.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	It affects small business and their ability to maintain fair prices on their products.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Increase in letter rates will seriously affect small businesses that use Australia Post to deliver their products. Particularly the many thousands selling goods through Ebay and similar .
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I run a small business, that utilises the letter service. Auspost has a monopoly and are price gauging. Many small businesses are struggling already, the recent parcel price increase this year was bad enough.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The constant increase in postage cost makes selling in the online platform increasingly difficult. Small businesses are the life blood of Australia and the ever increasing costs will kill many businesses.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	These price increases are way to high and I will struggle to pass these on to my buyers as they will see higher postage and not buy my products
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Price increases have been frequent in the past few years compared to the previous 10+ years. Increase is disproportionate compared to previous price increases and seems excessive. This cost will be passed on to customers directly and affect you businesses profitability.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Auspost already made record profit..

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Postage stamps are a small but essential part of everyday life for many Australians. They are used for everything from sending out letters, cards, and parcels to paying bills and even buying postage stamps in bulk to send out large orders. Unfortunately, the cost of postage stamps in Australia has been steadily increasing over the past few years, and this can be a real burden on people who rely on them for their everyday activities. There are a number of reasons why postage stamps should not be subject to such increases, particularly in Australia. Firstly, postage stamps provide an essential service and are required for a variety of activities, from sending out letters and cards to paying bills and buying other goods. Postage stamps are already expensive, and any increases can really add up for those who rely on them for their daily activities. Secondly, postage stamps provide a vital communication link between people, both in Australia and overseas. Increasing the cost of postage stamps could significantly reduce the number of people able to afford to send mail and packages, and this could have a damaging effect on communication and relationships between people. Thirdly, postage stamps are an important part of our heritage and culture. Increasing the cost of postage stamps would take away from the ability of people to preserve this part of our heritage and culture in a way that is affordable. Finally, postage stamps are essential to the functioning of our postal services, and increases in price could have a detrimental effect on the functioning of these services. In conclusion, postage stamps are a vital part of everyday life for many Australians, and increasing the cost of these services could have a damaging effect on communication, culture, and the functioning of postal services. For these reasons, postage stamps should not be subject to increases in price in Australia.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Can't afford to pay the price increase and will service improve?</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Stamps used to be \$1 for untracked letters. Most of which would never arrive at the end of the day, now they're increasing to \$1.50 for a service that may or may not even arrive.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Whilst the stamp increase has no direct impact on our business the corresponding 30% increase in tracked envelopes has a major impact on our business. It makes the sale of various small items via ebay and our online store no longer viable. We sell many \$2-5 items and the tracked envelopes are a cheap way to meet eBay's requirements to track postage on all sales. The price increase to these envelopes will mean we can't sell low value items anymore as the postage will be too expensive.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>It's ridiculous that the price of tracked envelopes can constantly raise by how much it is. Makes me wish for an alternative to australia post</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The price on the envelopes just raised</p> <p>The increase is edging on \$5</p> <p>We don't know when these price rises will stop</p> <p>It's an envelope and paying \$4.75 for a product that has stayed the same and not improved when it used to be \$3.20 is unfair to the consumer who will have to cover costs.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>\$5 is too much !</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>A 30 cent price increase to the cost of a stamp is significantly ahead of inflation and will place significant strain on businesses and customers who sell and purchase goods that fit within a Large Letter.</p> <p>Firstly, Large Letters provide an economical avenue for sellers and buyers to send and receive goods that would otherwise cost a minimum of \$10.60 in postage costs to send as parcel post. Large Letters have no tracking and are perfect for low value and small goods that operate on miniscule margins to the benefit of customers. An increase in stamps of 30 cents each risks erasing a significant market of small, internet based businesses that operate on the fact you can still make a profit selling and posting an item for \$5 even after all fees, costs and postage are accounted for.</p> <p>Most Large Letters will require two or three stamps in order to meet the cost requirements for weight and a 30 cent increase will result in the cost of low value goods increasing by 20%-30% which will be passed onto the customer through online marketplaces such as eBay and depop.</p> <p>The environmental damage this will cause as the market for low value goods shrinks will be noticeable as sellers will opt to dispose of low value goods instead of reuse and recycle through sales via online marketplaces. AusPost has made a commitment to environmental preservation and a significant part of that mission should be providing both buyers and sellers with the most economical manners for posting small sized and low valuable goods to save on packing materials, space inside delivery trucks, bikes and planes.</p> <p>AusPost should instead look at ways of incorporating its Large Letter business into its Parcel Post business by offering customers more economical ways of sending goods that are either small in size or low in value. Alternatively AusPost could also look to reducing the frequency of its letter delivery to 2 or 3 days a week to save money instead of increasing costs.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Too expensive to send a letter these days</p> <p>Auspost also has poor track record untracked letters being lost</p>

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Stamps are clearly just a scam to increase how much a patron spends, and for whatever reason has been normalised.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Envelopes just went up to 3:90 a couple of months ago. Now you're wanting to boost up prices of domestic to almost 5 per envelope, as well as stamps? Everyone goes into the post office wanting to put out a dollar and a 20 cent piece for a stamp. It's unnecessary to increase envelopes and stamps.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	why increase so often when there isn't much reason aside from increasing profits
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Deeply opposed to be continued price increases from Australia Post. This is a massive increase of 25% for stamps coming off back to back increases in stamp prices and a 21% increase for small padded mailers amongst the other increases. Australia Post is a monopoly business with consumers having no other options for what should be a basic affordable service in a modern developed country. These continued increases are outrageous and pass prices only into individual consumers and small businesses not the large businesses that negotiate agreements with auspost.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The increase is too high and way above inflation.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	It's unreasonable for shipping to cost more than the contained item. Most standard letters consist of 1-3 sheets of paper, valued at no more than 30c. Why does it cost 4 times that (or 5 times under the proposed increase) to ship?
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Honestly, how can the overheads of a green tracked envelope go up 21%? How can this be seen as anything other than price gouging? Even taking fuel costs into consideration how can a letter I send from Ararat to Ballarat be a flat \$4.50?? You can't allow this blatant inflationary profit grab from the ONLY postal service in Australia? The Monopoly is being exploited
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	As someone who sells collectables cards as a hobby, this price increase of around 21% is absurd considering there was just a price increase. Buyers would be less hesitant to purchase things and i myself dont want to pay approx \$5 for registered small letters, thats sometimes worth more than the cards im purchasing themselves along with all the other price increases there has been across australia.

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The price increase will greatly affect the Australian community for the hobby I enjoy. This is because there are a number of large buy/sell groups online for this hobby that use tracked envelopes as standard for delivery. As the cost of living increases, the community already has less money to spend. Increases to the price of envelopes will be a major blow to the community as well as having a negative impact on the amount of tracking envelopes bought from Australia Post.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	as someone who sends many letters on a regular basis the increase puts further financial strain on myself and others in a time of living cost increase
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Postage costs are already high and increasing it further cuts even more of the low profit margins we operate at by even more.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Over 20% price increase on stamps as well as standard tracked envelopes is ridiculous, these products have already had a recent price increase, Auspost is recognising their monopoly on shipping in Australia and beginning to take advantage of it.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	These price increases are becoming alarmingly more frequent. In addition, this will only serve to turn more people against the monopoly that is Australia Post, undermining any overall progress.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The price is already high enough. The price was increased not long ago. The service is not being improved, yet we are expected to just pay more. It is ridiculous and there is no justification for it.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Letter post is a necessity of running a postal organization. Even if it is said to be a loss it is a necessary service of the organization. At the same time as putting up letter post the tracked letter rate for a large envelope is jumping almost 30%. As such it will be equating to parcel price to send a letter with tracking that has a size restriction of 20mm thick! Time for Australia post to realize they are profiting from the rising trajectory of e-commerce and mismanagement can be the only answer as to why they are struggling.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>Please Read!</p> <p>Im a full time business owner that daily relies on the service and we deal in high frequency low value orders. We will use 25/35+ envelopes per day. Sometimes more.</p> <p>There's no doubt that the proposed price increases would negatively impact my business.</p> <p>The proposed increases of: 21% (small tracked) (medium tracked) and 25% (stamps) are far too extreme. Imagine something you used 35 times a day became 25% more expensive!</p> <p>Please reconsider raising prices to this level.</p>

		We just can't deal with this quick of a price increase.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The prices have just been raised not long ago, this is just unbelievable to consider another increase already.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Too expensive for just tracking. Increasing the price when the service and product remains the same is just unfair
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Already having increased the price to send letters and since then I've had more issues with lost or delayed letters/packages than ever before. Auspost is being money hungry at this point
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	<p>I am writing to express my strong opposition to Australia Post's plan to raise postage stamp prices. As a concerned citizen and loyal customer, I am deeply troubled by the potential negative impact this price hike could have on both Australian consumers and businesses.</p> <p>Revenue Growth and Letter Loss Claims: Australia Post boasts remarkable revenue growth, largely attributed to the surge in parcel deliveries. However, their claim of publishing letter loss raises significant doubts about the transparency and accuracy of their financial assessment. It is imperative that the ACCC scrutinizes these claims with unwavering diligence. I believe an examination is required of whether Australia Post's financial reporting truthfully reflects the dual responsibilities of letter carriers who simultaneously handle small parcels. In addition, the large growth of e-commerce has led to a substantial increase in medium and large letters being sent, priced significantly higher than small letter rates.</p> <p>Transition to a 2nd-day Delivery Model: In many regions, Australia Post has already transitioned to a 2nd-day delivery model for letter mail. It is essential to question why, following such a transition, consumers are now faced with additional financial challenges to this letter mail.</p> <p>Ensuring Fair Pricing for All: Australia Post's practice of offering substantial discounts to e-commerce giants like Amazon while burdening everyday consumers with the financial load is not just unfair but a profound injustice. Pricing decisions should be guided by an unwavering commitment to the best interests of all consumers, regardless of their size or influence.</p> <p>Impact on Vulnerable Populations: Raising stamp costs disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, such as the elderly who rely on traditional mail for important communications like bills, government notices and communicating with loved ones. Such a price hike could create financial hardships for these individuals who may not have easy access to digital alternatives. Australia Post, as an</p>

		<p>essential government entity with the government as its major and sole shareholder, carries a solemn duty and responsibility to provide an efficient and cost-effective postal service to every member of our community.</p> <p>Recent Parcel Price Increase: One of the primary reasons cited for the recent hike in parcel prices, was to provide financial support to the letter business. Implementing an additional postage stamp increase on top of this appears to be a clear case of double dipping.</p> <p>Abuse of Market Position: Australia Post holds a monopoly in the letter business and a strong position in the parcel business. Their actions suggest an abuse of their dominant market position, as they appear to believe they can levy price hikes without restraint, irrespective of fairness, due to the absence of viable alternatives. This is precisely the type of behavior that the ACCC is empowered to prevent.</p> <p>I appreciate your unwavering dedication to consumer rights and justice. I trust that the ACCC will rise to the occasion, championing the principles of fairness and consumer protection in the face of such a bold proposal.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Oppose the propose stamp price increase</p> <p>* Should be reduced to max 5%: The monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) indicator rose 4.9 per cent in the 12 months to July 2023. Thus if the CPI for the last 12 months is around 5%, then the proposed stamp increase should be 5% or lower. If any higher, it would contribute to counteract the actions of the Australian Reserve Bank board.</p> <p>* Should not be increased: Australia Post is committed to providing an accessible, affordable and reliable letter service for all Australians wherever they reside; they are owned by the Au Federal Government. Thus to provide services to Australians, they should not be increasing stamp prices.</p> <p>I believed they had already increased the prices dramatically in 2022-23</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Whilst I understand the need may exist to increase individual stamp prices, I feel a 25% increase of the cost of standard letters to be unreasonable. \$4.50 per letter feels like an exceptional cost to pay for low value purchases from online traders and as a seller it can feel extortionate to charge a customer this amount.</p>

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>As a business, our objection is to the continual and increasing scale of Australia Post (AP) price increases - a minimum of 2 times PA and each well in excess of CPI, making it impossible for our operation to keep pace with additional costs.</p> <p>As magazine publishers we are wedded to AP's service being that they are the only mail solution to reach every address in Australia. The delivery of magazines runs on a specific Print Post service, comprising a mailing cost and an interstate linehaul cost - pricing is proposed to increase by up to 26.4% and 11.2% respectively. Facing a cost of living crisis, magazines are approaching luxury status and we are not in a position to increase our prices to consumers by the same percentages.</p> <p>We face relentless increases, no improvement in service levels, and a likely drop in delivery days from 5 to 3 weekdays in the near future.</p> <p>At the same time AP have recently stepped away from an 8yr arrangement to sell subscription across 126 magazines on behalf of 70 Australian publishers on their website. The activity yielding \$400K in sales revenue and close to \$200K in downstream mailing revenues, citing the activity as not being core to their business. They continue to sell air fryers on the site!</p> <p>Print publishing would be a major contributor to AP revenues. As an industry we are already under significant cost pressure across freight and materials and the ongoing increases to get our product to market is crippling.</p> <p>With their significant influence and bargaining power it is disappointing that there have been no specific initiatives to balance their need to increase costs by supporting publishers around packaging or delivery processes.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I post letters cards and presents interstate regularly and pay full price so they get there on time.</p> <p>Its a fun way to brighten someones day and aid the mental health of those isolated and not yet recovered from living in Victoria the last 4 years .</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Neither support nor oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Unclear on why price needs to be increased.</p> <p>If savings in the delivery service is required, it would be OK to reduce delivery days. Daily delivery is probably not entirely necessary.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>While I understand that Australia Post has operational costs that need to be addressed, I believe that the proposed price increase is not only unsustainable but will have wider ramifications for the community, especially with regards to traditional letter writing and the hobby of philately.</p> <p>Economic Impact Unsustainable for Consumers: The proposed 25 per cent increase could impose an excessive financial burden on Australian consumers, especially those in remote and rural areas who heavily rely on postal services. This could exacerbate social and economic disparities.</p>

		<p>Impact on Small Businesses: Small enterprises, many of which are already grappling with economic challenges, would also bear the brunt of these increased postal costs. This could lead them to reassess their business models or even question their ongoing viability.</p> <p>Sociocultural Impact</p> <p>End of Letter Writing: The art of letter writing has been a cherished form of communication in Australia and worldwide. However, it has been increasingly neglected due to digitalisation. The proposed price hike risks hastening its demise and depriving future generations of this culturally significant practice.</p> <p>Philately: Stamp collecting has been a widely loved pasttime since 1840. The proposed rate hike poses a significant threat to this historical and educational hobby.</p> <p>Public Services</p> <p>Equity of Access: Postal services must remain accessible and affordable to all Australians, irrespective of socioeconomic status or geographical location. The proposed rate increase contradicts this essential public service mandate.</p> <p>Government Involvement</p> <p>Role of the Minister for Communications: The Minister has the prerogative to disapprove the proposal within 30 days, and I urge the Minister to consider not just the economic but also the sociocultural impacts of the price increase.</p> <p>Review into the Modernisation of Postal Services: The proposal brings up questions about whether the modernisation of postal services is indeed beneficial for all Australians, which should be evaluated carefully.</p> <p>Transparency and Stakeholder Feedback</p> <p>ACCC's Preliminary View: I urge the ACCC to consider these broader implications when forming its preliminary view. This isn't merely a matter of cost recovery but has more expansive implications for the Australian public.</p> <p>While Australia Post's operational costs are an important factor, they should not be addressed at the expense of sociocultural heritage, public service commitments, and the wider Australian community. I strongly recommend reconsidering the proposed price increase in light of these concerns.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my views during this consultation process. I look forward to hearing about the ACCC's preliminary findings and hope that they will reflect the diverse needs and interests of the Australian community.</p>
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As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Price is too high for the 1-2 times per week delivery and lag/delayed post averaging up to 2 weeks for a city to city letter interstate. Pensioners rely on post. Suggest fixing in-house issues and reducing exec pay & reducing top heavy management before gauging the public. Our gdp per capita is in recession.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	If service was satisfactory this might make sense but it is never improved.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The constant increase of cost and decrease in efficiency in their service is unfair and just not right, and as there is no other service in competition with Australia Post so there is no alternative for sending letters they are able to do whatever they want without fear of losing business because there's no other service for people to use. This increase is unreasonable and insane, unless the service is more reliable and time frames for delivery are more efficient and quicker then increasing the price is just wrong.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	As a managed service provider to mutual banks, Government departments and religious organisations we feel the increase is excessive for no improved or additional service provision. Our client base is not profit driven this increase will be a significant hit to them. We have calculated this increase to be an average of \$18,000 per month to our clients.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	This seems well above inflation.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I belong to a small non-profit family history society. Four times a year we post 75 to 80 copies of a small journal to some of our members as well as other similar societies throughout Australia with which we have a reciprocal arrangement. In 2023 we had to increase our membership fees to cope with that 9% rise. This will raise our costs by c. \$22.50. The postage of legal deposits to e.g.the National Library will increase by \$18. I will not detail the cost of swapping with overseas societies: it is all too much. All of our members are seniors, retirees with limited incomes and the distribution of this journal to many of our members who are housebound is important to them for their intellectual stimulation and interest. We aim to keep our Seniors interested and involved & it's working e.g. the latest journal had an article written by a 93 year young member. Look after your Seniors ... please
As an individual	Support the proposed stamp price increase	To keep Australia Post profitable.

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Our business sells magazine subscriptions on behalf of over 300 Australian magazine publishers. All magazine issues, as well as other notices relating to the purchase, are delivered by Australia Post - there are no other delivery options for these businesses. 295 of these publishers are small businesses. Over the last 3-4 years they have had to absorb 30-50% increases in production input costs associated with printing and paper supplies. Postage is the other significant input cost for these businesses. (Demand for their product is also on a downward trend, due to demand changes driven by the increased consumption of digital content over printed content. However, there is still a huge demand for their highly curated, informative and entertaining content, particularly to the over 50's demographic.) Print Postage cost inflation historically has sat at around 3-5% p.a. These modest annual increases, while still imposing an addition cost strain on these small businesses, are manageable. Increases in the magnitude of 15-18%, annually, will put many of these businesses out of business, thus reducing the demand for the print post product, reducing the revenue to Aust Post. Is it not possible to take a phased approach to postage increases over a 2-3 year period thus enabling businesses to plan ahead and and structure their businesses to handle the increases, enabling their survival?</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Stamps are rising in price but service is down. Please keep stamps to reasonable price or improve service .</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>No wonder not many people post letter's, if postage costs were less, I think more would use the service. Old proverb: "Less is more"</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Cost of living pressures are increasing in all areas, this does not need to be included.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Seriously the cost of living is already high. You want us to use your services but you are making it more and more in accessible. Also so many price hikes in the last few years.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>As a person on a limited income this change would have a significant impact.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I'm a pensioner and spend heaps of money on stamps for puzzle entries. I think another increase for stamps is going to hurt a lot of people and make a difference to magazine sales.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Too expensive</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed</p>	<p>This increase is too much at this time!</p>

	stamp price increase	
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Postage Prices are too high already and this price rise will affect me from sending letters as often
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	the service you are providing is not worth a price increase and you have made huge profits in the last two years
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The increase is far too much in one go. I understand that everything is getting more expensive but would only support an increase of 10 cents for standard mail
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Too much of a hike all at once and no service improvement
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The increase in price makes it difficult to be able to afford to post items. Pensioners who use the post are most vulnerable to this. Email will be the way to be able to afford this.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Current price is more than enough with the current mail setup..... eg closing times at letter boxes are too early and delivery times between sending and delivery too erratic.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	We understand that there are factors that may contribute to the need for a price increase, such as increased costs. However, I believe that the proposed increase is excessive and unreasonable. It seems that the price increase is higher than the rate of inflation and it is also higher than the price increases of similar services.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	25% increase seems excessive.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I'm on a Pension and I regularly sent letters/enter competitions via post. It is difficult enough to make ends meet and for many pensioners/concession card holders our enjoyment or only way of contacting those we love is via post. The number of concession stamps available should also be increased - don't be an addition to the ever growing list of bad guys like Tecl'o's, electricity providers etc that are already making our lives harder.

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I think it's far too large an increase in one go. I know that letters are used less than the parcel side of Australia Post, but maybe something else could be tried like posting them 3 times per week instead of 5, to reduce costs. But saying that, don't they go on the same trucks as the parcels so the infrastructure is in place already? Just seems too large in one go.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Raising the cost so dramatically is absolutely disgusting and a complete rip off. 10c is much fairer and more manageable for everyone especially the elderly that don't have concession cards. 30c a standard stamp is daylight robbery and Australia Post should be ashamed of themselves.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia Post service is poor now, slow and unreliable. Cost is extremely high already and we get nothing else for these price hikes including lack of improvements
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Australia post shouldn't be upping the price when things are so tough atm. Stamps cost enough already 30 cent increase is over the top. All posties should do a course on how parcels should be handled. As some don't care how they handle them or where they put them.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	We are a settlement agency operating in Victoria, South Australia and Western Sydney. We support newly arrived migrant and refugees to settle in Australia through a range of on arrival, education, employment and social participation programs. We supports the ongoing provision of concession pricing; and acknowledges that the concession pricing for stamps will support the most vulnerable members of the community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed 25% increase in stamp price is a significant increase. • In the context of the current general cost of living increases the significance of the proposed stamp increase will impact. • It is noted that there is the potential for greater impact for some groups – e.g. small business owners
As an individual	Support the proposed stamp price increase	Most letters are sent by profitable businesses so they can afford to absorb the cost and cover the incredibly cheap concession stamp costs. Letters come really quickly, i've had a few CDs sent in the mail recently and they arrived from the other side of the country within a week. It seems only fair that sending something across the country should cost what it costs, a cherry ripe is \$2 nowadays. How is sending a letter from Melbourne to Brisbane less than a cherry ripe? Given all the infrastructure behind it.

As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I, am an 80 year old pensioner, and as I am disabled I don't get to go out that much. One of my great pleasures in life is doing puzzles and entering competitions, both for the thinking they make me do, keeping my mind active, but also for the hope of winning things I couldn't possibly afford otherwise. Once the concession stamps are finished (and I am very grateful for them, but they don't last for very long), I am forced to use ordinary mail. Yet ANOTHER price increase so soon after the last one will absolutely stop me from doing one of the things I really enjoy. It's a struggle now, but a effort I have made to keep mentally active, and would really hate to have to give up. Please reconsider. Thank you.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	[Confidential response provided]
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	I am 77 having retired at 72. I am also a widow and my two married sons live in Toowoomba and Blaxland. I no longer send birthday gifts because of the price of parcels now. My one small extravagant buy is the two magazines per week and post my answers to the competitions. I considered not buying and entering the competitions any more but have so far, managed the costs. I have also stopped sending birthday and Christmas cards. This price increase will be a loss of one small enjoyment I have. I don't drink or smoke or play the pokies. Life is barely worth living and so depressing seeing CEO's draining companies.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	We are providing a separate written submission to the ACCC to its nominated postal services email address.
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Prices of parcels have just increased to a point which is considered too expensive by most. This additional price increase seems like a further cash grab, fuelled by greed.
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	The cost of living is already hurting everyone and us, as small businesses are working just to try to keep up with the already increasing prices of everyday living. Postage already affects our margins and this would put many small business out of business.

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I'm a sole trader operating a reselling business on eBay. It's already hard to compete with overseas sellers that flood the market with their cheap Chinese postage. Most of my items are packages and those have already increased, but some are documents/printed material that can go as letters. Currently I can absorb the cost and offer free post on these ones but will no longer be able to do that with this price rise.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Postage prices have already increased and with the price of cost of goods going up as well it is leaving a smaller and smaller profit margin for my small business. I post about half of my product orders using large envelope shipping which allows me to keep my prices competitive for my customers. Some orders I may only profit a dollar or 2 after fee's and raising the stamp prices this rapidly puts a large dent in my already labor of love profits.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post say they need to increase the price of stamps because their letter business is going so poorly but they are making record profits with parcel. They need to move with the times the same as every other business.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Stamp Postage went up not long ago. Very unfair for it to go up again, when it feels so soon to the previous increase. Small sole operator online Business like mine constant increases on Postage, simply because online purchases are on the increase is not fair. As a previous bricks and mortar business owner who understands the increase on expenses, wages, etc etc. However, for CEO's that get bonuses, pay increases, that should be cut back. Instead of the struggling online seller, who is ALSO trying to make ends meet. I might just add, 95% of my sales that need to be posted, are classed as a large letter. I don't have products that require parcel postage, or possibly lucky to be 5% if that of my stock is Parcel size. So I don't get any special band pricing structure. I don't get any special price. I buy stamps in bulk the normal price. So I greatly oppose this.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Things are tough enough now. 25% is just way over the top. What is needed is better management practices put into place, You can buy items from China cheaper than a postage stamp, so we as Australians are subsidising their postage costs. I have tracked items both sent and received and they often go a very indirect route. This is one reason among many that needs to be addressed by Management. Just disgusted with this proposal</p>

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>There has been too many increases in recent years. 25% increase as suggested here is outrageously high.</p> <p>Justifying it by saying the letter service doesn't make any money (or loses money) is misleading 'logic'. The letter service is a defining and essential part of Australia Post, so should not be seen as a separate business. Almost every business has areas of their work that make them less (or no) money. And others that are more profitable - the two balance each other.</p> <p>It also seems morally/ethically dubious to profiteer from an essential and required service.</p> <p>If you really need to make letters profitable, put tracking on them (even if it incurs an extra cost, as we used to be able to do with "Receipted Delivery" labels). Business currently shipping items too small or low-priced to justify parcel shipping in standard letters, would flock to such an option. The current 'tracked envelope' pricing is unrealistically high and thus unpopular.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post needs to bridge the gap between sending letters of up to 250g to sending a parcel between 250g-500g. Suitable options within a similar price bracket should be introduced and addressed first before a price increase happens as pricing the stamps as high as they are planning will drive even more customers down and doesn't achieve anything they are setting out to do.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>In the past few years the level of service by Australia Post has decreased immensely. Unless the level of service and unless customer satisfaction are improved, there are no justification for price increases.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I run three online businesses, a fair percentage of my posting is done via large letter. Australia post is becoming more and more unreliable, parcels and letters are often miss delivered or lost even with tracking, and in the case of lost items, it is becoming harder and harder to get any kind of refund from them without jumping through hoops, filling out stat decs and getting them signed by JP's etc etc. Another price increase is most definitely NOT warranted given the lack of service for what we already pay. Costs cannot be absorbed by small businesses, resulting on the price increase being passed onto the customer, resulting in often abusive messages about the postage being charged, or, buyers backing out of sales altogether as the cost of the postage is sometimes more than the cost of the item.</p>

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I don't mind to increase letter price if it brings back the satchel 250g and lower than the postage price like half of 500g satchel.</p> <p>It is really tough for a small business to send off a very little piece and light stuff in the 5kg satchel and still charging flat rate like \$10.80.</p> <p>Considering it made a lot for profit in parcel delivery for Australia Post.</p> <p>I believe it will reduce number of other small business to send off a small stuff via untracked letters.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The proposed increase far exceeds the inflation rate. I would also like to know why we always seem to be subsidising the cost of other countries sending items to Australians - it is very hard as an Australian small business to be able to make a living when postage for a parcel sized item from China is less than the cost of a large letter within Australia. I post a lot of items within the large letter category but this may mean the end of my business as it is now given that the cost of items will be far greater than someone purchasing from outside our own country.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>This will make. Less people order online from me and others</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I am a regular mailer of cards, letters and postcards. I find it is amn important way to keep in touch in a tangible way with my family and friends.</p> <p>I am also a postcrosser and there are hundreds of us around Australia. Some of us are sending large volumes of postcards. It's a wonderful hobby connecting with people around the world.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Australia Post has just increased stamp price this year, from minimum \$1.10 to \$1.20. This has already been a 10% increase. We could not allow a further nearly 50% increase within a year of time. As a national postal service, Australia Post would be the only party who handles deliveries of letters. This dramatic increase will potentially harm the budget to most of Australians.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>It will KILL small Busines!! we do not need to make it harder for them because people just can't afford postage costs, if anything postage needs to be getting lower.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>My small business sends out large letters weekly. This massive price increase will have an impact on my business as my customers will turn to overseas sellers who get a lot lower postage rate.</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I still use postage stamps on a weekly basis and with the cost of living increasing so rapidly, the last thing we need is an increase in postage</p>

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>This price rise, if allowed, will not help the people who may be on low incomes to be able to communicate adequately with businesses in order to survive. This is especially the case for those who are only earning low gross incomes.</p> <p>If allowed, this price rise will drive people away from using the services that Australia Post provide. It will lead to a reduction of business as the services offered are priced out of the market.</p> <p>As such, I see the detrimental effect on business volumes of the core aspects of what Australia Post offers to both the businesses and public that this entity provide!</p>
<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>Have trouble affording them now. If you put them up another 30cents i wont be buying them any more. Definitely not worth it.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Neither support nor oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>The ACCC inquiry should also review Australia Post's pricing for international deliveries. The cost of sending a letter to say UK is currently \$3.90 up to 50g max, the next increment is up to 250g max at a cost of \$13.70. This means a 75g letter costs 3 times as much as a 50g letter. There is no logic to this, other than simply price gouging by Australia Post - taking advantage of individuals and small businesses. It would be logical and fairer to re-introduce the 125g max weight increment for international deliveries.</p> <p>Australia Post is also non-consistent in their use of measurement units for the calculation of postage cost, potentially confusing some customers. For example, Australia Post's envelopes and packaging correctly use the SI units of 'millimeters' in describing sizes on their packing products. Whereas, in Australia Post's on-line 'Postage Calculator' the units required for input are 'centimeters', which is an inconsistent and confusing use of measurements. It is noted that 'centimeters' are not the preferred SI unit for length adopted by the Australian Government.</p> <p>Australia Post regularly mis-lays deliveries domestically, with packages being tracking between Perth and east coast destinations up to 5 times (or more?). Does Australia Post take into account the (environmental) cost of these mis-layed deliveries in their carbon footprint reporting?</p>

<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I oppose the stamp increase for a number of reasons, which are outlined in detail in my full submission.</p> <p>In summary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) I submit that it is likely that there are discrepancies in financial reporting between the letter and parcel divisions, which are used as an attempt to justify the price increase - namely, that the letter division incurs costs against revenue (or lack thereof) from the parcel division. This view has been backed up by former CEO Christine Holgate, so they are not without merit. 2) I submit that a price increase for equivalent service of 214% in ten years, at a time when inflation in the same time frame is 26% total, is excessive. 3) I submit that price increases are excessive, and that Australia Post's data in their submission that they use to attempt to justify the price increases in one case uses a carefully selected timeframe and in another case compares Australian postage rates to international postage rates, but uses current prices for comparison to try to make their point - whereas using the proposed price figures provides a totally different picture. 4) I submit that Australia Post seeking to use international comparisons to justify postage rate increases again fails to show the whole picture, when other countries have increased stamp prices (most by less than Australia Post is proposing), but have either decreased parcel prices or offered low value parcel options, where Australia Post has simply increased everything, creating an unnecessary burden on business. 5) I submit that the major burden on the profitability of Australia Post is not due to their prices being too low, but due to the operation of international agreements under the Universal Postal Union. I suspect that this includes the reporting of delivery of small parcels (under 2kgs) coming into Australia from overseas as part of the cost burden of the letters division, regardless of the fact that such items would be classified as parcels if originating in Australia. And that through the current proposed increase in prices for postage stamps together with recent significant increases in parcel rates, Australia Post is expecting Australian Businesses to subsidise Chinese businesses, for deliveries to customers in Australia, and that this is not a fair nor reasonable burden for Australian businesses to undertake. 6) I submit that Australia Post has also entered into private agreements with Chinese-based freight providers, at less than commercial rates, and that it is likely that Australia Post is delivering these parcels at less than cost, likely in many cases through the work of the letters division. And that again, Australian consumers and businesses are in effect subsidising these offshore through current and proposed price increases in all divisions. I also submit that Australia Post should be required to be transparent about such arrangements in terms of what arrangements exist, as well as the revenue and delivery cost of each, and how this compares to the delivery costs for Australian consumers. 7) I submit that the amplified costs of the current system of multiple stamps (by weight) on large letters amplifies the increase in an unreasonable way, and that alternative pricing models for large letters should be considered, as they are
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		<p>overseas.</p> <p>8) I submit that there is significant forgery and counterfeiting operations in the market for postage stamps, and that Australia Post has been negligent in their duty to both themselves and to Australian consumers in undertaking efforts to remove fraudulent stamps from the market. I submit that this affects their profitability. I know it is widespread but I am obviously not empowered or resourced to investigate this, so it is unknown if this is a small or a large factor in their current profitability issues. But until this is investigated, it cannot be reasonably known, and any price increases should be put on hold until such time as this issue is at least addressed.</p> <p>9) I submit that as Australia's National Postal Carrier, the mission of Australia Post should include ensuring that their prices are reasonable so as to not place unnecessary burdens on Australian Businesses the reduce their competitiveness with overseas competitors within the Australian market. And I submit that the pricing policies of Australia Post in general continue to make it very difficult for Australian businesses to compete in our own country against products coming in small packets from China.</p> <p>10) I urge the ACCC and government to force Australia Post to address the issues raised above before they are allowed to increase stamp prices.</p>
As an individual	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	it;s bloody stupid no one will by stamps anymore
As a representative of a business	Oppose the proposed stamp price increase	Please refer to attached submission

<p>As an individual</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>I have multiple reasons for opposing the BPR increase, which are as follows:</p> <p>1) I believe that Australia Post is first and foremost a public service that should be accessible and equitable for all Australians. I do not believe that a price increase of 25% to ordinary letters is consistent with such a value.</p> <p>2) The increase to the BPR will likely diminish my personal social connectivity, as I conduct a substantial proportion of my communications with friends and family via Australia Post. Given I am homebound and unemployed with a disability - and cannot access concession stamp prices (see below) - I will have to pay an extra cost to stay connected to friends and family in the manner that I prefer, or communicate less frequently. Either outcome will have a negative impact on my quality of life.</p> <p>3) I note that the price of concession stamps will remain the same, with the purpose of reducing the financial burden on disadvantaged people. However, the mechanism to apply for such a concession is, I believe, discriminatory. In order to receive a concession rate, a person must attend an Australia Post outlet in person. This excludes people with a range of conditions and disabilities (e.g. some mobility difficulties and some mental illnesses). These are people who are already likely to be suffering financial stress. This policy means that people such as myself will still have to pay the increased price of stamps, or not send letters. In regard to my own situation, I am unable to go to a Post Office to receive the concession for which I am eligible. I would be more likely to support increases to the BPR if the concession price was more widely accessible.</p> <p>4) The "Draft Notification" fails to discuss the impact to consumers of an increase in the price of large letters. A 25% increase makes the largest letters (to 500g) \$1.50 more expensive. Larger letters may include items that cannot be replaced with digital communication - e.g. certain types of small gifts (appropriate to posting guidelines) that enhance friendship, belonging and wellbeing. In regard to my personal use of Australia Post, a number of the letters that I send and receive are larger ones. However, as already mentioned above, I will have to reconsider this due to the increased expense.</p> <p>5) I also note that the price of posting seasonal greeting cards will remain the same. Yet, such a card is not equivalent to an ordinary letter, due to the strict weight requirements and limited time of year in which it can be sent. However, if reduced "card only" prices were available all year (and expanded to include postcards), I would be more likely to support a rise in the BPR, as it would allow for some form of postal communication at a more accessible price.</p> <p>6) Australia Post already raises the BPR by almost 10% every year, at least in recent years.</p> <p>7) Australia Post proposes a new "long-term pricing path"</p>
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		<p>("Draft Notification", p.5), but fails to define what this means. I cannot support a proposal that lacks detail. What is the time frame under consideration? Does it mean that the BPR will remain stable in the near future, or can further, regular increases be expected?</p> <p>8) I am concerned that if 25% becomes normalised as the new standard for annual BPR increases, then in 5 years time (January 2029), the cost of sending a small letter within Australia would be approximately \$4.50. Under this regime, sending letters would likely become a luxury that only the financially privileged can afford, undermining the principle of Australia Post being an "equitable" service ("Draft Notification", p.8).</p> <p>9) Regular price increases will likely ensure that fewer and fewer people will come to use the letter service. Each decrease in service usage will then inevitably be used to justify further BPR increases in what appears to be a self-fulfilling process.</p> <p>10) I have strong reservations about Australia Post using private contractors who have vested economic and/or political interests to conduct research on matters relating to the public good. Any proposals based on such research cannot necessarily be trusted to be within the public's interests. An organisation that is as nationally important as Australia Post should not readily make changes based upon the advice of companies whose primary purpose is making profit, rather upholding a universal and equitable service.</p>
<p>As a representative of a business</p>	<p>Neither support nor oppose the proposed stamp price increase</p>	<p>[Confidential submission provided]</p>