Royal mail handles the deliveries for other companies for which they are paid. However, when mail is returned to the originators either because it is refused or people have gone away, for example, it is Royal mail has to foot the bill for returning it. Should they not be able to charge for this service?

**Question 5.1: Do you agree with the assumptions set out in paragraph 5.86 above? If not, please set out your reasons.:**

yes
Question 6.1: Do you agree with our proposal to impose a regulatory condition on Royal Mail to require it to provide the universal service as set out above? If not, what alternative approach would you suggest?:

yes

Question 6.2: Do you agree that a price control is not an appropriate option at present for regulating Royal Mail’s prices? If not, please explain why and how a price control could be implemented effectively.:

Yes, price can only be controlled if Royal Mail can charge commercially effective rates. In effect at present it is the taxpayer subsidizing private companies.

Question 6.3: Do you agree with Ofcom’s proposals to put in place regulatory safeguards as described above? If not, please provide reasons.:

yes

Question 6.4: Do you agree with Ofcom’s proposals to put in place a monitoring regime? If not, please provide reasons.:

yes

Question 6.5: Do you agree with Ofcom’s proposals for an index-linked safeguard cap on standard letters from 45p to 55p? If not, please provide reasons.:

no because it cannot make good commercial sense.

Question 6.6: Do you agree with Ofcom’s proposal that the approach outlined above remains in place for seven years? If not, please provide reasons.:

no. it is too long.

Question 7.1: Do you agree with our approach to assessing end-to-end competition? If not, please give your reasons.:

yes

Question 7.2: Do you agree with Ofcom’s proposals to impose an obligation on Royal Mail to provide access at the Inward Mail Centre? If not, please give reasons.:

only if it can charge a financially viable rate for this.

Question 7.3: Do you agree with Ofcom’s proposals in respect of regulating margin squeeze? If not, please give reasons.
yes

Question 7.4: Do you agree with our approach concerning the Terms and Conditions for access, including the role of equivalence and the regulation of zonal pricing? If not, please give your reasons.: yes

Question 8.1: Do you agree with the objectives for regulatory financial reporting that we have set out above? Please provide details to support your response.: yes

Question 8.2: Do you agree that our regulatory financial reporting proposals, set out in this section and the supporting Annex, are appropriate and proportionate? Please provide reasons and evidence to support your views.: don't know

Question 8.3: Do you agree with our proposals on the rules and requirements contained in the draft Regulatory Accounting Guidelines and do you consider that they are likely to provide an appropriate and proportionate level of cost transparency and accounting separation?: yes

Question 8.4: Do you agree with our proposals set out above in relation to accounting separation? Are there any further risks that you think Ofcom needs also to consider in making decisions in this area? To the extent that you consider there to be risks associated with our proposals, how do you consider they might best be addressed?: yes but with the proviso it does mean one branch becomes wholly independent of the other and does not give overall picture