

**Title:**

Mr

**Forename:**

Paul

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Hide

**Representing:**

Organisation

**Organisation (if applicable):**

techUK

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**What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:**

Keep whole response confidential

**If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:**

Ofcom may publish our response after the consultation period has ended but we request not before this time.

**Ofcom may publish a response summary:**

Yes

**I confirm that I have read the declaration:**

Yes

**Additional comments:**

techUK represents the companies and technologies that are defining today the world that we will live in tomorrow. More than 900 companies are members of techUK. Collectively our members employ more than 700,000 people, which represents nearly half of all ICT sector jobs in the UK. These companies range from leading FTSE 100 companies to new innovative start-ups. The majority of techUK's members are small and medium sized

businesses.

This response is made on behalf of techUK members who have provided input into this consultation. Primarily this response is representing the views of meter manufacturers. Questions 5 &ndash; 18 are more relevant to those organisations with an interest in bulk retail and wholesale channels which techUK does not directly represent so we make no comments.

We note that Ofcom clarified to a group of respondents that the scope of the universal postal service was not part of this review and further explained that franked or metered mail is a method of payment or payment channel for RM services, both universal and non-universal. We also note that Ofcom have answered to the satisfaction of franking machine users and the meter manufacturers all comments/questions from a section of stakeholders concerning potential changes to the Universal Service Order. Sections 7.147 &ndash; 7.159 of the consultation document.

Finally we would like to thank Ofcom for the time taken to discuss and clarify responses to this consultation with techUK members of the meter manufacturing industry. We now look forward to supporting industry development within a secure regulatory environment that runs until 2022.

**Question 1: Do you agree that the evidence summarised in Section 4 and set out in more detail in the annexes to this consultation does not support the imposition of (i) further price controls on parts of Royal Mail's business or (ii) efficiency targets?**

**Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.:**

techUK believes that at this time enough has been done in addressing the issue of price controls and efficiency targets. We recognise that Royal Mail has made improvements in achieving the targets set out since 2012.

**Question 2: Do you agree that the regulatory framework should remain in place until March 2022 following the anticipated completion of Ofcom's review by the end of 2016-17?**

**Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.:**

We support the regulatory framework remaining in place until 2022. If, during this period, the postal landscape changes significantly as defined by key Stakeholders or Ofcom then we would recommend that a mid-term review is conducted.

**Question 3: Do you agree that the analysis summarised in Section 4 and set out in more detail in the annexes to this consultation accurately reflects the UK postal market?**

**Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.:**

We believe that the work carried out by Ofcom has been thorough in its execution and reflects the current UK postal market. This work accurately identifies the changes over the past four years and recognises changes and actions that need to be addressed.

**Question 4: Do you agree with our proposal not to amend the Universal Service Order or the DUSP conditions to include tracking as standard on**

**First and Second Class single piece parcels?**

**Please state your reasons and provide evidence to support your view.:**

techUK understand the constraints in including single piece tracking and the potential VAT implications. While the meter payment channel can see benefits in amending these services we recognise that they are available as VAT rateable services.