Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates February 2017

Communications Portfolio

Australia Post

Question No: 69

Australia Post

Hansard Ref: Page 63, 28/02/2017

Topic: Post office box rental terms and conditions

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: In your post office box terms and conditions schedule, schedule 14, which I have pulled up from the Australia Post website, it does not say anywhere that if, as a consumer, I pay Australia Post to rent a post office box, I cannot get anyone else deliver parcels to that box; does it? It does not say that you can only receive packages as delivered by Australia Post?

Ms Corbett: I do not have the terms and conditions in front of me, but I am happy to take that on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Can you take that on notice. I have read through schedule 14 and I cannot see anywhere where it says that those conditions are put on it; that, as a consumer having paid to rent that box, I can only use delivery services as listed by Australia Post.

Ms Corbett: I am happy to go through the terms and conditions and take that on notice for you. **Senator HANSON-YOUNG**: Thank you.

Answer:

The Post Office (PO) Box service Terms and Conditions (T&Cs) govern the relationship between the customer (that is, the addressee - in the context of the PO Box service) and Australia Post. These T&Cs do not govern the relationship between Australia Post and any third party carriers. The T&Cs do not specifically prohibit third party carriers from arranging delivery to PO Boxes. If postage is paid then any article will be delivered to a PO Box irrespective of the original carrier.