Question No: 184

Program No: Australia Post

Hansard Ref: Page 98-100 (28/5/2014)

Topic: BPR Increase

Senator Xenophon asked:
Senator Xenophon: Can you just confirm—and I don't want to get stuck on this—in respect of the carded article payments above the base rate: they should have the BPR increase, is that right, Ms Corbett?
Ms Corbett: Let me take the specifics of that on notice. Certainly, the carded article fee—
Senator Xenophon: I just don't want to be accused by the chair of not enunciating properly—
Ms Corbett: No, that is clear. Let me take that on notice. Certainly, the carded article fee has gone up by 16.7 per cent. I think that your question that I will take on notice is, if there is a negotiated fee above that, how is that affected?
Senator Xenophon: And is it the case that Australia Post has deferred, or will not negotiate, any further increases for another 12 months? Or not?
Ms Corbett: I'm not aware of that.
Senator Xenophon: You are not aware of that. That is fine. If you could take it on notice; I am just trying to clarify—

Answer:
The carded article fee within the LPO Agreement is set as an annual fee paid to the licensee on a monthly basis (i.e. the rate is not a set per-article amount).

The annual base-rate carded article fee increased by 16.7 per cent on 31 March 2014.

Where a negotiated-rate carded article fee has been agreed, this amount is not automatically adjusted but rather would be subject to re-negotiation between the licensee and Australia Post. This is due to these negotiated rates taking into consideration site specific factors such as the number of carded articles received and any special accommodation requirements.

There are no restrictions around the re-negotiation of these payments and Australia Post will undertake to re-negotiate upon receipt of a request from the licensee.