

POSTAL SERVICES COMMISSION

DECISION STATEMENT

GRANT OF LICENCE TO DX NETWORK SERVICES LIMITED

Summary

On 23 March 2004, the Postal Services Commission ("Postcomm") issued a consultation notice on the proposed grant of a licence to DX (Document Exchange) Limited. Representations on the granting of the licence were requested by 22 April 2004. Two representations were received, one of which raised no objection to the granting of the licence and one of which was not specifically relevant to this licence. On 11 May 2004, the company name was changed by special resolution to DX Network Services Limited ("DX"). Postcomm has decided to grant the licence to DX.

Background

In May 2002, Postcomm published its decision on its market opening strategy. This described Postcomm's approach to introducing competition into the postal market over the four years from 1 January 2003, with the underlying aim of achieving full liberalisation by April 2007 through a phased transition plan.

A standard licence was published in December 2002 ("Licences under the Postal Services Act 2000: a further defined activity of tracked business-to-business services").

Consultation Notice

On 23 March 2004 Postcomm issued a consultation notice on the proposal to grant a standard licence to DX under Section 11 of the Postal Services Act 2000 ("the Act"). The notice requested views on Postcomm's proposal to grant this licence. Under the terms of the statutory notice, representations regarding the draft licence were requested by 22 April 2004.

The licence was for the following services:

- Conveyance of letters which originate from a single user at one address and which are mailings of 4000 items or more
- Consolidation of mailings for conveyance to Royal Mail Group plc and subsequent conveyance by Royal Mail Group plc
- Conveyance of mail for members of a document exchange
- Conveyance of tracked business-to-business mail.

Consultation Notice –Responses

Postcomm received two responses to the consultation. Neither respondent described their response as being confidential. The responses are summarised as follows.

- Postwatch, the Consumer Council for Postal Services raised no objection to the issuing of a licence.
- A respondent from the Postcomm e-mail notification list, who did not specify membership of any interest group or company, commented on Postcomm's market opening strategy but did not refer specifically to the issuing of a licence to DX.

Postcomm's Decision

Postcomm has decided to grant the licence to DX, as it is satisfied that the grant of the licence to DX is a proper exercise of its functions under the Act.

Contact details at Postcomm

If you have any questions about the grant of this licence, please contact

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