

**TEMPLATE for LETTER to LOCAL FEDERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES  
& possibly Minister for Communications & Shadow Minister for  
Communications, and Prime Minister John Howard and Federal  
Opposition Leader Kevin Rudd**

**Complete the details below as needed -personalise as per your LPO**

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Licensed Post Office  
(NAME) (State) (postcode)  
Tel: 0.....

.... November 2007

**TO:**

NAME OF CANDIDATE  
POSTAL ADDRESS

Dear (name of candidate/MP)

**Re: (Name of LPO) and Australia Post**

I/We operate the Licensed Post Office (LPO) at (Name). LPOs are privately owned post offices operated under contract to Australia Post. By virtue of the contractual arrangement with Australia Post, Licensees (the owner/operators of LPOs) are also franchisees to Australia Post. More details on LPOs are available on the website of our industry association on [www.poaal.com.au](http://www.poaal.com.au).

I/we would appreciate it if you would forward by return your Party's policy in relation to postal matters and small business matters. Along with other Licensees we have a huge financial investment in the postal industry which gives us a clear interest in the industry.

We believe that there should be complete transparency in Australia Post's dealings with Licensees, and that Australia Post should at all times be required to meet its obligations under the LPO Agreement promptly and in good faith. Further there should be checks and balances in place to ensure that Australia Post meets those obligations promptly and responds in writing promptly to all requests/correspondence from Licensees. Failure by Australia Post to respond to Licensees is a major hurdle which is difficult to overcome by an individual with small resources facing a huge organisation with substantial resources.

In relation to the (name) LPO, I wish to draw your attention to the following:

**HERE, BRIEFLY & SUCCINCTLY STATE YOUR ISSUE.**

*Note: if the size and location of your LPO (eg in country town) is relevant, give those details, as briefly as possible. If you operate a manual LPO, you may wish to ask them to lobby on your behalf to get Bank@Post.*

- *If possible, make dot points as these are easy to follow.*

*You might wish to note Australia Post's practice of transferring business away from LPOs to corporate outlets, and AP's failure to supply its full range of products to LPOs.*

*continued over...*

FINISH BY NOTING WHAT YOU WISH THE MP or CANDIDATE TO DO FOR YOU, eg:

- Visit you and talk about your issues
- Write to the Minister for Communications for you
- Send you the Party Policy on Postal matters & Small Business
- Write to AP's Managing Director for you
- Write to AP State Admin for you
- Publicise your problem/issue
- Lobby for Bank@Post at your outlet
- Make a commitment that if their Party forms Government, they will ensure that Australia Post will be held accountable in its obligations to its Licensees
- Make a commitment that if their Party forms Government, they will ensure that they oppose deregulation of Australia's postal service
- Make a commitment that if their Party forms Government, they will ensure that Australia Post is kept in public ownership.

I/we trust that you will take an interest in our situation here at (NAME OF LPO). While representing the postal service here, we do our best to look after the needs of our local customers, and believe that we provide a much-needed service in this area. We also believe that we deserve the full and committed support and encouragement of our principal, Australia Post, and trust that you will do your part to make sure that this occurs.

I/we look forward to hearing from you as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully,

(NAME OF LICENSEE)  
Licensee,  
(Name of LPO)