

From: s 47 E(c)
Sent: Wed, 9 Sep 2020 15:04:11 +1000
To: Holgate, Christine
Cc: s 47 E(c) Macdonald, Nick s 47 E(c)
Subject: RE: Inquiry from The Age - approval for response please

Hi Christine,

Thanks for this and I agree it was a while ago! I will follow up with s 47 to check he is ok with below.

In terms of the additional part of our response, I've highlighted below the questions from Rob which these statements respond to. I feel if we do not address them it looks like we are not responding fully and likely he will come back and ask us or report on our lack of response to address them.

Are you ok to include on this basis?

Thanks, s 47 E(c)

From: Holgate, Christine
Sent: Wednesday, 09 September, 2020 2:53 PM
To: s 47 E(c)
Cc: s 47 E(c)
 s 47 E(c) Macdonald, Nick <Nick.Macdonald@auspost.com.au> s 47 E(c)
Subject: Re: Inquiry from The Age - approval for response please

s 47 E(c)

This was so long ago now I can't honestly remember all the facts, but s 47 probably can as it was s 47 E(c) who led this.

I have marked in yellow what I think is ok to say. One Nation, like Labor, LNP and many political parties are all our customers. We did not open the parcels so we cannot get drawn in and incidentally I did not speak to Pauline as s was leading with the customer in Queensland. But can you check with s 47 whether he wants to comment on this.

Australia Post takes its obligation to deliver mail as addressed seriously, and given the unique nature of the circumstances – namely with site access being denied, due to the units being under lockdown and under the control of DHHS and City of Melbourne - met this obligation when we delivered all mail to authorised officers at the site control centre.

Upon subsequently being made aware that the items did not reach their ultimate destination, we raised it with the City of Melbourne and engaged with the sender in good faith to resolve the matter.

s 47 E(c) may want to add: The City of Melbourne are an important partner of Australia Post.

Not sure why we would add this next bit.

Australia Post regularly engages with Members of Parliament on a range of issues. This has included engagement with many MPs and Senators regarding the temporary regulatory relief announced by the Federal Government in April 2020.

Further, Australia Post openly provides tours of its facilities to representatives across all levels of government. This has included Senator Hanson at our Queensland facilities, which took place in July, as previously reported by your paper.

s42 s 47 E(c) s 47 so please let me know if you are ok to share as is or have suggested changes – the deadline requested is 4pm,

Many thanks, s 47

s 47 E(c)

Head of External Communications
Corporate Affairs
Level 14, 111 Bourke St MELBOURNE VIC 3000

T s 47 E(c)

M s 47 E(c)

E s 47 E(c)

From: s 47 E(c)

Sent: Wednesday, 09 September, 2020 12:25 PM

To: s 47 E(c)

Subject: FW: Inquiry from The Age

Rob's just called me on this.

s 47 E(c)

National Media and Communications Manager
Corporate Affairs
VIC 3000

T s 47 E(c)

M s 47 E(c)

E s 47 E(c)

From: Rob Harris [<mailto:rob.harris@theage.com.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 09 September, 2020 12:21 PM

To: Aus Post Media <Media@auspost.com.au>

Subject: Inquiry from The Age

Expecting this email? If suspicious forward it to secureatpost@auspost.com.au

G'day

Happy to talk through this if needed.

Cheers,
Rob

I am writing a story which will claim Australia Post threatened to notify police if Melbourne City Council did not allow the delivery of about 100 parcels sent by One Nation's Pauline Hanson to the residents of a locked-down tower block during the height of the recent COVID-19 outbreak.

I understand on Saturday, July 11 - Australia Post contacted Melbourne City Council regarding the delivery of about 100 parcels to 76 Canning Street, North Melbourne.

I believe the parcels contained One Nation paraphernalia and were sent days after Senator Hanson had made comments about the public housing lockdown in Melbourne on the Today show.

I have the following questions. **If I could have a response by 4pm today that would be appreciated.**

Who directed Nick Macdonald to send an email to Melbourne City Council?

Did the client - in this case Senator Hanson or her office - request Australia Post pursue the issue?

*Did Ms Holgate speak to any council official prior or post the email regarding its content?
If yes, who did Ms Holgate speak to?*

Did Ms Holgate or any other Australia Post employee speak to Pauline Hanson and/or any member of Ms Hanson's staff prior to sending the email?

Had Ms Holgate or any other Australia Post employee spoken to Ms Hanson and/or any member of her staff in the previous month about her voting intention on a Senate disallowance motion on regulatory changes affecting the postal business?

Was Australia Post aware of the context of the parcels prior to reminding Melbourne City Council of its obligation of delivering the mail?

Was Ms Holgate aware of Ms Hanson's comments on the Today show on July 6 prior to requesting the parcels be delivered?

Did Australia Post seek legal intervention over the non-delivery of the parcels?

Where the parcels delivered to the 100-odd units within 76 Canning Street?

Has Australia Post ever given Ms Hanson a tour of its Queensland facilities?

If so, when?

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Rob Harris

National affairs editor

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