

**SENATOR THE HON STEPHEN CONROY**

MINISTER FOR BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY
MINISTER ASSISTING THE PRIME MINISTER ON DIGITAL PRODUCTIVITY
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SENATE

The Hon John Murphy MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Petitions
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

23 MAY 2012

Dear Mr Murphy

Australia Post – Wanneroo Post Office

Thank you for your letter dated 13 February 2012 concerning a petition submitted for the Committee's consideration regarding the relocation of the Wanneroo Post Office. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

Under the *Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989* Australia Post is responsible for the day-to-day running of the organisation, including all decisions relating to the postal network. As a Government Business Enterprise, Australia Post does not receive any funding from taxpayers and, as far as practicable, it is required to perform its functions in a manner consistent with sound commercial practice.

Australia Post has advised that, given the significantly higher accommodation costs in the centre, it is commercially unviable for the Wanneroo Post Office to relocate the new shopping centre. Modifications to the post office were undertaken in early 2009 to improve access for aged and disabled customers. Australia Post is not aware of any access issues or complaints following these works. However, Australia Post acknowledges that the post office can get busy at times and it continues to monitor and adjust operations to maximise customer service.

Australia Post has noted the petitioners concerns about increased vehicular through traffic and lack of a zebra crossing near the post office and advises that these issues are managed by the local council.

Australia Post has advised that the relocation of the post office would not automatically result in the extension of trading hours to include Saturday mornings as its retail trading hours are determined by local customer demand. In the case of the Wanneroo Post Office, there is insufficient local customer demand to warrant Saturday trading.

I trust this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Conroy
Minister for Broadband,
Communications and the Digital Economy