

Ref. AF/LS/100

9th April 2020

Nick Read
Chief Executive
Post Office Limited
Finsbury Dials
20 Finsbury Street
London, EC2Y 9AQ

Dear Nick

EASTER SATURDAY – NON SERVICE DAY

I have received a disappointing response from the Post Office in regard to our proposal to designate Easter Saturday "a non service day" for Crown Offices. Notwithstanding the reasons advanced for rejecting our proposal, I wish to bring to your attention an interesting development from An Post which has decided not to open its Post Offices in Ireland this Saturday. This progressive approach is underpinned with a revealing statement from Debbie Byrne, Managing Director of An Post Retail in today's Irish Post newspaper:

"Postmasters and Post Office staff have put in a massive effort in recent weeks to look after customers and ensure continuity of postal, financial and welfare payment services while having the necessary physical distancing measures in place.

"I want to thank them most wholeheartedly for all their efforts in keeping the network of 950 post offices open, providing vital services and a welcoming smile to communities across the country.

"They are due a well-earned break over the Easter bank holiday so we can resume services on the front-line next Tuesday"

You will appreciate I am obliged to share the An Post development with our members who will learn about this, whether the union advises them or not.

The Great British Post Office led the way and as such was the model adopted across the world. Clearly, An Post has got this right and will gain untold respect for considering its people first and foremost. It is not too late for you as the CEO to take a similar approach to An Post. I urge you to do the right thing by reversing the earlier decision.

I look forward to a positive response.

Yours sincerely



Andy Furey
Assistant Secretary

c.c. Lee Kelly, Employee Relations and Policy Director
Lisa Cherry, Group Chief People Officer