

- (4) No stamp indicating on the face thereof payment of a registration fee (with or without postage) shall be used to denote payment of postage or fees on any unregistered postal packet.
- (5) Packets bearing the impression of postal franking machines or intended for impression by postal franking machines, and packets on which payment of postage is denoted by a printed impression or by an impression made by any other device authorised by the Post Office, shall be accepted only at such post offices, within such hours, and under and subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Post Office may consider appropriate.
- (6) Except as regards any postal franking machine the use of which is for the time being authorised by a licence in writing granted by the Post Office, the provisions of Schedule 2 shall apply with respect to the granting and termination by the Post Office of authority to use a postal franking machine and the use thereof.
- (7) Subject to the provisions of this Scheme, the stamp or impression denoting payment of postage or fees shall be placed in such position on the envelope, cover, wrapper, postcard or other form as the Post Office may consider appropriate.
- (8) No stamp or impression which is imperfect or mutilated or defaced in any way, or across which anything is written or printed or otherwise impressed, shall be used to denote payment of postage or fees; but a stamp shall not be deemed to be imperfect or mutilated or defaced or to have anything written or printed or impressed across it within the meaning of this provision, by reason only that it is distinctly perforated with initials by means of a punch if the perforating holes are not larger than those dividing one stamp from another in a sheet of stamps.

Unpaid or underpaid postage

- 13.—(1) Where the postage or any other sum chargeable for the transmission of an inland postal packet is required to be prepaid and has not been, or has been insufficiently, prepaid by the sender, there shall be payable by the addressee on the delivery of the packet, or, if the packet is refused or cannot for any other reason be delivered, by the sender:
 - (a) subject as provided by paragraph 6(3)(a) (late posted registered postal packet or recorded delivery packet), where the non-payment or deficiency is in respect of postage, an amount equal to twice the amount of the postage, or as the case may be, of the deficiency;
 - (b) where the non-payment or deficiency is in respect of a sum other than postage, an amount equal to that sum, or as the case may be, to the amount of the deficiency.
- (2) Where, on the delivery to him of an inland postal packet, the addressee has paid any amount thereon in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) and desires to reject the packet, the Post Office may, on the application of the addressee, charge to the sender the said amount together with the additional postage and other charges, if any, for returning the packet to him, and the sender shall pay any sum so charged; and on the payment by the sender of that sum the Post Office shall repay to the addressee the amount paid by him under sub-paragraph (1).

Postmarks

- 14.—(1) The marks used by the Post Office for the purpose of cancelling stamps or impressions denoting the payment of postage on postal packets may consist of such words or devices as the Post Office may in its discretion think proper, including words or devices (whether constituting advertisements or otherwise) in respect of the use of which as postmarks payment is made by any persons to the Post Office.
- (2) The Post Office may write or impress on a postal packet such words, codes or devices as the Post Office may in its discretion think proper, for the purpose of drawing attention to any error in, omission from or other matter in, or relating to, the address.

Treatment of irregular packets

- 15.—(1) If any postal packet (other than a packet to which paragraph 40(1) or (2) applies) which appears to have been intended for transmission as a packet of a particular description is found in the post or is left at a post office, and it does not comply, or its manner of posting did not comply, with the provisions of this Scheme which are applicable to postal packets of that description, the Post Office may (as it thinks fit) treat it either as if it had been posted as a postal packet of that description or as if it had been posted as a postal packet of such other description as it considers appropriate; and the provisions of this Scheme shall apply thereto accordingly.
- (2) Where any postal packet is treated as a parcel under sub-paragraph (1), and the amount of postage which was prepaid therein is less than the amount which would have been prepayable thereon if it had been posted as a parcel, there shall be payable by the addressee on the delivery of the packet, or if the packet is refused or cannot for any other reason be delivered, by the sender, the appropriate postage at the rate applicable to parcels and the additional sum of 1p, less the amount of any postage prepaid.

Return of undeliverable postal packets (except parcels)

- 16.—(1) In the case of any postal packet (other than (i) a parcel, (ii) a letter accepted for transmission as a second class letter under paragraph 35, (iii) a current registered newspaper, or (iv) a election communication which has been received by the Post Office for transmission under Section 79(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1949) which for any reason cannot be delivered, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (a) where the name and address of the sender appear legibly on the outside of the packet, the packet shall be returned to the sender unopened, but subject to payment of any charges to which it has become liable;
 - (b) where the name and address of the sender do not appear on the outside of the packet or are illegible, the packet shall be opened by any officer of the Post Office duly authorised in that behalf and if the packet is found to contain or consist wholly or partly of anything other than commercial advertising matter, newspapers or magazines, then if the name and address of the sender can be ascertained, the packet shall be returned to the sender, subject to payment of any charges to which it has become liable;
 - (c) if the packet has been opened by an officer of the Post Office in pursuance of sub-paragraph (1)(b) and the name and address of the sender cannot be ascertained, or it is found to contain or consist of nothing except commercial advertising matter, newspapers or magazines, it may be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Post Office may think fit.
- (2) In the case of (i) a letter accepted for transmission as a second class letter under paragraph 35 or (ii) a postal packet which is a current registered newspaper, being in either case a packet which for any reason cannot be delivered, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (a) where the name and address of the sender appear legibly on the outside of the packet, the packet shall be returned to the sender unopened, subject to payment of any charges to which it has become liable;
 - (b) where the name and address of the sender do not appear on the outside of the packet or are illegible, the packet may be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Post Office may think fit.