
SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS

POST OFFICE

Post Office Order 2000

S. R. & O. No. 1 of 2000

Made: 6 November 2000

Published: 21 November 2000

Coming into force: in accordance with section 1

IN EXERCISE of my powers under section 4 of the Post Office Ordinance(a), and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I make the following Order —

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Post Office Order 2000 and shall be deemed to have come into force on 1st November 2000.

Interpretation

2. In this Order unless the context otherwise requires —

“aerogramme” means a letter written on a form consisting of a single sheet of paper suitably folded and gummed on all sides and sold by the Post Office for the purpose of being used to send messages by air mail;

“inland” means the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the British Antarctic Territory; and

“printed paper” means reproductions on paper, cardboard or other materials commonly used in printing produced in several identical copies.

Postage rates

3. The rates of postage on the various categories of postal matter shall be as shown in the First, Second and Third Schedules to this Order and shall be effective from the coming into force of this Order.

Weight limitations

4. No item shall be accepted for transmission —

(a) Cap. 52 Laws of the Falkland Islands 1950 Edition in its application under Cap. 1 (DS) The South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

- (a) as an overseas air mail letter or as an overseas small packet if it exceeds 2 kilograms in weight;
- (b) as an overseas air mail parcel;
- (c) as an overseas surface mail letter, printed paper or small packet if it exceeds 2 kilograms in weight;
- (d) as an overseas surface mail parcel if it exceeds 30 kilograms in weight;
- (e) as an inland letter, printed paper or small packet if it exceeds 2 kilograms in weight; or
- (f) as an inland parcel if it exceeds 10 kilograms in weight.

Aerogrammes

5.—(1) An aerogramme shall not be accepted for transmission by air mail —

- (a) if it has any enclosure; or
- (b) if it is not sufficiently stamped for transmission as an aerogramme by air mail.

(2) Where an aerogramme is not by virtue of paragraph (1) to be accepted for transmission by air mail, it may, at the discretion of the Postmaster, be accepted for transmission by surface mail if it is sufficiently stamped for such transmission.

Small packets

6.—(1) A class of postal packets called “small packets” is authorised with the object of affording facilities, in the international service, for the transmission of small articles of merchandise in the letter mails. The exchange of small packets is limited to those countries which have agreed to participate in the service.

(2) The prohibitions applicable to letter post shall apply also to the service of small packets. In addition, the following shall be specially excluded from transmission in small packets —

- (a) letters, notes or documents having the character of actual and personal correspondence including tapes, disks or wires bearing recordings of current and personal messages (this prohibition shall not apply to open invoices reduced to the simplest form, the addresses of the addressee, the description of the article and the sender’s address);
- (b) coins;
- (c) banknotes;
- (d) currency notes;
- (e) negotiable instruments payable to the bearer;
- (f) platinum, gold or silver, manufactured or not;
- (g) precious stones;
- (h) jewels and other valuable articles; and
- (i) postage stamps, whether obliterated or not.

(3) Small packets addressed to a destination outside the South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands shall —

- (a) have securely fixed to them an International Customs Declaration Form in a form approved by the Universal Postal Union (and obtainable from the postal authorities) which shall have been fully and properly completed by the sender; and
- (b) be marked with the words “small packet” in the top left-hand corner of the obverse of the packet.

A small packet not complying with this paragraph shall not be accepted for transmission by mail.

(4) Small packets may be registered but not insured.

Exemptions from postage

7.—(1) The following postal articles may be accepted for transmission by mail without the prepayment of postage —

(a) postal articles originating in a department of the Government, posted in South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and bearing —

(i) the words “On Her Majesty’s Service” conspicuously marked at the top of the obverse of the item; and

(ii) in the lower left-hand or right-hand corner the official departmental stamp; and

(b) postal articles sent on postal business by the postal authorities.

(2) Postage shall ordinarily be prepaid by affixing adhesive postage stamps obtained from the postal authorities but, by arrangement between the sender and the Postmaster, may be prepaid by use of a franking machine approved by him and subject to compliance with such conditions the Postmaster may specify.

Unpaid or underpaid postage

8.—(1) Where the postage payable on any postal packet has not been prepaid or has not been fully prepaid, the following surcharge shall be payable —

(a) in the case of an overseas postal packet, the surcharge calculated according to the Detailed Regulations of the Universal Postal Union; and

(b) in the case of an inland postal packet, double the postage or double the deficiency as the case may be.

(2) An air mail packet on which no part, or part only, of the postage payable thereon has been paid may be dealt with as if it were not an airmail packet.

Undelivered parcels

9.—(1) Any parcel not collected within three months from the posting of a notification of arrival may be returned to the sender or otherwise disposed of as the Postmaster thinks fit.

(2) Any fee payable under this section shall be payable in cash in such manner as the Postmaster may direct.

Registration

10.—(1) The fees for registration shall be —

(a) inland - 50 pence; and

(b) overseas - £1.

(2) The maximum limit of compensation for the loss of a registered postal packet is £20 where the overseas fee has been paid and £10 otherwise.

Cash on delivery parcels

11. For cash on delivery parcels a fee equivalent of the rates of poundage for the time being charged by the United Kingdom Post Office on British Postal Orders and calculated by reference to the trade charge in respect of the parcel or sum of £300, which ever is the lower.

Insurance

12.—(1) Insurance shall be available only in relation to letters and parcels addressed to an address in the United Kingdom and any other country for the time being notified by the Postmaster.

(2) Insurance charges shall be £3 with the maximum insured value of £300.

Parcels and customs declarations

13. Paragraph 6(3)(a) above (customs declarations in relation to small packets addressed to overseas destinations) shall also apply to parcels so addressed.

Inland small packets

14.—(1) Paragraph 6(3)(b) above (marking of small packets addressed to overseas destinations) shall also apply to small packets addressed to inland destinations.

(2) Where an inland small packet is not marked as required by sub-paragraph (1) or exceeds 1 kilogram in weight it shall if it does not exceed 2 kilograms in weight attract postage at the rate applicable to letters and otherwise shall be treated as a parcel and be charged for and transmitted accordingly.

Made this sixth day of November 2000

D A Lamont
Commissioner

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

AIR MAIL RATES - TO ALL COUNTRIES

Letters - 43p first 20 gm, 25p each extra 10 gm (or part)
Small Packets - 33p first 20 gm, 15p each extra 10 gm (or part)
Printed Papers - 33p first 20 gm, 15p each extra 10 gm (or part)
Post Cards - 37p
Aerogramme - 40p
Illustrated Aerogramme - 52p

SECOND SCHEDULE

SURFACE MAIL RATES

(a) not over 20 gm - 35p
(b) over 20 gm but not over 100 gm - 80p
(c) over 100 gm - 115p plus 35p for each 50 gm or part thereof that the weight exceeds 150 gm

SMALL PACKET AND PRINTED PAPER RATES

(a) not over 20 gm - 25p
(b) over 20 gm but not over 100 gm - 70p
(c) over 100 gm - 95p plus 25p for each 50 gm or part thereof that the weight exceeds 150 gm
Post Card - 25p
Literature for the Blind - Free

PARCELS

United Kingdom

Not over 1 kg - £8.00
£4.00 for each additional kg - maximum weight 30 kg

Other Countries

Parcels for some other countries need additional postage

THIRD SCHEDULE

INLAND RATES

(a) not over 20 gm - 20p
(b) over 20 gm - 20p plus 15p for each 50 gm or part thereof that the weight exceeds 20 gm
Post Card - 15p

SMALL PACKET AND PRINTED PAPER RATES

(a) not over 20 gm - 10p
(b) over 20 gm - 10p plus 7p for each 50 gm or part thereof that the weight exceeds 20 gm

INLAND PARCELS

(a) not over 3 kg - £3.50p
(b) not over 5 kg - £5.50p
(c) not over 10 kg - £10.50p

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(not forming part of the above regulations)

This Order imposes air mail rates, surface mail rates and inland rates to be applied to all posted matter, to be applied from 1st November 2000.