



Labor's bid to block changes in the way how Australia Post operates has failed. The ...

4BC, Brisbane, 12:00 News, Newsreader

12 Jun 2020 12:02 PM

Duration: 0 min 25 secs • ASR AUD 314 • QLD • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083109964

Labor's bid to block changes in the way how Australia Post operates has failed. The company has shifted some of its mail delivery workers to its parcel division. Australia Post says demand for mail has slumped during the COVID-19 crisis.

Audience

16,000 All, 10,000 MALE 16+, 7,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 4 stations

4BH (Brisbane), 4BU (Bundaberg), 4CRB FM (Gold Coast), Radio 4KZ (Innisfail)



Labor's bid to block any changes to the way Australia Post operates has failed.

5AA, Adelaide, 11:00 News, Newsreader

12 Jun 2020 11:05 AM

Duration: 0 min 20 secs • ASR AUD 223 • SA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083110789

Labor's bid to block any changes to the way Australia Post operates has failed.

Audience

25,000 All, 11,000 MALE 16+, 14,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 3 stations

5AU (Port Augusta), 5CS (Port Pirie), 5MU (Murray Bridge)



Labor's bid to hinder changes on the Australia Post operation has failed.

3AW, Melbourne, 11:00 News, Newsreader

12 Jun 2020 11:02 AM

Duration: 0 min 19 secs • ASR AUD 891 • VIC • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083109346

Labor's bid to hinder changes on the Australia Post operation has failed.

Audience

139,000 All, 69,000 MALE 16+, 70,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 12 stations

2AY (Albury), 3BA FM (Ballarat), 3CS (Colac), 3NE (Wangaratta), 3SH (Swan Hill), 3WM (Horsham), 3YB (Warrnambool), Coast FM (Warrnambool), Magic 1278 (Melbourne), Mixx FM Hamilton (Hamilton), Mixx FM Horsham (Horsham), SEN (Melbourne)



Byner says he's sent a lot of the listener's feedback towards the crossbenchers about ...

5AA, Adelaide, Mornings, Leon Byner

12 Jun 2020 9:18 AM

Duration: 0 min 14 secs • ASR AUD 169 • SA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083108942

Byner says he's sent a lot of the listener's feedback towards the crossbenchers about Australia Post.

Audience

32,000 All, 15,000 MALE 16+, 17,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 3 stations

5AU (Port Augusta), 5CS (Port Pirie), 5RM (Berri)



Interview with Anthony Albanese, Labor Leader. Byner states several listeners are ...

5AA, Adelaide, Mornings, Leon Byner

12 Jun 2020 9:11 AM

Duration: 6 mins 40 secs • ASR AUD 4,814 • SA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083108797

Interview with Anthony Albanese, Labor Leader. Byner states several listeners are complaining that services of Australia Post, whether it be letter or parcel, haven't been great in the past days. Albanese says Australia Post is looking into halving letter deliveries which could push back delivery timeframes in capital cities. He states though lots of people still use email, many people still use mail. Albanese says Australia Post had put out a poorly thought policy which they snuck in during the coronavirus crisis. He states the disallowance motion this morning in Parliament will cut out the changes to the regulations to stop them from becoming worse. Albanese hopes the few people in the Coalition who recognise this as a bad thing. He states this change will slash countless jobs in an already difficult time. Byner notes of a cancel culture within the society in regards to movies like *Gone With the Wind* on Netflix or historical statues. Albanese says it is fine for people to debate about history but it is not fine to erase it. He notes of the *Fawlty Towers* show is being challenged and mentions Ricky Gervais. Albanese says *Gone With The Wind* is a film which depicted something that had happened and should not be erased. He states if Labor were to win the election, he would completely dump the robodebt system. Albanese says every single person who came to his office for assistance had their debt reduced to zero or substantially. He states they will put humans have into human services and blames this issue to automation. Albanese says there are tragedies arising from this plan which was put in by Scott Morrison when he was treasurer.

Audience

32,000 All, 15,000 MALE 16+, 17,000 FEMALE 16+

Interviewees

Anthony Albanese, Labor Leader

Also broadcast from the following 3 stations

5AU (Port Augusta), 5CS (Port Pirie), 5RM (Berri)



Byner says Australia Post is a statutory and runs a monopoly. He states they earn a profit ...

5AA, Adelaide, Mornings, Leon Byner

12 Jun 2020 9:10 AM

Duration: 1 min 51 secs • ASR AUD 1,337 • SA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083108737

Byner says Australia Post is a statutory and runs a monopoly. He states they earn a profit but it doesn't mean any service deemed not so can or should be diminished. Byner says Australia Post management have exceeded their authority even before COVID-19. He states the parcel business may have increased but the promptness of deliveries have been seriously waning. Byner wonders why they are paying \$1.6m to the CEO when their American and British counterparts are being paid far less.

Audience

32,000 All, 15,000 MALE 16+, 17,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 3 stations

5AU (Port Augusta), 5CS (Port Pirie), 5RM (Berri)



Program Preview

...

5AA, Adelaide, Mornings, Leon Byner

12 Jun 2020 9:08 AM

Duration: 1 min 55 secs • ASR AUD 1,384 • SA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083108641

Program Preview

- Discussion about a disallowance motion in the Parliament to stop Australia Post from doing what they've already done.
- Interview with Channel 7 political reporter Mike Smithson.
- Discussion about people being paid money to switch off the use of electricity.
- Interview with a Federal Minister about businesses receiving auxiliary bills.
- Discussion about Chinese students who love and are staying in Australia.
- Interview with Adelaide University Professor Gary Wittert.
- Discussion on Virgin increasing their flights into and out of Adelaide.

Audience

32,000 All, 15,000 MALE 16+, 17,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 3 stations

5AU (Port Augusta), 5CS (Port Pirie), 5RM (Berri)



Program Preview for the Morning Show with Leon Byner

...

5AA, Adelaide, Breakfast, David Penberthy and Will Goodings

12 Jun 2020 8:47 AM

Duration: 0 min 47 secs • ASR AUD 356 • SA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083108687

Program Preview for the Morning Show with Leon Byner

- Interview with Anthony Albanese, Labor party on Labor disallowing Australia Post from reducing the delivery of letters.
- Discussion on struggling small businesses having to pay more for ancillary power bills.

Audience

32,000 All, 15,000 MALE 16+, 17,000 FEMALE 16+



Interview with Labor Leader, Anthony Albanese....

2GB, Sydney, Breakfast, Ben Fordham

12 Jun 2020 8:38 AM

Duration: 3 mins 45 secs • ASR AUD 5,724 • NSW • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: A00083107530

Interview with Labor Leader, Anthony Albanese.

Albanese says he will be moving a disallowance in the parliament about the new Australia Post regulations which would cut back delivery of the mail to two days a week. He says the Government and Aust. Post say its because people are using parcels but many others, particularly those in regional areas or those not into technology so much, still rely on the mail. Albanese comments that the post is an essential service. Albanese replies to Fordham's question about statues and monuments being torn down around the world, saying he believes that history cannot be rewritten but must be learned from. Albanese also thinks the removal of Gone with the Wind is going too far as it is a product of the times and an opportunity for people to learn from it.

Audience

167,000 All, 87,000 MALE 16+, 80,000 FEMALE 16+

Interviewees

Anthony Albanese, Labor Leader

Also broadcast from the following 1 station

2CC (Canberra)



human beings US President. Donald Trump will hold his first re-election campaign rally in ...

Curtin FM, Perth, 11:00 News, Newsreader

12 Jun 2020 11:03 AM

Duration: 0 min 33 secs • ASR AUD 68 • WA • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: R00083110607

human beings US President. Donald Trump will hold his first re-election campaign rally in months in Oklahoma. It'll take place on the 19th of June a date African Americans celebrate the end of slavery. Labor's bid to block change. Has to the way Australia Post operates has failed the government owned entity has shifted as some of its mail delivery workers to it's more profitable parcel division Australia Post made the move as demand for mail services has slumped during the covid crisis, but the opposition fears this could mean the organization slashes overall staff numbers children

Audience

N/A All, N/A MALE 16+, N/A FEMALE 16+



update to the regulation will see Australian post have the frequency of delivery rounds. ...

3BA FM, Ballarat, Ballarat Today, Brett MacDonald

12 Jun 2020 10:01 AM

Duration: 0 min 38 secs • ASR AUD 78 • VIC • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: R00083108462

update to the regulation will see Australian post have the frequency of delivery rounds. That means let us to Regional areas can be delivered in seven days up from the current three days. The federal member says she'll be opposed. Seeing the plan saying the Boom in parcel deliveries should be boosting and not cutting jobs and a stolen work by British Artist Banksy has been recovered. The piece was painted as a tribute to the victims of the 2015 terrorist attacks that have Music Hall in Paris. It's been found hidden in an attic in Italy. 3D a sports for Elegance by Barrett all showroom open Monday to Saturday drive-thru available 910 Latrobe Street, Ballarat

Audience

N/A All, N/A MALE 16+, N/A FEMALE 16+



CQ post delivery concerns

Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton, General News, Melanie Plane

15 Jun 2020

Page 10 • 664 words • ASR AUD 346 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 328.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288328974

IT COULD take a letter up to seven days to be delivered in Rockhampton and Gladstone under new regulations, Federal Labor leaders claim. Shadow minister for Northern Australia and Queensland Senator Murray Watt as well as Queensland Senator Anthony Chisholm raised concerns over new Federal Government regulations for Australia Post.

[View original](#) - Full text: 664 word(s), ~2 mins

Audience

9,049 CIRCULATION



Delay in delivery of letters

Daily Mercury, Mackay, General News, Melanie Whiting

15 Jun 2020

Page 2 • 232 words • ASR AUD 162 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 154.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288232697

AUSTRALIA Post has announced temporary changes to its postal service in response to the COVID-19 crisis. A spokeswoman for the corporation said there would temporary changes to letter delivery in metropolitan areas, with letter volumes in May down about 36 per cent on the previous year.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 232 word\(s\), <1 min](#)

Audience

7,207 CIRCULATION



Capture moment

Shepparton News, Shepparton , General News

15 Jun 2020

Page 2 • 322 words • ASR AUD 550 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 152.00 cm² • VIC • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288319467

Would you like to be a part of Australia's history? Greater Shepparton residents are being called on to capture this historic moment in time by writing a letter about their experience of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 322 word\(s\), ~1 min](#)

Audience

5,343 CIRCULATION



Consumers hold key to regional recovery

Launceston Examiner, Launceston, General News, Dr Kim Houghton

15 Jun 2020

Page 14 • 738 words • ASR AUD 4,829 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 672.00 cm² • TAS • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288308649

THE COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated changes in Australian consumption patterns which may create negative consequence for regional businesses. This needs to be addressed by regional consumers. It's now more important than ever for each of us to push our dollar further and support the notion of "think local, buy local" to ensure support for your region.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 738 word\(s\), ~2 mins](#)

Audience

13,140 CIRCULATION



Postie boss pleads to keep Covid relief

The Australian, Australia, General News, Rosie Lewis Jared Lynch

15 Jun 2020

Page 3 • 613 words • ASR AUD 6,294 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 284.00 cm² • National • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288263165

Australia Post boss Christine Holgate has guaranteed no forced redundancies and no staff pay cuts in a last-ditch plea to prevent a temporary COVID-19 relief package being overturned by parliament. As key crossbench senators prepare to meet Australia Post and unions on Monday, the chief executive has written pleading for a year to allow the COVID-19 relief plan to work.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 613 word\(s\), ~2 mins](#)

Audience

94,448 CIRCULATION



Regional areas take a hit from postal changes

Gladstone Observer, Gladstone, General News, Nick Gibbs

13 Jun 2020

Page 6 • 330 words • ASR AUD 238 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 226.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287565751

THE federal opposition is warning proposed changes to Australia Post regulations will significantly affect delivery times in Central Queensland. Queensland senators Murray Watt and Anthony Chisholm claim Gladstone and Rockhampton are "set to be hardest hit" by new regulations.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 330 word\(s\), ~1 min](#)

Audience

4,546 CIRCULATION



Posties change draws ire

Bendigo Advertiser, Bendigo, General News, Nicholas Nakos

13 Jun 2020

Page 6 • 417 words • ASR AUD 2,376 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 489.00 cm² • VIC • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287700731

FEDERAL member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters said Australia Post has been "chipping away" at jobs in Bendigo for years. Ms Chesters' remarks come as the Labor Party moved to disallow regulations which cut the frequency of postie delivery rounds.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 417 word\(s\), ~1 min](#)

Audience

9,558 CIRCULATION



Post delays could double

Ballarat Courier, Ballarat, General News, Finbar O'Mallon

13 Jun 2020

Page 18 • 501 words • ASR AUD 1,451 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 284.00 cm² • VIC • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287660608

LABOR has lost its bid to force parliament to block regulatory changes to Australia Post that unions claim could cost one in four postal worker jobs and almost double delivery times in regional areas. Brought in due to increased demand for parcel services during the coronavirus pandemic, the changes would redeploy posties to warehouses and reduce letter deliveries.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 501 word\(s\), ~2 mins](#)

Audience

13,713 CIRCULATION



How Woolies and Coles joined forces to avert virus disaster

Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney, Edition Changes - 3rd Edition, Dominic Powell

13 Jun 2020

Page 4 • 1783 words • ASR AUD 103,548 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 1,138.00 cm² • NSW • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287719642

As the coronavirus pandemic gripped the nation, the supermarket giants rushed to respond to the once-in-a-lifetime crisis. Dominic Powell reports.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 1783 word\(s\), ~7 mins](#)

Audience

145,231 CIRCULATION



Australia Post debate shut down

Weekend Australian, Australia, Business News, Jared Lynch Damon Kitney

13 Jun 2020

Page 28 • 392 words • ASR AUD 16,724 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 172.00 cm² • National • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287592772

The government has shut down debate and a vote to overturn changes to Australia Post's community obligations and delivery times in parliament as the postal service reveals its actual letter losses in the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Labor has taken the unusual step of seeking disallowance motions both in the Senate and House of Representatives about the regulatory changes, which apply until June 30 next year and will allow Australia Post to deliver mail every second business day in cities and extend delivery times on some routes.

[View original](#) - [Full text: 392 word\(s\), ~1 min](#)

Audience

219,242 CIRCULATION



Australia Post cuts

Coffs Coast Advocate, Coffs Harbour, General News

13 Jun 2020

Page 3 • 41 words • ASR AUD 4 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 4.00 cm² • NSW • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287738966

THE Communications, Electrical and Plumbing Union has attacked the Federal Government for supporting a move by Australia Post to save costs which could see up to a quarter of posties lose their jobs and delay mail and parcel delivery times.

[View original](#) - Full text: 41 word(s), <1 min

Audience

30,340 CIRCULATION



Australia Post boss Christine Holgate pleads to keep Covid relief

The Australian by Rosie Lewis

14 Jun 2020 10:14 PM

619 words • ASR AUD 2,554 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288253476

Australia Post boss Christine Holgate has guaranteed no forced -redundancies and no staff pay cuts in a last-ditch plea to prevent a temporary COVID-19 relief package being overturned by parliament.

As key crossbench senators prepare to meet Australia...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

138,450 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 1,821 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Australia Post refuses to divulge data as it pushes service cuts to Parliament

The New Daily

14 Jun 2020 10:06 PM

819 words • ASR AUD 1,821 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1288250220

Australia Post has repeatedly stalled on providing figures it says show a dramatic and ongoing decline in letter volumes, while simultaneously urging Parliament to approve controversial cuts to its letter delivery services

On Sunday, the federal...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

49,194 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 3,632 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Australia Post – no postie will lose their job

Apex Insight

12 Jun 2020 6:14 PM

374 words • ASR N/A • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287465017

Dismissing the idea that the pandemic induced changes to its business practices will cause job cuts, Australia Post has called on the country's Members of Parliament to support its planned change programme.

CEO, Christine Holgate said "Australia Post..."

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Labor pushes to overturn Australia Post's delivery changes

Macarthur Advertiser by Kathryn Lewis

12 Jun 2020 4:46 PM

321 words • ASR AUD 11 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287423314

Anthony Albanese and Labor Eden-Monaro candidate Kristy McBain speak to NSW/ACT CEPU representatives Dennis Williams and Cade Anderson. Picture: Karleen Minney

Australia Post has hit back at union claims that changes to delivery schedules will cost...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

1,158 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 16 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



'No good': Man furious after Australia Post delivers damaged package

Yahoo! News Australia by Olivia Lambert

12 Jun 2020 4:37 PM

551 words • ASR AUD 38,479 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287417411

A customer has hit out at Australia Post after his worst fears were realised when he opened a damaged package.

The man posted on Facebook he had recently purchased a new LCD panel for his laptop, but when he received the package he noticed punctures i...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

59,578 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 5,440 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Labor pressures government on postal cuts

Canberra Times by Finbar O'Mallon

12 Jun 2020 3:59 PM

286 words • ASR AUD 233 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287403700

Labor has lost its bid to stop regulatory changes to Australia Post that unions say could cost jobs.

Labor has continued to pressure the government over regulatory changes at Australia Post, saying it will lead to one in four postal workers losing thei...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

71,891 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 768 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



It was the thick of the drought, the dams were low and her husband was finding it difficult to get contract work, as Cowra's Heidi Castleden pursued her online fashion business.

The Land Australia

12 Jun 2020 3:49 PM

511 words • ASR AUD 226 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287387671

With the Buy from the Bush campaign helping, her business took off helping pay the house bills and she even employed an extra person at her Boorowa office to help meet demand.

Things were looking incredibly rosy for CastledenCo, but it was all based on...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

3,124 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 188 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Bendigo MP said Australia Post has been "chipping away" at Bendigo jobs

Bendigo Advertiser

12 Jun 2020 3:18 PM

429 words • ASR AUD 25 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287450191

Federal member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters said Australia Post has been "chipping away" at jobs in Bendigo for years. Ms Chesters' remarks come as the Labor Party moved to disallow regulations which cut the frequency of postie delivery rounds.

Opposition...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

4,280 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 57 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



'Hardest hit': What Australia Post changes mean for CQ

Gladstone Observer by Nick Gibbs

12 Jun 2020 2:52 PM

351 words • ASR AUD 16 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287378305

THE federal opposition is warning proposed changes to Australia Post regulations will significantly affect delivery times in Central Queensland.

Queensland senators Murray Watt and Anthony Chisholm claim Gladstone and Rockhampton are "set to be hardest..."

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

4,359 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 54 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Australia Post's cuts hurt a bush online fashion label

Canberra Times by John Ellicott

12 Jun 2020 2:44 PM

647 words • ASR AUD 423 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287363391

Bush customers say they are being treated as second-class citizens by Australia Post's delivery policies and service.

It was the thick of the drought, the dams were low and her husband was finding it difficult to get contract work, as Cowra's Heidi...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

71,891 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 768 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Government backs in its postal service cuts

miragenews.com

12 Jun 2020 2:37 PM

156 words • ASR AUD 184 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287429270

Today in the House of Representatives the Morrison Government stood by its regulations which slash Australia Post services and threaten jobs and wages.

Labor Leader Anthony Albanese moved to disallow the regulations which cut the frequency of postie...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

6,929 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 124 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Labor pushes to overturn Australia Post's delivery changes

The Ararat Advertiser

12 Jun 2020 2:13 PM

563 words • ASR AUD 7 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287359595

Australia Post has hit back at union claims that changes to delivery schedules will cost jobs, with the Communications Minister accusing Labor of a scare campaign over the issue.

Australia Post implemented changes in April that cut letter delivery...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

371 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 4 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Government rebuffs 'misleading' Labor claims on Australia Post regulatory relief

ITWire by Peter Dinham

12 Jun 2020 1:44 PM

1010 words • ASR AUD 183 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287328214

The Federal Government has rejected what it says are "misleading and baseless claims" from the Labor Party that temporary regulatory relief for Australia Post will force job losses and reduce rates of pay.

The Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

1,241 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 178 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Labor pushes to overturn Australia Post's delivery changes

Southern Highland News

12 Jun 2020 1:29 PM

635 words • ASR AUD 27 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287335170

Australia Post has hit back at union claims that changes to delivery schedules will cost jobs, with the Communications Minister accusing Labor of a scare campaign over the issue.

Australia Post implemented changes in April that cut letter delivery...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

872 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 13 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Inside story: How Woolworths and Coles joined forces to avert COVID-19 disaster

Sydney Morning Herald

12 Jun 2020 1:16 PM

1715 words • ASR AUD 19,330 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287370867

Normal text sizeLarger text sizeVery large text size

The picturesque gardens of a decommissioned psychiatric facility turned out to be the perfect place to plan for the end of the world.

It was here in the first week of March where Coles chief executiv...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

268,931 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 3,289 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Another by-election, another ALP scare campaign. Setting the facts straight on Australia Post

Minister for Finance and Deregulation

12 Jun 2020 12:16 PM

864 words • ASR AUD 62 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287286803

Senator the Hon. Mathias Cormann Minister for Finance Leader of the Government in the Senate Senator for Western Australia

Date:

The Morrison Government completely rejects the misleading and baseless claims from Labor that temporary regulatory relief...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

43 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 38 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Joint Media Release: Another by-election, another ALP scare campaign. Setting the facts straight on Australia Post

paulfletcher.com.au

12 Jun 2020 12:10 PM

836 words • ASR AUD 188 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287418085

The Morrison Government completely rejects the misleading and baseless claims from Labor that temporary regulatory relief for Australia Post will force job losses and reduce rates of pay.

Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

112 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 150 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Postal service cuts to hit Queanbeyan

nationaltribune.com.au

12 Jun 2020 11:43 AM

150 words • ASR N/A • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287416580

Queanbeyan is among the areas set to be hardest hit by new Morrison Government regulations that will let Australia Post scale back services, slash jobs and cut wages.

People in regional areas already wait longer than those in cities for their mail, and...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Coronavirus Australia update: national cabinet to meet today as Victoria records four new Covid-19 cases – politics live

Guardian Australia by Amy Remeikis

12 Jun 2020 11:33 AM

6575 words • ASR AUD 448,466 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287265577

Queensland continues to cop brunt of federal pressure to reopen borders, but closures remain in place for WA, SA, Tasmania and the NT. Follow liveFour new cases in Victoria, none linked to BLM protestSign up for Guardian Australia's daily coronavirus...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

3,973,113 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 32,290 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Why your letters could take longer to be delivered

Daily Mercury News by Melanie Whiting

12 Jun 2020 11:16 AM

404 words • ASR AUD 54 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287294294

AUSTRALIA Post has announced temporary changes to its postal service in response to COVID-19 crisis.

A spokeswoman for the corporation said there would temporary changes to letter delivery in metropolitan areas, with letter volumes in May down about 36...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

15,668 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 162 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Australia Post debate shut down

The Australian by Jared Lynch

12 Jun 2020 11:15 AM

464 words • ASR AUD 1,837 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287310083

The Morrison government has shut down debate and a vote to overturn changes to Australia Post's community obligations and delivery times in parliament as the postal service reveals the extent of its letter losses in the first months of the COVID-19...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

138,450 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 1,821 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Labor gagged over postie job changes

Yahoo! News Australia by Finbar O Mallon

12 Jun 2020 10:32 AM

85 words • ASR AUD 6,387 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287233795

AUSTRALIA POST STOCKMoreLabor has lost its bid to force parliament to block regulatory changes to Australia Post that unions claim could cost one in four postal worker jobs.

Brought in due to increased demand for parcel services during the coronavirus...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

59,578 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 5,440 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Labor gagged over postie job changes

9News.com.au by By AAP 9:57am Jun 12, 2020

12 Jun 2020 10:04 AM

84 words • ASR AUD 1,060 • Daily Clips - test • ID: 1287409029

Labor has lost its bid to force parliament to block regulatory changes to Australia Post that unions claim could cost one in four postal worker jobs.

Brought in due to increased demand for parcel services during the coronavirus pandemic, the changes...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

219,371 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 3,622 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Central Queensland could be affected by mail delivery delays under temporary Federal ...

WIN Rockhampton, Rockhampton, WIN News, Melissa Russell

12 Jun 2020 6:10 PM

Duration: 0 min 53 secs • ASR AUD 64 • QLD • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: X00083114389

Central Queensland could be affected by mail delivery delays under temporary Federal Government regulations allowing Australia Post to scale back services. But Australia Post has rejected claims the Federal Government changes will force job cuts.

Audience

2,000 All, 1,000 MALE 16+, 1,000 FEMALE 16+

Interviewees

Murray Watt, Queensland Senator



The major parties are campaigning for the Eden-Monaro by-election. Labor is decrying ...

WIN Canberra, Canberra, Headline News, JAYNIE SEAL

12 Jun 2020 7:02 AM

Duration: 1 min 52 secs • ASR AUD 9,961 • ACT • Australia • Daily Clips - test • ID: M00083110126

The major parties are campaigning for the Eden-Monaro by-election. Labor is decrying new laws allowing Australia Post to scale back services.

Audience

12,000 All, 3,000 MALE 16+, 4,000 FEMALE 16+

Interviewees

Anthony Albanese, Labor Leader|Fiona Kotvojs, Liberal candidate, Eden-Monaro|Kristy McBain, Labor candidate, Eden-Monaro|Trevor Hicks, Nationals candidate, Eden-Monaro

Also broadcast from the following 34 stations

Sky News on WIN (Canberra), Sky News on WIN (Regional NSW), Sky News on WIN (Canberra), Sky News on WIN (Regional Victoria), Sky News on WIN (Regional West Australia), Sky News on WIN (Regional Queensland), Sky News on WIN (Hobart), WIN Albury (Albury), WIN Ballarat (Ballarat), WIN Bendigo (Bendigo), WIN Cairns (Cairns), WIN Coffs Harbour (Coffs Harbour), WIN Dubbo (Dubbo), WIN Gippsland (Sale), WIN Griffith (Griffith), WIN Hobart (Hobart), WIN Lismore (Lismore), WIN Mackay (Mackay), WIN Mildura (Mildura), WIN Mt Gambier (Mt Gambier), WIN Newcastle (Newcastle), WIN Orange (Orange), WIN Riverland (Berri), WIN Rockhampton (Rockhampton), WIN Shepparton (Shepparton), WIN Sunshine Coast (Sunshine Coast), WIN Tamworth (Tamworth), WIN Taree (Port Macquarie), WIN Toowoomba (Toowoomba), WIN Townsville (Townsville), WIN Wagga (Wagga Wagga), WIN Western Australia (Perth), WIN Wide Bay (Bundaberg), WIN Wollongong (Wollongong)





CQ post delivery concerns

MELANIE PLANE
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IT COULD take a letter up to seven days to be delivered in Rockhampton and Gladstone under new regulations, Federal Labor leaders claim.

Shadow minister for Northern Australia and Queensland Senator Murray Watt as well as Queensland Senator Anthony Chisholm raised concerns over new Federal Government regulations for Australia Post.

They say Rockhampton and Gladstone will be the hardest hit by the regulations that will allow Australia Post to “scale back services, slash jobs and cut wages”.

“Residents already wait longer than those in big cities for their mail, and changes recently announced by the government will push those wait times out even further,” Senators Watt and Chisholm said in a joint statement.

“Under the Morrison government’s plan, mail delivery time frames in Rockhampton and Gladstone will blow out from as few as three business days to seven full days.

“And across other parts of Australia, any areas that currently receive daily postal deliveries will be cut back to every second day.”

They called on Michelle Landry and Ken O’Dowd to explain “why they supported ripping the essential service from their communities”.

“These changes will leave the jobs of up to one in four posties in limbo and put many other indirect jobs at risk,” the senators said.

“There was no consultation on these regulations before they were announced, and

there was no opportunity to examine their merits. Further, the government has given no guarantees that the changes won’t be made permanent following the coronavirus crisis.

“This is a cheap shot on the workers of Australia Post and people in regional communities.

“At a time of economic uncertainty across regional Australia, now is not the time to be slashing jobs or services in regional areas.”

They said the boom in parcel delivery was an opportunity to preserve and create jobs, not cut them.

But, Australia Post rejected claims the changes would result in job or pay cuts.

Australia Post CEO Christine Holgate said there had been a range of “false claims” made about the temporary changes.

“We are not forcing 2000 of our valued posties into redundancies,” Ms Holgate said.

“The temporary changes to letter delivery will only happen in metro areas and allow us to redeploy some of our posties to where their help is needed most – in parcel processing and delivery. We will still require posties to deliver letters.

“The shift to online retail has dramatically increased during COVID, meaning that many Australian consumers and small businesses now rely on Australia Post to get their product to their customers as their main channel of business.

“These temporary changes will allow our business to keep pace with the way Australians are currently shopping, doing business, and connecting with each other.”

Capricornia MP Ms Landry

said the government was committed to supporting Australia Post to provide postal services to all Australians.

She said that in response to a request from Australia Post to help it meet customer needs by redeploying employees to its growing parcel delivery operation, the Government agreed to adjust elements of the Australian Postal Corporation (Performance Standards) Regulations 2019.

“Under the changes, Australia Post has announced plans to retrain around 2000 posties who were previously dedicated to handling and delivering letters, a shrinking market, and to redeploy them into roles supporting parcel delivery,” Ms Landry said.

“To further support the growing parcels operations, around 600 new roles are also being created.

“The changes are in effect from 16 May 2020 until 30 June 2021.

“The Government will assess the effect of these temporary arrangements before the end of the year, and decide if they are to stay in place for the full period expected.

“The Government has been advised that there will be no forced redundancies or across the board reductions in take-home pay due to the new temporary arrangements.

“The delivery frequency of regular mail in regional, rural and remote Australia has not changed, and those customers with a PO Box will continue to receive their letters daily.”



15 Jun 2020

Daily Mercury, Mackay

Author: Melanie Whiting • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Classification : Regional • Audience : 7,207 • Page: 2 • Printed Size: 154.00cm²
Region: QLD • Market: Australia • ASR: AUD 162 • Words: 232 • Item ID: 1288232697



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Delay in delivery of letters

MELANIE WHITING

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AUSTRALIA Post has announced temporary changes to its postal service in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

A spokeswoman for the corporation said there would temporary changes to letter delivery in metropolitan areas, with letter volumes in May down about 36 per cent on the previous year.

She said the move had been requested to enable important community services to continue, including daily parcel delivery and Express Post delivery, daily letter delivery in rural and regional Australia and all post office boxes.

“The temporary changes to letter delivery will only happen in metro areas and allow us to redeploy some of our posties to where their help is needed most — in parcel processing

and delivery. We will still require posties to deliver letters,” the spokeswoman said.

Labor Senator Nita Green said Mackay was set to be among the hardest hit by the changes.

“Under the Morrison Government’s plan, mail delivery time frames in regional Queensland will blow out from as few as three business days to seven full days,” Ms Green said.

“At a time of economic uncertainty across regional Australia, now is not the time to be slashing jobs or services in regional areas.”

Dawson MP George Christensen hit back at Ms Green’s claims.

“Australia Post are urging politicians like Ms Green to support the temporary changes they have made and to stop spreading fake news about posties being sacked.”



15 Jun 2020

Shepparton News, Shepparton

Section: General News • Article type : News Item • Classification : Regional
Audience : 5,343 • Page: 2 • Printed Size: 152.00cm² • Region: VIC • Market: Australia
ASR: AUD 550 • Words: 322 • Item ID: 1288319467

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Capture moment

Would you like to be a part of Australia's history?

Greater Shepparton residents are being called on to capture this historic moment in time by writing a letter about their experience of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The initiative launched by Australia Post called "Dear Australia" wants to highlight Australians' testing journey through 2020.

Australia Post executive general manager community and consumer Nicole Sheffield said selected letters would be shared on the Dear Australia website, which would allow people to reflect and connect with other people's stories.

"Writing a letter is a very human way to connect with people, which is why we're inviting individuals, schools, communities and organisations to write a letter to the nation about their own unique experiences during the pandemic," Ms Sheffield said.

"It can be a message of hope, a story of community spirit, a poem, song, artwork from your son or daughter, or part of a time capsule project for school. Whatever the reflection, this is a

chance to share your story with the rest of Australia and preserve it for future generations.

"Today, the more opportunities we have to connect and feel what it means to be human, the better."

A number of the letters will also be archived for posterity at the National Archives of Australia in Canberra.

National Archives director-general David Fricker said the letters would be a unique and valuable resource . . . providing first-hand accounts of Australian life during the pandemic.

"The National Archives connects Australians with the nation's memory, identity and history," Mr Fricker said.

"We are proud to be working with Australia Post to ensure these letters will be safely kept and made accessible into the future."

● To take part, send your letters or artwork to Dear Australia, Locked Bag, Australia, 9999, with a stamp on the front of the envelope. The letters can be placed in any red street post box and should be posted before August 18.



15 Jun 2020

Launceston Examiner, Launceston

Author: Dr Kim Houghton • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Classification : Regional • Audience : 13,140 • Page: 14 • Printed Size: 672.00cm²
Region: TAS • Market: Australia • ASR: AUD 4,829 • Words: 738 • Item ID: 1288308649



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DR KIM HOUGHTON

Consumers hold key to regional recovery

THE COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated changes in Australian consumption patterns which may create negative consequence for regional businesses.

This needs to be addressed by regional consumers. It's now more important than ever for each of us to push our dollar further and support the notion of "think local, buy local" to ensure support for your region.

Two forces are undermining consumer purchases from regional businesses: what we are buying now and where we are buying it from.

Nationally, we had a retail boom in March as we all stocked up on household essentials.

It's hard not to remember the images of shoppers stockpiling toilet paper, flour and pasta. Who could forget this?

Latest figures from Alphabeta show that spending on essential goods jumped in March before falling in April.

Spending on discretionary goods and services fell through March and bottomed out all through April at about 70 per cent of normal levels.

Consumer discretionary goods and services are those considered as non-essential by consumers, but desirable if their available income is sufficient to purchase them.

The good news here is that total spending came back in early May to around 96 per cent of normal levels for this time of year.

Figures show spending was boosted in the second last week of May, as a result of the coronavirus supplement (doubling of unemployment benefit and youth allowance) as well as the easing of restrictions.

So while consumer spending is improving, the question has to be asked - are regional towns and cities getting their fair share?

Unfortunately, what we are seeing is that the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated two trends which will take trade away from regional businesses.

The first trend that has emerged over the last few months is the change in our spending habits.

We've seen a switch from spending on hospitality and tourism to homewares and home improvements.

While this has generated some great figures for local hardware stores, it does mean less money is circulating locally.

When we look at homewares, which includes items such as a lounge or a fridge, we only buy this once every few years.

It's a big purchase and this generally comes from larger regional centres and online stores.

Secondly, the switch to online purchasing is favouring high volume online outlets, where it's all about price minimisation and efficiency.

No wonder Australia Post is struggling with parcel deliveries.

These goods sales are place-agnostic and are pulling the rug out from underneath many regional businesses, and someone's doing very well out of this. But it's not the local store.

Regional businesses can't compete well on high volume essentials, and are most competitive on high value products and most importantly, on services.

But the collapse in spending on these has stalled these businesses everywhere, especially in regions.

Online sales can be a growth path for individual regional makers and retailers - but for the region to benefit as a whole it needs to win more of these sales than it loses in others.

The last near recession Australia had after the Global Financial Crisis needed a boost of confidence and activity by business investors for us to recover.

Recovery from COVID-19 restrictions will be very different, as the stock market is booming at the same time as unemployment is surging.



15 Jun 2020

Launceston Examiner, Launceston

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Classification : Regional • Audience : 13,140 • Page: 14 • Printed Size: 672.00cm²
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Recovery from this recession will require a boost of confidence and spending from consumers.

Even though record numbers of Australians are out of work or underemployed, overall consumer spending is on the way up.

How and where we choose to spend will have a critical impact on the recovery this time, especially in regions where leakage of spending out to other places is accelerating.

So the message here is think before you spend. Look locally, in your own regional town or city.

Don't just default to buy online through the big portals. Where your dollar goes is more important now than ever.

Think about how you can be part of your region's recovery.

See what you can buy locally, and get out and spend in your region as soon and as often as you can.

Dr Kim Houghton is Chief Economist at the Regional Australia Institute (RAI).



So while consumer spending is improving, the question has to be asked - are regional towns and cities getting their fair share?



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Regional consumers are urged to look locally, in your own town or city, rather than buy online through the big portals.



Postie boss pleads to keep Covid relief

EXCLUSIVE

ROSIE LEWIS
JARED LYNCH

Australia Post boss Christine Holgate has guaranteed no forced redundancies and no staff pay cuts in a last-ditch plea to prevent a temporary COVID-19 relief package being overturned by parliament.

As key crossbench senators prepare to meet Australia Post and unions on Monday, the chief executive has written pleading for a year to the COVID-19 relief plan to work.

Key Senate crossbench parties Centre Alliance and One Nation, who control four critical votes, have not decided if they will support a motion to overturn the package being backed by Labor and the Greens.

The changes, announced by the government in April, allow Australia Post to deliver mail every second business day in cities and extend delivery times on some routes, and apply until June 30 next year.

But Labor communications spokeswoman Michelle Rowland has labelled the changes — which she is concerned will become permanent — as a “cheap shot” at

posties and a “breach of community trust”, following the unions warning the changes would put 2000 posties out of work.

Ms Holgate explicitly dismissed as “untrue” suggestions that there will be 2000 forced redundancies. “I am giving you my word today that there are no plans for forced redundancies,” she wrote.

She said the pandemic had accelerated the decline in letters, with volume falling 36 per cent in May on the previous year. “The average postie now carries just one-third of the letters they did 10 years ago,” she said.

But demand for parcels had exploded during the pandemic, with Australia Post processing on average two million parcels a day every

day for 10 weeks.

With tens of thousands of businesses relying on Australia Post to connect with their customers, the size and weight of parcels during COVID-19 had increased dramatically, resulting in the majority of these parcels not being able to be delivered by posties safely on their motorbikes.

“In order for these parcels to be delivered safely, we need these items to be delivered by our people in vans,” Ms Holgate said.

She said Australia Post was asking for the temporary relief “while restrictions on travel, domestic and international air capacity, and social-distancing and hygiene measures in our facilities and vehicles continue to significantly impact our ability to deliver”.

Australia Post directors and staff must refrain from activities that give rise to political partiality, according to guidelines for government business enterprises. During the same-sex marriage plebiscite, Australia Post instructed some post offices to take down rainbow pride flags, citing that clause.

But in her letter, Ms Holgate said she wanted to write personally

“to provide you my commitments in regards to how we will respond to the temporary regulatory relief, outline our support for our workforce, and to ensure you are fully briefed on the importance of the temporary relief to our operations, our people and our customers”.

“There have unfortunately been a range of false claims made about the temporary changes to our regulators. I want to clearly dispel these claims in this letter.”

But on Sunday, Ms Rowland said the government was refusing to disclose data about Australia Post’s actual letter losses as a result of COVID-19. She said Australia

Post initially stated letter volumes had halved in April, while unaddressed promotional mail had fallen 75 per cent.

Australia Post said last week the decline for that month com-

pared with the same month last year was 28 per cent, while the drop in May was 36 per cent.

“If the figures proved addressed-letter volumes didn’t ‘collapse’ in April as was originally claimed, then the attempt to rush through these changes without scrutiny or consultation would be even more untrustworthy than first suspected.”

**ADDITIONAL REPORTING:
DAMON KITNEY**



13 Jun 2020

Gladstone Observer, Gladstone

Author: Nick Gibbs • Section: General News • Article type : News Item

Classification : Regional • Audience : 4,546 • Page: 6 • Printed Size: 226.00cm²

Region: QLD • Market: Australia • ASR: AUD 238 • Words: 330 • Item ID: 1287565751



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Regional areas take a hit from postal changes

NICK GIBBS

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THE federal opposition is warning proposed changes to Australia Post regulations will significantly affect delivery times in Central Queensland.

Queensland senators Murray Watt and Anthony Chisholm claim Gladstone and Rockhampton are “set to be hardest hit” by new regulations.

Analysis from the Labor Party suggests the time frame for a letter delivered within a regional city will blow out from three to five business days after the day of posting.

This could mean that a letter posted on Monday would be collected on Tuesday and delivered the following week.

From a capital city to a regional city within the same

state, the analysis shows the delivery time frame would increase from four to five business days.

In a statement released this week, Australia Post said it would temporarily implement an “alternating delivery model” in metropolitan areas, where letters will be delivered every second business day.

It says that the changes are essential to manage the impact of COVID-19 and called on all federal MPs for support.

“Unfortunately there has been a range of false claims made about the temporary changes to our regulations. We are not forcing 2000 of our valued posties into redundancies,” Australia Post chief executive Christine Holgate said.

“The temporary changes to letter delivery will only happen

in metro areas and allow us to redeploy some of our posties to where their help is needed most – in parcel processing and delivery. We will still require posties to deliver letters.”

Ms Holgate said letter volumes were down by 36 per cent in May compared with the previous year.

The average Australian household receives the average of one letter every second day.

“These temporary changes will allow our business to keep pace with the way Australians are currently shopping, doing business and connecting with each other,” she said.

“Union claims as many as one in four postie jobs will be impacted are false.

“We have many more delivery rounds than we do posties,” Ms Holgate said.



13 Jun 2020

Bendigo Advertiser, Bendigo

Author: Nicholas Nakos • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Classification : Regional • Audience : 9,558 • Page: 6 • Printed Size: 489.00cm²
Region: VIC • Market: Australia • ASR: AUD 2,376 • Words: 417 • Item ID: 1287700731



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Posties change draws ire

BY NICHOLAS NAKOS

FEDERAL member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters said Australia Post has been "chipping away" at jobs in Bendigo for years.

Ms Chesters' remarks come as the Labor Party moved to disallow regulations which cut the frequency of postie delivery rounds.

Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese said the government's regulations put the jobs of up to one in four posties at risk.

Ms Chesters said despite Labor failing to move the motion in the House of Representatives, it would now move to the Senate.

"We know how critical it is to have a decent post service in regional Victoria," Ms Chesters said.

"This has been particularly important during COVID-19 when so many people are relying on parcels due to social distancing rules."

Australia Post implemented changes to metropolitan delivery services in April that saw letters delivered every second day, as opposed to daily.

Climbing parcel demand amid the coronavirus pandemic saw workers redeployed to meet demand.

Finance Minister Mathias Cormann said regular mail services in regional, rural and remote areas would be unchanged.

Communications Minister Paul Fletcher said the delivery frequency of regular mail

has been adjusted in metropolitan areas only.

"The delivery timetable for rural, regional and remote areas was protected and remains unchanged," Mr Fletcher said.

Ms Chesters said she also expressed concern to her

Labor colleagues about the financial security of the university sector.

The Bendigo MP launched a petition calling on the government to extend its JobKeeper wage subsidy to

those in the university sector.

"Local people are angry and agree JobKeeper should be extended to save jobs at Latrobe University," she said.

"Close to 700 signatures demonstrates the amount of local support that exists for the university."

Ms Chesters said the sector is in the midst of a cash flow issue.

"If your customers disappear because your sector has been shut down, there is going to be a cash flow problem," she said.

A review of the reliance of Australian universities on international students, particularly in Melbourne and Sydney is needed, according to Ms Chesters.

"We have a beautiful cohort of international students in Bendigo," she said.

"We have the balance right, where international students are a small proportion of our overall students.

"This is in line with the original idea of international

student education."

The House of Representatives sit four times next week, before breaking until early August.



13 Jun 2020

Bendigo Advertiser, Bendigo

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NO CHANGE: The government said there will be no changes to Australia Post delivery services in regional and rural Australia.



Post delays could double

BY FINBAR O'MALLON

LABOR has lost its bid to force parliament to block regulatory changes to Australia Post that unions claim could cost one in four postal worker jobs and almost double delivery times in regional areas.

Brought in due to increased demand for parcel services during the coronavirus pandemic, the changes would redeploy posties to warehouses and reduce letter deliveries.

"This is an issue that affects all Australians," Labor leader Anthony Albanese told parliament on Friday.

But the government gagged Mr Albanese and shut down Labor's attempts to stop the changes.

"They are cutting jobs, they are cutting postal delivery and they are using the pandemic as cover," Labor frontbencher Tony Burke told parliament.

Australia Post has previously denied the new changes would cost jobs, saying there would be no forced redundancies or cuts to pay.

Member for Ballarat Catherine King has blasted the changes saying they would hit regional areas hard with the regulation showing delivery timeframes in regional cities could more than double from three business days to seven days.

"People in towns across our region from Daylesford to Clunes, Ballan, Bacchus Marsh and everywhere in

between already know the frustrations of waiting endlessly for letter to arrive, Ms King said in a statement

"The Government claims these regulations are a temporary response to COVID-19, but are at the same time pushing for them to be in place until July 2021. By then these changes would likely be irreversible.

"Posties have provided a vital service throughout this crisis, to ram through these changes under the cover of COVID is disrespectful to them and detrimental to communities across Australia."

Under the coronavirus-inspired model, thousands of motorbike posties would switch to delivery vans or move into warehouses to cope with increased demand.

Priority letter services would be suspended, letter deliveries moved to every second day, and five days would be allowed for intra-state posting.

The postal union estimates one in four jobs could be axed under the delivery model.

Workers also face a pay cut of up to 30 per cent while Australians would have to wait longer for their mail, the union said this week.

Australia Post says the concerns are speculative.

"No postie that is directly impacted by the implementation of the (alternating delivery model) will be forced to accept a redundancy," it's statement read this week.

"Australia Post also has no plans to cut posties' take-home pay."

"These changes have been requested to enable Australia Post to continue to offer important community services and remain sustainable for the future," it said.

Labor had tried to set up a Senate inquiry into the issues facing Australia Post.

Communications Minister Paul Fletcher said the changes would see posties move from a declining arm of the business to one that was seeing an explosion in demand.

"This is about is supporting Australia Post to best meet the needs of the community," Mr Fletcher told parliament this week.

He said the changes weren't permanent, pointing to the end date of June 2021.

AAP



How Woolies and Coles joined forces to avert virus disaster

As the coronavirus pandemic gripped the nation, the supermarket giants rushed to respond to the once-in-a-lifetime crisis.

Dominic Powell reports.

The picturesque gardens of a decommissioned psychiatric facility turned out to be the perfect place to plan for the end of the world.

It was here in the first week of March where Coles chief executive Steven Cain and his executive team gathered for a long-planned executive retreat in the remote Victorian town of Beechworth. They were there to prepare for the year ahead and celebrate steering the \$21 billion supermarket giant through the worst bushfire season in Australian history. Little did they know at the time, but Coles, its rival Woolworths and the rest of the Australian supermarket sector would soon be consumed by an even bigger crisis.

COVID-19 was not yet a global pandemic, and still largely centred in China. There were only a handful of active cases in Australia, but fears about the coronavirus were building and holes were appearing on supermarket shelves as shoppers started to hoard toilet paper and hand sanitiser.

By the end of the Coles retreat, panic buying had become frenzied. "About halfway through this conference, I realised I was spending more time outside on the phone than inside focusing on the strategy session," Cain says. "By the end of that week, we were pretty much full-on."

In a world turned on its head by the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, the response from Australia's supermarkets was nothing short of extraordinary. It included daily phone

calls between the country's top grocery executives; and wartime-esque disaster planning involving senior cabinet ministers which nearly saw millions of Australians put onto home-delivered rations.

Rivalries and differences were set aside in an unprecedented period of co-operation, with the executives devoted only to keeping customers fed. Disasters were avoided, shortages of key goods were minimised and the country's most vulnerable were protected.

By any measure, the supermarkets pulled off what seemed at times like an impossible task.

As Coles' executive retreat got underway and as panic buying was intensifying, Cain's counterpart at Woolworths Brad Banducci received an unexpected call from Treasurer Josh Frydenberg.

"He phoned me and asked, 'what's going on with toilet paper sales?'"

Banducci says. "It's not very often the Treasurer phones you in the first instance, and it's certainly not very often he asks you about toilet paper."

Hundreds of kilometres away in the quiet South Australian town of Millicent, Doug Cunningham's was ringing for a different reason. As the local managing director of multinational consumer goods company Kimberly-Clark, Cunningham was responsible for manufacturing 20 per cent of the country's precious loo rolls, and he'd never been more popular.

Calls were flowing in from retailers

thick and fast, asking if they could ramp production up further, and if he might be able to send stock through any quicker. On a dime, the

experienced executive made a number of changes, cutting non-essential product lines, changing pack sizes and ramping production to its maximum.

"We did that within hours, which is actually unprecedented in our business," Cunningham says. "Normally it would take a week or so, but we just did it straight away."

The companies were moving fast but flying blind, with no chapters in their crisis handbooks on how to deal with a global pandemic. In that first week, both Cain and Banducci received a direct call from Prime Minister Scott Morrison, inquiring into how the supermarkets were coping and asking if there was anything the government could do in support.

In a follow-up call with Frydenberg, it was Cain who planted the seeds for what would become the Supermarket Taskforce, asking the Treasurer if it would be possible to establish a working body to focus on cross-industry collaboration.

"He said 'no problem, we'll sort that out', and true to his word he set one up the next day," Cain says.

The Taskforce, headed up by Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton, was then granted authorisation by the competition watchdog to coordinate and collaborate without falling foul of competition law.

Before the virus hit, the Australian



13 Jun 2020

Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney

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Article type : News Item • Classification : Capital City Daily • Audience : 145,231
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ASR: AUD 103,548 • Words: 1783 • Item ID: 1287719642

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 Australia Post

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boss of discount supermarket chain Aldi Tom Daunt had never met nor spoken to any of his close competitors, despite six years in the role. But the

typically taciturn executive was profuse in his praise for the working group.

While the Taskforce was strictly prohibited from discussing issues such as product pricing, the group shared their plans and best practices across issues like in-store cleaning and social distancing.

This prevented situations where customers might prioritise one store over another due to one chain having buying limits when another didn't.

"There were some really practical reasons why we needed to find industry-wide agreement on those sorts of things... and I think the federal government did very well to recognise that," Daunt says.

At one point, Woolworths directed its own suppliers to independent wholesaler Metcash to help supply remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. Woolworths had no stores in the areas, but Banducci didn't want to let his supply lines go to waste.

"It was never about our sales, it was about Australia," he says.

For three weeks during the peak of the panic buying, Cain and Banducci convened in daily phone calls at 5pm each evening, accompanied by their respective general counsels to ensure no competition laws were broken. Similar, less regular calls also occurred with Daunt and Scott Marshall, Metcash's chief executive of supermarkets.

In the third week of March, the four took out full-page advertisements in major newspapers in an attempt to quell the unrest amongst shoppers, calling for calm and assuring customers supply would return soon. There was a brief moment of confusion, Banducci recalls, when deciding the order in which the four companies' logos would be displayed on the ad.

"Of course, there was only one answer: alphabetically," he laughs. "But that move set a really important tonality that we were all in it together. There wasn't any point-scoring."

As March became April, the supermarkets' top teams were pulling 18-hour days, seven days a week. Panic buying had begun to slightly subside,

but the virus had not, with Australia's daily new COVID-19 cases peaking at 460 on April 28. It seemed to be getting out of control.

That Saturday, Dutton posed a challenge to the supermarkets: how could they provide food to two million vulnerable Australians if they were unable to leave the house? It was the government's worst-case scenario, and an unfathomable task for the companies' ill-suited online delivery systems.

"It was the combination of a large vulnerable population, a flu season about to hit, and many in isolation due to risk of infection," Cain says. "You could easily conjure up a scenario where millions were at home and needed servicing, and the capacity in the industry at the time was significantly less than that."

Banducci immediately rang Christine Holgate, the chief executive of Australia Post, to determine what could be done. On Sunday, together with logistics business DHL, the group organised an \$80 box of essentials which the postal service would courier to houses in need. By Monday, the service was live.

"Turned out we actually only delivered about 80,000 of these boxes, but we were ready to do whatever it took," Banducci says.

A socially-distanced Easter came and went, and in its wake, a recovery began. Pantries across the country were stocked and buying limits were easing off, though the country was still devouring some 16 million toilet rolls a week.

For the executives, the relief couldn't come soon enough. Supply chains were utterly spent, gnawed to the bone by the solid month of frantic buying. Even suppliers' buffer stocks, reserved for emergency cases, had been rolled on to the shop floor.

"There's enough length and stock in most supply chains to enable some fluctuation, but the demand surge we saw was so steep and so dramatic, it stripped supply chains around the country," Daunt says.

"I don't just mean supermarket shelves, I mean the stock in the back of the store, in the distribution centre, and on the production line. I don't think consumers really understood the true extent of it."

At the end of April, Coles and Woolworths revealed their third-quarter sales figures, a set of record numbers which showed sales in the month of March alone rose a massive 30 per cent.

But for both Cain and Banducci, the unrivalled sales numbers were no measure of success. Community trust and customer satisfaction were far greater KPIs for the two executives as they steered their companies through a moment in history.

"We talk a lot about purpose, and we use all these soft words, but over the COVID period Woolworths actually lived its purpose," Banducci says. "My metric of success during the course of the crisis was not sales or profit, it was actually doing the right thing, emerging with our reputation enhanced, not tarnished."

For Cain, navigating coronavirus was a challenging and rewarding experience with "outstanding" performances across Coles and the broader industry. But as sales return to normal and the pressure subsides, he admits there were some parts he'd prefer not to repeat.

"I never thought I'd ever be on a call to anyone in government around how they could help us reduce our sales," he laughs. "And I hope I'm never in that position again."

'It's not very often the Treasurer phones you in the first instance, and it's certainly not very often he asks you about toilet paper.'

Brad Banducci, Woolworths CEO



13 Jun 2020

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Toilet paper became a precious commodity as panic buying swept supermarkets in March. Photo: AP

HOW THE COVID-19 CRISIS HIT THE SUPERMARKETS



March 3 Toilet paper manufacturer **Kimberly-Clark** ramps up its toilet paper output, begins round-the-clock production.

March 4 Supermarkets enact their first buying limits, restricting toilet paper to four packs per person

March 13 Rice, flour, paper towels and pasta added to buying limits.

March 15 Online delivery orders suspended as systems hit capacity.

March 16 Supermarkets introduce early morning shopping hours for the elderly and vulnerable

March 18 Woolworths puts a two-per-person restriction on nearly every packaged item in store.

March 19 Supermarket Taskforce convened, consisting of major grocery retailers, the ACCC and numerous government agencies, headed up by **Peter Dutton**.

March 23 Supermarkets begin to roll out protective plexiglass sneeze screens to cash registers across the country.

March 31 Buying limits are implemented on alcohol products after concerns mount over potential shortages.

April 9 Supermarkets begin to ease buying limits as panic buying starts to subside.



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**Kimberly-Clark
managing
director Doug
Cunningham.**
Photo:Louise
Kennerley





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Woolworths chief executive, **Brad Banducci**, at the DHL warehouse in Horsley Park, NSW.



Coles chief executive **Steven Cain** at the Stockland Tooronga Village shopping centre in Victoria.



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Australia Post debate shut down

JARED LYNCH
DAMON KITNEY

The government has shut down debate and a vote to overturn changes to Australia Post's community obligations and delivery times in parliament as the postal service reveals its actual letter losses in the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Labor has taken the unusual step of seeking disallowance motions both in the Senate and House of Representatives about the regulatory changes, which apply until June 30 next year and will allow Australia Post to deliver mail every second business day in cities and extend delivery times on some routes.

Despite having the numbers to defeat the motion in the House of Representatives, the government shut down debate and a vote on Friday. Instead, a vote on disallowing the changes, which have received heavy criticism about their lack of consultation and scrutiny, will be held at a later



Holgate

date. Labor is also moving to establish a Senate inquiry into Australia Post to ensure the changes receive appropriate scrutiny, citing concerns about the longer-term impact of posties jobs.

Australia Post says no postie will be forced to take a redundancy as a result of the changes.

The postal service has said letter volumes dived 36 per cent in May compared to the same month last year, with the average household receiving the equivalent of one letter every two days, CEO Christine Holgate said.

But May 2019 included a spike in letter volumes from the federal election, which delivers Australia

Post millions of dollars from postal voting and campaign mail.

Letter volumes fell 28 per cent in April compared with the same month last year, which also experienced an election bump, while volumes in March and February — outside the election campaign last year — fell 11 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.

Australia Post initially stated letter volumes had halved when it applied for the regulatory relief in April, while the Communications Workers Union said the decline was closer to 15 per cent. At the same time, demand for parcel deliveries has surged as more people turn to online shopping during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Communications Minister Paul Fletcher said “the temporary changes are all putting Australia Post in the best position possible to continue serving the postal needs of all Australians”.

Opposition leader Anthony Albanese said the government “has used the coronavirus pandemic as cover for an attack on essential services”.



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Coffs Coast Advocate, Coffs Harbour

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Australia Post cuts

THE Communications, Electrical and Plumbing Union has attacked the Federal Government for supporting a move by Australia Post to save costs which could see up to a quarter of posties lose their jobs and delay mail and parcel delivery times.