

Dear Customer

# Engaging with our customers - Share your views

## Changes to Armitage Outreach Service

We are delighted to let you know that, following the closure of Longdon Post Office branch, we are restoring Post Office services to the community with the introduction of a new Outreach service at Longdon Village Hall, Brook End, Longdon, Rugeley, WS15 4PN, commencing on Tuesday 5 October 2021 at 15:00.

We will also reopen Kings Bromley Post Office at Kings Bromley Village Hall, 35 Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley, Burton on Trent, DE13 7HW as a new Outreach service, commencing on Tuesday 5 October 2021 at 13:00.

We are pleased to inform you that the postmaster from Armitage Post Office is willing to run both Outreach services, which presents the best possible solution to restore Post Office services to the communities of Longdon and Kings Bromley.

Further details of the both new Outreach services are provided at the end of this letter.

We will display posters locally to tell customers the good news. If you are a local representative, it would be helpful if you could share this information through your social media channels and with any local groups or organisations that you know within the community, for example on noticeboards, local charities and in GP surgeries, to help our customers and your constituents understand what is happening to the Post Office in the local community. If you would like a supply of posters, please let us know.

### We would like to hear from you

As we are keen to restore services to Longdon as soon as possible, we have decided to go ahead with our plans. Restoring the service as an Hosted Outreach is a commercial decision for Post Office Ltd and we are not seeking feedback on this aspect of the change. However, we would welcome suggestions about specific aspects of the change, particularly on the following areas:

- How suitable do you think the new location is and how easy is it to get there?
- Do you have any comments on the proposed day and opening hours?

We will be accepting comments until 22 October 2021. We won't be responding to you individually, but any comments received will be taken into consideration as we finalise our plans.

Details of the new service are provided at the end of this letter. For further information or to share your views, please visit our Consultation Hub via postofficeviews.co.uk, then use the search function to find the engagement for this service either by service name, postcode, or the unique branch code **251242** 

Once the plans have been finalised, we'll display a poster locally and information will be provided on our Consultation Hub outlining the main comments received and our response. If there are any unforeseen changes to the starting date, posters will be displayed locally to let customers know.

We're carrying out this engagement in line with our Principles of Community Engagement. An extract relating to Engagement is available at the end of this letter. We do hope that you will support the new services at Longdon and Kings Bromley.

Yours faithfully

## Mathew Wilkes

### Mathew Wilkes Network Provision Lead

#### How to contact us:

postofficeviews.co.uk comments@postoffice.co.uk Call: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55 FREEPOST Your Comments This is all you need to add to your envelope for your letter to reach us.

Want to tell us what you think right here and now – scan here. If you don't have a QR code scanner on your phone, you can find one in your app store.



Items sent by Freepost take two working days to arrive, so responses by Freepost should be sent in sufficient time to arrive before the end of the engagement period. Working days do not include Saturdays or Sundays. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.

### Details of the new Longdon Outreach service :

Longdon Post Office Outreach service	Services
Longdon Village Hall	A wide range of services will be available.
Brook End	
Longdon	Access
Rugeley	The Village Hall has a wide door and access via
WS15 4PN	ramp or steps
Opening times	Transport/parking

Tuesday	15:00 – 16:00

### Transport/parking

A customer car park is available directly outside the Village Hall.

### Getting there

This Post Office service is located approximately 0.1 miles away from closed Longdon branch, along varied terrain.

Details of the new Kings Bromley Outreach service :	
Kings Bromley Post Office Outreach	Services
service	A wide range of services will be available.
Kings Bromley Village Hall	
35 Alrewas Road	Access
Kings Bromley	The Village Hall has a level access at the
Burton on Trent	entrance.
DE13 7HW	
	Transport/parking
Opening times	A customer car park is available directly outside
Tuesday 13:00 – 14:00	the Village Hall.

### Getting there

This service will be located at the premises of the previous Post Office.

To get this information in a different format, for example, in larger print, audio or braille call 03452 66 01 15 or Textphone 03457 22 33 55.

#### Principles of Community Engagement on changes to the Post Office network(extract)

A full version of this document is available on our Consultation Hub - postofficeviews.co.uk

We are committed to engaging and supporting our customers and their representatives as we make changes to the Post Office network. The following Principles will be adopted when communicating about changes to your local Post Office branch.

We will **<u>Engage</u>** - where we are seeking feedback on a decision that has been made on:

- Re-opening of a temporarily closed branch in a new location (where the branch has been closed for more than three months)
- Franchising of a Directly Managed branch in its existing site

While the decision to proceed will have already been made, we will welcome suggestions about specific aspects of the change such as access arrangements and the internal layout. We will provide four weeks' notice or, where extenuating circumstances prevent this, we will provide as much notice as possible.

During this period we will display a poster in branch and provide information online. We will contact locally elected representatives<sup>2</sup>, the Consumer Advocacy Bodies and selected charities<sup>3</sup> providing clear information on any changes to services or access arrangements at the branch. We will ask locally elected representatives to share information with other key community outlets (such as notice boards, local charities, magazines, GP surgeries etc.). We will publish the outcome of the engagement online and in branch, providing a summary of key issues raised with a clear response to each and any changes made to our original plans.

# These Principles have been agreed with Citizens Advice, Citizens Advice Scotland and the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland; the independent statutory consumer watchdogs.

What to do if you feel these Principles haven't been followed:

Please get in touch so we can investigate your complaint. We'll explain in our reply whether we believe we have followed our Principles of Community Engagement and will provide you with the contact details for the relevant consumer watchdog (Citizens Advice, Citizens Advice Scotland or the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland) if you're not satisfied with our response. The watchdog will independently assess whether we have followed the Principles of Community Engagement process (rather than the decision itself) and recommend any actions with respect to the complaint.

Postofficeviews.co.uk Comments@postoffice.co.uk FREEPOST Your Comments Call: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55

<sup>2</sup> Locally elected representatives include but are not restricted to the Member of Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Parliament, or Northern Ireland Assembly, Local Authority Chief Executive, Ward Councillors, Parish or Community Council.

<sup>3</sup> Selected charities are local Citizens Advice, Age UK, Northern Ireland's Disability Action and Northern Ireland's Rural Community Network. All parties referred to in <sup>2</sup> and <sup>3</sup> above are encouraged to share all information with local groups and organisations who they believe have an active interest in changes to their local Post Office.