

Dear Customer,

# <u>Local public consultation – Decision</u>

# Berrymoor Road Post Office Previously located at: 5-6 Berrymoor Court, Wellingborough, NN8 2DL

I'm writing to confirm that following a period of local public consultation and review we have made the decision to proceed with the reopening of the above Post Office into Berrymoor Pharmacy, 2-3 Berrymoor Court, Wellingborough, NN8 2DL.

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to let us have their comments and provide information. All the feedback we received helped us to better understand the views of customers and this was taken into account, along with all other relevant factors, in making our decision. A summary of the feedback is enclosed along with an information summary providing further details about the new branch.

After careful consideration of the feedback received, we remain confident that the layout and location of the new branch will continue to meet customer needs and deliver an excellent service, whilst securing the long-term viability of Post Office services in the local community.

The new branch is due to open at Berrymoor Pharmacy, on Friday 25 March 2022 at 13:00.

This information is also available on the Post Office Consultation Hub at: postofficeviews.co.uk

We're carrying out this notification in line with our Principles of Community Engagement. An extract relating to consultation is available at the end of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Allison Wallace

Allison Wallace Network Provision Manager Post Office Limited

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postofficeviews.co.uk FREEPOST Your Comments

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.

## Appendix A

#### **Response to Local Public Consultation**

Consultation started 03 February 2022 Consultation ended 17 March 2022

## **Consultation responses**

• 34 responses from customers

#### Key issues raised

Access and Internal Space

## Response to issues raised

# **Access and Internal Space**

Access into the pharmacy will be via a wide door and level access at the entrance.

Internally the new branch will be in line with Post Office specifications, making sure there is sufficient space for the Post Office service to operate alongside the retail offer. We will be working closely with the new operator on the internal layout and some fixtures and fittings will be re-aligned or removed to make sure there is clear access into the premises, ensuring the entrance, aisles and the waiting area are kept free from obstructions and adequate room is provided for customers and a wheelchair to move around without difficulty.

## Appendix B

## **Berrymoor Road Post Office Information Summary**

Berrymoor Pharmacy 2-3 Berrymoor Court Wellingborough NN8 2DL

## New opening hours

Mon - Fri	09:00 - 17:30
Sat	09:00 - 13:00
Sun	Closed

During the Coronavirus pandemic the branch may need to make changes to its opening hours. The latest available branch information can be found on our website <a href="https://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder">www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder</a>

#### **Products & Services**

A range of products and services will still be available.

#### Serving positions

There will be a Post Office serving point at the retail counter.

#### Access

The new premises will have a wide door and level access at the entrance.

Internally, there will be a hearing loop and space for a wheelchair.

## **Getting there**

The new premises would be located approximately 25 metres away from the previously closed branch, along level terrain.

There is a car park available outside the new premises.

#### Retail

Pharmacy.

# Berrymoor Road Post Office services available

For information about product availability call 03457 223344. For details of maximum value of transactions, please speak to the operator.

	New branch
1ail	
First & Second Class mail	✓
Stamps, stamp books (1st class 6 & 12 only, 2nd class 12 only)	✓
Special stamps (Christmas issue only) & postage labels	✓
Signed For	✓
Special Delivery	✓
Home shopping returns	✓
Inland small, medium & large parcels	✓
Express & contract parcels	✓
British Forces Mail (BFPO)	✓
International letters & postcards (inc. Tracked & Signed)	✓
International parcels up to 2kg & printed papers up to 5kg	✓
Parcelforce Worldwide International parcels	✓
Articles for the blind (inland & international)	✓
Royal Mail redirection service	✓
Local Collect	×
Drop & Go	✓
Withdrawals, deposits and payments	
Post Office Card Account	✓
Personal & Business Banking cash withdrawals, deposits & balance enquiries	<b>√</b>
using a card. Also enveloped cheque deposits and barcoded deposit slips.	,
Postal orders	✓
Moneygram	✓
Automated bill payments (card or barcoded)	✓
Key recharging	✓
Licences	
Rod fishing licences	✓
Travel	
Pre-order travel money	✓
Travel insurance referral	✓
Mobile Top-ups & E vouchers	✓
Payment by cheque	✓

#### 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 Officebranch.

We will **Consult** where we are seeking feedback on proposals prior to a decision being made on the:

- Permanent closure of a Post Office branch<sup>1</sup>
- Permanent relocation of a Post Office branch (including the franchising of a Directly Managed branch to a new site)

We will carry out a six-week<sup>2</sup> local public consultation, informing customers, locally elected representatives<sup>3</sup>, Consumer Advocacy Bodies and selected charities<sup>4</sup> of the proposal. This information will also be made available online and for a Directly Managed branch a press release will be issued to local media. We will ask locally elected representatives to share information with other key community outlets (such as notice boards, local charities, magazines, GP surgeries etc.).

The consultation will ask specific questions on areas where we would like feedback on access to Post Office services and will confirm when the change will happen if the decision is made to proceed. We will provide clear information on any changes to services as well as access to and into the new branch.

We welcome all feedback with the following factors being taken into account in making our decision, which we expect to make within four weeks of the close of consultation:

- Customer access to, into and inside the new or alternative branch/branches with particular regard to vulnerable consumers
- Any local community issues which could be affected by or affect the proposal

At the end of the consultation process we will write to locally elected representatives, Consumer Advocacy Bodies and respondents to the consultation (where practical) to confirm our decision and provide a summary of key issues raised with a clear response to each. This information will be made available online and in branch (where possible).

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 webelieve 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.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> There may be a small number of cases where due to circumstances outside our control we have no option other than to permanently close a branch in a particular location. In these cases, the consultation will seek feedback on alternative Post Office service provision in the area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> If the consultation includes more than four weeks in July in Scotland and Northern Ireland or more than four weeks in August in England and Wales, we will extend the period by one calendar week. We will not start anylocal public consultation during the two-week period which includes the Christmas and New Year bankholidays.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</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>&</sup>lt;sup>4</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 3 and 4 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.