

Dear Customer,

## Changes to Bettws Cedewain Post Office Service Community Hall, Bettws Cedewain, Newtown, SY16 3DS

We are making some changes to the above Post Office service. This service will cease operating from Thursday 2 February 2023 at 16:00 and will be replaced with a Mobile Post Office service.

The new mobile service will be operated from the Community Hall Car Park, Bettws Cedewain, Newtown, SY16 3DS and will commence from Tuesday 07 February 2023 at 15:00, by the same postmaster from Tregynon Post Office and will offer similar Post Office products and services.

The Mobile Service is a travelling Post Office aboard a specifically designed vehicle that brings Post Office services and retail products to communities without relying on fixed premises. The establishment of a Mobile service presents the best possible solution to restore Post Office services to the community of Bettws.

Details of changes to the Post Office services are provided at the end of this letter and posters will be displayed locally so customers are aware of the change. If there are any unforeseen changes to the dates, posters will be displayed to let customers know.

We appreciate that for some customers the opening times may be less convenient than for others and these opening times reflect customer usage which will allow us to maintain a Post Office service to the community for the longer term. We will continue to review and monitor services on an ongoing basis, and should customer usage increase significantly, consideration would be given to adjusting service times accordingly.

If you are a local representative, please feel free to 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.

If you have any questions about the new service, please contact the National Consultation Team, as detailed below. Please note that your comments will not be kept confidential unless you expressly ask us to do so by clearly marking them "In Confidence".

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

Thank you for supporting your local Post Office service.

Yours faithfully,

Carol Williams

Carol Williams Network Provision Lead

How to contact us: comments@postoffice.co.uk postofficeviews.co.uk FREEPOST Your Comments

## New Service Details:

During the Coronavirus pandemic some branches may need to make changes to their opening hours. The latest available branch information can be found on our website www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder

Bettws Cedewain Mobile Post Office	Services
Service	A similar range of services will be available.
Community Hall Car Park	
Bettws Cedewain	Access and facilities
Newtown	There is a step into the Mobile vehicle, however an
SY16 3DS	electronic tailgate is available to facilitate easy access
	for wheelchair users and those with disabilities.
Opening times	
Tuesday & Friday 15:00 – 16:00	Parking
	Parking available close to where the Mobile Van will be parked.

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 **Notify** - where we are informing customers of changes around:

- Opening hours
- Temporary closure <sup>1</sup>/ temporary service interruption
- Re-opening of a temporarily closed branch in the same site
- Opening a new branch unrelated to a previous closure
- Location used by a Mobile Post Office within a community

We will display a poster in branch (or nearby if appropriate) to notify customers of the above changes, providing four weeks' notice. Where four weeks' notice is not possible, we will provide notice as soon as we are able to. For temporary closures we will include details of the nearest alternative Post Offices and our customer helpline/textphone.

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.

Postofficeviews.co.uk

<u>Comments@postoffice.co.uk</u>

FREEPOST Your Comments

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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.

We notify locally elected representatives including 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, selected charities, local Citizens Advice, Age UK, Northern Ireland's Disability Action and Northern Ireland's Rural Community Network. They are also encouraged to share all information additionally with local groups and organisations who they believe have an active interest in changes to their local Post Office.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  We will provide an update to locally elected representatives if the status of the temporarily closed branch has not changed after 12 months.