



Dear Customer

Local public consultation – Decision

Bowness-on-Windermere Post Office
2 St Martins Parade, Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 3DY

I'm writing to confirm that following a period of local public consultation and review, we have made the decision to proceed with the move of the above Post Office into Spar Bowness, Rayrigg Road, Bowness on Windemere, LA23 3DN, where it will be operated by a retail partner.

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 their representatives 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 sheet 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 current branch will close at 17:30 on Wednesday 22 April 2026, with the new branch opening at Spar Bowness, Rayrigg Road at 10:00 on Thursday 23 April 2026. If there are any unforeseen circumstances which mean these dates change, posters will be displayed in branch to let customers know.

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

Kenny Lamont

Kenny Lamont
Regional Change 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: Friday 26 September 2025

Consultation ended: Friday 7 November 2025

Consultation responses

- 25 responses from customers and local representatives

Key issues raised:

- Internal Space
- Queueing
- Distance
- Traffic and Parking

Response to issues raised:

Internal Space

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 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.

Queueing

We have worked with the postmaster to monitor service standards to ensure they are maintained and that staffing levels are aligned to meet customer demand particularly at busy periods. The Post Office transactions are designed to be quick and efficient to operate to enable fast and effective customer service and helping to reduce queuing.

We will continue to monitor service demand in the area, along with customer usage at the new branch following the move and will work with the branch to make sure service standards are maintained.

Distance

The new premises are located approximately 350 metres from the previous site. With any relocation it is inevitable that whilst some customers will have an easier journey to the new location, regrettably others will have further to travel.

Parking/traffic congestion

Parking and peak time traffic congestion are problems faced generally in many locations nationwide. Whilst the availability of parking spaces is outside the direct control of Post Office Limited, a further review of parking has been carried out and has confirmed that there will be time restricted customer parking with two designated disabled bays available in the forecourt of the proposed premises.

Bowness-on-Windermere Post Office Information Summary

There are times our branches may need to make changes to its opening hours. The latest available branch information can be found on our website www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder

New Location

Spar Bowness, Rayrigg Road, Bowness on Windemere, LA23 3DN

Opening times

Monday	08:30 – 17:30
Tuesday	08:30 – 17:30
Wednesday	08:30 – 17:30
Thursday	08:30 – 17:30
Friday	08:30 – 17:30
Saturday	08:30 – 17:30
Sunday	Closed

Services available

The same products and services will still be available, however excluding Passport Check & Send.

Serving positions

There will be one serving point at the retail counter.

Access

The new premises will have wide automatic doors and level access at the entrance. Internally, there will be a hearing loop and space for wheelchairs.

Getting there

The new branch will be located approximately 350 metres away from the current branch, along mostly level terrain.

There will be time restricted customer parking with two designated disabled bays available in the forecourt of the proposed premises.

Additionally, there are marked pedestrian walkways from the pavement area to the store entrance.

Store retail available

Convenience store.

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

- Permanent closure of a Post Office branch⁵
- 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-week⁶ local public consultation, informing customers, locally elected representatives, Consumer Advocacy Bodies, and selected charities 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, Consumer Scotland and the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland, the independent statutory consumer advocacy bodies.

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 advocacy body (Citizens Advice, Consumer Scotland, or the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland) if you're not satisfied with our response. The consumer advocacy body 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

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⁵ 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.

⁶ 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 any local public consultation during the two-week period which includes the Christmas and New Year bank holidays.