

Dear Customer,

# Local public consultation – Decision

## Brewery Road Post Office 2 Brewery Road, Plumstead, SE18 7PT

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 7 Brewery Road, Plumstead, SE18 7PS.

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 current branch will close on Wednesday 29 January 2025 at 18:00, with the new branch opening, at 7 Brewery Road, Plumstead, SE18 7PS, on Thursday 30 January 2025 at 13:00. If there are any unforeseen circumstances which mean these dates change, posters will be displayed in branch to let customers know.

During transfer of the branch customers requiring Post Office facilities may use any convenient Post Office service. Details of two alternative Post Office branches are provided below for your convenience:

- Plumstead High Street Post Office, 102 Plumstead High Street, London, SE18 1SJ
- Herbert Road Post Office, 16 Herbert Road, London, SE18 3SH

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.

Your faithfully

Jason Collins

Jason Collins Regional Change Manager Post Office Limited

<u>comments@postoffice.co.uk</u> 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** 26 November 2024 **Consultation ended** 07 January 2025

## **Consultation responses**

• 12 responses from customers

## Key issues raised

• Privacy

## Response to issues raised

## Privacy

Our operator plans to incorporate a new modern Post Office into their store which will be carefully integrated inside, ensuring sufficient space, security and privacy for both Post Office and retail customers.

We will also be working closely with the new operator to make sure an appropriate level of privacy is provided for Post Office customers. For example, we discuss issues like queue layout and asking customers to stand back from the counter whilst they are waiting for service or handing a receipt that contains any financial information face down. Open plan working also lends itself.

# Appendix B

## **Brewery Road 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 <u>www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder</u>

Proposed New Location			
7 Brewery Road, Plumstead, SE18 7			
Proposed new opening times			
Monday	09:00 - 18:00		
Tuesday	09:00 - 18:00		
Wednesday	09:00 - 18:00		
Thursday	09:00 - 18:00		
Friday	09:00 - 18:00		
Saturday	09:00 - 14:00		
Sunday	Closed		
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#### **Products and Services**

The same range of products and services will still be available, with the addition of Euros Travel Money and Vehicle Tax. The previous branch has an external Post Office branded cash machine, but we don't yet know whether we'll be able to transfer this facility to the new premises.

## Serving positions

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

## Access

Currently, there is a step at the entrance to the new premises, however works will be carried out at the new premises to make the access level with a wide door at the entrance to provide improved access for customers, subject to planning permission. In the meantime, a portable ramp will be provided to assist customers in entering the premises.

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

## Getting there

The new premises will be located approximately 45 metres away from the previous branch.

No change to the existing parking available: Time restricted roadside parking is available nearby.

Store retail available

Convenience, stationery and confectionery.

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

Products and Services	Proposed Branch
Everyday Personal & Business Banking	-
Cash Withdrawals	✓
Cash Deposits	✓
Cheque Deposits	✓
Mails	
Drop & Go	✓
Parcelforce Express Services	✓
DPD - Buy in branch	✓
DPD - Drop off & Collections	✓
Pay Bills & Top Up	
Pay Bills & Top-up	✓
Driving	
Vehicle Tax	✓
Travel	
Foreign Currency	Euros
Travel Insurance	✓
Travel Money Card	✓
Your Finances	
Western Union	✓
Savings Application Forms	✓
ATM – 24hr	ТВС

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

A full version of this document is available on our Consultation Hub – <u>postofficeviews.co.uk</u>

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

- Permanent closure of a Post Office branch<sup>5</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>6</sup> 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 Comments@postoffice.co.uk FREEPOST Your Comments Call: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55

<sup>5</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>6</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 any local public consultation during the two-week period which includes the Christmas and New Year bank holidays.