



Dear Customer,

Local public consultation – Decision

**Christchurch Post Office
3B Saxon Square, Christchurch, BH23 1QA**

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 24 Church Street, Christchurch, BH23 1BW.

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 12:30 on Saturday 28 February 2026, with the new branch now opening, at 24 Church Street, at 13:00 on Monday 16 March 2026. 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:

- Gordon Road Post Office, 5 Gordon Road, Wimborne, BH21 2AP
- Southbourne Grove Post Office, 14 Southbourne Grove, Bournemouth, BH6 3RW

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,

Jason Collins

**Jason Collins
Regional Change Manager
Post Office Limited**

comments@postoffice.co.uk

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: 11 November 2025

Consultation ended: 23 December 2025

Consultation responses

- 125 responses from customers and local representatives

Key issues raised

- Distance/Location
- Parking/traffic congestion
- Internal Space
- Staff Training
- Range of products and services

Response to issues raised

Distance/Location

The new premises are located approximately 400 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. In terms of pedestrian access to the new location, there are well maintained pavements, with dropped kerbs along the route from the current site. In our proposal, we stated that the new premises at 24 Church Street, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 1BW will undergo refurbishment in preparation for the branch opening and the convenience store will operate under Premier.

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 is time restricted roadside parking available on Wick Lane and Wick Lane Pay & Display Car Park is located approximately 130 meters from the new premises.

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 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.

Staff Training

The staff training approaches used are of the same high standard as those undertaken in all our branches. This includes respecting customer confidentiality and adhering to the stringent security procedures which will be put in place to protect staff and customers. Additionally, any staff that will handle Post Office transactions will also have completed compliance training for a number of areas, including Data Protection and Mail Handling.

Range of Products and Services

The same services will still be available at the branch including the convenience retail the new Postmaster will be offering. All Post Office branches offer free access to cash for the major high street banks and customers will be able to use their debit card to withdraw cash at the counters of the new branch, during all opening hours.

Appendix B

Christchurch Post Office Information Summary

There are times our 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

New Location	
Premier, 24 Church Street, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 1BW	
New opening times	
Monday	09:00 – 17:00
Tuesday	09:00 – 17:00
Wednesday	09:00 – 17:00
Thursday	09:00 – 17:00
Friday	09:00 – 17:00
Saturday	09:00 – 13:30
Sunday	Closed
Services Available	
The same products and services will still be available.	
Serving positions	
There will be three serving positions in total; one screened and two Post Office serving points at the retail counter.	
Access	
Currently, there is a step at the entrance to the new premises, however works would be carried out to make the access level with a wide door at the entrance to provide improved access for customers, subject to planning permission. Internally, there will be space for a wheelchair and hearing loops will be available.	
Getting there	
The new branch will be located approximately 400 metres from the current branch, along varied terrain. Time restricted parking is available on Wick Lane and Wick Lane Car park is approximately 130 meters of the new premises.	
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

Comments@postoffice.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.