

Dear Customer,

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

Elm Park Post Office 66 Elm Park, London, SW2 2UB

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 V7 Local Store DIY, 68 Elm Park, London, SW2 2UB.

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 Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 17:30, with the new branch opening, at V7 Local Store DIY, on Friday 17 March 2023 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:

- Brixton Hill Post Office, 104-106 Brixton Hill, London, SW2 1AH
- Streatham Hill Post Office, 102 Streatham Hill, London, SW2 4UQ

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 Network Provision 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 17 November 2022 Consultation ended 29 December 2022

Consultation responses

• 15 responses from customers

Key issues raised

- Longer Hours
- Cash Machine

Response to issues raised

Longer Hours

The change also means that local residents will benefit from significantly longer opening hours and longer opening times throughout the week, giving customers greater flexibility to use our services and at times that suit them better.

Cash Machine

The current branch has a cash machine, however the Post Office external cash machine will not be transferring to the new branch. The nearest alternative external Post Office cash machine can be found approximately 0.4 miles away at Brixton Hill Post Office, 104-106 Brixton Hill, London, SW2 1AH. 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 counter of the new branch, during all the extended opening hours.

Appendix B

Elm Park Post Office Information Summary

V7 Local Store DIY 68 Elm Park London SW2 2UB

New opening hours

| Mon - Fri | 09:00 - 17:30 |
|-----------|---------------|
| Sat | 09:30 - 16:30 |
| 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 www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder

Products & Services

A similar 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 agent will be adjusting the entrance to the proposed premises to provide a wide door and level access at the entrance.

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

Getting there

Next door to the previous branch, approximately 5 metres away.

Time restricted roadside parking is available along Elm Park with designated disabled parking and Pay by Phone parking is available nearby.

Retail

Hardware store.

Elm Park 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 |
|---|---|
| lail | |
| 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 | Express 24 & 48 |
| 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 | ✓ |
| Vithdrawals, deposits and payments | |
| Post Office Card Account | ✓ |
| Personal & Business Banking cash withdrawals, deposits & balance | |
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| enquiries using a card. Also enveloped cheque deposits and barcoded | · · |
| enquiries using a card. Also enveloped cheque deposits and barcoded deposit slips. | , |
| · | <i>✓</i> |
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104 – 108 Brixton Hill, London, SW2 1AH

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 branch¹
- 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-week² local public consultation, informing customers, locally elected representatives³, Consumer Advocacy Bodies and selected charities⁴ 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.

Postofficeviews.co.uk Comments@postoffice.co.uk FREEPOST Your Comments

Call: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55

¹ 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.

² 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 bankholidays.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.