



Dear Customer,

**Branch Unplanned Closure**

**Ford Post Office  
489-491 Hylton Road, Sunderland, SR4 8DR**

We are writing to inform you that, regrettably, following the resignation of postmaster, the above branch will be closing on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 17:30.

The provision of a Post Office service to our customers in the local community is important to us, and we will continue to work hard to restore services in the area as soon as possible. We would welcome any applications from potential retail partners interested in running a branch locally on our behalf. The vacancy is currently being advertised on our website [www.runapostoffice.co.uk](http://www.runapostoffice.co.uk) and applications will be carefully considered. If you are aware of any interested parties, please do share the link with them.

If you are a local representative, it would be helpful if you could 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.

We apologise for the inconvenience the closure may cause. We hope that our customers will continue to use Post Office services and details of possible alternative Post Office branches in the area are shown at the end of this letter. The latest available branch information can be found on our website, [www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder).

If you are a local representative, we will write to you again if we have any news about plans for future service provision in the local area.

Yours faithfully,

*Lynne Archbold*

**Lynne Archbold  
Area Change Manager**

How to contact us:

[comments@postoffice.co.uk](mailto:comments@postoffice.co.uk)

[postofficeviews.co.uk](http://postofficeviews.co.uk)

FREEPOST Your Comments

## Alternative branches

There are times our branches may need to make changes to their opening hours. The latest available branch information, including any additional possible alternative Post Office branches in the area, can be found on our website [www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder)

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

We sell Royal Mail and Parcelforce Worldwide services.  
Postage services from other companies are also available in selected branches.

Hylton Post Office		Services available
Premier 21-23 Railway Terrace Sunderland SR4 0PY		Offers similar services, however excluding Euro Travel Money.
Opening times		Access
Mon – Sat	09:00 – 21:00	Access is level via a ramp and a handrail at the entrance to the premises.
Sun	10:00 – 14:00	
	16:00 – 21:00	
Getting there		
Approximately 0.9 miles from Ford Post Office branch, along varied terrain. Parking is available outside the branch. There is a regular bus service between Ford Post Office and this branch with a bus stop approximately 200 metres of the branch.		

Pallion Post Office		Services available
Premier 40-44 Midmoor Road Pallion Sunderland SR4 6NT		Offers similar services, with the addition of Vehicle Tax, however excluding Euro Travel Money.
Opening times		Access
Mon – Sat	09:00 – 17:30	Access is a step at the entrance to the premises.
Sun	Closed	
Getting there		
Approximately 0.8 miles from Ford Post Office branch, along varied terrain. Parking is available outside the branch. There are local buses serving the surrounding area.		

Gerrard Road Post Office		Services available
Family Shopper 7-9 Gerrard Road Grindon Sunderland SR4 9QG		Offers similar services, with the addition of Vehicle Tax and On Demand Insurance, however excluding Euro Travel Money.
Opening times		Access
Mon – Sun	06:00 – 21:00	Access is level at the entrance to the premises.
Getting there		
Approximately 1.4 miles from Ford Post Office branch, along varied terrain. Parking is available outside the branch. There are local buses serving the surrounding area.		

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](https://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
- Unplanned closure<sup>1</sup>/ planned service interruption
- Re-opening of a 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
- Franchising of a Directly Managed branch in its existing site where there are no changes to access to the Post Office serving point

We will display a poster in branch (or nearby if appropriate) to notify customers of the above changes, aiming to provide four weeks' notice. Four weeks' notice may not be possible for an unplanned change, and in these instances, we will provide notice as soon as we are able to. For closures we will include details of the nearest alternative Post Offices and our customer helpline/textphone.

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.

***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](mailto:Comments@postoffice.co.uk)**

**FREEPOST Your Comments**

**Call: 03452 66 01 15**

**Textphone: 03457 22 33 55**

<sup>1</sup>Where the closure is unplanned, the service provision in the area will be reviewed based on current usage, modelling and availability of any suitable replacement or alternative service model. A commercial decision will be made if to actively seek to replace the closed service and will not be subject to public consultation.