

Dear Customer

# Llanelli Post Office<sup>®</sup> 18 John Street, Llanelli, SA15 1AA

# Local public consultation decision

I am writing to confirm that, after careful consideration of the feedback received and all other relevant factors, we have decided that there is sufficient access to alternative Post Office services to cope with demand in the area, and so we will be proceeding with our decision to close Llanelli Post Office.

The branch will therefore close permanently at 17:30 on Friday 13 September 2019. 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 key issues raised in the consultation and our response to each of them is enclosed, along with an information sheet providing further details about alternative branches in the area.

You can also find a copy of this letter on our website at postofficeviews.co.uk. When entering the website you will be asked to enter the code for this branch: 150642

Posters will now be displayed in branch to let customers know about this decision.

Yours faithfully

Jeremy Kiff

Jeremy Kiff Change Manager

postofficeviews.co.uk comments@postoffice.co.uk FREEPOST Your Comments

PostOffice.co.uk

Consultation started 9 July 2019 Consultation ended 20 August 2019

### Consultation responses

• 8 responses from customers and local representatives

### Key issues raised

- Getting to alternative branches
- Access
- Range of product and services

### **Response to issues raised**

#### Getting to alternative branches

All alternative branches in the area are well served by public transport. For customers using their own transport, we are satisfied that the provision of parking at each alternative branch will meet customer demand.

#### Access

Access both into and within the alternative branches will meet Post Office Ltd's own accessibility standards and all applicable legislation. Access facilities includes level access at Ann Street and Llanelli Docks Post Offices, a threshold strip at the entrance of Church Street Post Office and steps at Pembrey Road Post Office. We will make sure there is sufficient space for Post Office customers, including wheelchair users, to move around all the branches and the entrance areas and shopping aisles will be kept free of obstructions.

We are working closely with the operators of the alternative branches to make sure that they are ready to meet the additional footfall and maintain quality of service. We have been working closely with the operators to plan their interior store layouts, to ensure optimum use of the space within the store and that access into and inside the branches is kept clear and free of obstacles. To ensure customer needs are met, we will closely monitor waiting times and usage at the alternative branches.

# Range of products and services

We are confident that the alternative branches have the capacity to meet customer demand and cater for additional customers, offering a wide range of Post Office products and services. The small number of Post Office products and services that will not be available at Church Street and Pembrey Road branches, such as Passport Check & Send, Identification services, change giving and high value banking, will continue to be available at Ann Street Post Office, 18 Ann Street, Llanelli, SA15 1TD and Llanelli Docks Post Office, 3 New Dock Road, Llanelli, SA15 2EG.

The nearest external cash machine at a Post Office branch can be found approximately 0.4 miles away at Ann Street Post Office, 18 Ann Street, Llanelli, SA15 1TD. 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.

Information sheet
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	Church Street Post Office					
Address	Corner House Stores Church Street Vauxhall Llanelli SA15 3BD					
Post Office Opening Hours	$\begin{array}{c c} Monday & 07:00-20:00\\ \hline Tuesday & 07:00-20:00\\ \hline Wednesday & 07:00-20:00\\ \hline Thursday & 07:00-20:00\\ \hline Friday & 07:00-20:00\\ \hline Saturday & 07:00-20:00\\ \hline Sunday & 08:00-16:00\\ \hline \end{array}$					
Distance	Approximately 0.2 miles away from Llanelli Post Office branch, along varied terrain.					
Products & Services	A range of key Post Office products and services will be available.					
Accessibility	Access and facilities There is a wide door and a threshold strip at the entrance of the branch. Internally, there is a hearing loop, a low level serving counter and space for a wheelchair.					
	<b>Transport/Parking</b> Parking is available at Church Street Car Park within 65 metres of the branch. Public transport services are available to and from the surrounding area.					

	Pembrey Road Post Office						
Address	SNA Late Shop 60 Pembrey Road Llanelli SA15 3BP						
Post Office Opening Hours	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $						
Distance	Approximately 0.4 miles away from Llanelli Post Office branch, along varied terrain.						
Products & Services	A range of key Post Office products and services will be available.						
Accessibility	<ul> <li>Access and facilities         There is a wide door and steps at the entrance of the branch.         Internally, there is a hearing loop and a low serving level serving counter.     </li> <li>Transport/Parking         Roadside parking is available on Stewart Street adjacent to the branch and nearby.         Public transport services are available to and from the surrounding area.     </li> </ul>						

Post Office <sup>®</sup> services available Your postmaster or our Customer Helpline on 03452 66 01 15 will be happy to help you with any queries about product availability or provide you with details of maximum value of transactions. Customers can also shop online at <u>www.postoffice.co.uk</u>					
	Llanelli	Church Street	Pembrey Road		
Mail			<b>,</b>		
First & Second Class mail	✓	✓	✓		
Stamps, stamp books	✓		1		
(1 <sup>st</sup> class 6 & 12 only, 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	✓	✓	✓		
British Forces Mail (BFPO)	✓	✓	✓		
International letters & postcards	✓	✓	✓		
(inc. signed for & Airsure)					
International parcels up to 2kg & printed papers up to 5kg	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Parcelforce Worldwide International parcels	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Articles for the blind (inland & international)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Royal Mail redirection service	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>		
Local Collect	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>		
Drop & Go	✓	✓	✓		
Withdrawals, deposits and payments			T -		
Post Office Card Account	✓	✓	✓		
All personal and business banking cash withdrawals,					
deposits, balance enquiries & enveloped cheque deposits (card, barcoded or manual) up to a maximum value.	¥	<b>v</b>	v		
Postal orders	✓	✓	✓		
Moneygram	· ·	· ·			
Bill payments (card, barcoded or manual)	· · ·	· · ·			
Key recharging	· · ·	· · ·			
Driving	•	•	•		
Car tax	✓	*	×		
Driving licence renewals	· ·	×	×		
Licences	•	~	~		
	✓	<b>√</b>	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>		
Rod fishing licences	•	× ×	× ×		
Document Certification Service	•	*	~		
Travel		<b>√</b>	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>		
Pre-order travel money	$\checkmark$	Ť	-		
On demand travel money	✓ ✓	Euros/Dollars	×		
Travel insurance referral	-	-	-		
On demand travel insurance	× √	*	<b>X</b>		
Passport Check & Send	✓	×	*		
Mahila Tan una 0 Europh	✓	<b></b>	<hr/>		
Mobile Top-ups & E vouchers	<b>▼</b>	-			
National Lottery Terminal	•	*	*		
Payment by cheque Products marked × are available at Ann Street Pos	✓	$\checkmark$	×		

Ann Street Post Office					
Address	18 Ann Street Llanelli				
	SA15 1TD				
	Monday Tuesday	08:30 - 17:30 08:30 - 17:30			
Post Office	Wednesday	08:30 - 17:30			
Opening hours	Thursday	08:30 - 17:30			
	Friday	08:30 - 17:30			
	Saturday	09:00 - 14:30			
	Sunday	Closed			
Distance	Approximately 0.4 miles away from Llanelli Post Office branch, along varied terrain.				
Products & Services	A wide range of products and services will be available.				
Accessibility	Access and facilities There is a wide door and level access at the entrance of the branch. Internally, there is a hearing loop, a low level serving counter and space for a wheelchair.				
	<b>Transport/parking</b> Roadside parking is available outside the branch and along Ann Street. Public transport services are available to and from the surrounding area.				

	Llanelli Docks Post Office						
	3 New Dock Road						
Address	Llanelli						
		S	A15 2EG				
		Monday	08:30 - 17:30				
		Tuesday	09:00 - 17:30				
Post Office		Wednesday	09:00 - 17:30				
Opening hours		Thursday	09:00 - 17:30				
Opening nours		Friday	09:00 - 17:30				
		Saturday	09:00 - 17:30	-			
		Sunday	Closed				
		Sunday	Closed				
			. for an Ulawalli Daat				
Distance	Approximately 0.6 miles away from Llanelli Post Office branch, along varied terrain.						
<b>Products &amp; Services</b>	A wide range of products and services will be available.						
	Access and facilitie						
	There is a wide door and level access at the entrance of the branch.						
Accessibility	lity Internally, there is a hearing loop, a low level serving counter and spa for a wheelchair.						
	Transport/Parking	1					
	There is a car park at the rear of the branch.						
	Public transport services are available to and from 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

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
- Temporary closure<sup>1</sup>/ temporary service interruption
- Re-opening of a temporarily 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

We will display a poster in branch (or nearby if appropriate) to notify customers of the above changes, providing four weeks' notice. Where four weeks' notice is not possible, we will provide notice as soon as we are able to. For temporary closures we will include details of the nearest alternative Post Offices and our customer helpline/textphone.

We will **Engage** - where we are seeking feedback on a decision that has been made on:

- Re-opening of a temporarily closed branch in a new location (where the branch has been closed for more than three months)
- Franchising of a Directly Managed branch in its existing site

While the decision to proceed will have already been made, we will welcome suggestions about specific aspects of the change such as access arrangements and the internal layout. We will provide four weeks' notice or, where extenuating circumstances prevent this, we will provide as much notice as possible.

During this period we will display a poster in branch and provide information online. We will contact locally elected representatives<sup>2</sup>, the Consumer Advocacy Bodies and selected charities<sup>3</sup>, providing clear information on any changes to services or access arrangements at the branch. We will ask locally elected representatives to share information with other key community outlets (such as notice boards, local charities, magazines, GP surgeries etc.). We will publish the outcome of the engagement online and in branch, providing a summary of key issues raised with a clear response to each and any changes made to our original plans.

*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>4</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>5</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, 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 we believe 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

 $^{1}$ We will provide an update to locally elected representatives if the status of the temporarily closed branch has not changed after 12 months.

<sup>2</sup> Locally elected representatives include but are not restricted to the Member of Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly, or Northern Ireland Assembly, Local Authority Chief Executive, Ward Councillors, Parish or Community Council.

<sup>3</sup> 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 2 and 3 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.

<sup>4</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>5</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.