Dear Customer



Branch Temporary Closure

Newtownhamilton Post Office 50 Dundalk Street, Newtownhamilton, Newry, BT35 0PB

We are writing to advise you that, following a fire at the above premises, the branch closed temporarily, on Monday 31 July 2023. Please accept my apologies for the late notification on this occasion.

We are working to restore Post Office services at Newtownhamilton and I would like to apologise for any inconvenience this temporary closure may cause locally. In the interim, we hope that our customers will continue to use Post Office services and details of 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 <u>www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder</u>

We will display posters in the branch premises and in the local area to inform customers.

We're carrying out this notification in line with our Principles of Community Engagement. An extract relating to Notification is available at the end of this letter.

If you are a local representative, we will ensure that you are kept advised of developments in due course.

We would like to thank you for your patience at this time.

Yours faithfully

Janese Sung

Janese Sung Network Provision Lead

How to contact us:

<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.

Alternative branches

Some 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

Cullyhanna Post Offic	ce	Services				
4 Skerriff Road		Offers similar services, with the addition of National				
Cullyhanna		Lottery.				
Newry						
BT35 0JG						
Opening times		Access				
Monday & Tuesday	09:00 - 15:00	This branch has a wide door and level access at the				
Wednesday	09:00 - 12:30	entrance.				
Thursday & Friday	09:00 - 17:00	Internally, there is a hearing loop and space for a				
Saturday & Sunday	Closed	wheelchair.				

Getting there

This Post Office service is located approximately 4.6 miles away from Newtownhamilton branch, along varied terrain. Parking is available on the forecourt outside the branch. There is a limited bus service available between Newtownhamilton branch and this Post Office service. The nearest bus stop is approximately 350 metres away.

Belleeks Outreach Post Office Service	Services
15 Main Street	Offers similar services.
Belleeks	
Newry	
BT35 7PH	

Opening times

Monday	10:00 - 15:30
Tuesday & Wednesday	10:00 - 13:00
Thursday	10:00 - 15:30
Friday	10:00 - 13:00
Saturday & Sunday	Closed

09:00 - 17:00

09:00 - 13:00

Closed

Access

This branch has a wide door and access is via a step at the entrance.

Internally, there is a hearing loop.

Getting there

This Post Office service is located approximately 4.5 miles away from Newtownhamilton branch, along varied terrain. Parking is available outside the branch and nearby. There is a limited bus service available between Newtownhamilton branch and this Post Office service. The nearest bus stop is approximately 60 metres away.

Whitecross Post Offic	e	Services
15 Kingsmill Road		Offers similar services, with the addition of National
Whitecross		Lottery.
Armagh		
BT60 2SS		
Opening times		Access
Monday & Tuesday	09:00 - 17:00	This branch has a wide door and access is via a ramp at
Wednesday	09:00 - 13:00	the entrance.

Internally,	there	is	а	hearing	loop	and	space	for	а
wheelchai	r.								

Getting there

Saturday Sunday

Thursday & Friday

This Post Office service is located approximately 4.7 miles away from Newtownhamilton branch, along varied terrain. Parking is available on the forecourt outside the branch. There are local buses serving in the surrounding area.

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 **<u>Notify</u>** - where we are informing customers of changes around:

- Opening hours
- Temporary closure¹/ 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.

These Principles have been agreed with Citizens Advice, Consumer 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, Consumer 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 <u>Comments@postoffice.co.uk</u> FREEPOST Your Comments Call: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55

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

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.

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.