

Dear Customer

## Engaging with our customers - Share your views

## South Petherton Post Office Previously located at: St James Street, South Petherton, TA13 5BN

We are delighted to let you know that following the temporary closure of South Petherton Post Office we will be re-opening the branch on Friday 24 March 2023 at 13:00. This will be in a new location – N&D News, 26 St James Street, South Petherton, TA13 5BW, where it will operate as one of our local style branches.

## We would like to hear from you

We are keen to restore services to this community as soon as possible, so we have decided to go ahead with our plans. The re-opening of the branch in a new location is a commercial decision for Post Office Ltd and we are not seeking feedback on this aspect of the change. However, we would welcome suggestions about specific aspects of the change that might benefit customers, particularly on the following areas:

- Do you have any comments about access into the new premises?
- Do you have any comments about access inside the new premises?

Details about your new branch are provided at the end of this letter and our Consultation Hub. We will be accepting comments until Friday 21 April 2023. We won't be responding to you individually, but any comments received will be taken into consideration as we finalise our plans.

You can share your views on this branch reopening through our easy and convenient online questionnaire via postofficeviews.co.uk. When entering the website, you can use the search function to find the engagement for this branch either by branch name, postcode or the unique branch code **347549** 

### How to share your views: Consultation Hub (postofficeviews.co.uk) comments@postoffice.co.uk Call: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55 FREEPOST Your Comments – N.B. This is the full postal address. Items sent by Freepost take 2 working days, please allow enough time for responses to be received.

Want to tell us what you think right here and now? Scan here. If you don't have a QR code scanner on your phone, you can find one in your app store.



We will display posters in the new location to tell customers the good news. 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 these posters, please let us know.

## postoffice.co.uk

Once the plans have been finalised, we'll display a poster in branch and information will be provided on our Consultation Hub outlining the main comments received and our response. If there are any unforeseen changes to the opening date, posters will be displayed in branch to let customers know.

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

We do hope that you will support this new service.

Yours faithfully

Graham Brander

Graham Brander Network Provision Lead

## South Petherton Post Office Information Sheet

N&D News 26 St James Street South Petherton TA13 5BW

#### Post Office opening hours

Mon - Fri	09:00 - 17:00
Sat	09:00 - 12:00
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 <u>www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder</u>

#### Access

The new premises will have a wide door and level access at the entrance. Internally, there will be a hearing loop and space for a wheelchair.

#### **Products and services**

Similar products and services will continue to be available, however excluding Euros and Dollars Travel Money.

#### Getting there

The new branch will be located approximately 80 metres away from the previous branch, along varied terrain.

Time restricted roadside parking is available nearby.

#### Retail

Convenience store.

#### Date of opening

Friday 24 March 2023 at 13:00.

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.

### South Petherton Post Office services available

# For information about product availability call 03457 22 33 44. For details of maximum value of transactions, please speak to the operator.

		New branch
Mail		
First & Second Class mail	✓	
Stamps, stamp books (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	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	✓	
Withdrawals, deposits and payments		
Post Office Card Account	✓	
Personal & Business Banking cash withdrawals, deposits & balance	√	
Also enveloped cheque deposits and barcoded deposit slips.		
Postal orders	✓	
Moneygram	✓	
Change giving	✓	
Automated bill payments (card or barcoded)	✓	
Key recharging	✓	
Driving		
Vehicle tax	✓	
Travel		
Pre-order travel money	✓	
On demand travel money	×	
On demand travel insurance	✓	
Mobile Top-ups & E vouchers		✓
National Lottery Terminal		×
Payment by cheque		Vehicle tax only
Products marked <b>×</b> are available at <b>Martock</b> Post Office,	Opening times:	•
East Street, Martock, TA12 6JQ	Mon – Fri	09:00 - 17:00
	Sat	09:00 - 12:00
	Sun	Closed

## 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>Engage</u>** - 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.

## 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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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