

Dear Sir/Madam

## The Centre Post Office® 1 The Centre, Leigh, WN7 2XY

## **Local Public Consultation Decision**

I'm writing to confirm that we will be proceeding with our proposal to move the above Post Office branch to McColls Retail Group, 9 The Centre, Leigh, WN7 2XY, where it will operate as one of our new local style Post Office branches.

We didn't receive any feedback from customers or local representatives about the proposed move during the local public consultation period, however I have carried out a final review of the original proposal and the impact on local residents and the wider community. Having also reviewed pedestrian and vehicular access to the new site, I am confident that the new branch is suitably located and will continue to meet the needs of the local community.

I'm delighted that this branch is part of the modernisation of our Post Office network, offering Post Office services that will meet customer needs whilst helping to provide future sustainability for the branch. Currently we have over 3500 local branches offering Post Office services in this new way and customer and operator feedback has been very encouraging.

We recognise that the Post Office plays an important part in the lives of customers and we want to make our services as accessible as possible. I'm pleased to confirm that the new branch will have a wide automatic door and a ramp with handrails at the entrance. Inside, the new branch will be in line with Post Office specifications, making sure there is sufficient space for the new style local Post Office to operate alongside the retail offer. We will be working closely with the new operator on the internal layout and some existing fixtures, fittings and retail stock will be re-aligned or removed to make sure there is clear access into the premises. The entrance, aisles and the queuing area will also be kept clear ensuring sufficient space is available for customers and for a wheelchair to move around and access our services without difficulty.

The new local style Post Office will operate from a Post Office serving point located at the shop counter enabling customers to carry out a wide range of Post Office products and services alongside retail transactions. The Post Office transactions are designed to be quick and efficient to enable fast and effective customer service and helping to reduce queuing. This does mean that a small number of transactions that are more time consuming, complex or paper based won't be available at the new branch. However, I can confirm that the new branch will still cater for the vast majority of Post Office products and services. The very small number of services that will no longer be offered can be accessed at Warrington Road Post Office, which provides the full range of Post Office products and services.

The change also means that local residents will benefit from significantly longer opening hours, including Saturday afternoon, Sunday opening and longer opening times throughout the week, allowing customers to spread their visits and access our services seven days a week and at times that suit them better. Full details of the new branch are provided at the end of this letter together with a list of the products and services which will be available.

The current branch will close at 17:30 on Tuesday 23 January 2018, with the new branch opening, at McColls Retail Group, 9 The Centre, at 13:00 on Wednesday 24 January 2018. If there are any unforeseen schedule changes 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 an alternative Post Office branch are provided below for your convenience:

Warrington Road Post Office, 124 Warrington Road, Leigh, WN7 3XF

You can also find a copy of this letter on our website at <u>postofficeviews.co.uk</u>. When entering the website you will be asked to enter the code for this branch: 34140699

This change to the Post Office network is being carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice for changes to the network, as agreed with the independent statutory consumer watchdog. A full copy of the Code of Practice is available on our website at www.postofficeviews.co.uk, or by contacting us at the address provided at the end of this letter.

Thank you for considering our proposal.

Yours faithfully

Suzanne Richardson Regional Network Manager

## How to contact us:

postofficeviews.co.uk

comments@postoffice.co.uk

Customer Helpline: 03452 66 01 15 Textphone: 03457 22 33 55

FREEPOST Your Comments

Please note this is the full address to use and no further address details are required.

We've published our final plan on-line, to see it, scan here.

If you don't have a QR code scanner on your phone, you can find one in your app store.



To get this information in a different format, for example, in larger print, audio or braille please contact the Customer Helpline on 03452 66 01 15 or Textphone 03457 22 33 55.

The Centre Post Office information sheet			
Address	Martin McColls Retail 9 The Centre Leigh WN7 2XY		
Opening hours	Monday 07:00 - 22:00 Tuesday 07:00 - 22:00 Wednesday 07:00 - 22:00 Thursday 07:00 - 22:00 Friday 07:00 - 22:00 Saturday 07:00 - 22:00 Sunday 07:00 - 22:00		
Distance	40 metres away from the current branch, along level terrain.		
Products & Services	The majority of Post Office products and services will still be available.		
Accessibility & accessibility works	Access and facilities Access will be via a wide automatic door and a ramp with a handrail at the entrance. Internally, there will be a hearing loop and space for a wheelchair.  Parking There is roadside parking outside the premises.		
Retail	Convenience store		
Date of Relocation	13:00 on Wednesday 24 January 2018		

## The Centre Post Office® services available

Your operator 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 <a href="https://www.postoffice.co.uk">www.postoffice.co.uk</a>

•	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. signed for & Airsure)	✓
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 enquiries using a card. Also enveloped cheque deposits and barcoded deposit slips.	✓
Postal orders	✓
Moneygram	✓
Change giving	✓
Bill payments	
Automated bill payments (card or barcoded)	✓
Key recharging	✓
Transcash (without barcode)	×
Driving	
Car tax	✓
Licences	
Rod fishing licences	✓
Travel	
Pre-order travel money	✓
Travel insurance referral	<b>✓</b>
Mobile Top-ups & E vouchers	✓
National Lottery Terminal	✓
Payment by cheque	Car tax only
Products marked * are available at <b>Warrington Road</b> Post Office, 124 Warrington Road, Leigh, WN7 3XF	Opening times: Mon – Tue 08:30 – 17:30
127 Warrington Rodd, Leigh, WWV JA	Wed - Sat 09:00 – 17:30