



September 2008 Special Issue Delivered to over 5,500 residents at no - cost to Council Tax payers

Local post office branch set to close



Above: Portobello Post Office, set to close its doors to the public a sad loss to the local community.

The Post Office has just announced plans to close the local Portobello post office situated on Willenhall Road. The nearest post office branches remaining will be in Bunkers Hill Bilston, John Street Willenhall and the Old Heath branch on Willenhall Road. The Royal Mail claims that the Portobello Post Office serves an average of just 1000 to 1499 customers a week where as the John Street Post Office serves twice that number.

And although the Bunkers Hill branch serves 1000 to 1499 customers weekly it too could face the same demise if the client base fails to increase after the closure of the Portobello branch. "The wave of closures across the West Midlands and nationally has nothing to do with EU rules or the single market. "This is a myth conveniently designed to get Gordon Brown off the hook and it is the local Wolverhampton South East Labour MP who is orchestrating the closures.

There will be a few weeks for 'consultation' before the plan is finalised so your local Liberal Democrat representative Darren Friel and the Focus Team would like to know your views.

Please answer the questions in the survey below and return to our Freepost address to let Darren Friel know your thoughts on the closure of the Portobello Post Office.

Portobello Post Office Closure Survey

Name

Address

Email

I use the Portobello Post Office

Never Occasionally Often

Closing Portobello post office will be very inconvenient for me

Yes No

Going to another post office will be a problem for me

Yes No

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The Liberal Democrat vision for Britain's Post Offices



Our plan would give a real investment of £2 billion in the post office, would increase the services offered at local post office branches and improve the network so that every community that needs a post office gets one.

We are the only party with a fully-funded plan to save the post office, give it a long-term future and not just manage its decline.

Our plan would see:

- £2 billion invested in post office network;
- New branches opening where needed;
- Government services continuing to be available at the Post Office;
- The Post Office freed from Royal Mail restrictions to let it develop new business;
- A new legal requirement for the Government to maintain the local Post Office network.



How to contact Darren Friel and the Focus Team



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Post Office Closure facts

- 3000 Post Offices were closed by the Conservatives
- 4000 have been closed under Labour so far
- Now a further 2500 face the axe
- “Contrary to claims by Euro Sceptics, the Government can subsidise Post Offices if it really wants to
- Post offices have been classed by the EU as an essential service.”
- Five more Wolverhampton post offices have just been listed to close
- The Wolverhampton South East Labour MP is in charge of post office closures