

Post Office Closures

Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership

22 September 2008

Purpose of report

- 1 To advise the Neighbourhood Partnership of the terms of a motion approved by the Council on Post Office closures.

Main Report

- 2 On 21 August 2008 the Council approved the following motion:

“This Council:

- (a) notes with concern the latest Post Office closure proposals affecting Edinburgh communities: Warrender Park, Elm Row, Goldenacre, Pilrig Toll, Cramond, Dalmeny, Broomhall, Calder Crossway, Longstone, Gorgie, Shandon Place, Nicolson street, and Magdalene Drive.
- (b) believes that Post Offices are an integral part of our local communities offering an important local service for all residents, particularly older and less mobile residents, and that closure will result in residents having more difficulty in accessing essential Post Office services.
- (c) notes that Post Offices are central to the sustainability and viability of many local businesses, both those based within the same building and those in close proximity.

This Council:

- (a) condemns the latest round of Post Office closures as another painful cut on services which have a great and detrimental impact on all our communities.
- (b) notes that the consultation is now underway on the proposed closures and resolves to formally support our affected local communities by responding to each consultation and opposing closures where this is in accordance with the local view.
- (c) notes with concern that closures will no longer be dependent on the willingness of sub-postmasters to volunteer for closure and will instead be determined on a compulsory basis.

- (d) examines the potential for maximising the range of council services which could be provided from these and other post offices in the city.
 - (e) forwards information on the proposed closures to all Neighbourhood Partnerships in the city.”
- 3 Consultation on the Post Office Network Change Programme Area Plan Proposal for Edinburgh, the Lothians and South of Scotland has now commenced and will end on 29 September 2008. A report proposing a Council response will be submitted to the Council meeting on 18 September 2008.

Recommendation

- 4 That the Neighbourhood Partnership considers the terms of the motion.

John Sturt
Council Secretary

Appendices	None
Contact/tel	Carmel Riley 529 4830 or carmel.riley@edinburgh.gov.uk
Wards affected	City wide
Background Papers	Act of Council of 21 August 2008