

Council, Tuesday 4 March, 2008

Motion in the name of Cllr Alison Moore

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 14.1.1: Suspension of Standing Orders to allow one speaker from each political Group to speak on the following motion on the extension of the consultation period for Post Office closures. Reason for urgency - the consultation period ends on 2nd April – before the next Council meeting, and before the next Cabinet meeting.

Post Office Closures

Council opposes the planned government closure of 8 post offices in Barnet.

Council believes that Post Offices provide vital support for those who are most in need particularly the elderly, disabled and those with young children, and that for those local people who do not have access to a bank account Post Offices are an essential community service they cannot do without.

Council believes that the consultation period is not long enough to allow the local authority to assess the impact of these proposed closures on the community.

Council therefore asks the Chief Executive to write to Post Office Ltd to demand that the consultation period should be extended from 6 weeks to 12 weeks, as per Cabinet Office guidance.