



Geoffrey Cox - "Save our post offices"

THIS CONSULTATION HAS NOW CLOSED



When I was elected in 2005, I promised to do all I could to protect rural services. Now we face an emergency. Our local Post Offices need your support in fighting to preserve them from closure.

In the last nine years, nineteen local Post Offices have been closed as part of a nationwide cost-cutting programme. Now, Post Office Ltd wants to close 20 more. 5 Post Offices are proposed for complete closure. They are:

- East the Water
- Ford St, Tavistock
- Peter Tavy Mobile Post Office
- Sampford Courtenay
- Sutcombe

Post Office Ltd want to replace 15 Post Offices more with an 'outreach' service, meaning a Mobile Post Office or a restricted service with limited opening hours. They are:

- Ashreigney
- Ashwater
- Bridestowe
- Bridgerule
- Buckland Brewer
- Chillaton
- Clovelly
- Langtree
- Lewdown
- Meeth
- Milton Abbot
- Northlew
- Postbridge
- Shebbear
- St Giles on the Heath

[Click here to download "Post Office Network Change Programme Proposal"](#)

GEOFFREY'S SUBMISSION

Download Geoffrey's formal submission to the Network Change consultation.



[| Click here \(pdf\)](#)

INFORMATION PACK

Download a consultation leaflet



[| Click here \(pdf\)](#)

Download an Information Pack



[| Click here \(pdf\)](#)

FROM GEOFFREY'S WEBSITE

Cox condemns "Body Blow" to rural petrol stations.

17 February 2010 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox today condemned plans to ramp up the rateable value of filling stations, a move which could drive hundreds of garages out of business. [| more](#)

MP praises Post Office closure report

15 February 2010 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox today welcomed a report that condemned the recent closure of Post Offices across the country and branded the public consultation process as "a

sham". [| more](#)

We cannot go on with Labour's scorched earth policy

8 February 2010 : Article for North Devon Journal

(pdf).

Now that the plans have been announced, there will be a six-week period where the people are invited to give their view of the closure proposals.

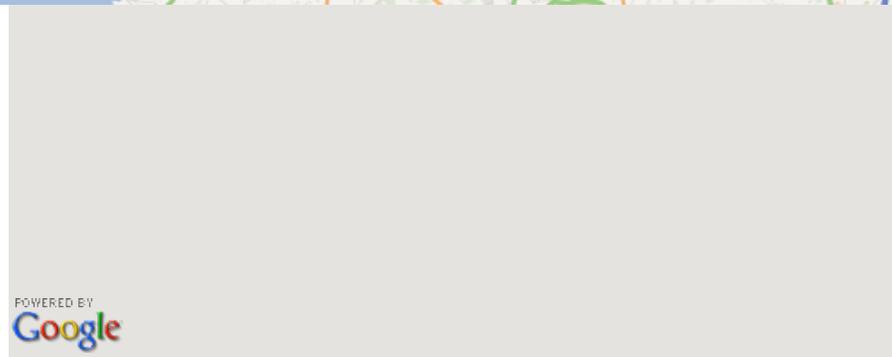
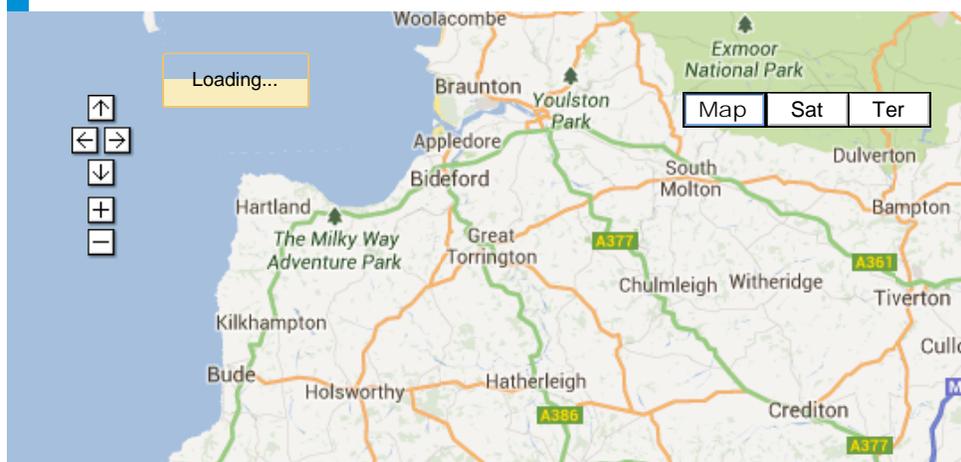
The consultation process has now finished. [Click here to download my response to the consultation proposals.](#)

I think that the closure programme is misguided and that the Government fails to understand the importance of the Post Office to the local community. We all know how vital the Post Offices of Devon are. The consultation process is too short and flawed, but nonetheless it is the best way for people to show their support for their local branch.

I want to give people as much help as possible in making the case to save their local Post Office. I hope you will join me in campaigning to safeguard this vital local service.



Closures at a Glance



Devon's rural communities face critical challenges over the next five years as a result of their "scorched earth" treatment at Labour's hands. | [more](#)

MP presses Post Office on Service Disruptions

15 January 2010 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox met senior Post Office executives this week to discuss the continued and persistent technical problems that have blighted Mobile Post Offices across Devon. | [more](#)

Cox warns of new tax on village halls, churches and charities

15 January 2010 : Press Release



Churches, village halls, charity shops and sports clubs across Devon face a new £20 million tax from Gordon Brown's Government, local MP, Geoffrey Cox, has warned today. | [more](#)

MP to meet Post Office Executives over continued technical problems

12 January 2010 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox will be meeting senior Post Office executives this week to discuss the continued and persistent technical problems that have blighted Mobile Post Offices across Devon. | [more](#)

MP expresses "deep concern" over Mobile Post Offices

11 December 2009 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox today expressed concern about the continued technical problems that are blighting Mobile Post Offices across Devon. | [more](#)

Geoffrey Cox backs plans to help protect local post offices, pubs, libraries and parks

23 November 2009 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox has given his strong backing to plans for far-reaching new powers to be given to local people to protect community assets from closure and take over the running of public buildings and community assets. | [more](#)

MP Cox calls for more help for pubs

4 March 2009 : Press Release



What can you do?

Between May 20th and July 1st public consultation will be open; your views can make a difference, so make sure that Post Office Ltd knows what you think. You can:

Write to: National Consultation Team, Post Office Ltd, FREEPOST

Telephone: 08457 22 33 44

E-mail: consultation@postoffice.co.uk.

Contact: the consultation team using the link below.

The more people reply to the consultation, the more importance the regulator Postwatch will place on these views.

As well as making your voice heard in the consultation, you can support your local Post Office in other ways. Display posters in your window, use your branch as much as possible to underline how vital it is, sign petitions, write to your local newspaper, anything that shows the strength of feeling for our local Post Offices.

For more information on the closure plans, their impact, the process and what you can do to help, download our information pack [here](#). You can also download sample [leaflets](#) to print out and make as many people as possible aware of the threat to our Post Offices.

Consultation Process

The Consultation process has already begun. Post Office Ltd spent two months taking to bodies such as the regulator, Postwatch, and Local authorities. Now this is complete, an 'area plan' was produced with the closure proposals. This can be found [here](#).

Once Post Office Ltd publishes its list of the planned closures it invites comment from the public on them. The Public Consultation begins on May 20th and will last six weeks. This means it will end on July 1st.

After the six-week public consultation process ends, the third stage begins;



Geoffrey Cox has called for the Government to do more to help local pubs as new figures emerged showing that Torridge and West Devon had seen 21 pub closures since 2005 – the worst in Devon and Cornwall. | [more](#)

MP welcomes West Devon Borough Council's adoption of the Sustainable Communities Act

2 March 2009 : Press Release



Geoffrey Cox today warmly welcomed the adoption by West Devon Borough Council of the Sustainable Communities Act. | [more](#)

there will be a four week period where the consultation is taken into account and Postwatch is able to raise with Post Office Ltd issues relating to specific branches. This is where public support for a local Post Office can make a real difference.

Once this final period expires, an announcement will be made on whether the consultation has raised points that require the plan to be modified. All closures must take place a month after this announcement at the latest.

Consultation Timetable

20th May 2008	Start of Public Consultation
1st July 2008	Close of Public Consultation
Early August 2008	Announcement of Decision
September - October	Closures implemented

Send your response to the Consultation

[Click here to link directly to the Post Office website consultation page.](#)

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