

Item No. 2	Classification: Open	Date: 6 th May 2004	Meeting Name: Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Post Office closures		
Ward(s) or Groups Affected:	All		
From:	Head of Corporate Strategy		

RECOMMENDATION

1. Members are asked to consider the background information on the programme of post office closures, and take a view on when and how to approach the topic.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Members proposed that Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) look at the question of post office closures. On 5th April 2004 Overview & Scrutiny Committee received a report from the Head of Overview & Scrutiny inviting Members to consider whether and how to proceed with the review. Members also received:
 - the latest ministerial announcement on consultation arrangements;
 - briefing notes from Postwatch (the consumer body) on the current position and the criteria they will apply to assessing proposed closures in London
 - the current list of proposed closures – none local;
 - a transcript of Greater London Authority's Public Services Committee's initial discussion with representatives of the Post Office, Postwatch and local campaign members (included reference to franchising plans for Camberwell and Peckham post offices).
3. At the time of the last OSC meeting, the Greater London Authority's Public Services Committee had not yet concluded its review of Post Office Closures in London, but this report has since been published and a copy of the main report is attached as Appendix A [the report's appendices are available on request].
4. As requested by OSC on 5th April 2004, Kay Dixon, Chair of Postwatch has been invited to the current meeting to brief the committee on the current position and to inform OSC's consideration of its future approach.
5. Members are invited to consider whether and how to proceed with review of this topic.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no additional legal implications raised by this report.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6. There are no specific resource implications raised by this report.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no additional equalities implications raised by this report.

Audit Trail

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CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	No	No
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
Executive Member	No	No