

Edward Davey MP

Minister for Employment Relations,
Consumer and Postal Affairs


[REDACTED]
Post Office Ltd
148 Old Street
London
EC1V 9HQ

11 September 2011

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to thank you and your team for all the work and effort put into mitigating the impact of the recent riots on post offices in areas affected and in restoring service as rapidly as possible in instances where there was damage to premises occupied by post offices or to premises adjacent to them.

Easy access to local post office services is very important to many residents of the communities which were most severely affected by the riots and I am sure the efforts of your team to ensure that any disruption of service was minimised were much appreciated in those areas. They are certainly much appreciated by me and my ministerial colleagues.

Yours,


EDWARD DAVEY

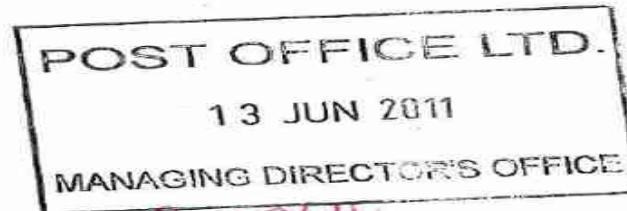
Cc Paula Vennells

Edward Davey MPMinister for Employment Relations,
Consumer and Postal Affairs

Our ref: 249466

Your ref:

Paula Vennells
Managing Director
Post Office Ltd
148 Old Street
London
EC1V 9HQ



June 2011

Dear Paula,

Please find enclosed correspondence from Jacob Rees-Mogg MP, on behalf of his constituent, [REDACTED] about Post Office services.

Edward Davey MP has asked that you look into this matter and reply direct to Jacob Rees-Mogg MP.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Private Secretary



JACOB REES-MOGG, MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR NORTH EAST SOMERSET
HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

SL
ROYAL MAIL

For your information

25th May 2011

The Rt. Hon. Vince Cable M.P.,
President of the Board of Trade,
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills,
1, Victoria Street,
London.

Dear President,

[Redacted]

Please find enclosed a letter that I recently received from the above-named constituent regarding his concerns about the changes to local post offices.

I would be most grateful if you could provide me with your comments on the issues raised by my constituent and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With many thanks,

*Yours truly,
Jacob Rees-Mogg*

Enc.

→ DCLG

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 May 2011 14:14
To: REESMOGG, Jacob
Subject: Support for rural communities in Somerset

Dear Mr Rees-Mogg,

Forgive me if I am wrong, but I think I recall several times your supporting in public the need to foster local rural communities and, in particular, to safeguard post offices, which play an important role in village life. I expect that you know that government policy for a number of years has been to redirect traditional post office business to other agencies.

There is now one simple thing you can do to make a very small move in the opposite direction. At governmental behest, NS&I has announced this week the sale of savings certificates. For generations these have been sold through local post offices. This time post offices have been cut out of the operation, the principal means of purchase being the internet and telephone. It would be simple for the government to require explanatory leaflets and application forms to be made available through post offices, thus giving them modest extra support. I trust you can persuade your colleagues to do this.

Timsbury parish council conducted a survey of residents, as a preliminary stage to producing a village plan. The report, published in December 2009, showed that 89% of respondents considered it essential that the village keep its post office, a further 9% considered it desirable. (1074 responses were received, a 52% response rate.)

I look forward to hearing how successful you have been.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Edward Davey MP

Minister for Employment, Skills,
Consumer and Postal Affairs

Jacob Rees-Mogg MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our ref: 249466

9 June 2011

Dear Jacob,

Thank you for your letter of 25 May to Vince Cable, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, [REDACTED] about Post Office Services. I am replying as this matter falls within my portfolio.

Under the Government's postal sector reforms introduced in 2001, the Royal Mail Group (which includes Post Office Ltd) has been given greater commercial freedom, as the management and unions themselves requested, and Government has assumed an arm's length role as a shareholder in a public limited company. Subject to agreeing its strategic plan with us, the Board can structure the business as it decides best to meet the challenges of market development and changing customer needs.

The issue raised is an operational matter for Post Office Ltd and your correspondence is therefore being forwarded to the Managing Director of Post Office Ltd, with the request that she looks into the matter at hand and replies to you direct.



EDWARD DAVEY

1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
www.bis.gov.uk