

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Post Offices

Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health and Social Care Committee, Chair, Liaison Committee (Commons), Chair, Liaison Committee

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what steps the Government is taking to support rural post office branches.

Kelly Tolhurst Parliamentary Under-Secretary (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy)

While the Government sets the strategic direction for the Post Office, it allows the company the commercial freedom to deliver this strategy as an independent business.

The Government recognises the critical role that post offices play in communities and for small businesses across the UK. This is why the Government committed to safeguard the post office network and protect existing rural services. Thanks to significant Government investment of over Â£2 billion since 2010 the overall number of post offices across the UK remains at its most stable in decades with over 11,500 branches.

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