



*The effect of the amendment would be that the motion would read:-*

*North Yorkshire County Council is very concerned about the number of post offices to be closed in North Yorkshire and the inaccurate information that Post Office Ltd has put forward to support post office closures in the County.*

*It is also concerned about further closure proposals for post offices within Richmond constituency area and expresses its disappointment at, and lack of confidence in, a consultation process which has resulted in widespread opposition closures, but which has had little, if any, effect on the proposals.*

*The general failure to consider the effects of the proposals has been highlighted by the recent announcement by Post Office Ltd to seek to close Aspin Lane post office in Knaresborough, which would result in only one post office located in the town centre serving a growing population of 15,000, 20% of whom are elderly; where there is inadequate car parking in Knaresborough and already frequent long waiting times at the post office in the town centre; and the impact of closure on the local economy of the town will be severe and the opportunity for the frail and elderly to access vital services provided by the post office will be reduced.*

*North Yorkshire County Council therefore demands that Post Office Ltd withdraw its proposal to close Aspin Lane Post Office, which has been announced since Post Office Ltd's acceptance that closing the Cold Bath Lane Post Office in Harrogate would have unacceptable consequences in terms of the capacity of alternative branches, although that argument applies equally to Aspin Lane Post Office.*

*This Council further demands a public response from Post Office Ltd making clear:*

- What account has been taken of the large number of inaccuracies contained within the Area Plan proposal for North Yorkshire with Yorkshire East and Keighley;*
- What regard has been taken of future housing development identified within district council local development frameworks; and*
- Why outreach arrangements have not been considered within businesses that are losing a permanent post office facility.*

*Recognising that post offices are an important community facility and the proposed closure programme has met opposition, across North Yorkshire, the County Council requests the Chief Executive to write to Post Office Ltd and Postwatch to express the serious concerns set out in this motion."*