

### SUMMARY OF DECISIONS -

<b>Meeting:</b>	Environment & Economy Select Committee	
<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, 3 September 2019	
<b>Place:</b>	Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete	
<b>Members Present:</b>	Councillors:	Michael Downing (Chair), Adam Mitchell CC (Vice-Chair), Doug Bainbridge, Sandra Barr, Adrian Brown, Jim Brown, Teresa Callaghan, Jody Hanafin and Loraine Rossati

<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	<b>F Nyamukapa Ext 2707</b>
	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stephen Booth and David Cullen.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<b>MINUTES - 29 JULY 2019</b>	<b>F Nyamukapa Ext 2707</b>
	It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the Environment & Economy Select Committee meeting held on 29 July 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
<b>3</b>	<b>REVIEW OF LOCAL POST OFFICE SERVICES IN STEVENAGE</b>	<b>S Weaver Ext 2332</b>
	<p>The Chair informed the Committee that the two witnesses originally scheduled for the meeting were no longer able to attend due to work commitments and traffic problems. It was reported that the decision to review local post office services had been prompted by unsatisfactory answers to Member questions at a previous briefing on post offices in Stevenage.</p> <p>The Strategic Director gave an update on the closure of the Waitrose Store in Stevenage High Streets and developments regarding the in-store post office. Members highlighted the huge demand for post office services in the Old Town area. Members also sought clarification on the timescale for the opening of a new post office in the Old Town area. The Committee suggested alternative solutions including:</p>	

- Highlighting possible empty shop units that could be considered by the Post Office
- Whether the Post Office would consider locating with other community or local service points such as Springfield House or Stevenage Old Town Library
- Temporary post office facilities such as mobile units and portable cabins

In response to questions, the Strategic Director stated that:

- The Council had offered to liaise with Post Office Limited, local retail outlets and other stakeholders in efforts to share information to help inform the search for sites for post office services in the Old Town area
- The Council was actively liaising with stakeholders and sharing information where possible regarding the location and timescale for the opening of a new post office
- Feedback would be provided to the Post Office regarding the suggestions made by the Environment and Economy Committee in respect of possible locations for permanent and temporary uses.

It was **RESOLVED** that the review of local post office services in Stevenage be revisited in future.

4	<b>REVIEW OF LOCAL POST OFFICE SERVICES IN STEVENAGE - SCOPING DOCUMENT</b>	<b>S Weaver Ext 2332</b>
	<p>The Committee considered the draft Scoping Document for the review of Local Post Office Services in Stevenage. Members indicated that in view of the uncertainty surrounding the High Street Post Office and issues affecting other post offices there was need for a further meeting to review local post office services in Stevenage.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the draft Scoping Document is noted</li> <li>2. That efforts be made to invite representatives from local post offices and the National Federation of Sub Post Offices to a</li> </ol>	

future committee meeting

3. That the Old Town Business and Community Partnership be added to the list of witnesses