

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORD OF EXECUTIVE / CHIEF OFFICER DECISION**

This form should be used to record key and other decisions made by individual Portfolio Holders and key decisions made by Chief Officers. The contact officer will ensure that the signed and completed form is given to Democratic Services as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision has been taken.

Unless permission has been obtained from the Chairman of Council and the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee that this decision be treated as a matter of urgency under Rule 12.19 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules, this decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in under Rule 7 of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules or Rule 12 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules.

Portfolio	Planning Portfolio Holder
Subject Matter	BT Telephone Box Removal
Ward(s) Affected	Bourn; Papworth & Elsworth
Date Taken	Friday, 6 October 2017
Contact Officer	Gemma Barron, Head of Sustainable Communities and Wellbeing 01954 713340 (gemma.barron@scambs.gov.uk)
Date Published	Friday, 6 October 2017
Call-In Expiry	Friday, 13 October 2017
Key Decision?	No
In Forward Plan?	No
Urgent?	No

Purpose / Background
<p>The purpose of this decision is to agree or object to the removal of telephone kiosks in Graveley and Croxton. The District Council previously agreed to allow the parish councils to adopt the kiosk, however, they no longer wish to do so. BT, and other providers, must consult the local authority before removing any telephone kiosks or telephony equipment from kiosks.</p> <p>Should the parish councils have adopted the kiosks, the telephony equipment would have been removed, but the kiosk remained in situ. The new proposal is for the kiosk to be removed along with the telephony equipment.</p>

Declaration(s) of Interest
<i>Record below any relevant interest declared by any executive Member consulted or by an officer present in relation to the decision.</i>
None.

Dispensation(s)
<i>In respect of any conflict(s) of interest declared above, record below any dispensation(s) granted by the Council's Standards Committee.</i>
None.

Consultation
<i>Record below all parties consulted in relation to the decision.</i>
The parish councils have requested this course of action. Consultation was carried out in Autumn 2016 when 71 kiosks were consulted upon.

Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection

In making its decision, the Council must consider the following:

Who lives there?

The type of local housing around a phone box may say how important it is to the area. If it's surrounded by people who own their homes, there's a fair chance they have home phones or mobiles as well. However, if the neighbourhood has mainly rented properties, social housing or residential-care homes, it could be that there are people on low incomes who need that phone box.

Emergency calls

Many people feel reassured that phone boxes are available if there's an emergency. This can range from 999 calls to being able to call for help if your car breaks down. The local organisation needs to think about whether a particular phone box is more likely to be used for emergency calls than another. If, for example, the call box is near a known accident blackspot, it may strengthen the argument for it to be kept.

What are the takings?

Whether it's a shop, a pub or a phone box, the amount of money people spend on a local service is a sign of whether it's important to them. BT may be able to show how much business a particular phone box is getting. If it's a low figure, this may support their case to remove it.

The Council's options are to:

- (i) Agree to the removal of the kiosk being consulted upon, or
- (ii) Object to the removal of the kiosk being consulted upon, or
- (iii) Agree to the parish council or parish meeting adopting the kiosk, which will result in the kiosk remaining and the telephony equipment being removed.

Final decision

The criteria above, plus local knowledge, has informed the decision:

	Telephone number	Location	Decision (Agree/ Adopt/ Object)	Reason(s)
1	01480 830317	High Street, Graveley, PE19 6PL	Agree	The location is not known to be near an accident blackspot. The usage figures are low. Mobile reception in the area is good for all major providers.
2	01480 880287	Abbotsley Road, Croxton, PE19 6SZ	Agree	The location is not known to be near an accident blackspot. The usage figures are low. Mobile reception in the area is good for all major providers.

Signed	Name (CAPITALS)	Signature	Date
Portfolio Holder Chief Officer	Signed copy available upon request from Democratic Services (democratic.services@scams.gov.uk)		

Further Information

<http://scams.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=10216>