

**South Cambridgeshire District Council
Record of Executive Decision**

This form should be used to record key and other decisions made by individual Lead Cabinet members. 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.

A key decision shall not be taken unless notice of the item has been published at least 28 days before the decision is to be taken except where:

- a General Exception notice has been published under Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and the Chairman of Scrutiny and Overview Committee has been informed in writing; or
- a Special Urgency notice has been published under Rule 16 of those Rules and the Chairman of Scrutiny and Overview Committee has agreed the decision is urgent.

Unless permission has been obtained from the Chair of Council and the Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee that this decision may be treated as a matter of urgency under Rule 13.19 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 13 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules. Where consent has been obtained to exempt the decision from call-in, this will be specified below.

Lead Cabinet Member	Lead Cabinet Member for Community Resilience and Health & Wellbeing
Subject Matter	BT Telephone Kiosk Removals Consultation
Ward(s) Affected	Various
Date Taken	Thursday, 5 November 2020
Contact Officer	Jeff Membery, Head of Transformation (jeff.membery@scambs.gov.uk)
Date Published	Thursday, 5 November 2020
Call-In Expiry/Exempt from call-in	Thursday, 12 November 2020
Key Decision?	No
In Forward Plan?	No
Urgent?	Yes

Purpose / Background
<p>The purpose of this decision is to agree or object to the removal of 9 telephone kiosks currently being consulted upon by BT. The Council may also agree to the relevant parish council, or relevant local group, adopting kiosks being consulted upon, which will result in the kiosk remaining and the telephony equipment being removed. BT, and other providers, must consult the local authority before removing any telephone kiosks or telephony equipment from kiosks.</p> <p>The BT consultation is time-limited. A draft decision by the Head of Transformation was published and sent to the Secretary of State on 1 October 2020 following an initial 42-day consultation. This is the final decision, which follows a further 30-day consultation.</p>

Declaration(s) of Interest
<i>Record below any relevant interest declared by any executive Member consulted or by an</i>

officer present in relation to the decision.
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 Record below all parties consulted in relation to the decision.
<p>Relevant parish councils/meetings and Ward Councillors were notified of the initial 42-day consultation once notification was received by the Council. BT erected notices in each of the kiosks being consulted upon.</p> <p>A further consultation with relevant parish councils/meetings and Ward Councillors took place following publication of the draft decision. Some parish councils have undertaken their own consultation locally.</p>

Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection
<p>In making its decision, the Council must consider the following:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Usage levels and takings? Whether it's a shop, a pub or a phone box, the amount of money people spend on a local service might be seen as 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 very low figure, this may support their case to remove it.</p> <p>The Council's options are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Agree to the removal of each kiosk being consulted upon, or (ii) Object to the removal of each 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					Reason(s)
	Telephone number	Location	Decision (Agree/ Adopt/ Object)	Reason(s)	

1	01954267201	Nr parish notice board o/s2 pco1 Smith Street Elsworth Cambridge CB23 4HY	Object	There is no other emergency phone near the location. Mobile reception in the area is poor for all major providers.	
2	01767631296	Jct b1042 High Street pco Tadlow Royston SG8 0EJ	Adopt	The parish council would like to adopt the kiosk. Please contact Chair of the PC: tadlowparish@btinternet.com PC would like to use the kiosk to house a defibrillator.	
3	01767650262	Sub post office pco Hatley St. George Sandy SG19 3HP	Object	Mobile reception in the area is poor, as substantiated by a recent survey of residents (details available on request). 27.2% of the population are aged 65+ years old and the parish council believes the phone should be kept for general and emergency use. Some of the elderly in the area do not have mobile phones and even residents who do require a back up should there be poor/no mobile signal.	
4	01767650348	Nr Gamlingay pco1 East Hatley Sandy SG19 3HZ	Object	Mobile reception in the area is poor, as substantiated by a recent survey of residents (details available on request). 27.2% of the population are aged 65+ years old and the parish council believes the phone should be kept for general and emergency use. Some of the elderly in the area do not have mobile phones and even residents who do require a back up should there be poor/no mobile signal.	
5	01223262649	Jcn the green pco1 Field Road Kingston Cambridge CB23 2NQ	Adopt	The parish council would like to adopt the kiosk. Please contact Peter Stokes Parish Clerk: kingstonpc.cambridge@gmail.com	
6	01223262420	Pco pco1 Harlton Road Little Eversden Cambridge CB23 1HD	Object	18.3% of the population are 65 years plus years of age. This is already an emergency calls only box as it will not accept any cash or cards.	

7	01223870785	Pco pco1 Station Road Foxton Cambridge CB22 6SD	Object	While mobile reception in the area is good for all major providers, the location is known to be near a slight accident black spot. This is the nearest kiosk to the level crossing and there are no other emergency phones near this location.	
8	01223842022	Opp post office pco1 High Green Great Shelford Cambridge CB22 5EG	Object	While mobile reception in the area is good for all major providers, the location is known to be near an accident black spot and there are no other emergency phones near location.	
9	01223420439	Jnc coles rd pco1 Cambridge Road Milton Cambridge CB24 6AW	Object	Whilst use of the phone is very low, it actually provides a community benefit and a facility that could be used in an emergency. In fairly close proximity to the kiosk there are a number of elderly residents as well as a care home. The phone is the only one in the village that the parish council are of the view that the facility should be retained for emergency use.	

Signed	Name (CAPITALS)	Signature	Date
Lead Cabinet Member	Signed copy available upon request from Democratic Services (democratic.services@scambs.gov.uk)		
Chief Officer			

Further Information