

16 October 2020

Our reference: 1-6753388733

Bob Seely MBE MP  
House of Commons  
LONDON  
SW1A 0AA

Royal Mail Headquarters  
100 Victoria Embankment  
LONDON  
EC4Y 0HQ

Dear Mr Seely

**Val Taylor of Calbourne, Porchfield and Newtown Parish Council**

Thank you for your communication dated 28 September regarding the postbox which has been removed from the Newtown area of your Isle of Wight constituency.

Our regulator, Ofcom, requires Royal Mail to ensure that 98 per cent of all households across the UK should be within half a mile of a postbox. I have now spoken with the Area Collection Manager. She has reviewed the request. The postbox was removed as the pole was rotten and posed a health and safety concern.

Since the postbox was installed many years ago, regulations have changed meaning the postbox was now considered to be positioned in a dangerous place. The Manager reviewed the location, yet a suitable and safe position could not be located in the area. The Manager is currently satisfied with the postbox provision in the area as the Newtown postbox only received an average of two letters per week. The closest postbox is 1km away in Town Lane. The Delivery Office Manager explained that residents can pass stamped letter mail to the postman or woman delivering the mail who will ensure they processed for onward delivery.

I hope this reply is helpful. As always if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Michael Hogg  
Senior Public Affairs Manager