

COUNCIL

Briefing Note on Royal Mail Motion

Portfolio Holder:

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This note contains additional information received from Royal Mail via email related to the motion agreed at Council on 7th September 2016.

A telephone call was transferred to Constitutional Services on 19th September. The call was from the Collection Planning Manager at Royal Mail's Manchester Mail Centre.

Assurances were provided that the post boxes had not been removed by Royal Mail. The boxes had been stolen by what appeared to be a gang who was active in the area. Since January, approximately 58 postboxes had been stolen from the OL and SK postcodes. This had created a huge administrative undertaking to get the missing boxes re-instated as quickly as possible. Royal Mail were working as fast as they could, but there were time constraints outside Royal Mail's control such as the time replacement boxes took to arrive from when the order was placed and job slots with the contractor to fit them.

The missing post boxes have been reinstated. The length of time to replace the boxes was due to the supply of postboxes, associated administration and co-ordination of planning around so many thefts in the area.

There had been time changes to collections due to low volumes posted into the boxes on a daily basis. The updated time specification would remain and would not be changed. The decision to change final clearance times was not linked to the thefts but was a business decision due to low volumes.