



Laura Sandys MP  
House of Commons  
LONDON  
SW1A 0AA

17 June 2010

Dear Ms Sandys

I have been asked to reply to you directly on the Parliamentary Question that you recently raised as follows;

'To ask the Secretary of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, how many post offices there were in South Thanet constituency (a) in 1997 and (b) on the latest date for which information is available'

The historic information that is available on the network of Post Office® branches is the number of open Post Offices. A full list of open Post Offices by Parliamentary Constituency is produced annually and is placed in the House of Commons library for use by members. This information commenced in 2002 and Post Office Limited does not hold information at a constituency level prior to this.

Analysing the information that is available provides the following;

Year end March	Number of open Post Offices in South Thanet Constituency
2002	27
2003	27
2004	19
2005	18
2006	18
2007	17
2008	14
2009	14
2010	14

The increased change in the network in 2004 took place under the Government Urban Network Reinvention Programme, and in 2008 was a result of the Government Network Change Programme.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely

David Smith  
Managing Director



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