

**Decision Relating to Notification under section 49(4) of the Communications Act
2003**

Schedule:

1. Usk Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 4HG

This box is relatively under-used, with an average of 2 calls per month (24 per year).

It is located close to primary and secondary schools, with pupils being less likely to be in a position to make use of mobile phones.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading009A which is within the top 10% of deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation. Residents are therefore less likely to have full access to mobile phones and therefore more reliant on public phone boxes.

No objections have been received. It is considered that due to the socioeconomic characteristics of the location, the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents and local school children.

Decision: Object

2. Harvaston parade, Hardwick Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 4LH

This box is relatively well used with an average of 4 calls per month (48 per year).

It is located close to primary and secondary schools, with pupils being less likely to be in a position to make use of mobile phones.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading009C which is within the top 50% of deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

No objections have been received. It is considered that the level of use indicates that the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents and local school children.

Decision: Object

3. Junction Tylers Place and Pottery Road, Tilehurst RG30 6BA

The site is adjacent to Meadow Park Academy School and a Pharmacy.

The box has low usage with 12 calls a year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading006D which is within the 40% least deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

No objections have been received.

It is considered on the basis of the siting of the phone box close to the school and pharmacy, which act as focal points for the community. The phone box is considered to remain socially important and should remain.

Decision: Object

4. Spey Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 4DZ

This box is relatively well used with 144 calls per year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading009B which is among the 50% least deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

It is located close to primary schools, with pupils being less likely to be in a position to make use of mobile phones.

No objections have been made in relation to this phone box during the consultation period. It is considered that the level of use indicate that the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents and local school children.

Decision: Object

5. Junction St George's Road and Waverley Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 2QA

This box is shown to be used at a rate of 384 calls per year or 7 calls per week.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading008E which is among the 40% least deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation and as such, residents nearby are more likely to have access to private mobile phones.

It is located close a primary school were the assumption has previously been that pupils are less likely to be in a position to make use of mobile phones. However, recent research (The School Run) indicates that 86% of school children own a mobile phone and 28% of which are in the primary school category.

In addition comments received supporting the removal of the telephone box refer to the box being used for undesirable activities and therefore unlikely to be where most parents would like their children to enter.

No objections have been made in relation to the removal of this phone box during the consultation period and support for its removal received from all local ward

Councillors referencing that the phone box is more a hub of anti-social behaviour than an asset of value for local residents who may need it.

It is considered that with the low level of use, the undesirability of local primary school children using the box and the anti-social behaviour it attracts are significant factors that weigh against any benefit and the box should therefore be removed.

Decision: Agree

6. O/s Recreation centre, Amersham Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 5BP

The box is relatively under-used with 12 calls per year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading004B which is among the 30% most deprived areas of England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

It is located close a local recreation centre and park, with younger users being less likely to be in a position to make use of mobile phones.

No objections have been made in relation to this phone box during the consultation period. It is considered that the location of the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents and local young people.

Decision: Object

7. Junction of St barnabas Road and Grove Road,, Emmer Green, Reading, RG4 8LN

The box is not functional at this time and as such the usage data is not a reliable guide of need.

The phone box is sited in a location where a number of community uses coincide, a surgery, church, youth and community centre, and primary school. The box is also close to a secondary school and 6th form centre serving a significant proportion of the north of the Borough. Many pupils could be expected to pass the box between the school and main bus stops on Grove Road.

It is considered that insufficient information is available currently to justify removal of this box. This is on the basis that usage data cannot be reasonably relied upon and the box is sited within a significant grouping of community uses, many of which serve young or more vulnerable members of the community.

Decision: Object

8. St Martins Precinct Church Street, Caversham RG4 8BA (2 x phone boxes)

The two phone boxes are relatively well used with 204 and 192 calls per year respectively.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading003A which is among the 10% least deprived areas of England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

It is located within the St Martins precinct, which is within the Caversham District Centre as defined in the Council's local plan documents. It is within close proximity of a variety of community uses (church, pharmacy, banks, and supermarkets). The phone boxes provide a good level of service for the community and at least one should remain for this use.

Decision (01189474044): Object

Decision (01189461787): Agree

9. Opposite 178 Wensley Road, RG1 6DW

This box is relatively well used with 180 calls per year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading013B which is within the top 30% of most deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

No objections have been made in relation to this phone box during the consultation period. It is considered that the level of use indicate that the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents.

Decision: Object

10. O/S Ladbrokes, Northumberland Avenue, Reading, RG2 7QA

This box has relatively high usage with 372 calls per year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading002E which is within the top 50% of most deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

No objections have been made in relation to this phone box during the consultation period. It is considered that the level of use indicate that the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents.

Decision: Object

11. O/S 2&3 Carousel Court, Northumberland Avenue, Reading RG2 7QA

This box has relatively high usage with 444 calls per year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading017B which is within the top 30% of most deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

No objections have been made in relation to this phone box during the consultation period. It is considered that the level of use indicate that the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents.

Decision: Object

12. Junction of Dawlish Road, and Callington Road, Reading

This box has relatively high usage with 216 calls per year.

The box is sited within Lower Super Output Area Reading017B which is within the top 30% of most deprived areas in England on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

No objections have been made in relation to this phone box during the consultation period. It is considered that the level of use indicate that the box remains important and should be retained for the benefit of residents.

Decision: Object

Julie Williams on behalf of

Francis Martin

Executive Director of Economic Development and Neighbourhood Services

A person authorised by Reading Borough council to sign this Notification

Date: 23 October 2020