

27 November 2007

### Hopkins appalled as four local Post Offices prepare for closure

Confirmation of the identity of four Post Offices in Keighley and Ilkley condemned to close early next year under Government plans to shut more than 2,500 branches across the country have been described as “appalling” by Kris Hopkins, the local Conservative Prospective Parliamentary Candidate.

This morning it was announced that Post Offices at Bradford Road in Stockbridge, East Morton, Highfield in Keighley and Leeds Road in Ilkley will be forced to close in February after a final stage of public consultation comes to end.

However, said he intended to continue to spearhead a local campaign against these plans - a campaign that will continue tonight when he addresses a public meeting at The Temple Row in Keighley and on Saturday morning when he speaks at a further meeting at Ilkley Playhouse.

Kris commented:

“By its actions, the Government continues to appear hell bent on ripping the heart out of our local communities for that is the clear consequence of this decision.

“Throughout this year, my Conservative colleagues and I have led a very strong campaign in Keighley and Ilkley against these closures and received very strong public support for our efforts.

“However, in a stroke of a pen, Labour Ministers have simply decided to ignore these views and proceed as planned. I can assure local people that our campaign will not come to an end as a result of this announcement but be redoubled.

“It is simply not a decision we can or will take lying down. The Government must understand it now has a huge fight on its hands.”

ENDS