

# Branch closure feedback – how we responded and supported our customers

Before we decided to permanently close the Beccles branch, we carried out a thorough review to understand how our customers and the community would be impacted. We're now near to the closure of this branch, which will close on 6 May 2025.

Your nearest branches to the Beccles branch are Lowestoft branch and Great Yarmouth branch. You can also use any Lloyds Bank branch to do your banking. Go to <u>lloydsbank.com/branchfinder</u> for more information.

## Communicating this change to customers

When we announce that a branch is closing, we take a number of factors into account in line with Financial Conduct Authority guidance. We've summarised these in the Branch Review Document, which you can find at <u>lloydsbank.com/branchclosures</u>

We wrote to customers who use the Beccles branch, to let them know it would be closing. We explained about the other ways they can continue to do their banking with us.

We displayed a poster in the branch to let customers know it was closing. Our colleagues there spoke to customers about other ways to do their banking. These include using our Mobile Banking app, Internet Banking, calling us, or using the Post Office<sup>®</sup>. We let customers know the nearest alternative branches, free cash machines, Post Office and that a Community Banker would be available nearby.

## We contacted members of the local community

#### Who we contacted to understand the impact of the branch closure

- The local MP for Lowestoft
- Banking Team and Senior Representatives from the Post Office
- Post Office Area Manager responsible for nearest three Post Offices to our closing branch
- National Federation of Sub Postmasters
- The local Citizens Advice Bureau
- The local Chamber of Commerce.

#### The feedback we received

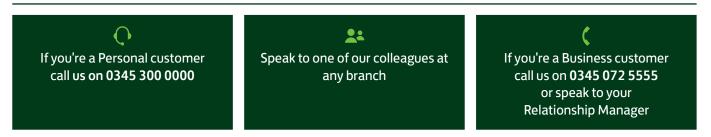
- Our regular customers told us they were disappointed about the closure of the branch. We explained about the alternative banking options including the services available at the Post Office.
- We met Jess Asato MP, who wanted further information about banking support for customers. We explained the range of alternative services and the role our Community Banker will play. We also explained how we will support vulnerable customers and provided details of LINK's assessment process.
- Adrian Ramsay MP wrote to us with concerns about the impact the closure would have on vulnerable customers. We responded explaining how we
  carried out our assessment before reaching the decision, and outlined how we will be supporting customers.
- A local councillor raised concerns about the removal of the ATM, the ability of the Post Office to accommodate an increase in customers following the closure, and the distance to the next available branch. We responded explaining the assessment we undertake and noted the alternative ways customers can to bank with us, including support via the Community Banker.

#### What we've done to help make the change smoother

- We've called individual customers we know use the branch as their main way of banking with us, including customers that may need extra support, to talk to them about alternative ways to bank and to provide help if they need it.
- We've partnered with the Digital Helpline who offer free one to one guidance over the phone to support customers to use the internet for banking. Customers with an identified need for this service have been provided with contact details enabling them to get free support.

- Our colleagues at Beccles branch have been given the training they need to have in-depth conversations with our customers, especially those who may need extra support, about how we can help them.
- Beccles branch colleagues held a digital support event to help customers register and use a variety of online and digital services.

## We're here to help and support you



## Other ways you can do your banking with us

You can use our Mobile Banking app, Internet Banking, call us or visit a branch.

To find out more information about these services please visit:

For Personal customers go to: **Iloydsbank.com** 

For Business customers go to: Iloydsbank.com/business

## 🕇 Community Banker

After the branch closes, our Community Banker will be available to support customers in the local area.

#### How a Community Banker can help:

- Provides banking services and account support
- Support with account enquiries for personal customers
- Support with selected day to day banking for business customers.

To find the dates and locations of where they'll be available visit: lloydsbank.com/communitybanker

# Other banking services in your community

# Post Office®

You can also use the Post Office for your everyday banking. For more details visit:

Personal customers visit: Iloydsbank.com/postoffice

Business customers visit: Iloydsbank.com/business/retail-business/banking-with-us/post-office

### Access to Cash

To find your most convenient free cash machine use the LINK Cash Locator.

#### Access to Cash Reviews

LINK have already completed an independent Access to Cash assessment in this area. Members of the community and representative organisations may request a further review.

#### Cash at the till

You can use your debit card and PIN to check your balance and withdraw any amount of cash up to £50 at participating shops. You don't need to make a purchase. Some locations may charge a small fee but you will be notified about this and will be able to cancel the transaction before you are charged.

## PayPoint

With over 28,000 PayPoint outlets in the UK, you can pay some bills, for example utility bills.

PayPoint

For more information and to find your local outlet visit: <u>www.paypoint.com</u>

## If you'd like to move your current account

You can switch your current account to a new bank or building society in seven days with the free and easy to use Current Account Switch Service (CASS).

For more information: www.currentaccountswitch.co.uk



To find your most convenient Post Office and its opening times, please visit: <u>www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder</u>

Cash Machine Locator:

Access to Cash Review:

Cash at the till:

cash-at-the-till

www.link.co.uk/helping-youaccess-cash/request-access-to-cash

www.link.co.uk/consumers/

www.link.co.uk/consumers/locator

lf you need extra help	If you need this communication in another format, such as large print, Braille or audio CD, please contact us.
	You can call us using Relay UK if you have a hearing or speech impairment. There's more information on the Relay UK help pages: <a href="http://www.relayuk.bt.com">www.relayuk.bt.com</a>
	SignVideo services are also available if you're Deaf and use British Sign Language: <u>lloydsbank.com/contact-us/sign-video</u>
	If you need support due to a disability please get in touch.
lf you need	If you want to make a complaint learn more online at: <u>lloydsbank.com/contact-us/how-to-complain</u>
to tell us	To speak to us, call: 0800 072 3572 (+44 173 346 2267 outside the UK). You can also visit us in branch.
something	Calls and online sessions may be monitored and recorded. Not all telephone services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Things you need to know	We observe the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority Final Guidance and ATM closures or conversions 'FG22/6: Branch and ATM closures or conversions': <a href="http://www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg22-6.pdf">www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg22-6.pdf</a> and the Access to Cash sourcebook: <a href="http://www.handbook.fca.org.uk/handbook/ATCS">www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg22-6.pdf</a> and the Access to Cash sourcebook: <a href="http://www.handbook.fca.org.uk/handbook/ATCS">www.handbook.fca.org.uk/handbook/ATCS</a> The Post Office® and Post Office logo are registered trademarks of the Post Office Ltd.
	Mobile Banking app – our app is available to customers with a UK personal account and valid registered phone number. Minimum operating systems apply, so check the App Store or Google Play for details. Device registration required. Terms and conditions apply: <u>lloydsbank.com/legal/online-banking/internet-banking</u>
	Keeping your money protected – eligible deposits with us are protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. We are also covered by the Financial Ombudsman Service. Please note that due to FSCS and FOS eligibility criteria not all business customers will be covered.Protected

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