

Branch closure feedback – how we responded and supported our customers

Before we decided to permanently close the Seaham 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 5 December 2024.

Your nearest branches to the Seaham branch are Houghton le Spring branch and Fawcett Street Sunderland branch. You can also use any Lloyds Bank branch to do your banking. Go to lloydsbank.com/branchfinder 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 lloydsbank.com/branchclosures

We wrote to customers who use the Seaham 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®. We let customers know the nearest alternative branches, free cash machines, Post Office and that a Community Banker would be at the Banking Hub one day a week.

We contacted members of the local community

Who we contacted to understand the impact of the branch closure

- Grahame Morris MP for Easington
- 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
- Citizens Advice Bureau County Durham (Seaham)
- North East England Chamber of Commerce

The feedback we received

- A number of customers said that they were disappointed about the decision to close. We explained about the alternative options available at the Post Office and our alternative nearest branches.

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 introduced a dedicated telephony team to provide support after the branch closes to identified customers who may need extra support.
- 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 Seaham 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.
- The branch will not close until the Banking Hub is open. When it opens it will be at 9a Byron Place Shopping Centre, Seaham SR7 7DR, and you can use it to pay in and withdraw notes and coins from your account as well as get a balance. Additionally, our Community Banker will be available in the Banking Hub to help you with any queries and account servicing.

We're here to help and support you



If you're a Personal customer
call us on **0345 300 0000**



Speak to one of our colleagues at
any branch



If you're a Business customer
call us on **0345 072 5555**
or speak to your
Relationship Manager

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:
lloydsbank.com

For Business customers go to:
lloydsbank.com/business

Banking Hub

A Banking Hub is planned for this area. Banking Hubs are shared banking spaces on the high street operated by the Post Office. They're open Monday to Friday. Customers of all major banks and building societies can use them to do their everyday banking tasks.

A Community Banker will be available to support customers in the Banking Hub one day a week.

Go to lloydsbank.com/bankinghub
Or for a full list of Banking Hubs and their opening status you can visit the Cash Access website at:
www.cashaccess.co.uk/hubs

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: lloydsbank.com/postoffice

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



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

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.

Cash Machine Locator:
www.link.co.uk/consumers/locator

Access to Cash Review:
www.link.co.uk/helping-you-access-cash/request-access-to-cash

Cash at the till:
www.link.co.uk/consumers/cash-at-the-till

PayPoint

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



For more information and to find your local outlet visit: www.paypoint.com

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

If 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: www.relayuk.bt.com

SignVideo services are also available if you're Deaf and use British Sign Language: loydsbank.com/contact-us/sign-video

If you need support due to a disability please get in touch.

If you need to tell us something

If you want to make a complaint learn more online at: loydsbank.com/contact-us/how-to-complain

To speak to us, call: 0800 072 3572 (+44 173 346 2267 outside the UK). You can also visit us in branch.

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'**: www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg22-6.pdf

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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: loydsbank.com/legal/online-banking/internet-banking

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