



This branch is closing – but we're still here to help

Our Alsager branch is closing
on Friday 13 July 2018.

Branch closure feedback, and alternative ways to bank

Sharing branch closure feedback

We're now nearing the closure of the Alsager branch of Barclays. Our first booklet explained why the branch is closing, and gave information on other banking services that we hope will be convenient for you.

We do understand that the decision to close a branch affects different communities in different ways, so we've spoken to people in your community to listen to their concerns. We wanted to find out how your community, and particular groups within it, could be affected when the branch closes, and what we could do to help people through the transition from using the branch with alternative ways to carry out their banking requirements.

There are still many ways to do your banking, including in person at another nearby branch, at your local Post Office or over the phone on **0345 7 345 345**². You can also go online to [barclays.co.uk/waystobank](https://www.barclays.co.uk/waystobank) to learn about your other options. Read more about this on page 6.

If you still have any questions or concerns about these changes, now or in the future, then please feel free to get in touch with us by:

Speaking to us in any of our nearby branches

Contacting Steve Mitchell, your Community Banking Director for Manchester & Cheshire.

Email: steve.mitchell@barclays.com

We contacted the following groups:

MP:

Fiona Bruce

Local Council:

Councillor Sue Helliwell

Customers:

A number of customers who regularly use the branch

We asked each of the groups 3 questions – here's what they said:

In your opinion, what's the biggest effect that this branch closing will have on your local community?

You said to us:

There are some concerns that the branch closure could leave the community without a high-street bank in town. There are also concerns that local businesses won't be able to pay in their takings easily.

We'd like to say:

We understand the concerns about the closure – and we'd like to reassure everyone that before deciding to close, we looked very carefully at how the branch is used. We've seen a general fall in customers coming to this branch, and many customers already use nearby branches and online or telephone banking.

We've arranged a face-to-face meeting with the local councillor to discuss the support we're providing for the local community. We've also spoken to local charities and businesses about alternative ways to bank, as well as other ways for businesses to withdraw and pay in cash, including Barclays Collect, our cash collection service.

There are cash machines nearby at the Sainsbury's, Spend N Save and Asda – all are free to use.

What's the biggest effect that this branch closing will have on customers of the branch?

You said to us:

There were concerns about customers who depend on the branch, particularly the elderly who rely on the bank as a way to socialise and avoid isolation – as there aren't suitable bus links, they also may find it difficult to travel to nearby branches. There were concerns about the services available at the local post office, too.

We'd like to say:

We're speaking individually to those customers who are most likely to be affected by the closure, and we're helping them feel confident with alternative ways to bank. This includes speaking to someone in person through telephone banking.

Everyday banking can be done face to face at the Post Office in Alsager – it's open Monday to Friday between 9am and 5.30pm, and on Saturday between 9am and 4pm, and trust this will provide an alternative social hub when undertaking their banking. We've been liaising with the Post Office and we're helping our customers understand which transactions they can do there, how to bank from home and offering them support through this transition. We've also provided customers with handouts containing information about the services available at the Post Office,

For anyone who's able to travel, the nearest branches are in Kidsgrove and Crewe. However, we understand it's not always convenient to travel, so we've been offering support from our Digital Eagles in our branch, to help customers adapt to new ways of banking – so they don't have to come into a branch as often.

What alternative ways to bank do you believe would help people adapt to the change?

You said to us:

The closure means customers will need help getting used to new banking methods, particularly those who aren't comfortable with digital banking.

We'd like to say:

We're encouraging customers to do their everyday banking in other ways, including mobile and online banking – and telephone banking for those who prefer to speak to someone, with the Post Office also being there for them.

The branch manager has addressed any individual concerns and has provided one-to-one support. We've run 'Tea and Teach' events at the branch to show customers other ways to bank, including how they can set up regular payments, and how to use Pingit or Barclays Mobile Banking on their mobile phones. Three additional events are being arranged with Alsager Library to support customers once the branch has closed.

We've also shown customers how to order cards and PINs, and we're showing them how to stay safe online. Support is available through our telephone and online services, too.

Other things that could help

Banking at the Post Office is available to both personal and business customers – where they can withdraw and pay in cash, and check their balances using a debit card and PIN. Customers can also pay in cash using a pre-printed paying-in slip.

Cheques can be deposited at the Post Office – customers will need a pre-printed paying-in slip, along with a cheque deposit envelope.

- Cheque deposit envelopes – we have supplies of envelopes in the Alsager branch, so please visit us before it closes to pick some up. Otherwise, call us on 0800 169 3091* and we'll pop some in the post
- Pre-printed paying-in slips – are at the back of a Barclays cheque book. They can also be ordered at any branch or by calling 0800 169 3091*

Please allow an extra 2 days for cheques or cash deposited using a pre-printed paying-in slip to reach your Barclays accounts.

*Lines are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Ways to bank

We want to make staying in control of your everyday banking as easy and convenient as possible. Over the years, we've introduced many ways you can bank without having to come into a branch.

Barclays Mobile Banking

Transfer money between accounts and keep a check on your balances. If you need to, you can call us directly from the app too. The Barclays Mobile Banking app is free to download from your app store¹.

Online Banking

Do all your everyday banking tasks from your home computer. We use the most advanced security systems to keep your details safe and our Online and Mobile Banking Guarantee protects you from fraud. To register, just call 0345 734 5345².

Telephone Banking

Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can hear your balance, check transactions, pay bills and transfer money. You can speak to an adviser about your banking needs too. To register, just call 0345 734 5345².

Barclays Pingit

Sending money is secure and instant with no need to share bank account details. You're automatically protected in the event of fraud as long as you've used the services correctly. The Barclays Pingit app is free to download from your app store³.

The Post Office

All customers can pay cash in, withdraw cash and check balances using their Barclays debit card and PIN at thousands of Post Office branches across the country.

All customers can also pay cash and cheques into a Barclays account using a personalised paying-in slip. For cheques, you'll also need a cheque deposit envelope. You will need to allow two extra working days for cheques to reach your Barclays accounts.

Transaction charges for Business transactions will apply.

Link cash machines

Withdraw cash free of charge, check your balance and request a receipt at any cash machine displaying the Link sign. You can also print off a mini statement at Barclays cash machines.



If you'd like more information or want to learn more about different ways to bank, talk to us today. If you're a business customer then visit

Discover more at
barclays.co.uk/ways-to-bank

If you're a business customer visit
barclays.co.uk/business-banking/ways-to-bank

To get this in Braille, large print or audio, call **0800 400 100** (via Text Relay)
or visit barclays.co.uk/accessibleservices

Calls may be recorded for quality and training purposes.

¹You must be aged 11-15 years and have a Barclayplus account or be aged 16 or over and have an eligible Barclays product or account. Terms and conditions apply.

²Calls to 03 numbers are charged at the same rate as calls to 01 & 02 landlines, and will count towards any inclusive minutes you may have covering calls to landline numbers.

³Call charges may differ, please check with your local provider.

⁴Terms and conditions apply. You must be aged 16 years or above and have a current account in the UK, Isle of Man, Jersey or Guernsey (which can receive payments through the Faster Payments network).

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