

# This branch is not re-opening – but we're still here to help

Our Birmingham University branch has been closed since March 2020.

Branch closure feedback, and alternative ways to bank



# Sharing branch closure feedback

Our Birmingham University branch has been closed since March 2020. Our first booklet explained why the branch would not be re-opening, 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 by the branch closure, 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**<sup>2</sup>. You can also go online to 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 Chris Payne, your Market Director for West Midlands.

Email: christopher.payne@barclays.com

## We contacted the following groups:

#### MP

Preet Kaur Gill

#### Local council:

Councillors Deirdre Alden and Matt Bennett

## Community groups:

Tim Pearson, Estates Management at University of Birmingham Nadine Blake, International Student Manager

#### **Customers:**

A number of customers who regularly use the branch

Because of the coronavirus situation.

## Please note:

we've temporarily closed or changed the regular opening hours of our branches. The Birmingham University branch is one of the branches we temporarily closed in March 2020 – we're sorry for any inconvenience. You can still get in touch with us using the information on page 2.

# 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:

Few concerns were raised about the branch being currently closed and not re-opening in the future or any potential impact on the local community.

## We'd like to say:

Whilst the impact of the closure is likely to be small, 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're making contact with customers who regularly used the branch to ensure they have good alternative ways to do their banking.

We're helping our customers understand how they can continue to do their banking without having to come into a branch as often and offering them support through this transition.

There are cash machines nearby in the University campus at the Guild of Students, the Medical School and Santander – 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 some concerns about customers who prefer face to face contact and who may need to travel further to a branch.

## We'd like to say:

We're contacting those customers 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. We're making sure customers are familiar with using the services available at their local post office.

For anyone who's able to travel, the nearest branches are in Harborne and Edgbaston. We understand it's not always convenient to travel, so we've been offering support from our branch's Digital Eagles, to help customers adapt to new ways of banking - so they don't need to use 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 prefer dealing with someone face to face.

#### We'd like to say:

We're encouraging customers to do their everyday banking in other ways, including Mobile and Online Banking – there's the Post Office and Telephone Banking for those who prefer to speak to someone.

We are also planning to visit the University campus when it re-opens to students to offer further support to our customers and to continue working closely with the International Students starting at the University.

We've run 'Tea and Teach' events both virtually and in nearby branches on an individual basis, to show customers other ways to bank, including how they can set up regular payments, and how to use Pingit or the Barclays app on their mobile phones. We've also shown customers how to order cards and PINs and we're helping everyone remain vigilant against fraud. Support is also available through our telephone and online services.

#### 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.

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 Harborne 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 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.

# The Barclays app

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 app is free to download from your app store<sup>1</sup>.

# 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 5345<sup>2</sup>.

# 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 5345<sup>2</sup>.

# **Pingit**

Sending money in an 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 Pingit app is free to download from your app store<sup>3</sup>.

## The Post Office

All customers can withdraw or pay in 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 cheques into a Barclays account using a personalised paying-in slip and 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, check your balance and request a receipt at any cash machine displaying the LINK sign<sup>4</sup>. 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 <a href="mailto:barclays.co.uk/business-banking/ways-to-bank">barclays.co.uk/business-banking/ways-to-bank</a>

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.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>You 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.

<sup>2</sup>Calls 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.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Terms and conditions apply. You must be aged 16 years or above and have a current account in the UK and be resident in the UK, Isle of Man, Jersey or Guernsey (which can receive payments through the Faster Payments network).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Cash withdrawal fees may apply to some cash machines in the LINK network.