

Understanding why your branch is closing

Santander, 1 Hockliffe Street,
Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, LU7 1HG

This branch will be closing by January 2027.

We'd like to explain why, and help you understand how you can continue banking with us.

We've informed LINK, an independent industry body, about our plans to close this branch. LINK carries out access to cash assessments, and they've recommended a Banking Hub for your local area.

At this time, we don't have a confirmed date for when the new Banking Hub will open. So, the closing date of our Leighton Buzzard branch might change to align with this.

For more information, please visit www.link.co.uk/our-assessments

Background to our approach

We last did a major review of our branches in 2024. Since then, our customers are choosing to use Mobile, Online and Telephone Banking more, and branches less.

We've now done a more recent review of our branches, looking at where they're located, how they're used and the other local banking options available.

Within our review, we looked at how the branch is being used and how customers are banking in other ways.

91% of our branch customers already use a variety of ways to do their banking.

77% of our branch customers use our Online, Mobile or Telephone Banking services.

35% of our branch customers also use another Santander branch.

We're aware of the impact of this decision, and will be here for you in person until this branch closes. We can offer support and answer any questions, so that you can make an informed decision on alternative ways to bank.

We hope this leaflet helps to provide more information about the ways you can continue to bank with us and other available local banking and cash services.

Ways to bank with us

There are many different ways to continue banking with us, and our branch team can help you consider what's right for you.

Transaction type	Santander full-service branch	Santander counter free branch	Santander ATM	Post Office	Non-Santander ATMs	Online or Mobile Banking	Telephone Banking	Banking Hub	Community Bankers
Personal									
Take out notes	✓	Free to use ATM	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Pay in notes or cheques	✓	Free to use ATM	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Coin based transactions	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Balance enquires	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Account closure	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Statements or recent transactions	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Make payments, transfer money or pay credit card bills	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Set up or amend regular payments	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
International or CHAPS payments	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	International payments only	✓	✗	✗
Card, Online and Mobile Banking enquires	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Financial and specialist vulnerable customer support	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open new account	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Vulnerable customers only	✗	✗
Business									
Take out notes	✓	Free to use ATM	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Pay in notes or cheques	✓	Free to use ATM	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Coin based transactions	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Make payments, transfer money or pay credit card bills	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Financial and specialist vulnerable customer support	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Our Community Bankers can help you when they're at a Banking Hub or community location. Limits might vary depending on the channel and service. For more information, visit santander.co.uk/personal/support/ways-to-bank									

Ways to bank with us



Mobile Banking

Download our secure Mobile Banking app or visit santander.co.uk/personal/support/ways-to-bank/on-your-mobile



Online Banking

To sign up for Online Banking, visit santander.co.uk/personal/support/ways-to-bank/online-banking



Chat

Available through santander.co.uk, Online and Mobile Banking. For more support on how to bank with us, please ask in branch or check online for possible workshops or individual appointments.



Telephone Banking

Call **0330 9 123 123**.

We can support you with setting up your voice as your password and using Telephone Banking.



LINK ATMs

Access 24/7 services at our ATMs.



Post Office

If you have a current or savings account card, you can carry out your everyday banking at your local Post Office. You can pay in and take out cash, find out your balance and pay in cheques (current account holders only).



Banking Hub

Banking Hubs are shared banking spaces operated by Cash Access UK. They offer a counter service, where you can do your everyday banking, and community banker support. To understand more, please visit cashaccess.co.uk/hubs



Community Banker

In some areas, we're offering a community bankers service. For details of days, times and locations, please visit santander.co.uk/personal/support/ways-to-bank/our-branches



PayPoint

Available at over 28,000 locations nationwide for limited bill payments. To find out more and your nearest outlet, please visit paypoint.com

Alternative local banking services



Free to use ATMs near you:

Nationwide Building Society
35 High Street,
Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DN

NoteMachine Ltd
Lake Street,
Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1WS



There might be other free ATMs nearby, as well as ATMs that charge a fee. Please visit link.co.uk/cash-locator



Post Office

7 - 9 Church Square, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AA

Distance from our Leighton Buzzard branch	
0.45 miles	0.2 miles
Car	Walk

Visit postoffice.co.uk/everydaybanking for more information. Or find your local Post Office branch at postoffice.co.uk/branchfinder

This information is correct at the time of print.

How we're communicating with our customers and the local community

We're getting in touch with our customers and members of the local community to:

- share our decisions
- make sure our customers understand where additional support can be found, so that they can continue banking with us locally.

We'll be reaching out to our personal and business customers who, due to their personal circumstances, might have an increased vulnerability risk and have used the branch once or more between January 2025 and June 2025.

We'll also be reaching out to personal and business customers who have used a branch 6 times or more between January 2025 and June 2025.

We've told organisations and members of the local community, such as:

- the local MP
- local councillors
- Post Office senior representatives
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Chamber of Commerce
- local residential and care home providers
- local housing associations
- local community groups.

For a full list of who we'll be telling, please visit santander.co.uk/personal/support/ways-to-bank/our-branches

Our branch managers and teams are there to help you. They can answer any questions you might have, and give you more information and support to confirm the services available with your account.

Other support available

- **Call our UK based helpline on 0330 678 2469** to book a branch appointment, register for Online, Mobile and Telephone Banking and branch training support in alternative ways to bank or for any other queries.

- **Financial support**

We know managing your money can be tough. Visit santander.co.uk and search 'money worries' to view the help on offer.

- **Accessibility and disability**

We aim to be an inclusive and accessible bank. We want to be there for the moments that matter. To view the support available, please visit santander.co.uk and search 'accessibility'.

Supported banking options

- **Carer's Card account:** Lets you give debit cards to the people who care for you. The money you transfer to your carer's card is entirely separate from your other current and savings accounts with us. It means your carers can get cash or go shopping for you. Visit santander.co.uk and search 'carer's card' to find out more.
- **Third party access:** Lets someone you trust use your current or savings account. This is useful if you need help with your day-to-day banking for a while, for example, if you're going into hospital. Visit santander.co.uk and search 'third party access' to find out more.
- **Power of Attorney:** Lets you arrange for someone you trust to manage your money for you. You might want to do this due to a change in your circumstances. Visit santander.co.uk and search 'power of attorney' to find out more.

Glossary

General enquiry

This includes managing personal and account details, setting up payments, product and account enquiries, payment enquiries and replacement cards etc.

Summary of feedback

We'll publish online an overview of customer or community responses and complaints, including our responses and actions taken. These will be available on [santander.co.uk/uk/our-branches](https://www.santander.co.uk/uk/our-branches) 2 weeks before we close the branch.

Transaction or transacted

A payment in or out of an account at the branch counter or ATM.

Vulnerable customer

Someone who, due to their personal circumstances, is especially susceptible to harm, particularly if a firm isn't acting with appropriate levels of care.

ATM

This stands for Automated Teller Machine, also referred to as a cash machine.

Copies of this leaflet are also available in braille and large print formats by calling us on 0330 678 2469.

