

MOTION TO EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL
27 June 2023

Motion: Appeal to UK Government on Engagement Process for Bank Branch Closures

East Lothian Council:

Notes, with significant concern, the recent announced closures of Royal Bank of Scotland in Tranent and Bank of Scotland in Dunbar.

Notes individual institutions have sought the input of the UK Finance Cash Action Group, through LINK, in assessing the impact on cash availability in each locality.

Notes that LINK and UK Finance Cash Action Group are represented by banking and finance industry only and are not required to engage with strategic economic development bodies or representative community organisations in making an assessment on the existing and future requirements of distinct communities.

Notes the extensive and understandable concern raised by communities in both Tranent and Dunbar at the closure of the last bank building in each town with associated impacts for business trade and those reliant on in-person banking transactions and assistance.

Therefore instructs the Leader of the Council to write to the UK Government expressing the Council's concern at lack of local business and community interests in assessing future requirements to banking in distinct communities and call on steps to be introduced to compel the banking industry to include engagement with local authorities and community representatives in assessing the impact of future planned closures of bank branches.

Proposed by (name): Councillor Lyn Jardine
Date: 13 June 2023

Seconded by (name): Councillor Neil Gilbert
Date: 13 June 2023

Received by (name of officer): LeI Gillingwater, Team Manager, Democratic and Licensing
Date: 13 June 2023