



MICHAEL SHANKS MP
Member of Parliament for Rutherglen

2 October 2025

Dear Mr Nunn,

Closure of Bank of Scotland Bellshill Branch

I wrote to you in February 2025 following the announcement of the closure of the Bank of Scotland Uddingston Branch and subsequently met with Ross Gardner, Group Public Affairs Manager, on 14 February 2025. During these discussions, a large portion of the justification for closing the branch, was the close proximity to another branch, located in Bellshill. However, now only four months after the Uddingston Branch closed, I note your intention to close the Bellshill Branch. This is incredibly disappointing not least the short space between these two decisions which makes me question what was known at the time but not shared with local communities and myself.

Residents of Uddingston and Bothwell will now have to travel to Motherwell, which I understand to be the closest branch. This means that instead of Uddingston and Bothwell residents having to travel around 3.5 miles to their nearest branch, they will now have to travel either around 4.5 miles for Bothwell residents or 7.2 miles for Uddingston residents, a distance nearly doubled.

There has not been any local consultation from what I can see prior to the decision being made and this decision means that the towns of Bothwell, Uddingston and Bellshill will now be left without any banking branches. Only four months ago, it was recommended to me that my constituents rely on the Bellshill branch and now, in an extremely short space of time, that option is being taken off the table for them, without giving them an opportunity to express their views on the impact a decision like this will have on them and their local community. Therefore, I am far from convinced that this decision has factored in the needs of Bothwell and Uddingston, delivering another blow and additional barriers for residents.

I would urge you to reconsider the decision to close the Bellshill branch and to engage in meaningful consultation with the communities affected about the totality of this branch cutting programme. Access to in-person banking remains essential for many residents, particularly older people and those who face digital or mobility challenges. Despite shifts towards digital banking many people still rely on access to cash.

I am copying this letter to Frank McNally MP as the local Member of Parliament for the Bellshill branch.

Yours sincerely

Michael Shanks MP
Member of Parliament for Rutherglen