

Notice of Urgent Motion for full Council Meeting on April 25

I am asking for this now to coincide with the launch of a campaign at the weekend led by myself and involving Helensburgh Business Group and Helensburgh Community Council. The council's involvement and support will give added impact and encouragement for the people of Helensburgh and Lomond to take up the fight. The bank's closure date is September 25 and I think the council needs to be seen to be acting now rather than waiting till June.

Motion:

Argyll and Bute Council deplores the announced closure of the Helensburgh branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland which will leave Helensburgh and Lomond with only one high street bank to serve the whole population and will have a seriously detrimental effect on the area's many small businesses and retail outlets.

and

a) Agrees that the Leader of the Council should express the Council's concerns to the bank Chief Executive -

and

b) Also ask bank owner NatWest to reconsider their decision while at the same time engaging with Cash Access UK and other banking providers to **explore the possibility of establishing** a banking hub in Helensburgh as has been done in a number of other Scottish towns.