## Full list of 23 NatWest branch closures happening in 2023

NatWest is closing 23 more branches around the UK as more people move to banking online, it has confirmed. The high street lender announced on Thursday (January 26) it is shutting 21 sites in England and two in Wales in 2023. This is on top of the <u>43 closures</u> the bank announced last October.

The branches closing include sites in Southampton, Exeter, Blackpool and Torquay, which will shut their doors for good between April and the start of June. Timings for the closure of two sites – Horwich, in Greater Manchester, and Shorehamby-Sea, in West Sussex – are still to be confirmed.

The lender said last year the vast majority of its retail banking services could be carried out online and it was the "quicker and easier" way to bank. But it acknowledged certain customers might be concerned about the closures and said it would make sure "no one is left behind".

NatWest previously said average counter transactions had shrunk by nearly two-thirds between January 2019 and January 2022, while there was a 39% rise in people using mobile apps during the same period. Last year, the bank also announced 15 branch closures in May and 21 in February.

The news comes a week after Lloyds Banking Group said it would close 40 Halifax and Lloyds sites in England and Wales, blaming a decrease in footfall during the pandemic and a rise in the use of its digital services. According to Lloyds, the number of people visiting the branches it plans to shut has fallen by 60% on average over five years.

So far in 2023, some 87 bank branches around the UK are set to

be closed down.

Just last week, Barclays <u>confirmed plans to shut 15 more of</u> <u>its branches</u>. The lender had already earmarked 11 sites for closure this year.

## Full list of 23 NatWest bank branches set to close

1. Southampton, 416 Bitterne Road – April 25, 2023 2. Blackpool, 344 Lytham Road – April 25, 2023 3. London, 145 Clapham High Street - April 26, 2023 4. Stroud, Bank Buildings - April 26, 2023 5. Fleet, 176 Fleet Road - April 27, 2023 6. Heslington, Main Street - April 27, 2023 7. Horwich, 27 Lee Lane - TBC 8. Dunstable, 4 High Street North – May 3, 2023 9. Maidstone, 197 Sutton Road - May 4, 2023 10. Exeter, 18 St. Thomas Centre - May 9, 2023 11. Bootle, 329 Stanley Road - May 10, 2023 12. Crawley, Gatwick Road - May 11, 2023 13. Frome, 4 Market Place – May 11, 2023 14. Broadwater, 5 Broadwater Street East – May 16, 2023 15. Colwyn Bay, 2 Abergele Road – May 17, 2023 16. Ilminster, 10 East Street – May 18, 2023 17. London, 10 Marylebone High Street - May 23, 2023 18. Sheerness, 29 High Street - May 24, 2023 19. Shoreham-by-Sea, 21 East Street – TBC 20. Llansamlet, Phoenix Way – May 25, 2023 21. Cranbrook, High Street - May 30, 2023 22. Torquay, 128 Newton Road - May 31, 2023 23. Birstall, 659 Loughborough Road – June 1, 2023

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