



7 April 2022

Newcastle Building Society reopens doors in Bishop Auckland following significant branch investment

Dozens of local people from the County Durham community helped celebrate the reopening of Newcastle Building Society's Bishop Auckland branch, following a recent refurbishment designed to provide an outstanding branch environment for customers.

The refurbished branch, positioned directly opposite the Newgate Street entrance to Bishop Auckland's Newgate Centre, offers customers access to Newcastle Building Society's full range of face to face services, information and financial advice in a modern, open-plan environment.

As part of its reopening event, the Society welcomed Mike Donne, Durham branch president of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA), to cut the ribbon declaring the branch officially open.

Following the conversion of the 1,600 sq ft facility, a dedicated community room has been created and will be made available, free of charge, for local people and community groups to use for events and activities.

The refurbishment is part of Newcastle Building Society's ongoing multimillion-pound branch investment programme, which has seen improved facilities and new branch commitments and openings in locations across the North East, Cumbria and North Yorkshire.

Andrew Haigh, chief executive officer at Newcastle Building Society, said: "Following the uncertainties of the past couple of years and the overwhelming sense of separation and isolation felt by many, having a visible presence in local communities is more important than ever to us.

"The Bishop Auckland branch is a fantastic example of how we're striving to enhance our branch facilities by creating engaging, accessible spaces for our customers, while underlining our commitment to high streets across the North East, Cumbria and North Yorkshire."

Recent research by Newcastle Building Society found that more than 90% of UK adults value their high street and around 7 in 10 would commit to spending less online to save their local services.

The SSAFA and Auckland Youth and Community Centre are two of the Bishop Auckland-based groups to benefit from the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund which provides grants to charities and community groups located in or around the communities served by the Society's branch network.

Find out more about Newcastle Building Society, including details of your nearest branch at www.newcastle.co.uk

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About Newcastle Building Society

Newcastle Building Society* is the biggest building society in the North East, with a network of 30 branches and assets of more than £4.9bn. We've been here for our members for over 150 years.

As a leading local employer, we're committed to growing our region's talent and being a great place to work where people can realise their potential. We hold Platinum IIP and were voted Number 2, Best Places to Work in the North East in 2019.

We help people to own their home, to save and to plan their finances through our range of products and services. We believe in the role of the high street at the heart of our communities and are proactive in making financial information and financial advice accessible across our region.

Our Financial Advice is provided through our Newcastle Financial Advisers Limited division**.

We're dedicated to helping our North East communities make positive changes; since 2016 the financial support through grants and donations from the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund at the Community Foundation to benefit local causes has surpassed £2.1m

www.newcastle.co.uk

*Newcastle Building Society Principal Office: 1 Cobalt Park Way, Cobalt Business Park, NE28 9EJ. Newcastle Building Society is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct

Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Newcastle Building Society is entered in the Financial Services Register under number 156058. You can check this on the Financial Services Register or by contacting the Financial Conduct Authority on 0800 111 6768. Call 0845 734 4345 or visit us online at www.newcastle.co.uk

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