



Iain McIntosh MS
Iain.McIntosh-MS@senedd.wales

10th July 2026

Dear Iain,

In response to your Written questions, reference WQ98716 and WQ98717, where you asked:

Will the Cabinet Minister confirm how many communities in Wales no longer have either a bank branch or Post Office facility?

Will the Cabinet Minister confirm what assessment has been made of the impact of bank closures on elderly and digitally excluded residents in rural Wales?

The Welsh Government does not hold information on the number of communities in Wales without access to a bank branch or post office. Information on the post office network is published by the UK Government, within [The Post Office Network Report 2025](#) which sets out performance against national access criteria. The report confirms that over 99 per cent of people live within three miles of a post office branch and over 90 per cent within one mile.

Responsibility for banking services, including bank branch closures, is reserved to the UK Government. The Welsh Government does not hold a formal or comprehensive national assessment of the impact of bank closures on specific groups or locations.

However, we are aware of evidence at a UK and sectoral level indicating that the loss of face-to-face banking services can disproportionately affect older people, digitally excluded individuals and those living in rural communities.

We are supporting measures to maintain access to in-person services, including the rollout of shared banking hubs, enhanced Post Office services and other local access initiatives to help mitigate the impact of closures.

The Welsh Government is also establishing a Town Centres Taskforce to explore further actions to support the resilience and sustainability of town centres, including access to local services.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

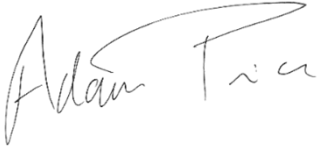
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn yr iaith honno ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Price'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial 'A'.

Adam Price AS/MS

Gweinidog Cabinet dros Fenter, Cysylltedd ac Ynni

Cabinet Minister for Enterprise, Connectivity and Energy