

Bank closure doesn't support claim

It has come as quite a shock to learn of the closure of the TSB Bank's city branch. I understand the need for earthquake strengthening but cannot see why they are not offering a continued service from an alternative site on a smaller scale if need be.

I have written to their board to ask that the TSB Bank maintain a branch in the west of Devon St and ask readers to also join me in showing their disapproval of the permanent closure.

I find the TSB Bank's action very surprising in view of their national TV claim "that unlike their competitors they listen to their customers". This closure does not support that claim.

There is a feeling of disbelief by most who live and shop in the west end of the city as it not convenient for many to now bank at their other branches.

Here are some reasons that they should reconsider their current arrangements while the present building is closed.

TSB has not consulted or personally advised the City branch customers.

The walk to the East Central branch is past all their competitor

banks - ASB, BNZ and ANZ - now closer and less crowded than the head office centre branch.

Shopkeepers carrying large sums of cash up the main street is asking for trouble.

TSB is ignoring the many large business buildings in the west who employ so many staff, like Shell, Atkinson, Corrections, Probation and the Police Station, etc, for whom it is now a long walk in their busy day.

I seek feedback from other readers affected by the TSB management's unilateral decision to permanently close the city branch and ask the *Daily News* to hold a survey on the reaction of residents to this decision and also print their responses to this event.

JOHN PICKERING
New Plymouth

PC engineers

TSB Bank has recently been told to shut down its beautiful old-school building for fear it may one day collapse under a massive earthquake.

Damn shame that, as our nice old buildings give our CBD a sense of history and character.

The PC engineers are quick to shoot down any potential risk to the health of our community, and rightly so, but within reason.

All risks, both mechanical and aesthetic, should be addressed equally so, in the interests of our community, will someone please

deem Centre City an earthquake risk so that architectural abomination can be torn down. What was the designer thinking?

JOE GOODIN
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