

19th August 2009

All Members in C&G

C&G To Halt Branch Closures

Members will be aware that in June the Bank announced that its entire C&G Branch Network would close on the 6th November 2009. All 928 C&G Branch Network staff were issued with letters notifying them that they were at risk of being made redundant and that whilst C&G would seek to find alternative employment, compulsory redundancies were inevitable for the majority of staff.

Today, in a surprising U-turn, the Bank will announce that closure of the C&G Branch Network is being reviewed. The Bank has said that it will be writing to all staff at their home addresses to tell them that their employment will be continuing and they will no longer be eligible for redundancy payments. Staff who have received formal offers to be redeployed elsewhere in the group will be able to take up those offers.

The Bank has said that it will not be able to provide any reasons for its decision to reverse the closure programme at this stage.

Staff in the C&G will view this decision by the Bank with mixed feelings. There will be those who have requested voluntary severance / voluntary early retirement who will feel cheated that having been told that their jobs are going to disappear, the Bank is now reversing that decision at the last minute. Equally there will be many who welcome the possibility, if that's what is going to happen, of continuing to work for the C&G.

LTU will be meeting the Bank in the next few days to discuss the reasons behind the decision to halt the closure programme and to discuss the implications for staff. We will report back to members on the outcome of those discussions. In the meantime, members with any questions can contact the Union on 01234 262868 or email us at 24hours@ltu.co.uk.

Mark V Brown
Assistant General Secretary