

New Bishop joins credit union

The new Bishop of Dudley opened an account at Dudley's credit union this week.

The Rt Revd Graham Usher visited Castle & Crystal Credit Union in New Street on the afternoon of July 7 where he opened an account at the branch.

The Bishop's visit follows a commitment by the Church of England to proactively support credit unions as an alternative affordable financial service.

With the recent expansion of Castle & Crystal's common bond its services are now also available to anyone living or working in Worcestershire county.



The Rt Revd Graham Usher, Bishop of Dudley, said:

“Credit Unions can provide a real alternative for people in need of affordable financial services, giving them somewhere to turn and helping them to make ends meet.

“As a diocese, we have already invested some of our Social Responsibility

Fund money into the Castle & Crystal Union and I'm delighted to open a personal account. I hope that this will continue to raise the profile of credit unions and encourage more people to get involved."

Councillor Stuart Turner, cabinet member for finance, said:

"I am delighted to welcome the Bishop as a new member to our credit union. I hope that this will encourage more people to open savings accounts and take advantage of the financial services available to borough residents and employees in Dudley and the County of Worcester."

As well as being able to sign up at the branch, Castle & Crystal offers members a full online service at www.castleandcrystal.co.uk Ethical affordable loans are also accessible to customers and decisions can be made quickly through the online service.

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial co-operatives that provide an alternative to banks and other financial institutions. They play a vital role in the economic development and stability of the communities they serve.

For more information call 01384 815771, visit the branch at 25 New Street, Dudley or visit www.castleandcrystal.co.uk Alternatively visit the facebook page [CastleCrystalCreditUnion](https://www.facebook.com/CastleCrystalCreditUnion) or contact them through twitter @Castle_Crystal.

Photo attached

Left to right:
Cllr Stuart Turner, cabinet member for finance, The Rt Revd Graham Usher, Bishop of Dudley and Natalie Poole, business and marketing assistant, Castle & Crystal Credit Union

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